C & Y area of concern....

Legion program battles drug abuse

AMERICAN Legion Posts have an important role in the Legion's renewed offensive against drug abuse, especially as it affects the lives of the nation's youngsters. In announcing that Drug Abuse Prevention would be one of the program area's three objectives for the 1984-85 year, the National Commission on Children & Youth pointed out that the basic weapon in this fight is education.

The American Legion previously developed and provided several brochures addressing specific drug abuse-related problems: Paraphernalia laws, alcohol abuse, trafficking, marijuana, and parental and adult influence.

When the Commission decided to renew the Legion's involvement in this problem area, it expressed a deep concern for relevant materials. To assist Legion Posts and Auxiliary Units in implementing this program, three brochures have been developed dealing with drug abuse in America today. Here is a brief summary of these publications:

To Prevent Drug Abuse

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" still holds true, and the best way to stop drug abuse is by prevention. It's a simple concept, but it requires constant work and attention to be successful. Prevention is a positive process which requires a basic understanding and strong commitment from parents. If children grow up with love and security, if they can express themselves freely, if they are realistic yet optimistic about their abilities, and if they can make sound decisions, they probably will never become dependent upon drugs.

To help their children from becoming involved with drugs, parents should provide—

- love and affection as they grow;
- consistent and fair discipline;
- open channels for feelings and thoughts;
- opportunities for successful experiences at home and school;
- a stable family atmosphere;
- tolerance of their mistakes;
- models of strong and thoughtful adults; and
- accurate information about the problems of growing up today.

Children and Youth on the Rocks

Drug abuse...pill popping...main-lining...smoking pot...these and other drug problems certainly deserve attention, but there is one other drug problem—in fact it's the No. 1 drug problem in this nation—Alcohol Abuse.

More and more of the nation's youngsters are being washed upon the rocks of life by waves of beer, wine, and hard liquor. Are we going to leave them stranded there, or shall we try to help them?

In trying to reach a better understanding of this problem, let's consider some reasons why young people drink:

- Family ground rules for drinking are not clear
- Dad sets his rules and Mom sets hers
- Our parents drink, and they seem to do all right

Are American parents to blame? From the report of the 1960 White House Conference on Children & Youth: "Most youngsters get their first drink in their own homes from their own parents."

What is even more appalling is that some parents seem relieved when they learn their children have turned to alcohol instead of other drugs.

Parents' Guide to Marijuana

Marijuana is a clear and present threat to our youth. The danger will increase if stronger varieties of the drug, such as hashish, are smuggled into the country in greater amounts.

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the active ingredient in the resin of the marijuana plant, can be manufactured in a laboratory. As a hallucinogen, with its accompanying mental changes, liquid THC may prove more potent than LSD. The possibilities of bootleg production and availability of THC in the illicit drug trade are imminent.

Through its Children & Youth Program, The American Legion calls upon its posts to take a stand, to fight, to care, or many youth will be lost. There is a lot to be done. The Legion's materials provide many suggestions that, if applied, may have a positive effect on your community and its youngsters.

Drug abuse is not going away. If we give up the battle, we become losers. As losers, we can only count our losses and lament the waste.

The American Legion's National Commission on Children & Youth chooses to be more positive. Posts are urged to accept the challenge of this problem and gain the victory for children and youth in the community.
Be A Winner!

GET INVOLVED!

'Stay Active' locates newcomer Legionnaires

Is your American Legion Post looking for—
— new members?
— new programs or projects?
— new ways to handle current programs?
— or new workers who are willing to help?

Well, look no further. That member may have moved into your area. Project Stay Active will help. The question is, "Are you going to go for it—or let him/her slip through your fingers?"

Each month, the Electronic Data Processing Division at National Headquarters prepares a special 3 x 5 card (illustrated, in slightly reduced size with this item) for each Legionnaire who has reported to The American Legion Magazine a change of address involving a move from one state to another. These cards are sent to the department headquarters of the state of new residence for distribution to either the intermediate organization (district or county) or the post, depending on the procedure adopted by the department.

Once the post receives the cards, personal contact should be made. The member new to the area may need assistance in making adjustments and becoming established in the community. Your post may even want to prepare a "New to the Community" packet or kit for such contact. Whether your post decides to incorporate such materials into its program, the importance of personal contact cannot be overemphasized. That new Legionnaire who is new to your community may need assistance in locating a doctor, dentist, auto service, church, schools, day care, recreational facilities, etc.

Project Stay Active is a valuable membership tool. More than that, though, it gives your post the opportunity to develop a deeper spirit of comradeship. It's another means of expressing the post's "devotion to mutual helpfulness."

Be A Winner! Get Involved!

PROJECT STAY ACTIVE

JAMES L. LEGIONNAIRE
1985 MAIN STREET
YOUR TOWN, ANY STATE 00000

This Legionnaire recently moved to your locality from another state. Will you please welcome this member and his/her family and help them become acquainted with others in the area.

This member is an excellent prospect who may want to transfer to your post. This Legionnaire is already sold on The American Legion, and having someone in your post contact this veteran, welcoming and giving him/her the opportunity to stay active, is a service to the community and to the Legion that shouldn't be passed up.

November 1984 Calendar

NOVEMBER

6  Election Day. "Get Out The Vote."
11  66th anniversary of armistice ending World War I, 1918. Veterans Day.
11-17 American Education Week.
18-24 National Family Week
22  Thanksgiving Day.

DECEMBER

15  Bill of Rights Day.
19  Hanukkah.
25  Christmas Day
31  New Year's Eve. Deadline for insured Legionnaires to pay premiums to American Legion Life Insurance Plan.

JANUARY, 1985

1  New Year's Day. 1984 members who have not paid dues for 1985 are now delinquent.
2  Holiday Blood Donor Drive ends.
(Coming up in February: Americanism Month. Plan early for an effective observance showing your post's involvement in this major program area.)

The American Legion ADVANCE

Published monthly by National Headquarters, The American Legion, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206. A publication for American Legion Post Commanders and Post Adjutants.

Editor: Frank L. Megnin

Vol. XXVII November 1984 No. 11

The ADVANCE, November, 1984
Unlock 'secret' of ALNS for your members

**SSST! Want to know a great secret?**

**You do? Well—here it is:**

The American Legion News Service (ALNS)!

Is ALNS the best kept secret within our organization? Sometimes it seems that way.

Recent, unofficial surveys have shown that Post Adjutants are not sharing ALNS issues and information with post members or the public.

ALNS was redesigned earlier this year to be used in a variety of ways to inform members—and the public—about programs and issues of concern to both the non-member veteran and the Legionnaire.

Printed every other week, ALNS is mailed to more than 15,000 Post Adjutants and other Legion leaders.

Stories cover a broad spectrum of topics designed to put information about national issues quickly into the hands of local posts, in a format that can be reused easily.

ALNS is printed on heavy, coated stock, designed to be clipped and reprinted. Many newspapers throughout the country will find its format ideal for republication without even resetting the story. Talk with your local editor to see if he would be interested in some of the ALNS stories. Pay particular attention to stories that translate into local impact.

Within your post, ALNS stories can be

(continued on next page)
COMANDER, is there a veteran-owned business in your community that could use a multi-billion-dollar customer? The Veterans Administration's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization has been asking that "$64,000" question of small business a lot recently.

The primary mission of the VA is to provide service to the 30 million living men and women who served their country. To do this, the government's third largest agency must purchase goods and services in order to operate its medical centers, outpatient clinics, nursing homes, domiciliaries, outreach centers, research facilities, and offices.

During Fiscal Year 1983 the VA reported purchases of more than $3 billion of goods and services. The goods ranged literally from apples to zinc chloride, while services ranged from pest control to building construction and repair.

**Posts can help find VA suppliers**

COMANDER, your post's participation in The American Legion's ROTC Awards program can be a source of pride for your members and at the same time be a supporting role to the Legion's National Security Program. The Legion's National Security Commission is proud of the services rendered by the posts participating in the awards program which recognizes deserving cadets at high schools, colleges, and universities across the nation.

As a result of the heightened interest in ROTC at both the high school and college levels, there are more opportunities for additional posts to participate in this program. There are many young men and women whose achievements in the ROTC program are deserving of recognition. Post Commanders should be aware of the positive image gained for the post by having a representative award ROTC medals for these students.

Commander, does your post participate in this program? If not, here are some easy steps in getting started:

- Find the ROTC unit most accessible to your post. You may obtain this information from either your department adjutant or the National Security-Foreign Relations Division, The American Legion, 1608 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.
- Contact the professor of military science (Army), Navy science (Navy), or aerospace studies (Air Force) for your local ROTC or JROTC unit, and arrange an appointment.
- Familiarize him with the Legion's ROTC Awards program. Confirm your post's willingness to present the awards at the annual awards day ceremonies. Also, see if there is any other way your post can provide assistance in general support of the ROTC unit.
- Obtain the necessary medals early from National Emblem Sales. Awards are usually presented during the January-May time frame. A handy order form is included in the ROTC Awards brochure available from the National Security-Foreign Relations Division at the Legion's Washington Office, or consult your current Emblem Sales Catalog.
- Have an official of your post actually present the awards at the annual ROTC ceremony, usually in May or June.
- Continue your post's liaison with the local ROTC unit. Express your willingness to award the medals every year and not on just one time basis.
- Commander, your post's participation in this program, which requires but a modest amount of funds and little manpower, can be a measurable contribution to the strength of America's national defense.

In September, 1983, VA Administrator Harry N. Walters announced the agency would take affirmative action seeking veteran-owned small business and assist them in participating in VA business opportunities.

A small business, owned/operated by a Vietnam veteran, or a disabled (30 percent or more) veteran of any era, may be able to qualify for a financially rewarding opportunity to do business with the VA.

The VA uses both competitive, sealed bids and negotiation. Depending on the commodity, most contracts are definite quantity, fixed-price, with definite delivery dates, or call-type contracts with delivery orders placed as the need arises. Much of the purchasing by the VA's marketing division results in large quantity deliveries to supply depots in New Jersey, Illinois, and California.

Each VA purchasing office maintains active bidder's lists and commodity index files, indicating the various items offered by prospective bidders. Firms interested in being placed on these lists must submit a Standard Form 129, completed in full and signed by the person authorized to execute contracts. Catalogs, price lists, and other information material on product or service should be submitted if available.

Questions concerning the VA's procurement process, or requests for Standard Form 129, should be directed to the following:

- Deputy Director
  Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (005C)
- Veterans Administration
  810 Vermont Ave., N.W.
  Washington, D.C. 20420

While the VA is not authorized to set aside noncompetitive contract awards for veteran-owned businesses, it feels its efforts to seek out and assist these firms in competing for VA contracts will have a substantial and positive impact on the success of Vietnam era and disabled veteran owned and operated businesses.

**Emblem goes on USA-made goods**

BY ACTION of the National Executive Committee, the Emblem of The American Legion is not to be affixed to a foreign made product when an American made product can be obtained.

In adopting Resolution No. 30 at its meeting, May 9-10, the NEC declared that The American Legion “on a National, Department, District, County, and Post level is not to purchase foreign made products to which The American Legion Emblem is to be affixed when an American made product is available.”

The ADVANCE, November, 1984
THE AMERICAN LEGION
SCOUT OF THE YEAR
NOMINATION APPLICATION

POSITION PLACEMENT
(To Be Completed By The American Legion)

DISTRICT NO. __________________ PLACE OF __________________ SUBMITTED

DEPARTMENT OF __________________ PLACE OF __________________ SUBMITTED

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS __________________ PLACE OF __________________ SUBMITTED

NOMINEE’S NAME ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

AGE ______ DATE OF BIRTH __________

(Day) (Month) (Year)

HEIGHT ______ WEIGHT ______

FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST
SPONSORING YOUR SCOUT TROOP

(Name) ____________________________

(Post #) __________________

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Commander’s Name)

(Please Print as requested)

PLACE CURRENT
BLACK & WHITE
HEAD & SHOULDERS
PHOTOGRAPH IN
BOY SCOUT UNIFORM HERE

FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST
SPONSORING YOUR SCOUT TROOP

(Name) ____________________________

(Post #) __________________

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

(Commander’s Name)

(Mother’s/Father’s Legion Membership No.)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

THE NOMINEE MUST:

☐ Be a registered, active member of a Boy Scout Troop or Varsity Scout Team sponsored by an American Legion Post or Auxiliary Unit OR be a registered, active member of a duly chartered Boy Scout Troop or Varsity Scout Team and the son of an American Legion family;

☐ Have received the Eagle Scout Award;

☐ Be an active member of his religious institution;

☐ Have rendered outstanding service to his religious institution, school and community;

☐ Have demonstrated practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting and community (i.e. Student Council President or Representative, local Teen Club chairman, leader in community-wide service projects, participation in sports, Senior Patrol Leader, Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, etc.);

☐ Have reached his 15th birthday, but not his 18th, by June 30;

☐ Submit at least four letters of recommendation and testimony with Nomination Application, one letter required from each of these group leaders: religious institution, school, community and Scouting.

The ADVANCE, November, 1984 5
QUALIFICATIONS

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

A HIGH SCHOOL RECORD
GRADE __________ NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL ____________________________
GRADE POINT AVERAGE __________ IN UPPER _____ PERCENT OF CLASS
HIGH SCHOOL CLUBS, TEAMS
AND ORGANIZATIONS

HONORS, LETTERS, OR OFFICES
HELD

B COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION RECORD
ORGANIZATION

OFFICES

COMMUNITY SERVICE PARTICIPATION

C RELIGIOUS RECORD
DENOMINATION ____________________________
NAME OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION ____________________________
RELIGIOUS YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS
HONORS AND/OR OFFICES HELD

NAME OF RELIGIOUS EMBLEM (AWARD) RECEIVED ____________________________
**QUALIFICATIONS**

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE**

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**LEADERSHIP POSITIONS HELD:**

CUB SCOUT PACK  
BOY SCOUT TROOP  
VARSITY SCOUT TEAM  
CAMP STAFF  
OTHER  

**OTHER ACTIVITIES (Jamborees, Order of the Arrow Conference, etc.)**


**E  | CAREER INTERESTS**


**F  | ATTACHMENTS**

FOUR REQUIRED LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION AND TESTIMONY

- Religious
- School
- Community
- Scouting

**NOTE:** Additional letters of recommendation and testimony may be included with this application.
AUTHORIZATION

CERTIFICATION BY SCOUT

I certify to the accuracy of the foregoing facts. If selected, I will be free to travel to The American Legion National Convention and participate as a member of the Youth Champion Delegation, representing The American Legion and Boy Scouts of America.

SIGNATURE
DATE _______________OF SCOUT ____________________________

PARENT’S CONSENT

We hereby certify that the information on this application pertaining to our son’s age and grade in school is correct. We are willing and desirous that he become The American Legion Scout of the Year. In consideration of the benefits derived from this honor, if selected, we hereby voluntarily waive any claim against The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America totally and all representatives thereof.

SIGNATURE OF FATHER, MOTHER
DATE _______________ OR GUARDIAN ____________________________

ENDORSEMENTS

UNIT LEADER:

The above named applicant is qualified in every respect to represent The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America and has our recommendation.

UNIT LEADER _______________ UNIT COM. CHM. ____________________________

DATE _______________

POST:

The above named applicant is approved by Post Number ____________ as qualified for nomination of The American Legion Scout of the Year.

DATE ________________ POST COMMANDER ____________________________

SELECTION COMMITTEE APPROVAL

DISTRICT CHAIRMAN
SIGNATURE __________________________ DATE _______________

DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN
SIGNATURE __________________________ DATE _______________

NATIONAL SIGNATURE __________________________ DATE _______________
Commander Bacon presents legislative program to House, Senate committees

NATIONAL Commander Clarence M. Bacon, Sept. 19, presented the legislative goals of The American Legion for the coming year to the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees.

Commander Bacon opened his testimony by praising the Committees for their responsiveness to the needs of all veterans, emphasizing the Legion "...represents a true cross section of the population of the nation and is composed of veterans from all walks of life."

He told both committees, "We have not, and will not, seek from the government more than what we believe are the just dues of the men and women who have answered the call of the elected government, to defend the national interest in the Armed Forces."

The National Commander stated, "It is the position of The American Legion that when the national priorities are set, funding for veterans programs should rightfully rank second only to national defense, which must be the first national priority at all times."

Commander Bacon described those who have answered the call of the elected government to enter the Armed Forces as having performed "the highest duty of citizenship."

After explaining that funding for veterans programs has actually decreased as a percentage of the total federal appropriations, Commander Bacon told the Committees, "The American Legion will not agree—or accede—to any further reductions in benefits or services to veterans. We believe the adjustments that have been made to veterans programs have gone as far as they reasonably can, if those programs are to respond to the needs of those they are intended to serve."

Discussing the Veterans Administration's budget for FY1985, Commander Bacon highlighted his testimony with specific examples of American Legion concern, including the Agent Orange issue, aging veterans, veterans employment programs, and the necessity for certain construction projects in Puerto Rico, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Rhode Island to move forward without further delay.

Concluding his testimony, Commander Bacon stressed, "What The American Legion wants for veterans is what is fair and just. We know that this is what the Committee wants also. Working together, we believe the goals of fairness and justice can be achieved."

Legion testifies on emergency jobs program

THE AMERICAN Legion has presented testimony to a Congressional subcommittee on the progress to date in placing veterans in jobs under the Emergency Veterans Job Training Program. Appearing Sept. 21 before the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Education, Training, and Employment, Legion spokesmen stated that the placement rate is improving largely because of the coordination and commitment of both the Department of Labor and the VA.

However, the Legion's testimony raised the question of what should become of the program as it approaches its scheduled termination date at the end of next year. It was suggested that a further hearing be conducted midway through next year to assess more accurately the need for reauthorizing the program.

At least two options for continuing the program are open for consideration. The first would simply reauthorize the program and change its basic nature from an emergency program to a permanent one. Another possibility would be to retain the program as a permanent emergency program.

Under the second alternative, a triggering mechanism might be used to set the program in motion if the nation again found itself in the midst of another serious recession with accompanying high veteran unemployment rates. If, for example, veteran unemployment levels reach a threshold of between 3 and 5 percent above the national average for similarly aged non-veterans, the program would automatically become active. Under these circumstances, it would be quicker to seek an emergency appropriation to fund the program than to seek authorizing and appropriating legislation, a process that can take more than a year.

Also, the subcommittee was advised that it should consider setting the simultaneously scheduled termination date at the end of next year of the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit program before allowing the emergency program to expire. The termination of two veterans employment programs at the same time could have serious consequences for otherwise eligible veteran participants.

Assuming that interest in a reauthorization of some kind will heighten as next year progresses, it will be important to impress upon Congress that these programs have been tailored especially to specific groups of veterans whose employment problems have endured longer than expected. As this issue develops over the next several months, your post will be advised on how best to petition Congress for support.

OMB proposes loan curbs

IN LATE August, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released a new circular that seeks to curb government participation in direct loan and loan guaranty programs. If fully implemented by government agencies, the policy outlined in the circular could seriously affect the VA home loan guaranty program and the Small Business Administration (SBA) Vietnam Era veterans loan program.

The document, OMB Circular A-70, does not have the force of law, but it sets forth Administration policy which should be followed by Executive agencies as long as the policy does not conflict with current law.

However, such Circulars are used to shape further legislation and seek modifications of laws currently on the books. In fact, a letter from OMB Director David Stockman which accompanied the release of the Circular stated, "... A-70 is to be used in proposing or reviewing legislation related to credit programs, in evaluating Congressional and other proposals on credit, and in reviewing existing or proposed credit program policies and procedures. The Circular is an important reorientation of federal credit policy."

The ADVANCE, November, 1984
Federal credit activity takes many forms, including direct low-interest loans (such as are made available in the case of Presidentially declared disaster areas), loan insurance, loan guarantees, and financial contracts designed to support lending programs. Each type of federal credit activity has been tailored specifically to meet existing or potential need as perceived by the Congress.

In the case of veterans, the VA's home loan guaranty program and the SBA's Vietnam Era veterans loan program were designed to assist veterans in their re-adjustment to civilian life. Both programs are Congressionally mandated. Both programs are designed to address and meet specific needs and are part of a package of benefits earned by veterans by virtue of their service in the Armed Forces during periods of armed conflict.

Yet, OMB Circular A-70 would require the agencies involved in federal credit programs to ensure that "...those receiving federal loan guarantees...pay for part or all of the expected federal default liability on the guaranteed loans, ...and requires that interest rates on new direct loans be related to market interest rates, and vary with market conditions, rather than remain at static levels that become outmoded when market realities change."

This means that interest rates on direct government loans, as well as loans guaranteed by the federal government, should be adjustable, i.e., as interest rates in the commercial market change, the interest rate on government loans and loan guarantees also should change. It also means that those individuals using direct government loans or loan guarantees will have to pay some kind of premium in order to offset expected government losses due to default.

The American Legion has already gone on record, urging the VA to use caution in approving adjustable and variable rate mortgages for its home loan program. The Legion feels that the economic impact of adjustable and variable rate mortgages in a recession environment has not been determined adequately.

Given the number of VA guaranteed home loans at fixed rates which fell into default and foreclosure during the most recent recession, the Legion feels that it is imprudent to allow veterans to be placed in a questionable financial position in order to provide lenders with more interest income.

Yet, OMB Circular A-70 would seem to require all government loan activity to be of the variable or adjustable type. In fact, one of the policy objectives of the Circular states that its purpose is "to minimize disruption and impairment of private credit markets and to encourage recourse to individuals and private financial institutions as the primary source of credit." Thus, the Circular ignores the fact that federal credit programs were developed to fulfill unmet credit needs.

The Legion also has gone on record as opposing any plan which would seek to make veterans pay for the privilege of using the benefits that they earned. OMB Circular A-70 would, in fact, seek program changes that would require the veteran to pay for the insurance which would then be used to guarantee the loan.

The Legion opposes implementation of Circular A-70 until such time as Congress has had the chance to review and hold hearings on the proposed changes in federal credit policy. Indeed, it is questionable, given the legislative history of the VA home loan guaranty program and the more recently enacted Vietnam Era veterans direct loan program, whether the Circular's provisions can be implemented without specific Congressional approval for each of the areas affected by the Circular through changes in current law.

Legislation reauthorizes Older American Act

During its final days, the 98th Congress passed S-2603 to reauthorize the Older American Act of 1965. This legislation, long of interest to The American Legion, funds various community-based programs which serve senior citizens as well as fosters informational exchanges between several federal agencies which have day-to-day dealings with older Americans.

During the course of the 98th Congress, the Legion testified on several proposals to establish cooperation between government agencies which render geriatric services to older Americans.

The Legion testified that it was opposed to "any proposal which would seek to combine extended care resources under jurisdiction of the two agencies...

We strongly support the maintenance of a separate medical care delivery system for veterans." However, the Legion will continue to support informational exchanges between the VA and any other federal agencies involved in providing services to the elderly.

The American Legion's interest in this legislation is as an organization that has devoted local resources to assist in carrying out the Older Americans Act since its inception. Legions have volunteered their time as drivers to transport older Americans to and from meal centers and as volunteers to operate those centers. In addition, many local post homes have been made available as sites for these meal centers and for social activities for senior citizens.

Clearly, the Legion's interest in all senior citizens, not just aging veterans, is strong and will continue to grow. With recent studies showing a dramatic increase in the number of persons over 65 by the year 2000, and a corresponding increase in the number of aging veterans who will represent the potential for greater need of VA benefits and VA facilities, it is apparent that The American Legion's voluntary activities will be more in demand than ever.
Official Certification Form  
Individual Membership Worker Awards  

For Recruiting New Members and/or Reinstatements — 

Each Legionnaire who recruits ten **New Members and/or Reinstatements** by Veterans Day, November 11, 1984, for the 1985 membership year will receive a special New Member Recruitment Certificate from the National Commander and a chance to win one of five expense-paid trips to the 1985 National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. Trip includes round trip air transportation, hotel accommodations for 6 days/5 nights, and a reserved seating ticket to the National Commander's Banquet for Distinguished Guests.

I hereby certify that each of the below listed Legionnaires has met the above requirements by recruiting **ten New Members and/or Reinstatements** by Veterans Day, November 11, 1984, for the 1985 membership year:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Recruiter's Name and Address (Please Type or Print)</th>
<th>Total Number New Members/Reinstatements</th>
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This Form Must be Completed and Mailed By The Postmarked Date of November 19, 1984.

Mail to:  
Membership and Post Activities  
The American Legion  
P. O. Box 1055  
Indianapolis, Ind. 46206

Certified By:  
Post Adjutant or Commander ________________________
Street ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City, State and ZIP ____________________________
Post No. ____________________________

The ADVANCE, November, 1984
Flag education basic local program

The beautiful starry emblem—
When we have lived and died—
May it be honored by our children,
And be their children's pride.
May it wave o'er this grand nation,
As it has waved of yore,
Proclaiming liberty and freedom,
Till time shall stand no more!
—Mrs. C.V. Schneider

POST Commanders are urged to encourage local schools to instruct students in the proper respect and display of the Flag of the United States. The Flag is a living symbol of all that is good in America—freedom, justice, and democracy.

For generations of the future to continue to enjoy the fruits of our endeavors in holding these things sacred, it is necessary for us to educate our children in the history of our nation's beginnings and the hallowed status of our nation's Flag.

From either your department or National Headquarters you can obtain publications which will assist your teachers in this endeavor. Let's Be Right on Flag Etiquette, Flag Code, and Know Your America can be ordered, at reasonable cost, from National Emblem Sales, The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

Because The American Legion is a nationally recognized authority on the Flag Code and flag etiquette, your post should be the local role model for proper display and respect to the Flag. Does your post home display the Flag daily? Is the Flag properly illuminated during the darkness hours? Is it in good repair, not soiled, torn, or tattered? Do you follow the Manual of Ceremonies at your meetings, including a salute, the Pledge, and the National Anthem? Do you provide a properly uniformed color guard for community events? Does your post encourage the teaching of patriotism in local schools, the reciting of the Pledge, or provide Flags for classrooms? Does your post support youth groups—such as Boy Scouts—which help develop positive attitudes toward the Flag and the nation? During parades, do your members stand and salute each time the Flag passes by?

All of these elements help education by example. The American Legion has a duty "to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation." By being a true example in showing the proper respect due the Flag, your post and your members will help assure that the Flag shall always be "Proclaiming liberty and freedom... Till time shall stand no more."

Magazine seeks nominations for 'Legionnaire of Month'

Unlike the Marines—whose recruiting campaigns often say they "need a few good men," The American Legion already has many good men—and women, too, and we're trying to locate the really outstanding ones.

The problem is that, while an individual Legionnaire's exemplary record of service to post, community, and country may be familiar to those right around home, the bulk of the Legion's 2.5 million members neither know of his/her accomplishments nor are able to emulate them.

Through its "Legionnaire of the Month" award and feature, The American Legion Magazine shows what one person can do to "make a difference" in his/her post, the community, the nation. The recognition developed by the award serves to inspire others to do likewise.

The Magazine honors the Legionnaire selected each month with a brief article describing his/her achievements. Each monthly award winner receives congratulatory letters from the National Commander and the Magazine's publisher, along with a handsome plaque which includes the Magazine's cover for the month and a reproduction of the article.

Anyone but the nominee may submit the nomination for the "Legionnaire of the Month" award. Letters of nomination must include a list of Legion offices held by the nominee, a detailed description of his/her other contributions to post, community, state, nation, and the Legion itself, plus any other awards or recognition the nominee has received from post, district, department, or na-

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