



The Legion Bulletin



Merry Christmas

December 2011

Hours - 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Email – nclegion@nc.rr.com
Website – www.nclegion.org

Holiday Office Hours:
Closed December 23, 26, 30, 2011,
January 2, 2012

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Raleigh, NC 27611
919-832-7506

Conference Awards Reminders

Just a reminder that the following award nominations will be considered at the Mid-Winter Conference:

- ◆ Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Scouter, Unit Leader, Venture Advisor, Sea Scout Skipper, Cub Pack, Scout Unit, Varsity Scout Unit, Venture Crew Unit and Sea Scout Ship of the Year Awards
- ◆ Service Officer of the Year
- ◆ Department News Media Award
- ◆ News Media Award
- ◆ JROTC Officer and NCO of the Year



All nomination forms should be returned to Dept. Headquarters no later than **Feb. 15, 2012**.

Mid Winter Conference

The annual Department Mid-Winter Conference will be held February 17-18, 2012, at the North Raleigh Hilton, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, NC. 1-800-445-8667 is the number for reservations, or you can call the hotel direct at 1-919-872-2323. You must specify you are with The American Legion. **Cutoff date for reservations at this rate is February 3, 2012.** The room rate will be \$89 per night plus tax. The holidays will be over and everyone should be ready to get away for a very informative and enjoyable conference.

2012 Boys State Program

The delegate fee for each participant for the 2012 Tar Heel Boys State Program will be \$325.00, and will be held the week of June 17-23, 2012. This is a onetime experience for these young citizens and we must make it the best it can be. The Boys State Committee thanks all of the posts for your support and encourages all of you to continue sending the best young citizens from your communities for a positive experience of a lifetime. The Boys State Committee Chairman and the Boys State Director are always available

to you for additional information and assistance. Department Headquarters can provide their contact information upon request.

Oratorical Contest

Please do not forget this year's Oratorical Contest. The dates are listed below and will be followed without exception:

By December 17, 2011 – School Contests completed

Jan 2-16, 2012 – County or Post Contests completed

Jan 16-30, 2012 – District Contests

Feb 11-20, 2012 – Division Contests

March 3, 2012 – Department Final, TBA.

District and Division Chairmen, remember to report your Contest Dates to Department as soon as your plans are made. It will also be imperative that you keep your contestants aware of their contest dates in your respective districts as turn around time is very tight for Department to get letters out to the winners at the various levels. **National rules apply to all levels of competition in North Carolina. Please review your American Legion National Official rules as well as your Chairman's guide.**

AD & D Policy

This Department and the Legionnaire's Insurance Trust (LIT) provide you with the opportunity to have \$1,000 of accidental death & dismemberment (AD&D) insurance at "no cost". The only requirements are you must be a legionnaire in good standing and complete the enrollment activation. The present coverage runs through August 31, 2016, if you are enrolled. Call LIT Customer Service Center toll free and check your status at **1-800-235-6943**. This is your responsibility and no

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one can do it for you. After checking your status, do your fellow legionnaires at the post a favor and remind them to check their enrollment as well. Make sure your post members are enrolled in this free benefit.

Membership News

A reminder to all Posts concerning membership renewals: (as found in the North Carolina Constitution and By-laws, article IV, section 5), "A member whose dues for the current year have not been paid by January 1 shall be classed as delinquent. If dues are paid on or before February 1, reinstatement shall be automatic. If still delinquent after February 1, all privileges shall be suspended. If still under such suspension on June 30 of such year, membership in The American Legion shall be forfeited. A member so suspended or whose membership has been so forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by vote of the Post and payment of current dues for the year in which the reinstatement occurs. Provided, however, that the Post, Department and the National organization may waive the provisions hereof, upon payment of dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs, with reference to former members who have been prevented from the payment of dues by reason of active military service" When submitting a member for a PUFL, after January 1, 2012, the 2012 dues must be paid first. Please, when transmitting, recheck your cards and notes before mailing to avoid delay in processing. If a member is transferring and has already paid dues for the year, only include a signed member data form. "**No money, no renewal card**". When transferring out of state or 1981Adm. (DMS) members, please put the member's current address on the member data form. Finally, applications are not accepted for transmittal of new post members. Please provide a 3 part card.

Post Check Up

1. Is your post incorporated?
2. Does your post have an EIN number?
3. Does your post require 2 signatures on financial transactions?
4. Is your Finance Officer bonded?
5. Did you advise Headquarters of your present post officers' information?
6. Are you proud of the condition of your post home and property?
7. Are your post meetings informative/interesting?
8. Do you invite guests, speakers/local community leaders?
9. Is your post involved in Legion Programs/Community programs?
10. Do the local veterans know how to contact your post for assistance?
11. Is the local military recruiter (all branches) a member of your post?
12. Does your post have a membership contact team?
13. Does your post have an annual post audits?
14. Does your post have adequate insurance on your property and activities?

15. Does your post employ security guards during post building rentals?

16. Does your post file form 990 each year with the IRS?

17. Have your post officers attended NC Legion College?

Recruit + Retain + Reinstatement + DMS List = Success

Baseball Season 2012

The 2012 American Legion Baseball season will be here sooner than we think! Remember, the process for registering your team is all online, and handled by American Legion National Headquarters. If you need information on how to register, please call your area commissioner or Department Headquarters. Registration may start after January 1, 2012.

A special note to all posts, if you sponsor an American Legion Baseball team, your post needs to be incorporated to protect the members. If you are not, call Department Headquarters for the proper forms to incorporate.

DD214 Accessibility

Veterans or veterans families looking for a copy of their DD214 can find it by going :

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund

The Military Classic of the South on Ice Saturday, December 3, 2011 at 4:00 pm, Raleigh Ice Plex, 2601 N Raleigh Blvd in Raleigh All proceeds go to The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund to benefit children of military members who have died on active duty in the fight against terrorism since 9/11/2001. Admission is \$5.00 for youth and \$10.00 for adult. Raffle tickets also available for \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. All of this is available at your Department H.Q. Your support is most appreciated and necessary! VMI vs. Citadel

Go-Getters

Post Adjutants; please refer to the enclosed Go-Getter Certification Form. December 31 is the final date for Legionnaires to **qualify** to be a Go-Getter. The form should be completed by the Post Adjutant and returned to Dept. Headquarters by **January 31, 2012**. A member must secure at least 10 members to qualify for the Go-Getter Club.

Military Recruiters

Please be in contact with your local military recruiters. Invite them to your post meeting to speak on today's Military. Offer to assist them and offer them membership into your post. Get connected to your local JROTC program, show your support by

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participating in the metals presentation program and many other ways that you can support their efforts. You'll find that many of them will have military veteran parents. Military recruiters may need your post for special meetings or for interviews with prospective recruits. Just think about the positive impact your association with your local military recruiters could have on your post. This association will be good for your Post and for The American Legion. **Just try it.** Please!

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