



# The Legion Bulletin



OCTOBER 2011

Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Mon – Fri.  
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PO Box 26657  
Raleigh, NC 27611

## Fall Conference

The Fall Conference will be held October 15-16, 2010 at the North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, NC. Room rates for this conference will be \$88 plus tax per night. For reservations call 1-800-445-8667, identifying yourself as being with The American Legion. **Room rate is guaranteed through September 29. To book online:** [http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/R/RDUN/HHF-ALE-20111013/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/R/RDUN/HHF-ALE-20111013/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

-  Post Commander and Adjutant Awards
-  Boy Scout High Adventure Awards
-  Adult Scouter Training Scholarship
-  Baseball Hall of Fame Recipients
-  Post Newsletter Awards
-  Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
-  Fireman & EMS of the Year
-  Employer Awards (several classes)
-  Colon Furr Scholarship

Award nominees must be submitted by **October 11, 2011 unless otherwise noted on form.** If you need forms for any of the above, please call Department. Headquarters. James E “Jim” Koutz from Indiana, the leading candidate For National Commander 2012-13 will the guest of Department Commander, Ben Lee. Come and meet Jim And show him some good Southern Hospitality.

## Automatic Revocation of Tax Exempt Status (IRS 990)

Please read the provided information concerning your Tax Exempt Status and follow instructions as provided. Your future as a post depends on your action or inaction. This is not something that you can afford to ignore and must be taken care of ASAP. If you need assistance please contact the IRS or your Post accountant for information and for guidance. Do not delay! This is for real ! This is serious!



## October Membership Target

Congratulations to all posts who are on track for membership goals! Our next target date is **October 18, 2011, at 55%.** Let’s keep up our pace and make the commitment!

## Oratorical Contest

The time for Oratorical Contests is right around the corner. Enclosed is an order form for Oratorical Contest Information Packets. The packets are ready now. The packet information is also available at the website, [www.nclegion.org](http://www.nclegion.org). Be sure to have your Post Oratorical Chairman get in touch with school officials as early as possible to insure every student who would like to participate has the opportunity. If any Post is interested in hosting the State Oratorical Contest, scheduled for Saturday, March 3, 2011, please contact Chairman Harry Flynn to give presentation at the conference.

## Proper Paperwork

Please encourage all of your members to get their military records and information in order, so when the time comes, the proper honors that they have earned and deserve, will be carried out. Be sure to write down their desires and along with their discharge papers, store in a safe place and advise your relatives where they can be found. These need to be turned over to the appropriate funeral director and they will handle everything from the honor guard to the military head stone. Don't wait until it is too late. Do it now. Thanks.

### Inside This Issue:

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9	VMI vs. The Citadel Charity Hockey Game Flyer



## To All Conference Attendees


It is very important that all attendees register and pay their \$5.00 registration fee. Your attendance and participation will insure the success of the conference. Its most important for all Committee/Commission members to attend their meetings and be involved in the business required of their Legion program. If you are on a department committee/commission and will not be able to attend your assigned meeting, please contact Department Headquarters prior to the meeting time and date, so that a note of your excused absence can be placed in your committee/commission chairman's folder. The day before the conferences and convention your staff personnel will be out of the office, at the hotel, setting things up for you. Committee/Commission chairmen requiring anything for their meeting other than their folder, please contact the office as many days as possible in advance, so we will have time to acquire the items that you will be needing to carry on your meeting.


## Veterans' Service Fund

Just a friendly reminder of our pledge of support to the Veterans' Service Fund of 50¢ per member. While to some posts this may seem like a high price to pay, just try to image what it would be like without this fund. These precious dollars and cents go a long way in support of our veterans. While there is not a mandate that requires each post to contribute, each post is encouraged to do what they can to support our veterans. **Remember** – "It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you've paid to be eligible to belong."


## Membership Transmittals


A few reminders to assure your transmittals are handled as quickly as possible.

 Double check the amount of your check with the number of renewals you are transmitting. There should be \$22.50 included for each renewal. Member data forms are for transferring members.

 It is important to fill out the information on the right side of the transmittal form so if there is a question or issue, we can call the phone number or mail out information to reach the right person. If you are not transmitting dues for the transfer member, please do not include a membership card. When submitting transfers, just remember this quote, "no money – no card". If you aren't sending money, don't send a card. Be sure to include the white, yellow and pink copies when submitting a data form for transfer.



 National is maintaining control of members joining thru the DMS program. Please provide mailing addresses for members transferring from another state or from HQ36.

 Plain paper or an email can be used for address changes or to inform us of members that have passed away. Please provide ID#, member name and the change. No changes to address or name will be made from the renewal cards themselves.

## Associate Membership

The IRS considers the issue of Associate members as probably the most serious of all toward your Tax Exempt Status. This is because the issue of eligibility goes to the very heart of who can use the Post facilities. Many Posts try to hide these persons by calling them Associate, Boosters, or Honorary members and Political or Business friends of the Post. Regardless of what name is given to them the reality is the same. They are individuals who are not entitled to use the Post facilities. Both our National and Department Constitutions provide: "There Shall Be No Form or Class of membership Except an Active Membership". When The American Legion was first chartered by Congress, it's main purpose was to benefit veterans, their widows, and their children. The purpose is basically the same. The IRS is taking a very hard position on the questions of membership and frequently will require a Post to provide evidence that its members served in the Armed Forces during specific periods of time. Violations of the above described issues can be grounds for the loss of tax exempt status which means revoking the Post Charter. Each Post should therefore take a look at their operations and correct those areas requiring correction.

## Legion News

Articles and photos for the Legion News must arrive at Department Headquarters by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication to make it into the paper. This next issue will be Nov/Dec, so the cut-off date is October 10. The paper is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October and December. Please attach captions to photos with a brief description of the event. Give a list of names for the people/person in the photo. (Do not write on the back of the photo). If you would like to have photos returned, please include a self-addressed envelope.

