



# The Legion Bulletin



Time for  Membership!

**SEPTEMBER 2011**

Hours - 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
Monday – Friday  
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## Fall Conference

The Fall Conference will be held October 14-15, 2011 at the North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, NC. Room rates are \$88 plus tax per night. For reservations call 1-800-445-8667, identifying yourself as being with The American Legion by **September 29 for the rate**. To book online go to: [http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/R/RDU/NHHF-ALE-20111013/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/R/RDU/NHHF-ALE-20111013/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG) This conference is always a busy one. There will be quite a few awards chosen during the various Committee meetings. Be sure your Post and its dedicated Legionnaires are represented and possibly awarded by submitting nominations for all those deserving recognition.

## Hotel Reservations

Why should you stay at the North Raleigh Hilton for our conferences and conventions? Your Department has a contract with the North Raleigh Hilton through the Fall Conference in October, 2012. With this contract we estimate the number of rooms that we will need for our attendees. With these rooms we are allowed all of the meeting rooms free of charge and this includes all of the meeting rooms for The American Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary. If we do not meet our minimum guests room usage, then we have to pay for all of the meeting rooms that we all use. This would drastically affect your Department budget and consequently affects you as a member. The two conferences and one convention that we have each year is and should be very important to all of our members to carry out the business and programs of The America Legion, SAL and Auxiliary. The bottom line is, you staying at our assigned hotel is very important and necessary for all of us to continue the business of your Department, your Division, your District and your Post. It is very important that all of your post members are informed of this information. Thank all of you for your cooperation in this very important matter.

## Pull Tab Metal Content Alert!

**Not all pull tabs are made of aluminum.** If you find any pull tabs that might be questionable as to their metal content, please check them with a magnet. If there is any metal in them at all, they contaminate the aluminum and each box has to be gone thru very carefully to discard the metal tabs! Thanks so much for checking in advance and for participating in this very gratifying program.

## Post Commander and Post Adjutant of the Year

Please give the post leaders the recognition they deserve. A nomination should be based on the activities and work of the preceding American Legion fiscal year. This year's nomination should be someone who held office from June 2010 – June 2011. The nomination forms are again enclosed with this mailing. Please submit any completed forms to Department Headquarters by October 10, 2011. The Community Service Committee will judge both awards and present the winners at the Fall Conference held October 14-15, 2011.

## Oratorical Contest

We are in the process of preparing the Department Information Booklet for the 2012 Oratorical Contest. Some District and Division Commanders have not submitted their chairpeople for this very important program. A reminder to District and Division Commanders, if you do not appoint someone, you will assume this position. The information needs to be circulated by early September at the latest to assure all students have enough time to prepare for the school date timeframe.

Any post interested in hosting the State Oratorical Contest, please attend the Oratorical Contest meeting at the Fall Conference to give your post presentation for consideration. The contest is scheduled for March 3, 2012.

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**American Legion Promotional videos** are now available for viewing at our website, [www.nclegion.org](http://www.nclegion.org). Click on "Communications and Publications", AL Promotional Videos will be at the bottom of the list.



## Colon Furr Selection

The Colon Furr Scholarship Committee will be selecting recipients at the Fall Conference. Enclosed with this mailing is the application with a deadline of September 25, 2011. Each post may only submit **ONE** applicant. If you have two worthy applicants, try to get another post in your area involved. Please get these applications distributed ASAP so as many nursing students as possible will be able to compete for this scholarship.

## Law Enforcement Officer, EMS and Fireman of the Year

The Law and Order Committee will be selecting the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, the EMS of the Year and the Fireman of the Year at the Fall Conference. Please read over the guidelines for this most important award included in this month's mailing. The winner of the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year will be North Carolina's submission to National Headquarters in January. Please follow the guidelines closely as this will help with the format National requires. Let's recognize our Law Officers by nominating them for this award.

## Boy Scout High Adventure

Each year at the Fall Conference, the Boy Scout Committee selects one scout from each Division to award a **\$1,000 scholarship** for attendance at a recognized National or International Jamboree. The nomination forms are included in this month's mailing. Contact Department Headquarters if you need more. All completed applications must be received at Department Headquarters by October 10, 2011.

## Post Newsletter of the Year

The Public Relations Committee will select the Post Newsletter of the Year Award winner at the Fall Conference. Any Post that wants to submit their newsletter in the competition needs to provide a copy of each newsletter mailed out in the last year. Send your newsletters to Department Headquarters no later than October 11, 2011. Guidelines are included with this mailing.

## Employer Awards Program

Nomination forms for these programs have been distributed to each Employment Security Commission Office in NC. If your Post knows of an employer they would like to see be honored in one of these categories, please contact your local ESC office and work with them in filling out the nomination form. All nominations are to be forwarded to Department Headquarters no later than October 11, 2011 for judging by the Veterans Employment and Veterans Preference Committee at the Fall Conference. The Department winner in each category will be forwarded to National Headquarters to compete for the National Award. If you would like nomination forms, contact Dept. Headquarters.

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### Note: All Posts

No matter what your post revenue is, you are **REQUIRED** to file a new Form 990-N. **FAILURE to do so could result in your Tax Exempt status being REVOKED.** This has already happened with many posts in NC. This requirement began with the tax years after December 31, 2006. Previously only posts with revenues exceeding \$25,000 were required to file Form 990. Now, it appears that all posts must file. For complete information, contact your local IRS office or go online to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), then go to "Charities and other non-profits". Please do not ignore this important information and please comply. To exist, you must comply! If you have received notification for the IRS, do exactly what is in the notification sent to you. In most cases it will require a form 1024, (Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(a)) and a reduced user fee of \$100 for the application of reinstatement of tax-exempt status. This information is available at the IRS.gov site, Internal Revenue Bulletin 2011-25, Notice 2011-43, and Rev. Proc. 2011-36. You may also call Department Headquarters for a copy of this information.

### LIT \$1,000 Free Accidental Death Benefit

There are three ways to activate:

1. Send in the enrollment form or card
  2. Call the toll free number, 1-800-235-6943
  3. Go to [www.theLIT.com](http://www.theLIT.com) and enroll on line
- Once activated, keep with your important papers.

### Update Post Information

Please fill out the Post Information form was mailed dealing with your post commander and adjutant information. This must be done each year to insure that we all have the latest contact and locations information for your post. There are many reasons that this is important. An officer of the Legion including the Department Commander may need to get in touch with you for a variety of reasons. Someone may move into your community and want to join your post. A veteran or active duty military personnel may need help and assistance. We appreciate your cooperation.

### Post Excellence Award

The Post excellence award program honors posts that show excellence in membership participation, youth activities, community service, and support to veterans and US Troops. District Commanders must certify posts as having fulfilled the four specified criteria. Each qualifying post receives a certificate of recognition, mailed to the Department and awarded to the post. Get busy and get involved & good luck.