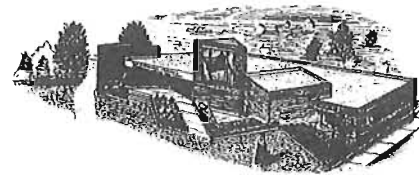


THE STATE ADJUTANTS LETTER



KANSAS DEPARTMENT



1314 SW TOPEKA BLVD. TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1886

NOVEMBER 2016

CONTRACT FOR POST/DISTRICT/DEPARTMENT FLAG SALES: Each American Legion Post within the Department of Kansas is able to sign up with National Emblem Sales to become a part of their Flag Rewards Program. Signing up is very easy. Have your Post Adjutant sign up your Post at: http://emblem.legion.org/flag_rewards_registration.asp it only take a few seconds. Start purchasing your American Flags and other flag items from American Legion National Emblem Sales at www.AmericanLegionFlags.com or you may call them at: 1-888-453-4466. Either option is very quick and easy! Currently the Department of Kansas has three Posts in the Top 15 in the Nation in Flag Sales and has received free credit that their Post can buy items for its programs and activities. They are: Winfield Post #10 and Garnett Post #48 (Tied for 4th and 5th) - \$500.00 each, and Meade Post #92 - 14th - \$200.00. PLEASE give National Emblem Sales a try. I believe you will be very happy with their Service and products.

VETERANS DAY IS NOVEMBER 11. If your Post has not already planned a function for this Veterans Day now is the time to organize some type of activity. It is up to us as veterans to remind everyone of the sacrifices made by our nation's servicemen and women to preserve America's freedoms. It is fitting also, to honor and show appreciation to those in the National Guard and Reserve Forces. They are the ones who are preserving the peace and freedoms so many fought and died for and we enjoy today. Don't let this Veterans Day slip by unnoticed in your community. P.S.: Over 60% of today's National Guard and Reserve are eligible for membership in The American Legion. The key to success is asking our fellow veterans to join our ranks.

NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: National Headquarters' second dues reminder arrived in October. Department Commander Munson asks each Post to conduct a membership drive this month. Posts must not substitute National's dues notice for their own membership plan. Posts should form membership teams to contact those who have not renewed their membership and to seek out new members. Knock on doors, organize telephone drives, divide unpaid members' names among membership workers, etc. Review old Post Rosters for members who may have forgotten to pay their dues in the past. They're a gold mine of opportunity to re-sign as new members. Do whatever is necessary to collect everyone's dues now. Remember, every active duty military person is eligible for membership and so are over 60% of today's Guard and Reserve personnel.

PROCLAMATIONS: Suggested proclamations for Veterans Day, National Education Week and National Family Week are enclosed. All Posts are encouraged to seek local and county adoption for each. Invite the media for signing ceremonies.

ORATORICAL CONTEST: Information is being mailed to all High Schools and Posts and will be in the Sunflower Legionnaire. Over \$138,000 in scholarships will be awarded; make sure your community's students and parents are aware of this opportunity.

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THE AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: Start planning now to celebrate the 100th anniversary of The American Legion. The centennial events and activities will kick off at the 100th National Convention, August 24-30, 2018 in Minneapolis. The commemoration will last for 15 months. It will continue through the 101st National Convention, August 23-29, 2019 in Indianapolis, and will culminate on Veterans Day 2019. During and leading up to this celebration, every post will be given the opportunity to highlight their unique history. The American Legion 100th Anniversary Observation Committee has developed tools and guides to help posts share their stories. Look for more details in the January/February/March *Sunflower Legionnaire*.

EVERY POST has an obligation to provide their members the opportunity to enroll in the free \$1,000 accidental Death and dismemberment insurance policy which can increase to \$5,000 if the accidental death of a member occurs while attending, participating in, or traveling to or from an official American Legion sponsored event or activity. Members can sign up by calling 800-235-6943 or going to www.thelit.com and clicking on "SIGN UP NOW".

GOLD AND SILVER STARS: Be sure to keep accurate records for all your membership workers and report them to Headquarters. Awards will be sent by Headquarters to every reporting Post. Deadline for qualifying for the Gold Star Club, Silver Star and Century Club and Gold Star with wreath is February 1, 2017. Remember a new member is one who was not a member of your local Post for 2016. If a member dropped out for a year or more and rejoins they are considered a new member and are worth two (2) points, a renewal is one (1) point. Gold Star, Silver Star and Big Team and Go-Getter certification forms are included in the Adjutants Letter.

POSTS WITH A QUOTA OF 50 MEMBERS OR LESS: Adjutants can certify a member to the Gold Star Club if the member signed 60% of the Post's Quota by February 2017 and is certified to Department Headquarters by February 15, 2017.

STATE BOWLING TOURNAMENT: Information and entries for the 70th State Bowling Tournament are being mailed to all past participants and bowling alleys. If your local bowling alley does not receive the information please contact State Headquarters. This year's tournament will be held at Gage Bowl, 4200 SW Huntoon in Topeka, January 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 2017.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Dorrance and Highland for making GOAL (As of October 26.)

DISTRICT STANDINGS AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2016: District I, 3,633 - 62.76%; District II, 3,124 - 61.03%; District VIII, 809 - 61.01%; District VII, 1,417 - 59.86%; District IV, 2,618 - 59.57%; District III, 1,935 - 59.34%; District VI, 2,233 - 59.28% and District V, 2,473 - 58.99%. Department Headquarters Post 58 (included in Dept. total) is 891. Total membership is 19,133. Membership last year this date was 22,167. We are BEHIND 3,034 members.

IN ORDER TO AVOID RECEIVING THE NEXT RENEWAL NOTICE ALL PAID MEMBERS' CARDS MUST BE IN THIS OFFICE BY DECEMBER 14, 2016.