Anaheim

The American Legion
81st National Convention
September 3–9, 1999
Official Program & Annual Report
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to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars;
to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
to make right the master of might;
to promote peace and good will on earth;
to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.
Fox Associates, Inc., national advertising sales representatives for THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE since 1986 proudly salutes all members of The American Legion.
The American Legion 81st National Convention
Sept. 3 - 9, 1999 • Anaheim, California

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

THE BUDDY PRINCIPLE APPLIES TO MANY FACETS OF LIFE

In a word, one legionnaire greeting another invokes the unique covenant among men and women who fight for freedom. The word is "buddy," a term we call one another often in The American Legion. More than a co-worker and more than a friend, a buddy, in the combat sense, is someone you can trust, someone who watches your back.

At this, the 81st National Convention, we must renew the spirit of comradeship characterized by this moniker. I want you to reinvigorate this team concept in your Post. For in order to achieve our goals and preserve traditional American values, we must be as devoted to one another as we are to the aims and purposes of The American Legion.

We must continue to work together as tirelessly and as efficiently in our Posts as buddies do in combat. Remain mindful of the big picture - the moral direction of our nation as you carry out day-to-day Post operations. Approach every young person whose life you touch, every hospitalized veteran whose day you make brighter, as a victory for God and country. Know that you are a part of a proud legacy born in Paris, France, in 1919 where a group of World War I veterans founded The American Legion. Rise above differences of opinion among comrades and stick together for the greater good, as a true buddy in arms would.

The National Organization will continue to do all of these things.

A buddy in combat doesn't cower in the heat of battle. Similarly, we will not buckle in our efforts to pass a constitutional amendment to return to the people the right to protect our flag from physical desecration. We will wipe the smirks off the faces of elitists whose grip on Congress will be short-lived. We have a two-thirds majority in the House and 49 states on our side. The will of the people - to protect the flag that drapes the coffins of our honored dead - deserves our continued grassroots advocacy. Keep up the good work.

A buddy will go out on a limb to save his comrade's life. By the same token, we will tolerate nothing less than adequate and efficient health care for our nation's veterans; people's lives are at stake. Uncle Sam doesn't give its servicemembers the option of refusing to fight. The American Legion doesn't give Congress and the president the option of turning their back on the disabled patriot. In the long run, passage of every element of our GI Bill of Health will make the VA health-care system more accessible and fiscally sound.

A buddy will ensure that the other troops are ready to fight the good fight. Therefore, our call for a strong national defense will continue. Our government must raise defense spending to a level that enables our troops to counter the emerging threats to freedom and world peace. Investments in armed forces personnel, training, equipment and numerous quality-of-life matters are imperative. Military missions that detract from troop readiness to fight a war are unnecessary and must be avoided.

When you elected me National Commander in New Orleans last year, I made two promises consistent with my "buddy system": I will not fail you. I will not allow you to fail me.

As your buddy and as your leader, I will keep those promises here in Anaheim as we fine-tune The American Legion agenda.

Please make those same promises to your comrades back home. In so doing, you will instill a sense of comradeship necessary not only for achieving our corporate goals, but for preserving the values that more than one million men and women died defending.

Morale is HIGH

Butch Miller
National Commander

Butch Miller
National Commander
The space-age Anaheim Convention Center will host the Legion's final gathering of the 20th century.


Photos courtesy of Anaheim/Orange County visitors & convention bureau.

Disney? Dining? Da Mighty Ducks? Diversity awaits in Anaheim!
The American Legion 1999 National Convention

Make a list and rent a car to visit all the sights around Anaheim.

Mickey says, "See ya real soon."

and ready yourself for some...ing -

Sailing is but a stone's throw away in Newport Harbor.

All signs for the 81st Convention point to Anaheim.
Best wishes.
REGISTRATION & INFORMATION

One registration and information booth will be operated in Anaheim for the convenience of conventioneers. The booth will be staffed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m Friday, Sept. 3 through Tuesday, Sept. 7.

All persons, except children under age 18, are required to wear the official Convention Badge or other approved credentials to gain entry to any venue.

Thank You

The American Legion wishes to express its appreciation to the following companies and organizations that have contributed substantially to the success of the 81st Annual National Convention:

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- City of Anaheim Police Department
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- Niles Creace • Paul Curtis • Bill Sawyer • Ken Hurt
- Dave Seiler (4) • Jim Klasanin
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- Danny K's Billiards & Sports Bar
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“Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation, for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.”

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Trust Services wishes the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary the best of conventions and a great year.

George A. Buskirk, Jr.
Senior Vice President
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Warm greetings to everyone gathered in Anaheim, California, for the 1999 national convention of The American Legion.

As a free nation, we must always remember that our achievements in both peace and war have been built on the sacrifices of our men and women in uniform. We owe a profound debt to brave Americans like you who knew their duty and did it well -- even at the risk of their freedom and their lives.

We have a solemn responsibility to ensure that all our veterans enjoy the quality of life they deserve. On Veterans Day last year, I was proud to sign into law the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act. This legislation improves a wide range of benefits and programs, including an increase in compensation payments to veterans with disabilities as well as benefits to the survivors of Americans who died serving our country.

All Americans have a duty as well to remember the history that you lived and to appreciate and honor the history you made. We cannot expect future generations to understand fully what those who came before them saw, experienced, and felt in facing danger or adversity in defense of our nation and its values. But we can make sure that our children know enough to thank you for all you have done. We must never allow the passage of time or the comforts of peace to drive the memory and meaning of your sacrifice from the consciousness of our nation.

As you gather once again to reflect on your achievements and to plan for the challenges of the new century, I salute you for your service to our nation and extend best wishes for a successful convention.
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For information on Youth Programs please call us at 703-267-1505 or by E-mail at youth_programs@nra.org.
WELCOME

GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

DEAR FRIENDS: It is a privilege to welcome all who have gathered for The American Legion's 81st National Convention. I am pleased and honored that you have selected Anaheim as the location of this year's convention.

With nearly three million members worldwide, The American Legion is an outstanding example of true patriotism. From blood drive to Boys' State to American Legion baseball, the Legion demonstrates an unparalleled level of dedication to community service. I applaud each one of you for the supreme strength, service and sacrifice you displayed by fulfilling our nation's highest duty, as well as your continued devotion to this great nation through your involvement in The American Legion.

As a longtime member of Legion Post 283, I have incorporated the Legion motto, "Putting Veterans First," into my priorities as Governor. California will not forget or ignore its veterans on my watch.

On behalf of the people of the state of California, I welcome you to our beautiful state. Best wishes for a successful event.

Sincerely,

Gray Davis
Governor

MAYOR OF ANAHEIM

ON BEHALF OF the city of Anaheim, I would like to extend a warm welcome to The American Legion 81st National Convention.

During your visit, you can explore many unique sights and fun-filled attractions. There's world famous Disneyland, and as we head into the 21st century, the Disneyland Resort is expanding around a new theme park - Disney's California Adventure! The Anaheim Convention Center is one of the largest in the country. Sports enthusiasts will want to visit Edison International Field of Anaheim, home of the American League Anaheim Angels, to see an action-packed baseball game and Arrowhead Pond of Anaheim - our state-of-the-art performing arts venue and sports arena - where you can see the Mighty Ducks of the National Hockey League and other great performers. Golfers can enjoy several picturesque golf courses in Anaheim, and there are gourmet dining and family-style restaurants to satisfy the palate.

It is a distinct pleasure to host this important gathering of The American Legion. Best wishes for an enjoyable and productive convention. Enjoy your stay, and I hope you will visit Anaheim again.

Sincerely,

Tom Daly
Mayor

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

ALL OF THE 140,000 plus Legionnaires of the great state of California extend a hearty welcome to all of The American Legion family.

We wish you one and all a very productive convention.

We hope that while you are here you find the time to visit the many world famous tourist attractions that are nearby. You will find outstanding food and entertainment very close to your housing accommodations. The Convention Corporation is willing to assist you in any way to help enhance your stay.

We are confident that our California hospitality will make your visit with us a pleasant memory for years to come.

When you have completed your stay may you have a safe return trip home. Come back and visit soon. Once again, WELCOME TO CALIFORNIA AND ENJOY.

Willy Wilkin
Department Commander
Department of California
1999-2000
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Programs and Agendas

81st Annual National Convention of The American Legion

Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim, California
September 3 – 9, 1999
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Central

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on their
81st National
Convention

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PATRIOTIC RELIGIOUS SERVICE

Anaheim Convention Center
Hall B, 1st Level

Sunday September 5, 1999 at 11AM

Post Colors – “Pure Heaven”
Color Guard Post 37 Ames, Iowa

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Clifford A. Smith (Mass.)
National Chaplain
The Sons of The American Legion

Brian O’Heare (Mass.)
National Adjutant
The Sons of the American Legion

Wanda North (Utah)
Le Chapeau National
Eight and Forty

Elyline Schweitzer (Calif.)
La Secretaire-Cassiere Nationale
Eight and Forty

Benediction
Nellie Stoykovich (Calif.)
Department Chaplain
American Legion Auxiliary

“I Am Your Flag”
Father Gary Gummersheimer (III.)
Past National Chaplain
The Sons of The American Legion

Retirement of Colors

Hymn

Reading of the Holy Scriptures
Dr. Calvin C. Turpin (Calif.)
American Legion of California

Memorial Prayer
Carmelite Staker (Ariz.)
National Chaplain
American Legion Auxiliary

Memorial Message
Rev. Robert J. Sweeney (N.Y.)
National Chaplain
The American Legion

Hymn

Presentation of Memorial Wreaths
Butch Miller (Va.)
National Commander
The American Legion

Robert W. Spanogle, (Mich.)
National Adjutant
The American Legion

Virginia Hobbs (Ky.)
National President
American Legion Auxiliary

Peggy Sappenfield (Ind.)
National Secretary
American Legion Auxiliary

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**Parade**

**Anahiem Convention Center**

**Disbanding Area**

**Start**

**Assembly Area**

**Parade Information**

**Grand Marshal**
Major General John L. Scott
Army

**Honorary Grand Marshall**
Anthony G. Jordan
Post National Commander
The American Legion 1997-1998

**Deputy Marshal**
Rear Admiral Carlton D. Moore
Coast Guard

**Parade Rules**

1. All times are Pacific Standard Time, the leading element of the Parade will actually start through the Parade route at approximately 3:40 PM. (This is the Los Angeles Police Department Motorcycle Drill Team). The Parade itself will begin promptly at 4 PM from the intersections of Haster Street and Orangewood Avenue. The Parade goes west on Orangewood to Harbor, north on Harbor to Convention Way, west on Convention Way to West Street behind the Convention.
PARADE

Center and distances in the Anaheim Convention Center parking lots off of West Street.

2. The leading element which is called the "Dignitary Division" this year will begin promptly at 4PM from the initial starting point of the parade.

3. The parade meeting that all Department Parade Chairmen need to attend is on Saturday, September 4, 1999 beginning at 2PM in room A6 of the Anaheim Convention Center. Final instructions will be provided at that time.

4. ORGANIZATION:
   A. All elements have been assigned to Divisions, each under the direction of the Parade Officials. The composition of these Divisions, Order of March and time and place of assembly is shown on the Organization and March Timetable and Assembly and Disbanding Area Map supplied to the Department Parade Chairmen.
   B. All Department of Defense Units will be governed by applicable regulations.
   C. Each Department Commander or appointed Parade representative will be responsible for the Order of March and promptness of arrival at the Assembly Area of all units of his Department. All units will conform to the following distribution and formation:

   1. All American Flags, the Department and Post Colors of each Department and the Department and Unit Colors of each Department of the Auxiliary will be massed at the head of each Department Delegation in that order.
   2. American Legion Units within Departments will march in formation eight abreast, one and one-half yards between ranks.
   3. BANDS AND DRUM CORPS: As directed by Drum Majors, but not to exceed eight abreast.
   4. Authorized floats and automobiles in single column. No unauthorized floats or automobiles will be allowed to participate. All vehicles must be equipped with identifying signs on sides thereof and must carry an "OFFICIAL CAR" sticker on the windshield.
   5. ABSOLUTELY NO MANEUVERS EXCEPT FOR A FORWARD MOVEMENT. Marching units, bands, color guards and drill teams must abide by this regulation.
   6. DISTANCING AREA:
       The official Reviewing Stand will be located on Convention Way.

7. ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PARADE AND CONDUCT OF PARTICIPANTS:
   A. Pursuant to resolution adopted at a meeting of the National Convention Committee at Miami Beach on March 12, 1970, there will be no participation of any vehicles, equipment or items of wearing apparel of the 40 at 8. This regulation will be enforced by the Parade Committee of the 1999 Convention Corporation.
   B. With exception of police, military and national escort, and distinguished guests, eligibility to participate in the parade is limited to the members of the American Legion and the uniformed bodies of the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion subject to restriction of the following activities which shall be prohibited in the line of march:

   1. The drinking of or simulated drinking of intoxicants.
   2. Participants under the influence of intoxicants.
   3. Use of water pistols and electric shocking devices.
   4. Female impersonators.
   5. Firecrackers and any other explosives.
   6. Any presentation or representation either immoral or in bad taste.
   7. Distribution of souvenirs, promotional or advertising materials, either from floats or by marching units.
   C. Violators of any of the above rules will be dismissed from the parade immediately.

8. FIRST AID STATIONS:
   First Aid Stations and water stations will be located throughout the parade route. Additionally, ambulances and mobile EMT units will be available to assist Parade marchers and spectators.

9. PARKING OF CHARTERED OR POST BUSES:
   Buses will unload at the assigned assembly area, which will be provided to each Parade Chairman during the parade meeting on Saturday, September 4, 1999. Each bus will proceed to the disbanding area via the route given at the Parade meeting. Parade officials will direct participants to their buses. [PERSONAL BELONGINGS AND ALL EQUIPMENT MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE BUSES WHEN UNLOADING AT THE ASSEMBLY AREA.]

MARCHING ORDER

FINAL ORDER TO BE ANNOUNCED AT PARADE COMMITTEE MEETING,
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2PM.

1. Los Angeles Police Department Motorcycle Drill Team Assembly: 2:30PM – east parking lot, Ponderosa Park Departure: 3:40PM

DIGNITARY DIVISION

Assemble on Haster Street at Orangewood – facing north – east curbside staging area Assembly: 3:15PM Departure: 4PM

2. Joint Military Color Guard
5. Honorary Grand Marshal – Anthony G. Jordan (Maine), Past National Commander
6. Deputy Grand Marshal
7. Deputy Grand Marshal – RADM William H. Butler, Commander, Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region 19, San Diego
10. U.S. Army Revolutionary War Color Guard
12. California Governor – Gray Davis
   District 34
14. California Assemblyman Lou  
   Correa [District 69]
15. Orange County Chairman  
   Board of Supervisors,  
   Charles V. Smith
16. Mayor Pro-Tem – City of  
   Anaheim – Shirley McCracken
17. Anaheim Chief of Police –  
   Roger Baker

LEGION DIVISION I
Assemble on Haster Street at  
Orange wood – facing north –  
center of street staging area.
Assemble at 3:15PM

18. National American Legion  
    Championship Color Guard –  
    Speedway. Ind. Post 500
19. National American Legion  
    Championship Bond
20. National Commander Butch  
    Miller [No.]
21. National American Legion  
    Officers
22. National Auxiliary Color  
    Guard
23. National Auxiliary President –  
    Virginia Hobbs [Ky.]
24. National Auxiliary Secretary
25. National Auxiliary Officers
26. Past National Commanders
27. Past National Auxiliary  
    Presidents
28. Youth Award Winners

LEGION DIVISION II
Assemble on Haster Street at  
Orange wood – facing north – west  
curb-side staging area. Assemble  
3:00PM.
29. S.A.L. Color Guard
30. S.A.L. National Commander
31. S.A.L. Past National  
    Commanders
32. Sons of The American Legion
33. Junior Auxiliary
34. Department of Alaska
35. Department of Hawaii
36. Department of Puerto Rico
37. Department of France
38. Department of The Philippines
39. Department of Mexico

MILITARY DIVISION
Assemble on Orange wood at  
Haster Street – facing west –  
military vehicles, equipment and floats
north curb-side staging area.
Marching personnel – honor guard,  
bands, etc. – center of street staging  
area. Assemble at 3PM.
40. U.S. Coast Guard Honor  
    Guard
41. U.S. Army 4th Infantry  
    Division Marching Band
42. U.S. Army Personnel
43. U.S. Navy Color Guard
44. U.S. Navy Personnel
45. Replica USS Long Beach  
    (CGN9)
46. U.S. Air Force Personnel
47. U.S. Coast Guard Personnel
**ALL COLOR GUARDS WILL MARCH  
WITH THEIR DEPARTMENTS

DIVISION A-1
Assemble on Orange wood at  
Haster Street – facing west – south  
curb-side staging area. Assemble at  
4:15PM.
48. Los Alamitos High School  
    Olympian Marching Band
49. Department of Arizona
50. Replica USS Nevada (BB-36)  
    with Pearl Harbor Survivors Escort
51. Department of Nevada Color  
    Guard Department of Nevada
52. Department of Kentucky
53. Department of South Carolina

DIVISION A-2
Assemble on Haster at  
Orange wood – facing north – east  
curb-side staging area. Assemble at  
4:15PM.
54. Department of Delaware
55. Department of Virginia
56. Department of South Dakota
57. Department of Florida
58. Department of Georgia

DIVISION B-1
Assemble on Orange wood at  
Haster Street – facing west – north  
curb-side staging area. Assemble at  
4:45PM.
59. Villa Park High School  
    Marching Spartans
60. Department of New Hampshire
61. Department of Vermont Color  
    Guard – Department of Vermont
62. Department of District of  
    Columbia
63. Department of Idaho Color  
    Guard Department of Idaho
64. Department of Ohio Color

DIVISION B-2
Assemble on Haster Street at  
Orange wood – facing north –  
center of street staging area.
Assemble at 4:30PM.
65. Department of Maine
66. Department of Oklahoma
67. Department of Indiana
68. Department of Iowa Color  
    Guard Department of Iowa
69. Department of North Carolina

DIVISION C-1
Assemble on Orange wood at  
Haster Street – facing west – North  
curb-side staging area. Assemble  
5PM.
70. Department of Minnesota Color  
    Guard
71. Department of Minnesota  
    9th District Bond
72. Department of Dakota
73. Department of New Jersey

DIVISION C-2
Assemble on Haster Street at  
Orange wood – facing north – west  
curb-side staging area. Assemble at  
5PM.
74. Department of Massachusetts  
    Color Guard
75. Department of Massachusetts  
    Department of Massachusetts
76. Oconomowoc, Wisconsin  
    American Legion Band
77. Department of Wisconsin
78. Department of Nebraska
79. Department of Utah

DIVISION D-1
Assemble on Orange wood at  
Haster Street – facing west – south  
curb-side staging area. Assemble at  
5:10PM.
80. Department of New Mexico  
    Color Guard
81. Department of West Virginia

DIVISION D-2
Assemble on Haster Street at  
Orange wood – facing north – east  
curb-side staging area. Assemble at  
5:30PM.
82. Department of Kansas Color  
    Guard
83. Department of Kansas
84. Department of Mississippi
85. Department of New York Fort  
    Croato Post 471 Yankee Doodle  
    Band – Department of New York
86. Department of Illinois Joint  
    Band – Department of Illinois
87. Department of Montana
88. Department of Maryland

DIVISION E-1
Assemble on Orange wood at  
Haster Street – facing west – north  
curb-side staging area. Assemble at  
5:20PM.
89. Department of Tennessee
90. Department of Michigan Color  
    Guard
91. Department of Louisiana Color  
    Guard
92. Department of Colorado
93. Department of Texas Color  
    Guard
94. Department of Texas

DIVISION E-2
Assemble on Haster Street at  
Orange wood – facing north –  
center of street staging area.
Assemble at 5:30PM.
95. Department of Arkansas
96. Department of Wyoming

DIVISION F
Assemble on Orange wood at  
Haster Street – facing west – center  
of street staging area. Assemble at  
5:45PM.
100. Paloma Valley High School  
    Wildcat Brigade
101. Crenshaw High School  
    Marine Corps JROTC Drill Team
102. Department of California John  
    M. Armitage Post 684 Ridgecrest  
    Color Guard
Department of California
# Standing Commissions and Committee Meetings

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Executive Boardroom, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Screening Committee Meetings</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday, September 3, 1999</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICANISM SCREENING</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Room 1, Mezzanine Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC SCREENING</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Room 3, Mezzanine Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA&amp;R SCREENING</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Room 2, Mezzanine Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Standing Commissions and Committees</strong></td>
<td><strong>Saturday, September 4, 1999</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.L. INSURANCE</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Balboa B, Room 188, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICANISM AND SUBCOMMITTEES</td>
<td>8:30AM Hilton Anaheim, Pacific Ballroom, Section B, Ballroom Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH</td>
<td>8:30AM Hilton Anaheim, Huntington, Room 16B, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTITUTION &amp; BY-LAWS</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Laguna B, Room 196, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVENTION</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Carmel, Room 4, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISTINGUISHED GUESTS</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Palos Verdes, Room 15, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Laguna A, Room 19A, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emblem</strong></td>
<td>12:30PM Hilton Anaheim Convention Center, Rooms A11-A12, 1st Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Emblem will also meet September 5 at 8:30AM Hilton Anaheim Convention Center, Rooms A11-A12, 1st Level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Finance</strong></td>
<td>8:30AM Hilton Anaheim, San Clemente, Room 21, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREIGN RELATIONS JOINT MEETING WITH NATIONAL SECURITY</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Pacific Ballroom, Section A, Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMISSION</td>
<td>1:30PM Hilton Anaheim, California Ballroom, Section B, Ballroom Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOREIGN RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEES</td>
<td>(Subcommittees will meet immediately following the Joint Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERNAL AFFAIRS</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, California Ballroom, Section A, Ballroom Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMBERSHIP &amp; POST ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>Anaheim Convention Center – Room A9, 1st Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGISLATIVE</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim – Huntington, Room 16A, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL SECURITY JOINT MEETING WITH FOREIGN RELATIONS</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Pacific Ballroom, Section A, Ballroom Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL SECURITY COMMISSION</td>
<td>10AM Hilton Anaheim, Pacific Ballroom, Section A, Ballroom Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEES</td>
<td>(Immediately following Commission Session)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILITARY AFFAIRS</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Monterey, Room 3, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL SECURITY AD HOC</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Salinas, Room 2, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEROSPACE</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Manhattan, Room 13, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFENSE CIVIL PREPAREDNESS</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Redondo, Room 14, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW AND ORDER</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Avila, Room 6B, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERCHANT MARINE</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Avila, Room 6A, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAVAL AFFAIRS</td>
<td>Anaheim Convention Center, Rooms A14-A15, 1st Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC RELATIONS</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Huntington, Room 16C, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Capistrano, Room 20, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION</td>
<td>Anaheim Convention Center, Room A10, 1st Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONVENTION COMMITTEES</td>
<td><strong>Sunday, September 5, 1999</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICANISM</td>
<td>8:30AM Hilton Anaheim, El Capitan, Room 8, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNTER-SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Salinas, Room 2, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, El Capitan, Room 8, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUTH ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Palos Verdes, Room 7, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILDREN &amp; YOUTH</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, San Simeon, Room 5, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Avila, Room 6, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREDENTIALS AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS</td>
<td>CREDENTIALS AND OTHER INTERNAL MATTERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECCTIONS I &amp; II</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Malibu, Room 11, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMBERSHIP – SECTION III</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Santa Monica, Room 12, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC</td>
<td>(Employment, Veterans Preference and Other Economic Matters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM A9, 1ST LEVEL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCE</td>
<td>Hilton Anaheim, Capistrano, Room 20, Concourse Level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STANDING COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FOREIGN RELATIONS JOINT MEETING
8:30AM Hilton Anaheim, California Ballroom, Section B, Ballroom Level

FOREIGN RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEES
[Subcommittees will meet immediately following Joint Session]

LEGISLATION AND RULES
10:00AM Hilton Anaheim, Laguna A, Room 19A, Ballroom Level

NATIONAL SECURITY JOINT MEETING
[Includes Aerospace, Defense Civil Preparedness, Law and Order, Merchant Marine, Military Affairs & Naval Affairs]
Hilton Anaheim, California Ballroom, Section A, Ballroom Level

NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEES
(immediately following Joint Meeting)

MILITARY AFFAIRS
Hilton Anaheim, Monterey, Room 3, Concourse Level

GENERAL SECURITY AD HOC
Hilton Anaheim, Huntington, Room 10C, Concourse Level

AEROSPACE
Hilton Anaheim, Manhattan, Room 13, Concourse Level

DEFENSE CIVIL PREPAREDNESS
Hilton Anaheim, Redondo, Room 14, Concourse Level

LAW AND ORDER
Hilton Anaheim, Palos Verdes, Room 15A, Concourse Level

MERCHANT MARINE
Hilton Anaheim, Palos Verdes,

NAVAL AFFAIRS
Hilton Anaheim, Huntington, Room 16A, Concourse Level

GENERAL SECURITY MEETING
(AL COMMITTEES)
Hilton Anaheim, California Ballroom, Section A, Ballroom Level

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION - CLAIMS & RATING AND HOSPITALS & MEDICAL SERVICES JOINT MEETING
Hilton Anaheim, California Ballroom, Section C, Ballroom Level
(Hospitals & Medical Services will proceed to separate session in Huntington, Room 15B, and subsequently return to Joint Session following Subcommittee actions on resolutions)

1999 REUNIONS AND DINNERS

ANAVICUS
Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada, U.S., Anaheim Hilton & Towers
Pacific Ballroom, Section C, Ballroom level Breakfast meeting – Sunday, September 5, 1999 - 7AM

FODPAL
Anaheim Hilton & Towers
Huntington, Room #16, Concourse level Breakfast meeting – Monday, September 6, 1999 - 7AM

NATIONAL SGI-AT-ARMS CLUB
Anaheim Convention Center
Room A6, Lobby level Board meeting – Monday, September 6, 1999 – 9AM - Noon
General meeting – Monday, September 6, 1999 – 1PM - 2:30PM

NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION (NALPA)
Anaheim Hilton & Towers
Ventura, Room #10, Concourse level Breakfast (Executive Board members only) – Saturday, September 4, 1999 - 8AM
San Simeon, Room #5, Concourse level General Meeting – Monday, September 6, 1999 – 2PM
Huntington, Room #16, Concourse level Banquet – Monday, September 6, 1999 – 7:30PM

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS CLUB
Anaheim Hilton & Towers
Pacific Ballroom, Section C, Ballroom level Luncheon - Monday, September 6, 1999 – Noon

NATIONAL COMMANDER’S BANQUET FOR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
Anaheim Hilton & Towers
California Ballroom, Ballroom level Tuesday, September 7, 1999 – 6:30PM

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATES DINNER
Anaheim Marriott, Marquis Ballroom, Lobby level Wednesday, September 8, 1999 – 7PM

EIGHT & FORTY
Anaheim Marriott
Grand Ballroom, Section E, Lobby level Installation Dinner – Saturday, September 11, 1999 – 7PM

TWENTY AND FOUR
Anaheim Marriott
Pre-Bivouac – Thursday, September 2, 1999
Bivouac – Friday, September 3, 1999
Banquet – Friday, September 3, 1999

HISTORIANS’ LUNCHEON AND MEETING
Not scheduled for the 1999 National Convention

OTHER MEETINGS

POW/MIA UPDATE
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1999
Anaheim Convention Center, Room A10, 1st Level

NATIONAL CONVENTION SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MEETING
8:30AM Anaheim Convention Center, Room A6, 1st Level

PRE-NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
9:00AM Anaheim Convention Center, Room A9, 1st Level

SEPT. 3 CONTESTS REPRESENTATIVES MEETING
2PM Anaheim Convention Center, Room A9, 1st Level

SEPT. 3 S.A.L. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
4PM Anaheim Marriott, Marriott Hall, North End, Lobby Level

SEPT. 3 S.A.L. NATIONAL CONVENTION
7PM Anaheim Marriott, Marriott Hall, North End, Lobby Level

SEPT. 4 S.A.L. NATIONAL CONVENTION
9:00AM Anaheim Marriott, Marriott Hall, North End, Lobby Level

SEPT. 4 NATIONAL CONVENTION PARADE MEETING
1PM Anaheim Convention Center, Room A9, 1st Level

SEPT. 5 S.A.L. NATIONAL CONVENTION
8:30AM Post NEC Meeting 1-2PM
Anaheim Marriott, Marriott Hall, North End, Lobby Level

SEPT. 5 PATRIOTIC MEMORIAL SERVICE
11AM Anaheim Convention Center, Hall B, 1st Level

SEPT. 5 NATIONAL CONVENTION PARADE
4PM

SEPT. 9 POST NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Immediately Following Adjournment of Convention
Anaheim Convention Center Room A9, 1st Level
CONGRATULATIONS!
Legion Members

From
CHAMPION
SCREEN PRINTING CORPORATION

PRINTING FOR THE LEGION FOR 42 YEARS.

Champion Screen Printing  Cinti., OH 45227  513-271-3800

"Dedicated to the Betterment of all Children"
The following are the Standing Rules of the National Convention as contained in the "Uniform Code of Procedure for the Organization of National Conventions of The American Legion," authorized under Article V, Section 6, of the National Constitution of The American Legion.

STANDING RULES OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

1. Robert's Revised Rules of Order shall be the authority on parliamentary procedure, with the following modifications:
   a. A delegate desiring to make a motion or address the Convention shall rise, address the Chair as "Mr. Commandery," and state his name and the name of the Department before proceeding.
   b. Debate shall be limited to five minutes for each speaker.
   c. Debate on any one subject presented to the Convention shall be limited to two hours except under such special rule as the Convention shall adopt prior to debate.
   d. But two delegates from any one Department shall be permitted to speak on any one question. Where disagreement exists within a delegation, one delegate shall be permitted to speak on each side of the question. Upon a division of the question, however, this rule shall be applied separately for each division.
   e. The floor shall be permitted but once to any individual delegate on any one question, except by a two-thirds vote of the Convention. Chairman of Convention Committees may speak as frequently as may be necessary in connection with the reports of their committees. The Presiding Officer shall not entertain any motion which will curtail further debate without overriding the Committee Chairman an opportunity for rebuttal.
   f. Decisions on Rules of Debate or parliamentary order by the Presiding Officer may be subject to appeal by any two delegates under a Point of Order. Such appeal shall take precedence over any pending question and shall be decided forthwith. An appeal from the decision of the Chair shall be put to the Convention on the question. "Shall the Chair be sustained?"
   g. When the roll of any Department is demanded by a delegate of such Department, the Convention Secretary shall poll the vote without discussion of the question being voted upon.
   h. On the Roll Calls, the delegation Chairman shall poll his delegation on the floor and announce its vote.

10. In the event a delegation secretary is not an accredited delegate or alternate, he shall be seated with his delegation.
11. Past National Commanders' votes shall be cast with their delegations.
12. Only accredited delegates or their alternates shall participate, directly or indirectly, in a viva voce vote on any subject before the Convention.
13. Department delegations may arrive at the notice in such manner as they choose, but shall announce it in terms of full units and not in terms of a fractional part of a vote. If the vote of any alternate is not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegates present from his Department.
14. There shall be no roll call of voting.
15. Voting shall be by acclamation, except when a Roll Call is demanded by the Chairman of at least three Departments. Election of National Officers shall be by roll call.
16. In the event a Department has not provided the methods by which alternates shall be designated to serve in the place of absent delegates, the Chairman of the delegation shall make such designation.
17. Prior to the election of National Officers, the National Commander shall appoint, subject to approval of the Convention, a Judge of Election and such number of tellers as he deems necessary, provided that the total number to be appointed shall be an odd number. In a contested election each candidate going to the ballot shall be entitled to one teller of his choice.
18. Nominations for National Officers shall be from the floor on Roll Call of the Departments alphabetically arranged. Each Department may present as many candidates as it chooses.
19. Nomination speeches for National Officers shall be limited to five minutes each. Not more than two seconding speeches shall be made for any candidate, and said speeches shall be limited to three minutes.
20. When more than two candidates are nominated for any office, balloting shall continue until one candidate receives a majority of the votes of the Convention except in the election of National Vice Commanders.
21. In a contested election for National Vice Commanders, balloting shall continue until (a) majority and (b) pluralities are established for one or more candidates under the following provisions:
   a. On any ballot taken, less than five candidates receive the necessary majority to elect, the candidate or candidates receiving a majority vote shall be declared elected and a new ballot shall be taken for the remaining number of places to be filled. The candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on the preceding ballot shall be disqualified; should two candidates remain to fill one place, a new ballot shall be taken.
   b. The Convention will nominate and elect a National Commander, and five National Vice Commanders, in this sequence.
22. At the conclusion of balloting on National Vice Commanders, each Department Delegation Chairman shall deliver a written ballot to the tellers. Such ballots shall be in the hands of the tellers before communication is made to the National Commander for announcement of the results.
23. Those recognized by the National Commander shall be entitled to a respectful hearing, and the Chair shall have the authority to clear the gallery or the floor or have the Sergeant at Arms escort from the Convention anyone creating a disturbance or interfering with orderly procedure.
24. None of the above rules shall be construed as preventing an alternate delegate from serving on a Convention committee.
25. The consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention is necessary for suspension of all standing rules of the Convention.
26. Any amendment to any resolution or report origination on the floor shall be presented in writing and transmitted to the Presiding Officer at the time of the introduction of such amendment.
27. Special rules applying to specific issues or order of business shall be written and presented to the Convention by the Legislation and Rules Committee for adoption by majority vote at least one hour before such issue or order is to be considered, unless such rule is agreed to by unanimous consent of the full session. Special rules shall prevail only when the Convention adopts them. Any delegate may apply for a special rule to the Legislation and Rules Committee or may appeal to the Convention for such special rule provided the rule be presented in writing, be read once from the platform, and shall lay upon the table at least one hour before the vote thereon is taken.
81st Annual National Convention
The American Legion Agenda

ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER
HALL B, 1ST LEVEL
ANAHEIM, CALIF.
SEPTEMBER 79, 1999

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1999

8:30AM  PRELUDE
Peter Ole, Organist

9AM     CALL TO ORDER
Butch L. Miller (Va.)
National Commander

ADVANCEMENT OF COLORS
Speedway Post 500 Honor Guard
Indianapolis, Ind.

NATIONAL ANTHEM
David Squibb Jr. Vice Commander
Frank Patterson Post 43
Department of New Jersey

INVOCATION
Rev. Robert J. Sweeney (N.Y.)
National Chaplain

LIGHTING OF PEACE CANDLE
Rev. Robert J. Sweeney (N.Y.)
National Chaplain

POW/MIA EMPTY CHAIR CEREMONY
By: Honor Guard John M. Armitage
Post 684, Ridgecrest, Calif.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PREAMBLE TO THE AMERICAN LEGION CONSTITUTION
Butch L. Miller, National Commander

THE FUTURE IS OUR LEGACY

INTRODUCTION OF
YOUTH CHAMPIONS
1999 Boys Nation President
Ryan Daniel Rippel, Columbia, Mo.
1999 Gold Medalist, Precision Category:
Junior Shooting Sports Program

1999 1st Place Winner
National Oratorical Contest
Kevin Walker Sladek, San Marcos, Texas

1998 Baseball Player of the Year

Chad Michael Opel, Edwardsville, Ill.
THE ALL-AMERICAN BOYS CHORUS

9:50AM  WELCOME
The Honorable Shirley McCracken
Mayor Pro-Tem of Anaheim

David L. Eby
1998-99 Department Commander
The American Legion of California

Past National Commander
Bruce Thiesen, President
The American Legion National Convention Corp. of California, Inc.

RESPONSES TO ADDRESSES
OF WELCOME
Butch L. Miller, National Commander

10:50AM  INTRODUCTION
Virginia Hobbs (Ky.)
National President, American Legion Auxiliary

11AM   ADDRESS
The Honorable Togo D. West Jr.
Secretary of Department of Veterans Affairs

11:20AM  PRESENTATION
The American Legion
Distinguished Service Award
Awarded Posthumously to
Zachary Fisher, Chairman
Fisher House Foundation
By: Butch L. Miller (Va.)
National Commander
Accepting: Gail Berry West
Armstrong World Industries

11:30AM  ADDRESS
The Honorable John McCain (R-Ariz.)
United States Senate

11:50AM  SPECIAL REPORT
FLAG AMENDMENT CAMPAIGN
Maj. Gen. Patrick H. Brady [USA Ret.]
Chairman of the Board, The Citizens Flag Alliance, Inc.

12:10PM  CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
By: Butch L. Miller, National Commander

To: Rev. Robert J. Sweeney (N.Y.)
National Chaplain

12:15PM  PRESENTATION
Plaque to New Orleans, Host City
for the 1998 National Convention
By: Anthony G. Jordan
Past National Commander
Accepting: William M. Derweiler President,
The American Legion National Convention Corporation of Louisiana, Inc.

12:20PM  CALL FOR CONVENTION
Robert W. Spanogle (Mich.)
National Adjutant

12:30PM  NATIONAL COMMANDER'S REPORT TO CONVENTION
Butch L. Miller, National Commander

12:50PM  TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDERS

1:10PM  REPORT OF CREDENTIALS & INTERNAL AFFAIRS - SECTION 1

1:20PM  REPORT OF LEGISLATION AND RULES

1:35PM  GREETINGS
Bert Prichard, Dominion President, Army
Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada

Mary Ann Burdett, Dominion Vice President, The Royal Canadian Legion

Lt. Gen. Wu, Chi-liang, Secretary General,
Veterans Affairs Commission
Republic of China

1:55PM  REPORT OF FINANCE

2:10PM  INTRODUCTION
The Sons of the American Legion
Newly Elected National Commander

SALUTE TO COLORS

2:15PM  RECESS
81st Annual National Convention
The American Legion Agenda

NOTE: Times of subsequent sessions and
Times of Convention Committee Reports are
subject to change by the Chair.

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

8:30AM PRELUDE

9AM CALL TO ORDER
Butch L. Miller, National Commander

SALUTE TO COLORS

INVOCATION
Rev. Robert J. Sweeney (N.Y.)
National Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

9:10AM ADDRESS
The Honorable Alan Cranston (Calif.)
Former United States Senator

9:30AM ADDRESS
The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor of California

9:50AM ADDRESS
The Honorable William S. Cohen
Secretary of Defense

10:10AM ADDRESS
The Honorable Robert Mallet Deputy
Secretary, Department of Commerce

10:30AM ADDRESS
The Honorable Tomas Alvarado, Secretary
Department of Veterans
Affairs for California

10:50AM ADDRESS
The Honorable J. D. Hayworth (R-Ariz.)
Member, Committee on Veterans’
Affairs House of Representatives

11:10AM ADDRESS
Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vought, USAF (Ret.)
President, Women in Military Service for
America Memorial Foundation, Inc.

11:20AM PRESENTATION
1999 National Law Enforcement
Officer of the Year
By: Butch L. Miller, National Commander
To: Police Officer Ronald Tockes
Miami-Dade Police Department

Miami, Fla.

11:30AM REPORT ECONOMICS
Employment and Veterans Preference
Other Economic Matters

11:50AM PRESENTATION
EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR
AWARDS FOR HIRING VETERANS
By: Butch L. Miller, National Commander
To: Phillip Randall, Vice President
Computer Sciences Corporation
Edwards, Calif.
To: Jim Jacobs, Owner
To: Larry Livingston,
Human Resources Manager
Georgia-Pacific Plywood
Crossett, Ark.

Noon PRESENTATION CHAPEL OF
Four Chaplains Legion of Honor
Bronze Medallion
To: Butch L. Miller, National Commander
By: The Chapel of Four Chaplains

12:05PM ADDRESS
Mark A. Alexander, President & CEO
Suburban Propane Partners, CP

12:25PM REPORT
AMERICANISM
The Frank N. Belgrano Jr. Trophy
Ralph T. O’Neil Education Trophy
By: Butch L. Miller, National Commander

12:40PM PRESENTATION
William Randolph Hearst
Americanism Trophy
By: Philip A. Bronstein
Executive Editor, San Francisco Examiner
To: Winning Department

1:25PM REPORT
VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION
Claims and Rating
Hospitals and Medical Services

1:55PM ADDRESS
Maj. Gen. John P. Herring, USA (Ret.)
Secretary, American Battle
Monuments Commission

2:15PM REPORT
CREDENTIALS & INTERNAL
AFFAIRS – SECTION 2

2:30PM REPORT
CHILDREN & YOUTH

PRESENTATION OF
GARLAND MURPHY AWARD
By: Butch L. Miller, National Commander

2:50PM REPORT
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

SALUTE TO COLORS

RECESS

NOTE: Times of subsequent sessions
of Convention Committee Reports are
subject to change by the Chair.

Thursday, September 9, 1999

9AM CALL TO ORDER
Butch L. Miller, National Commander

SALUTE TO COLORS

INVOCATION
Rev. Robert J. Sweeney (N.Y.)
National Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

9:05AM PRESENTATION
The American Legion Fourth
Estate Award
By: Butch L. Miller, National Commander
To: Jerry Mitchell, Investigative Reporter
The Clarion-Ledger, Jackson, Miss.
9:10AM ADDRESS
Commanding General
Marine Expeditionary Force
United States Marine Corps

9:30AM REPORT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS

9:50AM REPORT OF NATIONAL SECURITY
Aerospace
Defense Civil Preparedness
Law and Order
Merchant Marine
Military Affairs
Naval Affairs

10:20AM PRESENTATION
PLAQUE AND COLORS TO OUTGOING
NATIONAL COMMANDER
By: John H. Geiger
Past National Commander (PLAQUE)
By: The Honorable Daniel F. Foley
Past National Commander (COLORS)

Noon SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS
National Commander

ADMINISTERING THE OATH OF OFFICE
TO THE NATIONAL COMMANDER

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY NEWLY ELECTED NATIONAL COMMANDER

ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS
Five National Vice Commanders

PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO NEWLY ELECTED NATIONAL COMMANDER

RESPONSE BY NEWLY ELECTED NATIONAL COMMANDER

PRESENTATION OF NEWLY ELECTED NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
BENEDICTION
RETIREMENT OF COLORS

NOTE: The National Executive Committee will meet within 24 hours after close of the Convention.

The first name in Headwear
is now the first name in Embroidery!

We are already well known for our custom made uniform headwear with our exclusive hand sewn, hand cushioned leather sweatband, which makes our uniform headwear the most comfortable to wear.

Now, we are carrying our expertise in quality to our embroidery, and you are the winner.

From sample to full production. We can handle it.

Sports caps, jackets, shirts, aprons, etc.
We specialize in orders of 150 or less.
1999 Distinguished Guests

Ernest Aguilar
President
Lancaster Uniform Cap Co.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Mark A. Alexander
President and CEO
Suburban Pinnacle Partners, LP
Whippany, N.J.

Torres Alvarado
Secretary
California Department of Veterans Affairs
Sacramento, Calif.

Peter T. Ambrozak, CD
Dominion Secretary-Treasurer
AHA/MAC
Ontario, Canada

Frank Andrews
MBNA America Bank, N.A.
Wilmington, Del.

Ann Backesken
Vice President
Korean/Cold War Family Association of the Missing
Portland, Ore.

Horace M. “Sandy” Barba
Executive Vice President
Fox Associates
Chicago, Ill.

C. Randolph Beard III
Amin & Company
Roseland, N.J.

Col. Marcus J. Beauregard
USAF
Deputy Director
Community Support Policy
Washington, D.C.

Jim Bernard
The Bronze Craft Corp.
Nashua, N.H.

Hon. Espionage “Al” Berro...
1999 Distinguished Guests

Bruce Henderson
Assistant Vice President
Seabury & Smith
Indianapolis, Ind.

Maj. Gen. John P. Herrling,
USA (Ret.)
Secretary
American Battle Monuments
Commission
Arlington, Va.

Virginia Hobbs
National President
American Legion Auxiliary
Indianapolis, Ind.

Lt. Col. Jenny M. Holbert,
USMC
Branch Head
Community Relations Branch
Headquarters, USMC
Washington, D.C.

Steve Holloway
Hermosa Beach, Calif.

Jim Jacobs
Owner
Jacobs Construction
Lemont, Pa.

Smith Jenkins Jr.
Director, VISN 22
Long Beach, Calif.

Rich Johnson
Account Executive
Kirke-Van Orsdel, Inc.
West Des Moines, Iowa

James Kallstrom
MBNA America Bank, N.A.
Wilmington, Del.

Roger Kaplan
Deputy Executive Director
Presidential Special Oversight
Board for the
Department of Defense
Investigations of Gulf
Arlington, Va.

Genevieve Keller
Kankakee, Ill.

Commanding General
United States Marine Corps
Pendleton, Calif.

Randall L. Long
JoshCo, LLC
Knoxville, Tenn.

Tommy Losordo
Los Angeles Dodgers
Los Angeles, Calif.

Douglas W. Lesher
JoshCo, LLC
Knoxville, Tenn.

Stewart Liff
VARO
Los Angeles, Calif.

Larry Livingston
Human Resource Manager
Georgia-Pacific Plywood
Crossett, Ark.

CWO Phillip J. Lonzello, USCG
Armed Forces Coordinator
Integrated Support Command
San Pedro, Calif.

James A. Luther, CLU
President
Tim Cor Financial Corporation
Indianapolis, Ind.

Col. Fred S. Lydick, USA
Department of Army Public
Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Hon. Robert Mallett
Deputy Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D.C.

Brenda Martin
GE Capital Assurance
Trenton, Pa.

Claire Matthews
MBNA America Bank, N.A.
Wilmington, Del.

Shirley McCracken
Mayor Pro Tem
City of Anaheim
Anaheim, Calif.

Lt. Com. Charles McWhorter,
USN
Office of the Chief of Naval
Information
Department of Navy
Washington, D.C.

Roger N. Messier
Pequannock, N.J.

Scott B. Mexic
Director of Legislation
Office of Congressional Affairs

Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, D.C.

John Miller
Vice President
R.R. Donnelley & Sons
Downers Grove, Ill.

Sharon Miro
Fox Associates
Los Angeles, Calif.

Jerry Mitchell
The Clarion-Ledger
Jackson, Miss.

R. Adm. Carlton Moore
USCG
Fair Oaks, Calif.

Robert G. Moorehead
Chief Executive Officer
Central Printing Group
Indianapolis, Ind.

John Murphy
MBNA America Bank, N.A.
Wilmington, Del.

William F. Murphy, Esq.
Dillingham & Murphy
San Francisco, Calif.

Brian Musial, R.Ph.
Regional Sales Manager
RxAmerica
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Carolyn Newell
GE Assurance
Trevose, Pa.

Donald Oblander
Associate Director,
Relationships Division
Boy Scouts of America
Irving, Texas

Chad Michael Opal
1998 American Legion
Baseball Player of the Year
Edwardsville, Ill.

Tony L. Otto
Account Manager
Lindemeyer Central
Chicago, Ill.

Keith Pedigo
Director
Loan Guaranty Service
Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Richard M. Pedro

Advisory Committee to
National Commander
Owego, N.Y.

William Plackett
Vice President
Kirke-Van Orsdel, Inc.
Virginia Beach, Va.

Susan Posato
Insurance Program Manager
Seabury & Smith
Indianapolis, Ind.

Bert Pritchard
Dominion President
Army, Navy and Air Force
Veterans in Canada
Bernaby, B.C.

Andrea Quintero
Office of Senator Joseph I.
Dunn
Sacramento, Calif.

Phillip Randall
Vice President
Computer Sciences
Corporation
Edwards, Calif.

Ryan Daniel Rippel
1999 Boys Nation President
Columbia, Mo.

Brian D. Robertson
Director
Veterans Pro Bono Consortium
Washington, D.C.

Byron Robichaux
National Commander
The Sons of The American
Legion
Houma, La.

Dr. Bernard K. Rosker
Special Assistant for Gulf War
Illnesses
Falls Church, Va.

Peggy Sappenfield
National Secretary
American Legion Auxiliary
Indianapolis, Ind.
David P. Schmidt  
Joseph E. Seagraves & Son  
Montrose, N.Y.

Steve Schwarz  
VP/Managing Director  
Fox Associates  
Chicago, Ill.

Commanding General  
63rd Regional Support Command  
Los Alamitos, Calif.

Dr. Almo J. Sebastianelli  
Advisory Committee to  
National Commander  
Jessup, Pa.

David Selvin  
Keystone Uniform Cap Corp.  

Dr. Jonathan Shay  
Newton, Mass.

Kevin Walker Sladek  
1999 National High School Oratorical Champion  
San Marcos, Texas

Col. Hans Song  
Veterans Affairs Commission  
Republic of China

Elizabeth Stewart  
National Vice President  
American Legion Auxiliary  
Kings Mountain, N.C.

JoAnn P. Stone  
Human Resources Senior Staff Member  
Computer Sciences Corporation  
Clearfield, Utah

Neal Susen  
Keystone Uniform Cap Corp.  

Matthew T. Szramoski  
Manager, Youth Programs  
National Rifle Association of America  
Fairfax, Va.

Bruce Thiesen  
President  
The American Legion Convention  
Corporation of California, Inc.  
Kingsburg, Calif.

Bud Thompson  
Executive Vice President  
Kinko-Yan Orsdal, Inc.  
Alexandria, Va.

Joseph Thompson  
Under Secretary for Benefits  
Veterans Benefits Administration

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Washington, D.C.

Ronald Tookes  
Miami-Dade Police Department  
Miami, Fla.

Capt. Jodi Unsinger  
Office of Public Affairs, Air Force  
El Segundo, Calif.

Margaret E. Van Dyk  
President  
S.A. Van Dyk, Inc.  
Oak Brook, Ill.

Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught, USAF (Ret.)  
President, Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation, Inc.  
Washington, D.C.

James Weiskopf  
Director of Public Affairs  
Fisher House Foundation  
Rockville, Md.

Hon. Togo D. West Jr.  
Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Washington, D.C.

Gail Berry West  
Armstrong World Industries  
Washington, D.C.

Lt. Richard Wester  
Community Relations Office, Coast Guard  
Washington, D.C.

Peter Wheeler  
Commissioner  
Department of Veterans Service  
Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Wiemann  
Wabasha, Minn.

LoMar Williams  
Children's Miracle Network  
Salt Lake City, Utah

David W. Wootlett  
Treasurer  
The American Legion Convention  
Corporation of California, Inc.  
Newport Beach, Calif.

Lt. General Wu, Chii-liang  
Secretary General  
Veterans Affairs Commission  
Republic of China

---

Congratulations on your 81st National Convention  
Keystone Uniform Cap  
Div. M. H. Grossman  
Manufacturers of Quality Uniform Headwear  
428 North 13th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19123
Wear your pride!

K-K Products
American Identity can add the American Legion logo to any of the fine caps, shirts, jackets and ad specialties in our line. We can also personalize merchandise with your post number. Order today through American Legion Emblem Sales.

AMERICAN IDENTITY
Integrated Marketing Services
Call 1-888-4Legion

Lenn Arts, Inc.
Manufacturing Jewelers

CONGRATULATES
The American Legion
on 81 years of service
# Directory of the National Convention

## Official Delegation Hotels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Hotel Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>The Radisson Maingate Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Anaheim Hilton and Towers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Anaheim Hilton and Towers</td>
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<td>Arkansas</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
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<td>District of Columbia</td>
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<td>The Disneyland Hotel</td>
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<td>Anaheim Hilton and Towers</td>
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<td>Vermont</td>
<td>Anaheim Hilton and Towers</td>
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<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Quality Hotel Maingate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>West Coast Anaheim Hotel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Headquarters Hotels

- American Legion Headquarters: Anaheim Hilton & Towers
- American Legion Auxiliary: Anaheim Marriott Hotel
- Sons of The American Legion: Anaheim Marriott Hotel
- Eight and Forty: Anaheim Marriott Hotel
CONVENTION CORPORATION OF ANAHEIM

Bruce Thiesen
President

Joseph O. Early
Chairman

D.W. Wollett
Treasurer

CONVENTION CORPORATION
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Photos Unavailable
Richard J. McDonald
Contests

Gordy Foley
Transportation

Bob Hathaway
Registration & Information

Nita Ullman
First Aid

George Siropoli
Distinguished Guests

Richard T. Lee
Memorial Service

Ray Vernimme (Deceased)
Exhibits

Bobby O. McHaffey
Badges and Packets

James G. Drake
Parade

Diana L. Drake
Parade
# The American Legion Honor Roll of Service

## Past National Commanders 1919-1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commander</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Commanded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1919-20</td>
<td><em>Franklin D. Ollier</em></td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>1919-20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920-21</td>
<td><em>Roy Murphy</em></td>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>1935-36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921-22</td>
<td><em>Harry W. Colvety</em></td>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>1923-24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922-23</td>
<td><em>Dane T. Mohler</em></td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>1927-28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923-24</td>
<td><em>Raymond J. Kelly</em></td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>1934-35</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1924-25</td>
<td><em>Alvin A. Neuhoff</em></td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>1942-43</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925-26</td>
<td><em>Roscoe W. Johnson</em></td>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>1944-45</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1927-28</td>
<td><em>Lester D. Holley</em></td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>1948-49</td>
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<tr>
<td>1928-29</td>
<td><em>Charles S. Murray</em></td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>1950-51</td>
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<td>1929-30</td>
<td><em>Franklin D. Ollier</em></td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>1952-53</td>
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<tr>
<td>1931-32</td>
<td><em>Louis J. Johnson</em></td>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>1956-57</td>
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<tr>
<td>1932-33</td>
<td><em>Thaddeus E. K. Clay</em></td>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>1958-59</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933-34</td>
<td><em>Frank M. Boyer</em></td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>1960-61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934-35</td>
<td><em>Frank M. Boyer</em></td>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>1962-63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Distinguished Service Medal Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commander</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Commanded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td><em>James P. Doyle</em></td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>1964-65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td><em>John P. Jordan</em></td>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1966-67</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td><em>Max E. Miller</em></td>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>1968-69</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td><em>James H. Miller</em></td>
<td>California</td>
<td>1970-71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td><em>Benjamin F. Miller</em></td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>1972-73</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Past National Commanders By Vote of National Convention

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commander</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Commanded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## Honorary National Commanders

*General John J. Pershing*  
*Marshall Ferdinand Koch*
American Legion Auxiliary

National President
Virginia Hobbs

Guided by the leadership of National President Virginia M. Hobbs, the American Legion Auxiliary "reached for success" in its programs, membership and service to God and Country. Using the theme, "Reach for Success," President Hobbs asked members to visualize what it was they wished to accomplish and to work toward its achievement.

President Hobbs sought to offer new opportunities and challenges for our members. Her special project was the initiation of fund raising for the World War II Memorial to be built in Washington, D.C. A $250,000 pledge was made by the Auxiliary, and members worked hard to realize this goal. The Auxiliary became a charter member of the Ross Monroe Society, a partner in the World War II Memorial Campaign, which honors the women who served at home in support of America's efforts in the war. Mille Sargent, "Millie the Riveter," of the Society addressed Awareness Assembly attendees urging them to help fund the $100 million monument, saying, "It breaks my heart that we don't have a World War II Memorial in Washington, We are losing 1,000 vets a day — that's 30,000 veterans a month. We need to get this built."

Organ and tissue donation awareness was a new entity in the Community Service program. Members were challenged to learn more about transplantation and consider becoming a donor. Green lapel pins were distributed at Awareness Assembly to further awareness. Public Spirit Award winner James Redford was honored for his dedication to this issue. Redford, founder of the James Redford Institute for Transplant Awareness, is a liver recipient who has coupled his personal experience with his talents and skills to produce and distribute films, documentaries and educational materials to educate the American people on transplantation. His mother, Lola Van Wagener, accepted the award on Redford's behalf as his filming schedule prevented him from attending the Public Spirit Award Luncheon. His mother said her son knows "It is a privilege to grow old." His documentary, "The Kindness of Strangers" will air on HBO this fall.

Other new or revised programs gaining the Auxiliary's support were Random Acts of Kindness, Habitat for Humanity and the USO. At an impromptu fundraiser during the opening ceremonies of the Awareness Assembly, President Hobbs and National Commander Butch Miller raised more than $500 for the USO. Attendees took turns dancing with the Legion Family leadership while the USO Jazz Band played songs from its "Big Bands Through the Years" play list.

Along with the new interests, older programs continued to be promoted. Manpower support, as well as financial assistance, was given to "Taste of the NFL." President Hobbs attended the food and wine tasting event in Miami, Fla., during Super Bowl weekend.

Children and Youth upheld its commitment to the youth of America. The Children's Miracle Network was assisted through a used video game/CD drive. President Hobbs also appeared on the nationally televised CMN telecast in June pledging the Auxiliary's support to help children's hospitals treat children of all financial backgrounds. Spinuza Bears were purchased for children experiencing traumatic circumstances as well.

Auxiliary members helped their communities during Make a Difference Day on Oct. 24 and strengthened the family unit during National Family Week Nov. 22-27. Likewise, the Auxiliary continued reaching for its five-year goal in its commitment to America's Promise — The Alliance for Youth.

Senior members are working toward providing 50,000 volunteer tutors to the America Reads program while Juniors are seeking to establish voluntary service projects in 4,000 communities.

(Continued on p. 38)
The American Legion 1999 National Convention

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Girls State provided the opportunity again this year for outstanding high school juniors to experience local and state government through hands-on participation. Two representatives from each state were chosen to attend Girls Nation, July 24-31, at Chevy Chase, Md. They joined Boys Nation for several activities in the nation's capital.

Our veterans were not forgotten. Volunteers pursued opportunities to help through hospital, field, and home service. Fisher House also received ongoing assistance from the American Legion Auxiliary.

One of President Hobbs' key objectives for the year was to stem the decline in membership by seeking renewals and affirming each member's importance. Using the Kentucky Derby-inspired theme, "Race for the Roses," members were off and running trying to reach membership goals by target dates.

As members reached from within to promote the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary by serving God, veterans, families and children, they found that success was indeed achieved.

79th Annual National Convention
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Anaheim, Calif.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1999

8-9AM
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Marquis Ballroom Center, Anaheim Marriott Hotel

10-11AM
NATIONAL JUNIOR MEETING REGISTRATION
South Registration Desk (Ballroom Foyer) Anaheim Marriott Hotel

9:30-11:30AM
PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Anaheim Marriott Hotel

Group A: Americanism, Auxiliary
Emergency Fund, Community Service
Marquis Ballroom, Center

Group B: Children & Youth, Liaison with Child Welfare Foundation, Education, Girls State
Marquis Ballroom, South

Group C: Jr. Activities, Caucaade of Memories, National Security, Public Relations
Grand Ballroom, Salon E

Group D: Legislative, Past Presidents
Parley, Poppy
Grand Ballroom, Salon F

Group E: Chaplains, Historians, Leadership
Grand Ballroom, Salons B-C

Group F: Orange County, Salon 3
Constitution & Bylaws
Rules (Ballroom)

Group G: Membership
Grand Ballroom, Salons J-K

Group H: Credentials (9:30-10)
Orange County
Resolutions (10-11:30)
Ballroom Salon 1

Group I: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
Grand Ballroom, Salons G-H

Group J: Finance
Orange County, Ballroom Salon 2

11AM-1PM

NATIONAL JUNIOR MEETING LUNCH
North Pool Area, Anaheim Marriott Hotel
1:15-2:30PM
NATIONAL JUNIOR MEETING
Orange County Ballroom, Salons 4-5, Anaheim Marriott Hotel

1:30-2PM
PRE-CAUCUS RECEPTION
Ballroom Foyer, Anaheim Marriott Hotel

2-4PM
SENIOR DIVISION CAUCUSES
Anaheim Marriott Hotel
Central
Marquis Ballroom Center
Eastern
Grand Ballroom, Salon E
Northwestern
Grand Ballroom, Salons G-K
Southern
Marquis Ballroom South
Western
Grand Ballroom, Salon F

2:45-3:45PM
NATIONAL JUNIOR DIVISION CAUCUSES
Anaheim Marriott Hotel
Central
Los Angeles Room
Eastern
Newport Beach Room
Northwestern
San Diego Room
Southern
La Jolla Room
Western
Rancho Las Palmas Room

4:5-4:55PM
NATIONAL JUNIOR MEETING
Orange County Ballroom, Salons 4-5, Anaheim Marriott Hotel

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1999

8:30AM-Noon
NATIONAL JUNIOR MEETING
Orange County Ballroom, Salons 4-5, Anaheim Marriott Hotel

11AM
PATRIOTIC MEMORIAL SERVICE
Hill B, Anaheim Convention Center

1:15-3PM
NATIONAL JUNIOR MEETING
Orange County Ballroom, Salons 4-5, Anaheim Marriott Hotel

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1999
8:30AM
OPENING SESSION
Anaheim Convention Center, Arena

ANNOUNCE PROCESSIONAL
Judy Lloyd, Convention Chairman

CALL TO ORDER
Virginia Hobbs, National President

ADVANCE COLORS
Winslow-Holbrook-Merritt #1 Color Guard Rockland, Maine

INVOCATION
Pamela Thompson, Honorary Nat'l Junior Chaplain

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Kathy Riordan, Americanism Chairman

NATIONAL ANTHEM
National Convention Chorus

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION
Jan Pulvermacher, Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

WELCOME
Virginia Hobbs, National President

INTRODUCTION AND GREETINGS
Linda Workman, Department President, American Legion Auxiliary
Judy Lloyd, National Convention Chairman

IGHT AND FORTY
Wanda North, Le Chapeau National

GREETINGS FROM PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS
Barbara Kranig, Junior Past National President

INTRODUCTION OF PAGES AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS COMMITTEE

CREDENTIALS REPORT
Doris Wairwright, Chairman

RULES
Carlene Ashworth, Chairman

ACCEPTANCE OF PROGRAM
Girls State Report
Dianne McClung, Chairman
**American Legion Auxiliary**

**Address**
Teah Frederick, 1999 Girls Nation President

**Presentation**
Scholarship Bracelet

**Americanism Report**
Kathy Riordan, Chairman

**Address**
Amanda Janeen Abrams

**Presentation**
1999 Girl Scout Achievement Award Winner (Scholarship)

**Greetings**
Byron Robichaux, National Commander, Sons of The American Legion

Bruce Thiessen, President, The American Legion Convention Corporation of California

Robert Spanogle, National Adjutant

Butch Miller, National Commander

**Junior Activities Report**
Priscilla Imburgia, Chairman

**Address**
Amy Meyer, Honorary National Junior President

**Introduction**
Newly elected Honorary National Junior President

**Presentation**
Scholarship

**Poppy Report**
Katherine Morris, Chairman

**Introduction**
Miss Poppy 6-12, Michelle Dippman

**Introduction**
Miss Poppy 13-18, Molly Flynn

**Education Report**
Janis Jelinek

**Membership Report**
Deseree Stoy, Chairman

**Introduction**
Goal Department

**Presentation**
Presidents Awards

**Memorial Service**
Carmelitte Staker, National Chaplain

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1999**

8:30AM CALL TO ORDER
Virginia Hobbs, National President

INVOCATION
Carmelitte Staker, National Chaplain

**NOMINATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

**Report**
National Chaplain, Carmelitte Staker

**Presentation**
Chapel of Four Chaplains

**Report**
National Historian, Sally Wilhelm

**Representatives of Veterans Affairs Commission**
Lt. Gen. Wu Chi-liang, Republic of China, Secretary General

**Korean Veterans Association**
General Chang, Tae-Won, President

**Constitution & Bylaws Report**
Jan Pulvermacher, Chairman

**Secretary of Veterans Affairs**
Honorable Togo D. West Jr.

**Auxiliary Emergency Fund Report**
Sanidi Dutton, Chairman

**Community Service Report**
Rita Navarrete, Chairman

**Leadership Report**
Elise Bailey, Chairman

**Finance Report**
Anna Gear, Chairman

**Cavalcade of Memories Report**
Alice Galka, Chairman

**Public Relations Report**
Carol Van Kirk, Chairman

**Heart of America Awards Presentation**

**Announcements**

**Recall**
12:30PM PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS LUNCHEON
Grand Ballroom, Anaheim Marriott Hotel

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1999**

8:30AM CALL TO ORDER
Virginia Hobbs, National President

INVOCATION
Carmelitte Staker, National Chaplain

**Introduction**
Local Convention Committees

**Election of National Officers**

**Introductions of Officers Elected**

**Children and Youth Report**
Sherry McLaughlin, Chairman

**Children’s Miracle Network**
Garland Murphy Award

**Presentation**
U.S. “Udle” Grant, President, American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

**Past Presidents Parley Report**
Pearl Behrendt, Chairman

**Presentation**
Women in Military Service to Wilma Vaught, President America Memorial Foundation

**Legislative Report**
Elise Bailey, Chairman

**National Security Report**
Penny Makiery, Chairman

**Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Report**
Kristine West, Chairman

**Fisher House Foundation**
Gail Berry West

**Census 2000**
Hon. Robert Maillet, Deputy Secretary of Commerce

**World War II Memorial**
Maj. Gen. John Herring, USA (Retired)
Campaign Secretary, American Battle Monuments Commission

**Aon Drawing**

**Report of National President**

**Resolution Report**

**Recessional of Colors**

**Recess**
**2PM INSTALLATION OF 1999-2000 NATIONAL OFFICERS**

**PRESENTATION OF PIN AND RIBBON TO RETIRING NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

**PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO RETIRING NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

**RETIREMENT OF NATIONAL COLORS**

**ADJOURNMENT OF NATIONAL CONVENTION**

**7PM STATES DINNER**
Marquis Ballroom, Anaheim Marriott Hotel

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1999**

8AM POST-CONVENTION NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Room A-10, Anaheim Convention
78th Annual La Marche Nationale
Salon National La boutique
Des Huit Chapeaux Et Quarante Femmes

THE ANAHEIM MARRIOTT
HOTEL, ANAHEIM, CALIF.
SEPT. 9-11 1999

REGISTRATION
All packets are to be picked up at the
Registration Desk, Eight and Forty
Headquarters Office, Suite 304 3rd
Floor the Anaheim Marriott Hotel, open
Monday September 6 [hours to be posted]
until September 11.

EMBLEM SALES AND/OR STOCK ITEMS
Emblem and/or stock item orders will
be taken in the Eight and Forty
Headquarters Office, Suite 304 3rd
Floor, the Anaheim Marriott Hotel,
Anaheim September 6 through 11.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
All distinguished guests are to meet in the
lobby of the ballroom floor of the
Anaheim Marriott Hotel upon their
arrival to be presented.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

11:30AM
Les Capeaux Nationaux
PASSES LUNCHON
Orange County Ballroom Salon 1
Anaheim Marriott Hotel

PRE MARCHE COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Grand Ballrooms

Salon G
2 - 2:30PM
Permanent Organization
Chairman Uricle Estep

2:30 - 4PM
Children and Youth
Chairman Jackie Bechat

Salon H
2 - 2:30PM
Credential
Chairman Louise Sheker

2:30 - 3PM
Resolutions
Chairman Helen Bone

3 - 4PM
Constitution and Bylaws
Chairman Elsie Hemphill

Salon J
2 - 2:30PM
Nurses Scholarship
Chairman Frances Swensen

Awards
Chairman Barbara Cramer

3 - 4PM
Partnership
Chairman Margaret Sheridan

Salon K
2 - 2:30PM
Publicity
Chairman Frances Haydel

2:30 - 3PM
L'Aumonier, Venita Holthaus

3 - 4PM
L'Archiviste, Helen Goeway

ORANGE COUNTY BALLROOM

Salon 5
2 - 2:30PM
Ritual and Emblem
Chairman Midge Farrar

2:30 - 3PM
Rules and Order
Chairman Irene Pickard

3 - 4PM
Handbook
Chairman Reina Svacha

4:30PM
PRE-MARCHE POUVOIR
Grand Ballroom

Salon F
6PM
REHEARSAL FOR LA MARCHE
Grand Ballroom

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th
La Marche Nationale
Grand Ballroom

Salon F
8:30AM
Opening Session
La Marche National
Chairman presiding
Martha Benson

PRESENTATION OF CHAPEAUX PASSE
Ann Suvak
Lois Jansdale
Maria Smith
Teva Reimink
Violet Aichholz
Mary Russell
Eunice Staley
Elyline Schweitzer
Helene Mardu
Jean Hoyes
Edith Stil
Donna Baily
Elsie Hemphill
Dorothy Brady
Colleen Stephens
Virginia Knights
Mlle H. Nieman
Elizabeth B. Lori
Ivy Christoffers
Reina Svacha

PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS
Escorted by La Marche Pages
Angela Dunbar
Hat Box Editor
Elvieve Schweitzer
La Secreatre-Caisseire Nationale
Violet Aichholz
L'Avocate Nationale
Venita Holthaus
L'Aumonier National
Helen Goeway
L'Archiviste Nationale

LES DIVISIONAL DEMI CHAPEAUX:
Marion Wuwert
Central Division
Joyce Brinley
Eastern Division
Elizabeth Andrews
Northwestern Division
Alberda Floyd
Southern Division
Charlotte Romig
Western Division

LE DEMI CHAPEAU NATIONAL
Pauline Bonham

LE CHAPEAU NATIONAL
Wanda North

CALL TO ORDER
Wanda North,
Le Chapeau National
The American Legion 1999 National Convention

ADVANCEMENT OF COLORS
Donna Morice
La Concierge National
La Vandermyden & Janet Christiansen
Les Marechals

INVOCATION
Ventas Holthaus
L'Aumonier National

PLEDGE OF ALLIANCE
Donna Morice
La Concierge Nationale

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Barbara Gracely
Marche Pianist

FLANDERS FIELD
Joyce Brinley
Eastern Division

AMERICA'S ANSWER
Charline Romig
Western Division

RESPONSE
Wanda North
Le Chapeau National

ROLL CALL
Elyline Schweitzer
La Secretaire Nationale

READING OF THE CALL TO 1999 LA MARCHE NATIONALE
Elyline Schweitzer

REPORT OF THE MINUTES COMMITTEE FOR 1998 NATIONAL MARCHE
Chairman Elizabeth Lori,
Elise Hemphill and Marie Smith

PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
Butch Miller,
National Commander
The American Legion
Virginia Hobbs
National President
American Legion Auxiliary
Al Lance,
National Commander-Elect
The American Legion
Leo P. Burke,
National Vice Commander
The American Legion
Elizabeth Stewart
National Vice President
American Legion Auxiliary
Peggy Sappenfield
National Secretary
American Legion Auxiliary
Robert Spanogle
National Adjutant
The American Legion
Marta Hedding
National Treasurer
American Legion Auxiliary
Elmer Fehrhop,
Children and Youth Chairman
The American Legion
Sherry McLaughlin
National Children & Youth
Chairman, American Legion
Auxiliary
William Pease
Executive Secretary, American
Legion Child Welfare Foundation
Lee Hardy
Asst. Deputy Director
Americanism/Children Youth
The American Legion
Martha Benson,
Chairman 1999
La Marche Nationale
Judy Loyd
National Convention Chairman
American Legion Auxiliary
The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor of California
The Honorable Tom Dolan
Mayor of Anaheim
Bruce Thiessen
President of 1999
Convention Corporation
Michael Gombar
California NEC, American Legion
Margaret Quinones
California NEC
American Legion Auxiliary
David L. Eby
Department Commander
The American Legion of California
Linda Workman
Department President,
American Legion Auxiliary
of California
Peggy Bengry
Departmental Chapeau
d'California

INTRODUCTION OF CHAPEAU NATIONALS PASSE
Wanda North
Le Chapeau National

SPEAKING FOR THE CHAPEAU NATIONALS PASSE
Reina Svarah
Immediate Chapeau National Passe

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES
Irene Pickard
Rules and Order - Chairman
Urselle Estep
Permanent Organization - Chairman

SONG
REPORT OF DIVISIONAL DEMI CHAPEAU
NATIONALS AND INTRODUCTION OF LES CHAPEAU DEPARTEMENTAUX
Mariam Wuvvurt,
Central Division

Joyce Brinley
Eastern Division
Elizabeth Andrews
Northwestern Division
Alberdia Floyd
Southern Division
Charline Romig
Western Division

REPORT OF NATIONAL OFFICERS FOR 1998-1999
Wanda North
Le Chapeau National
Pauline Bonham
Le Demi Chapeau National
Helen Goewey
L'Archiviste Nationale
Violet Archiolz
L'Avocate Nationale
Elyline Schweitzer
La Secretaire-Caisseire
Angela (Angie) Dunbar
Hat Box Editor

NOMINATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS FOR 1999-2000

RECESS
11:30AM

DIVISIONAL LUNCHEON AND CAUCUSES

Central Division
Orange County Ballroom Salon 5

Eastern Division
Orange County Ballroom Salon 4

Northwestern Division
Orange County Ballroom Salon 2

Southern Division
Orange County Ballroom Salon 3

Western Division
Orange County Ballroom Salon 1

SECOND SESSION - LA MARCHE NATIONALE
2PM

Report of Standing Committees
and Introduction of Regional or
Divisional Chairmen
Chairman Jackie Bachat
Children and Youth
Chairman Jean Hayes
Finance
Chairman Frances Swensen
Nurses Scholarship
Chairman Margaret Sheridan
Partnership
Chairman Midge Farrar
Rituals and Emole
Chairman Elise Hemphill
Constitution and Bylaws
Chairman Barbara Cramer,
Awards
78th Annual La Marche Nationale Salon National La Boutique Des Huit Chapeaux Et Quarante Femmes

Chairman Colleen Stephens; Advisory Committee
Chairman Reina Svacha
Handbook Committee
Chairman Mary Lou Chester; Leadership Committee
Chairman Frances Haydel; Publicity

SONG

PRESENTATION OF LOCAL MARCHE COMMITTEES
Martha Benson; National La Marche Chairman

RECESS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 1999

THIRD SESSION OF LA MARCHE NATIONALE

9AM
MEMORIAL SERVICE
IN MEMORIAM
Venita Holthaus, L'Aumonier National

PRELUDE
Phyllis Hardin, Musicienne

PROCESSIONAL
Les Chapeaux Nationaux Passes
Les Demi Chapeaux Divisionaux

ADVANCING MEMORIAL BOOK
Pauline Bonham
Le Demi Chapeau National

PLACING FLORAL TRIBUTE AND LIGHTING MEMORIAL CANDLE
Wanda North, La Chapeau National

PRAYER
Venita Holthaus, L'Aumonier National

MUSICAL SELECTION
"Amazing Grace" - Assembly

TRIBUTE TO DECEASED PARTNERS
Wanda North
Le Chapeau National
Eulogy in Memory of Le Chapeau National Passe
Kathleen Robinson, Jean Hayes
Le Chapeau National Passe
Tribute to All Partners Entering Eternal Rest 1998-1999
Lighting of Tapers
Marilyn Axlund
Memorial Flowers
Terri Harter

DIVISIONAL DEMI CHAPEAUX
Marion Wvurw Central Division
Joyce Brinley Eastern Division
Elizabeth Andrews Northwestern Division
Alberda Floyd Southern Division
Charline Romig Western Division

RESPONSE
Venita Holthaus, L'Aumonier National

POEM
Venita Holthaus, L'Aumonier National

CALL TO SALON ETERNAL
Helen Goewey, L'Archiviste National

ANSWERING CALL TO SALON ETERNAL
Donna Moree, La Concergerie Nationale

MUSICAL SELECTION
"How Great Thou Art"
Stuart K. Hines, Assembly

BENEDICTION
Venita Holthaus, L'Aumonier National

RECESSIONAL
Phyllis Hardin, Musicienne

(Audience remain seated until after the recessional) (Please refrain from taking pictures until the conclusion of the service)

L'AUMONIER
Venita Holthaus - Report

REPORT OF SPECIAL MARCHE COMMITTEES
Credentials - Louise Sheker
Resolution - Helen Bone

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1999-2000

PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS COMMITTEE
Helene Mordu, Chairman
Edith Still, Vice Chairman
Elizabeth Lori, Member
Ivy Christofferson, Member
Betty Lehman, Member

PRESENTATION OF LES MARECHALS
Janet Christiansen, Ill.
Lu Vancier-Meyden, Utah

PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL PAGES
Donna Beck, Chairman, Minn.

Mary Fenley, Vice Chairman, Ky.
Tess Gordon, Philippines
Theresa Malloth, N.M.
Christine Howard, Wt.
Terri Harter, Wash.
Mamie Painter, Okla.

PRESENTATION OF PERSONAL PAGES
To Le Chapeau National
Linda Turner, Utah
Cathy Olson, Utah
Dora Trowbridge, Utah (Honorary)

PERSONAL PAGE
To La Secrétaire-Caisseuse Nationale:
Emily Miner, Calif.
To Recorder:
Rosalie Randall, Wis.

SONG

RATIFICATION OF ELECTION OF LES DIVISIONAL DEMI CHAPEAUX NATIONAUX

INTRODUCTION OF LES DIVISIONAL DEMI CHAPEAUX AND PINNING BY OUTGOING LES DIVISIONAL DEMI CHAPEAUX

REPORT OF JUDGE OF ELECTIONS
Virginia Robbins, Chairman, N.J.

PRESENTATION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 1999-2000

Unfinished Business
New Business
MUSICAL SELECTION

RECESS

POST MARCHE POUVOIR
(Saturday, September 11, 1999, one half hour after recess of Third Session)

LA MARCHE BANQUET
GRAND BALLROOM

SALON E
Cash Bar 6 - 7PM
7PM Banquet

PROCESSIONAL OF GUESTS
Irene Belanger
Banquet Chairman

INVOCATION
L'Aumonier Venita Holthaus
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
La Concierge Donna Morice

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Barbara Orlacey, Pianist

WELCOME
Martha Benson
National La Marche Chairman

RESPONSE
Pauline Bonham
Demi Chapeau National

DINNER
Introduction of guests
Wanda North
National Chapeau

ENTERTAINMENT

RECESS

INSTALLATION OF 1999-2000 NATIONAL OFFICERS
Installing Officer - Elyline Schweitzer, Le Chapeau National Passe
Installing L'Aumonier
Mamie Painter, Okla.
Installing La Concierge
June Maek, Okla.
Installing Le Marechal
Polly Kempton, Okla.

PRESENTATION OF LE CHAPEAU NATIONAL PASSE PIN TO WANDA NORTH
By Colleen Stephens
Le Chapeau National Passe

REMARKS BY LE CHAPEAU NATIONALOfficers
Pauline Bonham

REMARKS BY LE CHAPEAU NATIONAL Officers
Wanda North

BENEDICTION - L'Aumonier, Venita Holthaus

RETIREMENT OF COLORS
La Concierge Donna Morice

RETIREMENT OF LE CHAPEAU NATIONAL Officers
Wanda North

ADJOURNMENT OF 1999 LA MARCHE NATIONALE

RECEIVING LINE FOR 1999-2000 OFFICERS

SPECIAL MARCHE COMMITTEES
La Marche Chairman
Martha Benson, Calif.

Vice Chairman
Jean Law, Calif.

Chairman of Pages
Donna Beck, Minn.

Vice Chairman of Pages,
Mary Flenley, Ky.

Le Marechal
Janet Christiansen, Ill.

Le Marechal
Lu Vander Meyden, Utah

Pages:
Jessel Gordon, Philippines
Teresa Maitland, N.H.
Christine Howard, Yt.
Terri Harter, Wash.
Trudy Chisholm
Maine Painter, Okla.

Distinguished Guests
Helene Mardu, Chairman, Conn.
Edith Stile, N.H.
Elizabeth Lori, N.J.
Ivy Christoffersen, Md.
Bety Lehman, Wash.
All Nationaux Chapeau Passes

Credentials
Louise Sheker, Chairman, Ore.
Lavonne Coller, Alaska
Antoinette Carr, Md.
Donna Miller, Ill.

Permanenent Organization
Urical Estep, Pa.
Sue Caswell, Alaska
Ellie Napeschi, Hawaii

Registration
Connie Hayes, Chairman, Ind.
Joyce Zucker, Ohio
Peggy Bengry, Calif.

Resolutions
Helen Bone, Chairman, Ariz.
Annie Klingebiel, Va.
Phyllis Harden, Wash.

Rules and Order
Irene Pickard, Ind.
Carolyn Brasnick, Mo.
Evelyn Mudlin, S.D.

Judge of Elections
Virginia Robbins, N.Y.

Tellers
Viola O'Leary, Nev.

Jean Pruett, Texas

Clerk
Sharon Alley, Ariz.
Lorene Berg, Alaska

Personal Pages to Le Chapeau National
Linda Turner, Utah
Cathy Olson, Utah
Dora Trowbridge (Honorary Page), Utah

Personal Page to Secretary
Emily Miner, Calif.

Personal Page to Recorder
Rosalie Randall, Wis.

Musicienne
Barbara J. Gracely, Calif.

La Marche Recorder
Irene Belanger, Calif.

1999 La Marche National Local Committees
Martha Benson, Chairman
Jean Law, Vice Chairman
Nora Mastropieri, La Secritaire
June Woodard, Coissiere
Irene Belanger, Banquet Chairman
Irene Belanger, Banquet Reservations Chairman
Dolores Ryan, Banquet Decorations and Favors Chairman
Barbara J. Gracely, Head Table and Hall Decorations Chairman
Dorothy Brooks, Halls and Seating Chairman
Jean Thompson, Displays Chairman
Estella Avino, Publicity Chairman
Marie Bean, Lost and Found
Judie Tabacchi, Flowers and Corsage Orders
Midge Farrar, Courtesy Chairman
Connie Foley, Entertainment Chairman
Jannita West, Banners
Lorraine Herrick, Coordinator for Passes Luncheon
Ethel Wilson, Central Division
Dorothy Craig, Eastern Division
Angie Dunbar, Northwestern Division
Dolores Ryan, Southern Division
Veronica Sconce, Western Division
Aides:
Margie Ferrante, Kitty Robertshaw
Le Chapeau National
Jackie Lay
L'Aumonier National
YOUTH, RETENTION AND TECHNOLOGY
IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE OF THE SONS

The Sons of The American Legion have experienced continued growth in membership and programs for nearly two decades. This can easily be realized by our record membership this year of over 216,000 and the nearly 30 Detachments with an "All Time High" membership. Also, contributions to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation have once again broken the previous year's record by $14,000 with donations for the 1998-1999 year of $181,807.30. In addition to these records, many Detachments, Districts and Squadrions have surpassed their own previous records to other American Legion projects and programs such as Boys State and The Children's Miracle Network. Also, many Detachments have their own special projects in which thousands of dollars are donated every year.

Besides money, the number of volunteer hours at VA medical centers, helping Veterans and others in the community and time spent with programs of the local American Legion Post family continue to grow.

In spite of all these successes, we must ask ourselves a few questions. Will this success continue in the future? Are there any obstacles or threats to this success? Have we begun to take success as an automatic event that will take place each year? Has our success of the past come with relative ease?

How these questions will be answered depends upon what direction we take in three key areas: youth involvement, membership retention and technology.

One of the areas which the Sons of The American Legion has promoted this year is The American Legion family. However, that family is not truly complete without the youth of our family. Do we have programs in our Squadrions, Districts and Detachments that keep the interest of our younger members? Are we teaching Americanism and patriotism to our younger members or do we expect them to just get it on their own?

Finally, have our Squadrions become too much like adult fraternities with young ones just getting in the way of things?

If we are not providing activities for the younger members we sign up, can we expect to keep them in the Sons? If we are not making them feel a part of this organization, could this be a factor in membership retention, our second key area of importance? There is a strong possibility that some of the 30,000 members lost each year lie into the lack of activities for the younger members. Fixing one area might solve both problems.

Finally, there is technology, which to some degree ties in to youth involvement and retention of members. If we do not keep up with growing technology, then we will not be able to keep up with the interest of not only our young Sons, but also all of our members and once again we will be faced with possibly another contributing factor to loss of membership. It is important that we provide for our membership videos, on-line services and whatever other future technological developments that enable us to compete for members in the future.

The answers to all these questions depends upon the path our leaders choose. Therefore, we must be sure the future leaders of the Sons of The American Legion are open to new ideas. We must listen to our members because they hold the destiny of the Sons of The American Legion.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1999
1 PM
REGISTRATION OF NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES BEGINS

PRE-CONVENTION NEC MEETING
4 PM
Call to Order
Byron J. Robichaux (La.)
National Commander
Posting of Colors
Invocation
Clifford A. Smith (Mass.)
National Chaplain
POW/MIA Ceremony
Pledge of Allegiance
Preamble to the Constitution of the S.A.L.
Roll Call
Brian J. O'Hearne (Mass.)
National Adjutant
Introduction of Guests
Appointments of Acting Officers
Reading of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
Greetings
John Kerestan
National S.A.L. Liaison
Commission Reports
Legislative
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
Public Relations
Americanism
Community Affairs
Children and Youth
Child Welfare Foundation
Internal Affairs
Member Training and Development Convention
Membership
Finance
Subcommittee on Resolutions
Old Business
New Business
For the Good of the S.A.L.
Final Announcements
Benediction
Retirement of Colors
Adjournment

5 PM
REGISTRATION CLOSES

7 PM
28TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
Opening Ceremony
Address of Welcome
Paul Mesmer, National Convention Committee Chairman
28th Annual National Convention
Sons Of The American Legion

Introduction of National Officers and Past National Commanders
Call to Order
Byron J. Robicheaux (La.)
National Commander
Posting of the Colors
Blake Blackstone Squadron 77
Color Guard, Easton, Md.
1998 National Color Guard Champions

Invocation
Clifford Smith (Mass.)
National Chaplain

POW/MIA Ceremony
Blake Blackstone Squadron 77
Color Guard, Easton, Md.

Pledge of Allegiance
Preamble to the Constitution of the S.A.L.
Address
Bud Miller, National Commander
The American Legion
National Memorial Service
Clifford A. Smith (Mass.)
National Chaplain

Reading of the Convention Call
Brian J. O’Hearn (Mass.)
National Adjutant

Roll Call
Brian J. O’Hearn (Mass.)
National Adjutant
Introduction of Past National Commanders for Presentation of Distinguished Guest Convention Badges

Opening Remarks
Byron J. Robicheaux (La.)
National Commander

Presentation of National Membership Awards
Kent Blanchard (Ohio)
Chairman, National S.A.L.
Membership Committee

Establishment of Convention Committees
Salute to the Colors
Recess for Convention Committee Meetings
(Note: During the Convention sessions, various addresses will be delivered)

9:30AM
28th National Convention Reconvenes
Call to Order
Byron J. Robicheaux (La.)
National Commander
Salute to the Colors
Invocation
Clifford A. Smith (Mass.)
National Chaplain
Pledge of Allegiance
Preamble to the Constitution of the S.A.L.
Roll Call
Brian J. O’Hearn (Mass.)
National Adjutant
Membership Rally
First Report of Credentials Committee
First Report of Legislative and Rules Committee
Standing Rules of the Nat’l. Convention
Internal Affairs Committee Report
Presentation of Community Service Scrapbook Award
John Hill (Ga.)
Chairman, National S.A.L.
Community Affairs Committee
Legislative and Rules Committee Final Report
Introduction of The American Legion Youth Award Winners
Membership Committee Report
Recess

1PM
Convention Reconvenes
Americanism Committee Report
National Americanism Awards
Kevin Collier (Alaska)
Chairman, National S.A.L.
Americanism Commission
Constitution and By-Laws Committee Report
Presentation of National History Book Contest Awards
Roy Turner (Ohio), National Historian
Finance Committee Report
Child Welfare Foundation Committee Awards
Jeff Sunday (Mich.) Chairman, National S.A.L.
Child Welfare Foundation Committee
Introduction of 1999 National Sons of The American Legion Color Guard Champions
Address
Robert W. Spanogle
National Adjutant
The American Legion
Recess

10:30AM
Recess for Joint Memorial Service

11AM
Joint Memorial Service

12:30PM
Convention Reconvenes
Call to Order
Byron J. Robicheaux (La.)
National Commander
Salute to the Colors
Special Order of Business
Nominations of Sons of The American Legion National Officers
Election of Officers:
National Commander
National Vice Commanders (5)
National Chaplain
28th Annual National Convention
Sons of the American Legion

Installation of Newly Elected Officers
Benediction
Clifford A. Smith (Mass.)
National Chaplain
Retirement of Colors
New National S.A.L. Color
Guard Champion
Final Adjournment
Byron J. Robichaux (La.)
National Commander

2PM
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POST-CONVENTION MEETING
(OR WITHIN 30 MINUTES OF ADJOURNMENT OF CONVENTION)
Call to Order
Newly Elected National Commander
Salute to the Colors
Invocation
Newly Elected National Chaplain
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Brian J. O’Hearne (Mass.)
National Adjutant
Installation of National Executive

Committeeman
Confirmation of Appointed National Officers
Remarks by Commission and Committee Chairman
Unfinished Business
New Business
Benediction
Newly Elected National Chaplain
Salute to the Colors
Adjournment
Newly Elected National Commander

4PM
NATIONAL CONVENTION PARADE

1999 NATIONAL OFFICERS
NATIONAL COMMANDER
Byron J. Robichaux (La.)

NATIONAL VICE COMMANDERS
Arthur Carew Jr. (Conn.) – East
Leslie Clevering (Va.) – South
Thomas E. Cisno (Ill.) – Central
Kevin Winkelman (Texas) – Midwest
Jerry L. Wiley (Ore.) – West

NATIONAL ADJUTANT
Brian J. O’Hearne (Mass.)

NATIONAL ASSISTANT ADJUTANTS
Harold E. Thompson Jr. (Neb.)
Ed Shuebrook (Fla.)
Clifford E. Hall (Mass.)
Thomas Milligan (Mich.)
William L. Sparwasser (Md.)

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN
Clifford A. Smith (Mass.)

NATIONAL HISTORIAN
Roy Turner (Ohio)

NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE
Joseph Paviglianti (N.Y.)

NATIONAL SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
Ron A. Timmerman (Ky.)

NATIONAL ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
Tom Getz (Ohio)
Terry Gilbert (Calif.)
David M. Ridenour (Ind.)
Francis Clayton (Md.)
Lloyd Trimmer (Idaho)

NATIONAL COMMANDER’S AIDE
Ronald Robichaux (La.)

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS
Michael Seaton (Calif.)
Robert McBridge (Ohio)
J.R. Stewell (Ill.)
John Smolinsky (Mass.)
Robert Faust (Calif.)
James Hartman (Md.)
Gregory Reis (Ill.)
Grant Jamieson (Mich.)
Charles Gannon (Md.)
John M. Sherrard (Calif.)
Richard Keeler (Ariz.)
Ernest Wilson (N.J.) (Deceased)
Donald Wilson (Pa.) (Deceased)
David P. Stephens (Ind.)
Christopher R. Cerullo (N.Y.)
Fred Hartline (Ohio)
Woodrow L. Mudge (Colo.)
Royce Doucet (La.)
Douglas Bible (Minn.)
Richard L. League (Md.)
David Faust (Wis.)
Charles R. Belles (Va.)
Robert A. Warril (Ind.)
Eugene L. Sacco (Calif.)
Charles Rigby (Mich.) (Deceased)
Roland D. Matteson (Ariz.)
Joseph Maye (Minn.)
John T. Diez (Ky.)
Jack E. Jordan (Texas)
William E. Matoska (Md.)

INTERNATIONAL PAPER
Proud to be a sponsor of
The American Legion.
Have a great 81st National Convention
1999 Annual Report

Covers Period Ending June 1, 1999.

The following pages of this official program of the 81st Annual National Convention of The American Legion contains a condensed Annual Report for The American Legion 1998 - 1999 year.

Believing that the delegates to the National Convention are entitled to receive a concise statement of the major activities of The American Legion year ending with this National Convention, your National Headquarters provides this report as a part of the official program. In this manner, we are assured that every delegate and everyone who registers for the Convention will receive the condensed Annual Report.

A full, detailed report has been submitted to the Congress of the United States in accordance with the Legion's congressionally granted charter and provisions of Public Law 249, 77th Congress, approved Sept. 18, 1941.
Perpetuating The Legion's 81-Year-Old Tradition

America; a nation in which everlasting are the values that some of our comrades died defending. Time and again, your service supports the enduring traditions of America.

You correct the failure of judgment in our judicial system. The Supreme Court in 1989 - by a narrow, 5-4 margin - rewrote American history to provide First Amendment protection for those who would desecrate the U.S. Flag. But your grassroots advocacy unites the community behind candidates who would restore to the people the right to protect our flag. As a result of your practical Americanism, support for a flag-protection constitutional amendment continues to grow.

You correct the failure of judgment of our administration. The administration’s fiscal 2000 budget falls short of meeting the health care needs of veterans. But thanks to your phone calls and letters, backing up the visits by our Washington-based staff and National Commander Butch Miller, Congress increased veterans health care spending by $1.7 billion. We will not stand for budget-balancing at the expense of veterans’ health care. We will not fail those with whom we serve.

You have moved to correct the failure of our society to honor all of its patriots. You raised money - and continue to raise money - for the long-overdue National World War II Memorial. Thanks to you, our nation will permanently pay tribute to the generation that survived the Great Depression and saved the world from tyranny.

You have moved to correct the impediments to morale among our troops. Our American Legion demands the commitment of U.S. troops only under a carefully-developed strategic plan in our national interests, supported by Congress and the American people. Our organization further encourages Congress to spend more on defense, not less. Meanwhile, more and more Posts are developing relationships with military installations, not only signing up Legion-eligible active-duty troops, but corresponding with them in a way that makes them feel appreciated. You have provided opportunity for many young people. Your support of The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation funds organizations working with young people who need help the most. You also make a substantial contribution to this nation by providing above-average teens with either money for college, a memorable learning experience or both through our Americanism programs. You set an example of good citizenship that is all too rare.

By recruiting younger members, you will perpetuate our 81-year-old tradition.

I’m honored to be chief of staff of your National Organization because The American Legion stands for what is good and necessary for America.

Congratulations on another fine year of “Still Serving America,” maintaining the strength of The American Legion’s founding pillars and making the United States a better place for all Americans.

Robert W. Spanogle
National Adjutant
The American Legion continues its commitment to serving the nation's veterans, their families and all children. This commitment has served us well since 1919 when the veterans of World War I returned to American soil and formed what would become the world's largest veterans organization.

As the Legion convenes in Anaheim, delegates gather to conduct the vital business of this great organization. From this convention will come policies that will direct the 2.7 million volunteer members as they work to make their community - and our nation - better in the coming year.

The American Legion accomplishes its goals primarily at the grass-roots level, but with direction from the National Headquarters in Indianapolis and a major national office in Washington, D.C.

The Legion's chief executive officer is the National Commander, elected by delegates to the National Convention for a one-year term. The five National Vice Commanders are also chosen by the National Convention.

Butch Miller is the 1999-99 National Commander of The American Legion. The major accomplishments of the Legion during his term of office are represented in the following pages of this program and condensed annual report.

Robert W. Spanogle, National Adjutant, is the chief administrative officer of The American Legion. He, along with the National Judge Advocate, National Treasurer, National Chaplain, National Historian and National Sergeant-at-Arms, comprise the appointed National Officers of The American Legion.
The American Legion 1999 National Convention

The National Executive Committee

Between National Conventions, the administrative authority of The American Legion is exercised by the National Executive Committee, composed of the National Commander, the five National Vice Commanders, National Chaplain and the National Executive Committeeman (plus alternate) elected by each Department. Past National Commanders are life members of the NEC but do not vote.

The NEC appoints the National Adjutant, Treasurer, Judge Advocate, Chaplain, Historian and Sergeant-at-Arms. The NEC also has complete control over the annual budget.

National Executive Committeemen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Committee Members</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>Ray White</td>
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<td>Arizona</td>
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<td>Claude B. Carpenter</td>
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<td>Colorado</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
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<td>Richard Verrier</td>
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<td>E. Roy Stone Jr.</td>
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<td>John W. Richter</td>
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<td>Vermont</td>
<td>W.E. Christoffersen</td>
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<td>Ronald R. Aldrich</td>
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<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>Robert K. Zukowski</td>
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<td>Todd E. White</td>
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Past National Commanders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>E. Roy Stone Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Erle Cocke Jr.</td>
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<td>Michigan</td>
<td>J. Addington Wagner</td>
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<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>Preston J. Moore</td>
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<td>California</td>
<td>William R. Burke</td>
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<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Hot. Daniel J. Foley</td>
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<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>William E. Galbraith</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
<td>John H. Geiger</td>
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<td>Maine</td>
<td>William J. Rogers</td>
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<td>Michigan</td>
<td>John M. &quot;Jack&quot; Carey</td>
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<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Frank I. Hamilton</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>Michael J. Rogut</td>
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<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Keith Kreul</td>
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<td>Maryland</td>
<td>Clarence M. Bacon</td>
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<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>James P. Dean</td>
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<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>John P. &quot;Jake&quot; Comer</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>Hon. H.E. &quot;Sparky&quot; Gierke</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>Miles S. Epling</td>
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<td>Robert S. Turner</td>
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<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Dominic D. DiFrancesco</td>
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<td>Roger A. Munson</td>
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<td>Bruce Thiesen</td>
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<td>Joseph J. Frank</td>
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<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Anthony G. Jordan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The American Legion 1999 National Convention
THE YEAR IN PICTURES
NATIONAL COMMANDER
MILLER

Commander Butch Miller proudly showed his colors during his stellar term at the helm of The American Legion.


Solemn Words: PNC John Geiger III administers the oath of office to newly elected National Commander Miller, Woodbridge, Va. Miller's mother, Loretta Wiernicki, looks on.
KOREA: National Commander Miller tours the grounds of South Korea’s tomb of the unknown soldiers.

ON-LINE: Commander Miller sees computer and e-mail technology as new opportunities for Legion leaders and Legionnaires to keep in touch.

PRIVACY: Commander Miller is shown in a secure office environment.

RONNIE HIGGINS tells National Commander Miller that each sailor aboard the USS Higgins learns as much about the ship’s machinery as possible, and believes her husband’s spirit, (Col. Rich Higgins) “will guide them as they sail into history’s way.”
The American Legion sponsors many programs to foster the wholesome development of America's youth. Tens of thousands of students compete in Legion-sponsored activities each year. Here are those who finished at the top of their programs.

**BOYS NATION PRESIDENT**
**RYAN RIPPEL**

Ryan Rippel, 17, of Columbia, Mo., was elected Boys Nation President of the 54th Boys Nation, conducted at Marymount University outside Washington, D.C. Rippel, son of Barbara Rippel, was sponsored by the Missouri Boys State and served as secretary of state at the 1999 Missouri Boys State. He is currently a senior at David Hickman High School where he is the president of the student body and vice-president of the National Honor Society. Rippel was also appointed by Sen. Christopher Bond, R-Mo., to serve as a page in the Senate.

After high school, Rippel plans to attend either Harvard University or Georgetown University to study public service and politics.

**ORATORICAL CHAMPION**
**KEVIN SLADEK**

Kevin Sladek of San Marcos, Texas, won The American Legion's 62nd Annual American High School Oratorical Contest by exploring contemporary issues through a constitutional prism. Sladek, 18, was elected last year as president of the 53rd American Legion Boys Nation. He is only the second person in American Legion history to claim two American Legion national youth championships.

Sladek, who plans to study ethics, politics and economics at Yale University in the fall, was a semi-finalist at the same event last year and is an anchor reporter for Channel 1 TV News, which reaches 8.5 million students nation-wide.

**EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR**
**STEVEN M. CORSElLO**

Steven M. Corsello, 17, of Pittsford, N.Y., was named the Eagle Scout of the Year. The senior at Pittsford Mendon High School also earned a $4,000 college scholarship by winning the award.

Corsello, who has been an Eagle Scout since 1995, was recognized for his citizenship at school, Scouting and his church, St. Catherine of Siena. For his Eagle Scout project, Corsello documented the images and inscriptions of more than 700 tombstones at Elmwood Cemetery with the help of 15 of his friends and Photo-CO equipment donated by a local retailer. Upon graduating, Corsello plans to do undergraduate work in biochemical sciences at Cornell.

**1998 AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**
**CHAD OPEL**

Chad Opel of Edwardsville, Ill., was named the 1998 George W. Roland American Legion Baseball Player of the Year. The award came with a $5,000 scholarship from Buick Motor Division.

Opel, 19, a freshman at Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville, also earned the Louisville Slugger Award for the best batting average (.532). Opel also led tournament players in slugging percentage (.842), on-base percentage (.714), doubles (8) and stolen bases (11).

Due, in part, to Opel's contribution Edwardsville Post 194 (41-7) won The 1998 American Legion Baseball World Series in a 9-4 victory over Post 103 of Cherryville, N.C.

**1998 JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS CHAMPION**
**KELLY DOVE**

Kelly Dove of Conner, Ga., was the 1998 Precision champion. Dove, 17, held the best score among the top performing precision shooters at any previous American Legion championship.

Dove, the first-time American Legion National competitor set a new competition record of 2449.9 out of a possible 2500 in overall scoring and set an all-time high standing mark of 777 out of a possible 800. Dove, who hopes to compete in the Olympics someday said, "The toughest thing about it is it's so precise, if you drop a point it can hurt you, one mistake can break it for you. I've really developed my mental toughness."

Dove, who graduated from high school in June, plans to attend Jacksonville State University in Alabama where she will study education or accounting.
1999 OUTSTANDING MILITARY ACADEMY STUDENTS

The American Legion salutes the best students attending the nation's military academies.

ARMY
JASON A. GRASSBAUGH

SOLDIER National Vice Commander, Roger L. Tingler of Georgia, presents Cadet Jason A. Grassbaugh of New Hampshire with the Legion's U.S. Military Academy Award at West Point, N.Y., on May 28. Grassbaugh won the award for excellence in chemistry.

NAVY
JEFFREY MICHAEL MONOGHAN

SAILOR National Vice Commander James Gravenstein of Kansas presents Midshipman First Class Jeffrey Michael Monaghan with the Legion's U.S. Naval Academy award at Annapolis, Md., during May graduation ceremonies. The honor is bestowed annually on the graduating midshipman who has the highest academic average in English, history and government courses taken to complete a foreign affairs major.

COAST GUARD
MICHAEL SHARP

COAST GUARDSMAN National Vice Commander Lee P. Burke of California presents Cadet Michael Sharp with The American Legion Coast Guard Academy award on May 18 in New London, Conn. Sharp won the award for overall excellence in athletics.

MERCHANT MARINE
GEORGE LLOYD BECK JR.

MERCHAND MARINE National Vice Commander John D. Morris of Texas presents Midshipman George Lloyd Beck Jr. with the Legion's U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Award in Kings Point, N.Y. The award is given to the cadet who has contributed the most to the success of the Regimental Color Guard.

AIR FORCE
JEFFREY D. MOFFITT

AIRMAN Cadet Jeffrey D. Moffitt of North Carolina was named top overall academic performer for the class of 1999. The American Legion's National Vice Commander, Fernando M. Goulart of Rhode Island, presented the Legion award during May ceremonies at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.
The American Legion Celestial Benefits Program

You served your country...You deserve this program

What is the American Legion Celestial Benefits Program?

Celestial Burial Case has developed this American Legion Program to help veterans and their families during the most difficult time of their lives...The passing of a loved one.

Celestial and the American Legion working together have designed two special caskets exclusively for American Legion members only.

- A superior Quality 18 gauge steel American Legion casket
- A superb stainless steel American Legion Casket

Both models have full velvet interiors with a full color American Legion emblem embroidered on the back panel.

The American Legion Celestial Benefits Program guarantees pricing (at 50% to 70% savings) on all Celestial Burial Merchandise, including caskets and burial vaults for their spouse and other family members at an additional savings of 10%.

American Legion Celestial Benefits Program offers several liberal payment options including 36 months interest free terms...and at-need deferred billing by Celestial. After delivery of funeral merchandise, Celestial will wait until the family receives their insurance benefits before payment is made.

Why you should register!

The American Legion Celestial Benefits Program offers a no-cost registration feature. This simply indicates your participation in the program and which casket you would want delivered when needed. Also, your cost is locked-in for 5 years from the date of registration. The American Legion Celestial Benefits Program is the only program that offers this assurance.

Registration is an essential part of the American Legion Celestial Benefits Program. It helps Celestial to gauge the inventory needs...and guarantees your choice of casket (and any other funeral merchandise) will be available at the time of need.

Delivery will be made within 24 hours ANYWHERE in the continental United States of America. It only requires that either a family member or the funeral director call our toll-free number with the proper information at anytime...365 days a year.

No funeral home can deny delivery or alter their pricing if you choose to use the American Legion Celestial Benefits Program. It is a federal law, applicable to all funeral homes.*


If you wish a copy of the statute to be sent to you please indicate on registration form.

Features

- 24 hours, 365 days a year service
- Complete line of top quality products
- Exclusive American Legion casket design
- Local product display galleries
- Over 4 decades of experience

Advantages

- Available anytime day or night
- Superior quality products equal to any funeral home
- Convenient in-home service available
- Zero interest payment terms
- Full range of industry knowledge

Benefits

- Custom American Legion casket
- Average 50% to 70% savings
- 10% discount to all family members
- Special finance terms
- Peace of mind
- Use any funeral home without add-on or service fees
- Free counseling by licensed funeral director or family service counselor

Any Questions?

Call toll-free 1-877-497-8837
or Visit us on the line at:
www.celestialburialcase.com
to browse our products, included are Veterans Memorial pages
with pictures and obituaries of your fellow members.
SAVE 50% to 70%
Send in your registration form today! Registration is free, simple and quick... plus your cost is guaranteed not to increase 5 years from the date you register!

$1,100.00
18 Gauge Steel Casket with velvet lining and interior American Legion logo embroidered in full color on inside back panel

$1,350.00
Stainless Steel Casket with velvet lining and interior American Legion logo embroidered in full color on inside back panel

Detach and send to:
Celestial Burial Case
American Legion Benefits Division
33 East Pittsburgh Street
Greensburg, PA 15601

American Legion Celestial Benefits Program

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Please send information on the following:
Veterans □ Brown 18 Gauge Casket □ American Legion Burial Vaults
□ Stainless Steel Casket □ American Legion Memorial
Spouse □ Casket □ Burial Vault □ Memorial
□ Please send me a copy of FTC regulation no. 215-46:

SIGNATURE DATE
Americanism is an all encompassing term and one that is not easily defined. In fact, if you were to ask a group of Legionnaires for the definition of Americanism, you will likely get many answers. And chances are, they may all be correct. You see, Americanism means different things to different people.

But what does it mean to the American Legion? Delegates to the 1962 National Convention in Las Vegas, Nev. attempted to define the Legion's perception of Americanism, and they came up with the following:

Americanism is the recognition of the truth that the inherent and fundamental rights of man are derived from God, and not from governments, societies, dictators, kings or majorities. This basic principle of Americanism is of independence, where our immortal forefathers said that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, chief among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

From this declaration and well-established interpretations that have been put upon it from the beginning of the Republic down to the present moment, it is clear that Americanism recognizes the existence of a God and the all-important fact that the fundamental rights of man are derived from God and not from any other source. Among these inalienable rights which are the gift of man from his Creator are: (1) Freedom to worship; (2) Freedom to work in such occupation as the experience, training and qualifications of a man may enable him to secure and hold; (3) Freedom to enjoy the fruits of his work, which means the protection of property rights; (4) the right to pursue his happiness with the necessary implication that he does not harm or injure others in the pursuit of this happiness.

Americanism is the recognition of the God-given rights of man and the protection of those rights under the Constitution through the instrumentality of an independent Congress, an untrammeled judiciary, and a fair and impartial impartial operating under the American system of checks and balances. Americanism likewise means the protection of an unorganized majority from an organized minority as well as the protection of a helpless minority from an inconsiderate and thoughtless majority.

The characteristic which distinguishes our republic from the dictatorships of the world is not majority rule, but the treatment of minorities. Dictatorships must have majorities at the polls, through intimidation and high-powered government propaganda, but these majorities are used for ruthless tyranny over minorities. The majority rule of the American form of government is distinguished by its recognition of certain rights of minorities which majorities cannot alienate.

All of these definitions of Americanism are based upon the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. But, in more simple terms, there's a common thread that is woven throughout definitions of Americanism. That thread is a deep abiding love of country and a strong loyalty to its institutions and ideals. It is also an individual allegiance to the flag, a way of life, loyal patriotism, righteous freedom, religion without bigotry and charity without bias or race hatred.

Americanism in the American Legion is "service". It is one of the community's a better place in which to live; and it's passing on a heritage that is chiseled into the solid foundation of this organization. Among all members of the American Legion practice some form of Americanism activity, whether it be in their day to day activities or possibly as an American Legion volunteer with their local American Legion Post. It is the latter that I shall emphasize in this report.

Few can dispute the fact that our civilization is the envy of the world. It is our heritage, but it is also a challenge. It is our responsibility and our duty to improve it and to guard it. The hundreds of thousands of volunteers throughout the organization freely accept these challenges, responsibilities and duties by donating much time and money to conduct the various programs of the National Americanism Commission.

An effective Americanism program thrives at the Post level on activities which are community-oriented. These local Americanism programs become the lifeblood of The American Legion, helping to maintain a large membership base while fostering a beneficial public awareness in their respective communities.

Eighty-one years ago, the founders of The American Legion had a vision of how its members could impact in a positive way, the moral fabric of communities across this country. They charted American Legion Posts to be the hub of those efforts. They established Americanism programs that, even today, stand as...
testimony of The American Legion's contribution to our American heritage. Many of these contributions are disguised in a quiet and inconspicuous growth of young people who, thanks to The American Legion, now have a greater respect for each other and for their country and its flag.

Today's American Legion, like the country it is committed to support and defend, faces many new challenges. To successfully meet those challenges will take a renewed commitment to a 100 percent Americanism. The National Americanism Commission also believes that it is vitally important that we maintain a vigilant eye on those who would barter our way of life for personal gain.

The National Americanism Commission maintains a close liaison with The American Legion's National Legislative Division to achieve Americanism legislative objectives. These efforts continue to be actively focused on securing a constitutional amendment to protect our flag from those who would physically desecrate it. Other areas of concern to the organization during the past year include immigration reform and the enforcement of existing immigration laws, terrorism and the establishment of English as the official language of the United States.

The Americanism Commission is also charged with the supervision and coordination of two National Standing Committees: the National Committee on Education and the Counter-Subversive Activities Committee. Within the Americanism Commission, three subcommittees help shape the direction of the various programs conducted by the commission. They are Youth Activities, Baseball and Recreation, and the Immigration and Naturalization Subcommittees.

The many varied Americanism programs are designed to create improved living for every individual, recognizing all of the inalienable rights of mankind and the human qualities of mind and heart.

American Legion Baseball
American Legion Baseball is the only amateur baseball program that is honored annually at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y. This is indicative of the support the program has received through its 74-year history by professional baseball, supporting corporations, the media and others. It also adds credence to those who call it "the premier youth baseball program in the nation."

The baseball program owes its success to the hard work and dedication of American Legion Posts and individual Legionnaires who promote this character-building exercise in teamwork. Its goals include instilling in our youth a sincere desire to develop within themselves a sense of citizenship, sportsmanship, loyalty and team spirit. Over 5,000 teams are sponsored annually. To do so, almost $17 million was appropriated by local Posts to fund the program.

In 1999, the American Legion Baseball season was enhanced by the annual World Series which was conducted in Middletown, Conn.

Sixty-two percent of Major League Baseball players participated in American Legion Baseball as teenagers, and almost 75 percent of all college players played Legion ball. American Legion graduates enshrined in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., include Bob Feller, Stan Musial, Yogi Berra, Johnny Bench, Reggie Jackson, Brooks Robinson, Don Drysdale, Tom Seaver, Robin Yount and George Brett.

In 1994, the Buick Motor Division of General Motors Corporation began a partnership with The American Legion which has generated more than 4 million dollars of support for American Legion Baseball. The majority of the money realized through this partnership has been returned to American Legion Posts for use in their respective baseball programs. Other funds have been designated for use as scholarships for deserving American Legion Baseball players.

Flag Education
The American Legion was instrumental in convening the first National Flag Conference in 1923, when they developed a set of flag courtesy rules. These rules later evolved into the United States Flag Code, first adopted by Congress in 1942.

Today, The American Legion is still recognized as one of the country's foremost sources of flag education and etiquette information. The National Americanism Commission answers hundreds of inquiries on proper flag display and etiquette each year.

Flag education has always been a major program of the National Americanism Commission and The American Legion. Posts throughout the nation donate numerous flags and distribute volumes of flag literature to schools and groups as a community service. Included are publications such as Know Your America and Let's Be Right On Flag Etiquette, both available from National Emblem Sales.

Shooting Sports
This participatory national youth program, administered by Post-sponsored Junior Shooting Clubs, continues to experience tremendous growth. In fact, this year's competition attracted approximately 1,100 shooters, reflecting another significant increase in participation.

The American Legion's Junior Shooting Sports Program provides gun safety and marksmanship training for young people and offers recreational activity through organized competition.

Just prior to this National Convention, The American Legion Junior Position Air Rifle tournament took place at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Thirty competitors vied for awards and scholarships in the tournament. The national championships are the culmination of a series of Post-level postal matches conducted by the National Americanism Commission.

Boys State/Boys Nation
American Legion Boys State is a leadership action program where qualified male high school juniors take part in a practical government course. It is designed to give the young citizens a working knowledge of the structure of government and to impress upon them the fact that government is just what they make it.

Boys State has been a program of the National Americanism Commission since 1935. It is conducted in 49 Departments of The American Legion. Although the programs vary in content and method of procedure, each adheres to the basic concept of the program — that of teaching government from the township to the state level.

Since its inception, the program has introduced our political system to more than 1.5 million young Americans. More than 28,000 high school juniors annually attend Boys States. They are selected by American Legion Posts based on their academic and leadership abilities.

At Boys State, the students become familiar with the rights and privileges, the duties and responsibilities which citizenship entails. The training is objective and practical with city, county and state governments operated by student officials who are duly elected or appointed by their citizen counterparts. Activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies and recreation periods.

Each year the Boys States select two outstanding graduates to represent them at American Legion Boys Nation. Boys Nation also emphasizes citizenship education but is focused on the study of the federal government and its supporting agencies. Organization of political parties, conventions, and the nomination and election of a president of Boys Nation all provide practical experience in politics and the administration of a republic.

Boys Nation is held each summer in the Washington, D.C. area. It was organized in 1946 as the Boys Forum of National Government and was changed to American Legion Boys Nation in 1949.
National High School Oratorical Contest

Kevin Sladek of San Marcos, Texas, and representing the Department of Texas was crowned the winner of the 62nd annual final of the National High School Oratorical Contest held April 17-18, 1999 at Indianapolis, Indiana. The two other national finalists by order of finish were: Matthew Pratt of Frederica, Del., and Susanna Cox of Forest Park, Ga.

The contest began in 1938 as an activity to instill in high school students a greater understanding and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States. Scholarships awarded during the toweday competition totaled $18,000.

Boy Scouts

The American Legion's support of Scouting has shown a pattern of growth in the past several years. Local Posts and Auxiliary Units now charter almost 2,500 Scouting Units serving 70,000 young men and women. Yes, Boy Scout Exploring does include young ladies as members.

Scouting was the first national Americanism youth activity of The American Legion. Over the years, Legion and Auxiliary support of Scouting has helped hundreds of thousands of young men become better citizens.

Each year the National Americanism Commission selects The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year. The recipient of this award is presented an $8,000 scholarship and an all-expense-paid trip to The American Legion's National Convention. The 1999 Eagle Scout of the Year is Steven M. cordsen of Pittsburg, N.Y. Three runners-up were awarded $2,000 scholarships each.

They are: David G. Easterman, Jr. of Huntington Beach, Calif., John T. Krupinski of Greensburg, Pa., and Charles A. Pierce of Taylor, Texas.

Service to God and Country

Basic Americanism is expressed through The American Legion's Service to God and Country program. It is designed to help prevent the spiritual decay of America and to charge our citizens with a spirit of positive Americanism characterized by a respect for law and authority and an awareness of our human rights and freedoms.

The first part of this dual objective is service to God through regular public worship, daily family prayer and the religious education of children. Legionnaires are called upon to make parents increasingly aware of their responsibility to instill in their children the belief that God is the source of all rights and privileges.

The second part is to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation by preparing young American citizens to take up tomorrow's responsibilities. This is achieved by teaching them moral and spiritual values, interest in our country's history, self-discipline and reliance, thrift, and the ideals of loyalty, honesty and physical fitness.

Coordinating this program is the Post Chaplain, through the cooperation of local clergy and other public service and civic organizations that support this important program.

Counter-Subversive Activities Committee

F. Rodney Loper (Pa.), Chairman

Continuing as it has for the past 45 years, the Counter-Subversive Activities Committee keeps a watchful eye on activities of individuals and groups who threaten our form of government. Findings are reported in the monthly publication, Firing Line.

Subscriptions are available for $7 annually. Bulk subscriptions, in which at least 20 copies are mailed to a single address, are available for $15.00 each. Send check or money order to: The American Legion Firing Line, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

Committee On Education

Dr. Charles L. Kayser Jr. (Ariz.), Chairman

The National Committee on Education believes that education is the cornerstone upon which rests this nation's future. Where there are good schools we find good citizens. In fact, education is the first requisite of good citizenship.

The relationship of The American Legion to the schools of America is that of a friendly and firm supporter of free education as a means of keeping and improving a free civilization. Over the years, The American Legion at all levels has, through a cooperative working relationship, encouraged its membership to keep abreast of the many changes required to maintain a good school system. Support has been provided to secure adequate funds for school construction, teachers' salaries and a variety of resources to assist students to continue with their education.

The National Committee on Education was organized: (1) To inform itself and The American Legion of developments, problems and potentials in the field of education: (2) To recommend appropriate policies and programs for The American Legion; and (3) To maintain contact with the educational community so that there may be an interchange of thinking between The American Legion and educators, students and other organizations concerned with the well-being of education throughout the nation.

The Samsung/American Legion Scholarship Program

The Samsung Group, the South Korea-based international electronics company, endowed a scholarship fund in 1995 of $5 million to be administered by The American Legion. The gifts were made to show appreciation to U.S. veterans who came to the aid of South Korea during its struggle against communist forces during the Korean War.

In less than a month, the National Committee on Education will be selecting 12 high school students to receive $50,000 scholarships. Additionally, national finalists not selected to receive the primary scholarship will receive a $1000 scholarship.

Need A Lift?

The 49th edition of Need A Lift? continues the tradition of providing extensive information about colleges and universities that can make post-secondary education a reality for many high school graduates. The publication offers sections on scholarships and financial aid, information on tuition costs, entrance qualifications and enrollment figures.

Need A Lift also contains an application for a low-cost electronic search for other sources of college funding.

Summary

What appears in this year-end report reflects only a small part of the work carried out by The American Legion's National Americanism Commission. Much more time, effort and money are expended by Posts, Districts and Departments as they accept the challenges of sponsoring and conducting Americanism activities that feature wide-ranging community service, youth development and educational advancement.

For up-to-the-date information on Americanism activities in The American Legion, visit The American Legion on the World Wide Web at www.legion.org.

Administrative Services

Daniel S. Wheeler (Va.), Executive Director

Three major responsibilities are assigned to the Executive Director, whose office is
families food, clothing and shelter, thus preserving the integrity of the family home.

We continue to work with the President’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to establish and support Youth Leadership Forums at the Department level. These forums, similar to our American Legion Boys State in structure and intent, are designed to educate our next generation of disabled leaders. Ten states have signed on for 1999, with a dozen more showing interest for the year 2000. Their ultimate goal is to expand our democratic principles to all citizens with disabilities through our national hospitals.

Our affiliation with the Children’s Miracle Network continues to grow. The Legion is undertaking the nationalization of a walkathon, “Miracle Miles for Kids,” patterned after the successful event in the Department of Connecticut. A walkathon is an inclusive event that can encompass the whole Legion family, as well as bring in people from the community at large.

Our Miracle Balloons program remains the easiest to sponsor. Legion Posts are encouraged to contact their local CMN-affiliated Children’s Hospital for an ample supply of balloons which can be “bought” for a dollar donation and displayed on the walls of Post homes. The Children’s Miracle Network provides support and educational awareness programs to increase the quality of life for over 12 million children annually through 170 children’s hospitals. These hospitals treat children with all types of afflictions rendering treatment based on need and not just the ability to pay.

The Spinoza “Buddy Bear Project” has maintained its popularity among our membership. This bear was created exclusively for children with chronic or life-threatening illnesses. Children in need are identified by hospitals and hospice programs. The children receive a constant companion who provides unconditional love while helping them cope with the fear and the pain they face daily. This is a real “feel good” program that provides comfort and companionship to these youngsters and is an activity in which even the smallest of Posts can be active.

We continue to strive to have National Family Week, by legislation, permanently established as an annual observance and emphasize, by education through Post activity, the importance of the family unit as the cornerstone of our society.

The growing problem of youth and violence is a concern which certainly affects all Americans – not just our young people – and may well be the number one issue on the criminal justice agenda. While youth violence is not a new problem, the intensity of violence involving young people has escalated in the last decade, and children are witnessing violence at ever-younger ages.

Since the 1980s, The American Legion has been concerned with juvenile delinquency and youth violence. The Commission continued distribution of a brochure titled “Juvenile Delinquency Prevention” to help educate, both our members and the public, and provide suggestions on how they may deal with this pressing and volatile issue in their communities.

A new comic book is now available, entitled “Nathan’s Visit.” Nathan’s Visit is a lesson in safety for children ages 5 to 8. Some of the lessons include: water safety, seat belt awareness, animal safety, stranger danger, and many more. Nathan’s Visit may be ordered through National Emblem Sales.

It could well be said that we have a lot to offer, and perhaps some would say we have too much. But please remember, there are simply activities the commission has taken on to be able to provide you with direct support. You might want to get involved with an activity we do not directly support with published materials. If this is the case, please contact us, and we will do all we can to put you in touch with the organization that can best support you with what you need.

It is important, but not imperative, to involve yourself with as many of these programs as you can. All we ask is that you take at least one Children & Youth activity and make it yours. It is always better to do one thing very well than to do many things poorly.

The Commission is proud of the Legionnaires, Auxiliary members, Sons of The American Legion and the Eight and Forty for their accomplishments on behalf of our country’s youth. Their efforts in the area of child welfare is a living testament to the ability of free men and women to adapt themselves to evolving needs, while maintaining high principles and taking on increased responsibilities under those principles.

With your fullest support, our organization will continue to lead the way in our pursuit of “A Square Deal for Every Child.”

**Commission On Children & Youth**

**The National Commission on Children & Youth views children as our most precious natural resource. The “Whole Child” plan, adopted in 1925, provides that “the child of every veteran should have a home, a school, health, education, character and opportunity.” Its foundation is based on three principles: 1. to strengthen the family unit, and 2. to extend support to sound organizations that provide, and 3. to extend support to sound organizations that provide, and 3. to maintain a well-rounded program that meets the needs of today’s young people. Toward the accomplishment of these goals, the National Commission on Children & Youth continually redeclares itself to helping all young people realize their full potential.

Our landmark program, Temporary Financial Assistance, has completed 74 years of service to the children of veterans. Last year we granted $30,875 to veterans’ families and touched the lives of 1,991 children. These precious dollars afforded 537...**

**Convention Commission**

**Jeffrey L. Olson (Minn.), Chairman**

**Richard D. Holmes (Ind.), Director**
One-Stop Shopping for an Integrated Benefits Package

Great-West offers one-stop shopping for a full range of contemporary health care, life insurance, 401(k) and Section 125 benefits. Combined with superior service and support, our integrated approach to plan design helps employees offer attractive benefits and control benefit costs.
The MEETING was called to order by Chairman Jeffrey L. Olson, Minn., at 9 a.m., May 3, 1999. Roll call was taken with one member excused and the remaining members present.

Items Requiring NEC Action.

Resolution No. 19 - Approval of the Recommendation by the National Convention Commission that the contract between the National Organization and The American Legion National Convention Corporation of North Carolina, Inc. for the dates of August 23 - 29, 2002 be signed by the National Commander and the President of the Convention Corporation.

Resolution No. 25 - Approval of the Recommendation by the National Convention Commission of the new registration procedures at the National Convention of The American Legion.

Resolution No. 33 - Amending Guidelines for Convention Stabilization Fund recommended by the National Convention Commission was forwarded to the National Finance Commission for their consideration.

Resolution No. 37 - Increase in National Convention Registration Fee for the Sons of The American Legion recommended by the National Convention Commission was forwarded to the National Internal Affairs Commission and the National Finance Commission for their consideration.

Resolution No. 38 - Approval of the Recommendation by the National Convention Commission that a new badge format at The National Convention of The American Legion be procured and available for implementation for the 2000 National Convention.

The cities of Memphis and Nashville, Tenn., provided presentations requesting they be awarded the 2001 National Convention. The city of Nashville, Tenn., is recommended to receive the tentative award of the 2001 National Convention for the dates of August 27 - September 2, 2001.

William M. Detweiler, President of The American Legion First District Convention Corporation of Louisiana gave a final report on the 1998 National Convention in New Orleans. The American Legion First District Convention Corporation of Louisiana reported income of $140,531.24, expenses of $82,622.40 and gross revenue of $57,908.84. A check of $28,854.42 was presented to the National Commander on May 5, 1999 Chairman Jeff Olson thanked Detweiler for the Convention Corporation’s hard work and dedication in making the 89th National Convention a success. Bruce Thiesen, President of The Anaheim in 99 National Convention Corporation, reported on the planning process for the 1999 National Convention. Planning for the 81st National Convention of The American Legion is on schedule. The Orange County Convention Center will be the site of the general sessions of The American Legion, the general sessions of the American Legion Auxiliary and the site of the exhibition hall. The National Staff Offices for The American Legion will also be contained within the Convention Center. The Headquarters Hotel for The American Legion will be The Anaheim Hilton and Towers and the American Legion Auxiliary will be headquartered in The Anaheim Marriott. All hotel contracts have been completed by the respective Department Adjutants and have been returned to the hotels in which those departments reside.

Milwaukee 2000 National Convention Corporation, Inc. letter dated March 8, 1999, provided the convention commission with the written verification of the $50,000 available, in the corporation’s name, to underwrite the financial requirements of the national convention. The American Legion Policy and Procedures for National Convention Corporations stipulates that this must be reported to the national convention commission at least one year in advance of the corporation’s convention.

Charges were made to our Request For Proposal document which will require the city awarded a national convention to advertise a minimum of four times with our American Legion Magazine during the year preceding their national convention. This generates additional revenue for our magazine and allows the city more exposure to our Legionnaires.

Amendments were made to the Policy and Procedures For National Convention Corporations providing explicit guidance to all parties involved in the successful conduct of a national convention. These procedures, which will be implemented immediately, clarify the obligations and promote sound fiscal procedures for the convention corporation and the national organization.

Additional discussion was held concerning registration procedures during the National Convention. The National Convention Commission will implement procedures, with the approval of Resolution No. 25, at the 1999 National Convention that will make registration badges mandatory for entrance into all venues, including shuttle services, for The American Legion National Convention.

Dates for future National Conventions are:

Anaheim, Calif. September 3 - 9, 1999

Milwaukee, Wis. September 1 - 7, 2000

San Antonio, Texas August 24 - 30, 2001

Charlotte, N.C. August 23 - 29, 2002

St. Louis, Mo. August 22 - 28, 2003

Addendum: Dates and Events

Events/Meetings/Dates National Convention, Nashville, Tenn. August 27 - September 2, 2004

Distinguished Guests Committee

George G. Sinopoli (Calif.), Chairman

The Distinguished Guests Committee exists under the umbrella of the National Convention Commission. Responsibilities include the coordination of activities of all persons invited to attend our convention as distinguished guests. The committee arranges each guest’s arrival and departure at the convention. Each distinguished guest is also assisted with credentials, agendas and other details of the convention.

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc.

U.S. "Huey" Grant (Kov.), President

William A. Peake (N.C.), Executive Secretary

In 1954 The American Legion allowed the separate incorporation of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Since then, the Foundation has granted over $5 million to non-profit youth-oriented organizations. Grants are awarded solely based on the following two purposes:

To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth through the dissemination of knowledge about new and innovative organizations and/or their programs designed to benefit youth; and to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth through the dissemination of knowledge already possessed by well-established organizations, to the extent that such information can be more adequately used by society.

In October of 1998, the Board of Directors approved grants to 23 non-profit organizations in the amount of $779,450 for projects to be completed in 1999. They are:

Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation of New Orleans, La. $7,000 for their project “Radiation Therapy Coloring Book for Children with Cancer”
APHS – American Pseudo-obstruction & Hirschsprung’s Disease Society of Manchester, Mo.
$15,000 for their project “APHS – Community Outreach Program.”

ChildrenAwaitingParents, Inc. of Rochester, N.Y.
$25,000 for their project “Families for America’s Waiting Children.”

Children’sExpressFoundation, Inc. of Washington D.C.
$8,000 for their project “Children’s Express: Child Health Radio Program.”

Children’sHAVENandAdultCommunityServices, Inc. of SanSlo, Fla.
$10,200 for their project “Targeted Nutritional Intervention for Down Syndrome.”

Children’sMedicalCenter of Dallas, Texas.
$7,500 for their project “Anticipating & Understanding the Long-Term Effects of Radiation and Chemotherapy in Survivors of Childhood Brain Tumors.”

EriksonInstituteforAdvancedStudyinChildDevelopment of Chicago, Ill.
$24,000 for their project entitled “Help for Children Growing up with Violence.”

GlaucomaResearchFoundation of SanFrancisco, Calif.
$15,100 for their project entitled “Protecting Sight, Supporting Families: The Childhood Glaucoma Booklet.”

GoldenrodsCommunityServices of Wisner, Neb.
$1,400 for their project entitled “Goldenrods Hills Gazette.”

GuardiansofHydrocephalusResearchFoundationofBrooklyn, N.Y.
$35,000 for their project “HYDROCEPHALUS – a better understanding.”

HealthyMothersHealthyBabysofCentralMontana of Lewistown, Mont.
$750 for their project “Baby Changing Stations of Dad’s Restrooms.”

JuvenileDiabetesFoundation of LosAngeles, Calif.
$15,400 for their project “My Best Friend Has Diabetes.”

Michael’sHouse, A Center for GrievingChildren of ChagrinFalls, Ohio.
$22,000 for their project “Supporting Grieving Children Video.”

MercyMedicalAirlift of Manssas, Va.
$15,500 for their project “Medical System Awareness – Child Charitable Medical Air Transportation.”

NationalCrimePreventionCouncil of Washington, D.C.
$20,000 for their project “A Tool Kit for Safe Teens: Tools Communities Can Use To Prevent Youth Violence.”

OunceofPreventionFund of Chicago, Ill.
$24,800 for their project “Safer Start Publication and Distribution.”

PittsburghVisionServices of Pittsburgh, Pa.
$3,000 for their project “Pre-school Vision Screening Book.”

ProjectOZofBloomington, Ill.
$25,500 for their project “Best Practices: Violence Prevention for High School.”

TheAmericanLegionDepartmentofKansas of Topeka, Kan.
$24,000 for their entitled “Drug Free American Ruler Bookmark.”

TheCandlelightersChildhoodCancerFoundation of Bethesda, Md.
$15,000 for their project “The Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation’s annual newsletter.”

TheNationalExchangeClubFoundation for thePreventionofChildAbuse of Toledo, Ohio.
$15,000 for their project “National Shaken Baby Syndrome Educational Campaign.”

THINKFIRSTFoundation of Park Ridge, Ill.
$25,000 for their project “THINK FIRST for KIDS.”

TheFoundationFightingBlindness of Hun Valley, Md.
$25,000 for their project “The Fighting Blindness News.”

I am happy to report that during 1998, donations exceeded $435,000 with more than $176,000 of that amount coming from the Sons of The American Legion.

Members of The American Legion family are the primary contributors to the success and growth of our Foundation. Each member and local organization is encouraged to make an annual contribution in support of the Foundation. Your support allows the Foundation to continue funding projects which improve the quality of life for our nation’s children. It is important to remember every dollar given to the Foundation is used for grants that assist our young people.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation held in Indianapolis on May 2, 1999, the following officers were elected:

U.S. “Udle” Grant of Kansas (President);
James P. Holley of Texas (Vice President);
Kenneth D. Danilson of Iowa (Secretary); and
Robert Turner of Georgia (Treasurer).

Administrative personnel who were appointed by the Board of Directors were:
George A. Biskirk Jr. (Assistant Treasurer) and
William A. Pease (Executive Secretary).

Under the 1969 Tax Reform Act, the Foundation retains its tax exempt status. Gifts, therefore, are deductible for federal income tax purposes to the extent permitted by law, and bequests to the Foundation are deductible for federal inheritance tax purposes to the extent permitted by the Federal Tax Act.

John A. Briesen III (Illinois),
Chairman

James B. Hubbard (Michigan),
Director

The National Economic Commission and its two standing committees on Employment and Veterans’ Preference are responsible for ensuring that America’s veterans have the opportunity to provide, with honor and dignity, the economic necessities of life for themselves and their families. In order to achieve this goal, the commission and its committees work closely with such governmental agencies as the Department of Labor, the Office of Personnel Management, the Small Business Administration, and the Loan Guaranty and Vocational Rehabilitation services of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The National Economic Commission is pleased to report that the study completed in 1997 by The American Legion has resulted in some additional activity in the area of credentialing. That study identified all of the career possibilities in the areas of aircraft maintenance and repair and health care related fields. In each case former service members received formal military training and in each case a license or certificate is required to work in that career field in civilian life.

The Commission on Service members’ and Veterans’ Transition Assistance funded a study which identified all of the professionals in the civilian workforce which require a license or certificate and for which the military provides training. The Veterans’ Employment and Training Service funded a Federal Agency Task Force which is examining how each of the agencies can evaluate and then recognize the military training so as to allow credit for such training toward the license or certificate required by that agency. The Task Force has issued an interim report.

The Benefits Subcommittee of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs held a hearing on the Subject June, 1999. Resolution of this non-recognition of military training by civilian credentialing authorities will provide a more seamless transition for about 85,000-90,000 separating service people annually since the adjournment of the last National Convention, the National Economic
Commission and its committees have met on three occasions.

**Fall 1998 National Executive Committee Meeting**

The National Economic Commission met in the conference room of the National Headquarters on October 14-15, 1998, to consider seven resolutions and to conduct other business as warranted. The first resolution dealt with the issue of transfer of military skills into the civilian economy and the acceptance of military training and experience by civilian credentialing bodies.

The second resolution addressed obsolete policy resolutions.

The third resolution reiterated a policy resolution from 1961 which encourages the full use of Post Employment volunteer personnel in finding jobs for veterans.

The fourth resolution supported an amendment to federal tax statutes to allow favorable treatment for taxes in five states which sell mortgage bonds to finance home mortgage loans to veterans.

The fifth resolution dealt with the subject of veterans' preference in hiring for state civil service positions.

The above listed resolutions were all recommended for adoption by the NEC. Two additional resolutions were recommended for rejection.

The balance of the meeting was used for a legislative update on §1021, the veterans preference legislation; a discussion of the recommendations of the Commission on Servicemembers' and Veterans' Transition Assistance; and proposed speakers for the 1999 Washington Conference. A discussion was also held on a proposed mission statement for the National Economic Commission and its Committees on Employment and Veterans Preference, as requested by the National Commander.

**1999 Washington Conference**

In conjunction with the 39th Washington Conference, the National Economic Commission met on Monday, March 22, to hear speakers on various subjects of interest to the Commission.

The first speaker was Al Borrego, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training, who gave an overview of the work of the Veterans Employment and Training Service over the past year, and of the work of the Committee on Servicemembers' and Veterans' Transition Assistance.

Shirley Wilcher of the Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs gave an overview of that office's activities.

Karen Jacobs of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management reviewed the provisions of the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998, which was signed into law October 31, 1998.

Brian Feucht, Chief Information Officer of Hire Quality, reviewed the progress of that firm's partnership with The American Legion.

Kenneth Yancey of SCORE (Senior Corps of Retired Executives) briefed the audience on the history and activities of that organization, which is sponsored by the Small Business Administration for the assistance and encouragement of entrepreneurs, including veterans.

During the Washington Conference, the awards subcommittee met to review all the 1998 nominations in the Employer of the Year and Employment Service awards programs. The winning employers this year are Georgia-Pacific, Plywood, of Crossett, Ariz.; Computer Sciences Corporation, of Clearfield, Utah; and Jacob's Construction, of Lemont, Ill., Employment Service winners are Max Niesar, IVIR, of Minot, N.D.; Robert E. Loter, DVO, of Des Moines, Iowa; and Fayetteville Joblink Career Center, Fayetteville, N.C.

The whole commission met at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 24, to conduct a business session and consider the awards subcommittee's report. The report was approved as read. The commission's director, James Hubbard, briefed the commission on the activities of the staff during the time since its last meeting. The commission's current main concerns are the census credentialing and veterans preference.

**Spring 1999 NEC Meeting**

Members of the National Economic Commission and its two committees met to executive session on May 3-4 to consider ten resolutions for action by the National Executive Committee. The first resolution calls for revisions of existing Veterans Employment and Training Service performance standards that will reflect outcome measures. It also supports creation of an incentive awards program for states that meet or exceed the requirements of Chapter 41 of Title 38, United States Code.

The second resolution calls on the organization to oppose any legislative proposal to eliminate the existing two-year state residency requirement for Directors and Assistant Directors of the Veterans Employment and Training Service.

The third Resolution of Military Service and Pay When Calculating Starting Federal Civilian Salaries, mandates The American Legion to support legislation that will require federal agencies to consider a veteran's military experience and military pay history, when calculating that person's starting civilian salary in federal government.

The fourth resolution calls on the organization to seek legislation that will provide a tax credit for employers who pay employees who are activated either on their regular civilian salary or the difference between that person's military pay and their regular civilian salary.

The fifth, VA Home Warranty Rules, mandates The American Legion to oppose a possible attempt by the Department of Veterans Affairs to reduce warranties on new homes from 10 years to one year.

The sixth resolution reaffirms The Legion's commitment to assisting homeless veterans and their families.

The seventh, Support of America's Older Workers, reaffirms The American Legion's long-standing support of older workers and programs that benefit them.

The eighth resolution recommends changing the date of National Employ the Older Worker Week from the second full week in March to the last full week in September. This will allow for improved coordination with federal agencies and private sector organizations that promote this observance.

The ninth resolution recommends continuation of the Legion's partnership with Hire Quality. After approval, this resolution was referred to the Internal Affairs Commission for its concurrence.

The tenth resolution authorizes The American Legion to support legislation and/or administrative proposals that will ensure that veterans receive the entrepreneurial assistance they deserve from the Small Business Administration.

During the balance of the meeting, the members discussed possible speakers for the National Economic Commission's portion of the 79th Annual National Convention. Staff members also provided a briefing on their activities since the Washington Conference.

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**Condensed Report On National Emblem Sales Division**

Keith H. Gwinn (Utah), Chairman

Jeffrey O. Brown (Ind.), Director

The American Legion emblem is the exclusive property of the National Headquarters. The sale of the emblem, emblem pins, merchandise carrying the emblem and other items of organizational equipment is the responsibility of the National Headquarters in Indianapolis. The following tables show gross sales, net earnings, etc., for the entire calendar year 1998 and for the first three months of 1999.
The American Legion 1999 National Convention

January 1 to December 31, 1998 (12 months)
Gross Sales $5,129,972
Cost of Goods Sold 4,788,577
Overhead 2,572,594
Operating Profit 818,801
Total number of 1998 orders processed was 94,837.

January 1 to March 31, 1999 (3 months)
Gross Sales $1,722,631
Cost of Goods Sold 944,726
Overhead 556,316
Operating Profit 229,899
Total orders processed for first 3 months of 1999 was 17,925.

Foreign Relations Commission

William Bishop (Alaska)
Chairman
G. Michael Schlee (Md.)
Director

The primary goal of our Commission activities is to achieve an effective, bipartisan American foreign policy to confront the challenges of the post-cold war period and to promote American interests worldwide. This objective is similar to the stated purpose of U.S. foreign policy, namely, to create a more secure, prosperous, and democratic world for the benefit of the American people. During the last year, the Foreign Relations Commission worked diligently to implement our extensive portfolio of resolutions which will promote democracy around the world and protect vital U.S. interests.

Accounting for American POWs/MIA

Achieving the fullest possible accounting for Americans listed as prisoners or missing in action is a principal goal of the commission and the policies adopted by the national convention. In our constant effort to prod the U.S. Government to achieve that goal, we have conducted a variety of activities. Some of the highlights are: trip to and meetings in Vietnam in December 1997 by National Commander Anthony Jordan; fact finding missions to North Korea in October 1997 by a Legion representative; numerous meetings with the Defense Prisoner/Missing Personnel Office and the National Security Council in Washington, D.C.; serving as the implementation body for the Special POW/MIA Committee chaired by Bob Turner; and coordinating POW/MIA updates at the 79th National Convention and the 1998 Washington Conference.

Missing Service Persons Legislation

As part of the Fiscal Year 1998 Defense Authorization Bill, 20 corrective amendments were made to Section 76, Title 10, USC. These provisions are concrete steps toward better protecting U.S. citizens who become missing during war and other operations; providing increased rigor in the process for remains identification; providing a more robust review for "pre-enactment cases" from the Korea, Cold War and Vietnam era; and increasing the effectiveness of the accounting process, as well as the opportunity for family and next-of-kin involvement in that process.

Enlarging NATO

The American Legion fully supported the enlargement of NATO to include the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary by the action of two consecutive National Conventions. On April 30, the U.S. Senate approved the treaty by a vote of 80-19. Based upon resolutions of the 78th and 79th Conventions, The American Legion testified in support of this expansion before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in November 1997. An important provision was also adopted by the Senate which preconditions this treaty on the fullest cooperation by the three new entrants in providing POW/MIA information and cooperation.

Meetings of the Commission

Three meetings of the commission were held since the conclusion of the 79th Convention. The commission met in conjunction with the National Executive Committee meetings in October 1997 and May 1998 in Indianapolis. The most extensive session for the commission was held at the Washington Conference, March 22-25. The highlights of the conference follow.

1998 Washington Conference

On March 23, The Foreign Relations and National Security Committees met in a joint session. Frank Gaffney, Director of the Center for Security Policy, addressed the emerging threat posed by the People's Republic of China. Inherent in these actual and potential threats are the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, information warfare, as well as Red Chinese commercial initiatives in the United States and Panama.

Edmund J. Hull, from the State Department, spoke on the topics of peacekeeping and United Nations reform. Peacekeeping operations have become an inherent part of the United States national strategy and,
for the most part, they have served our national security and foreign policy interests. There are currently some 15 United States peacekeeping operations which employ nearly 15,000 personnel abroad. Only about five percent of the total peacekeeping operations are American.

Charles Barry Smith, Supervisory Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, explained the immediate need for legislation to address the law enforcement and national security concerns regarding commercial encryption products. The potential use of such encrypted products by terrorists or criminals to conceal criminal communications and information poses a serious threat to public safety and national security.

At the afternoon session, the Foreign Relations and National Security Commission met in joint session to attend the POW/MIA update presented by the Special POW/MIA Committee and moderated by Chairman Robert S. Turner.

Brig. Gen. Terry L. Tucker, Commanding General of the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting in Hawaii, began his presentation by reviewing the mission statement of the Joint Task Force, which is to conduct recovery operations and analysis in pursuit of the fullest possible accounting of American personnel missing in action in Southeast Asia.

Gower Joseph Rees, Staff Director and Chief Counsel of the International Operations and Human Rights Subcommittee of the House International Relations Committee, addressed current human rights and refugee issues pertaining to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. He emphasized the president’s waiver of the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, which would have led to trade restrictions for communist countries, like Vietnam, that limit access to education. North Vietnam’s record on human rights remains abysmal. Unfortunately, despite the lifting of the trade embargo and the normalization of diplomatic relations, there has been no appreciable improvement.

Col. Charles S. Ciccolina (Ret.), formerly an Assistant Director for Foreign Relations in the American Legion’s Washington Office, presented an oral report of his trip to North Korea in mid-October 1997 to visit the site of ongoing joint recovery operations. Ciccolina was a member of a small group of American veterans and Korean War family organization officials who were invited to witness the third joint recovery operation being held this year. The whereabouts or remains of some 8,100 soldiers from the Korean War were never determined or accounted for.

The commission conducted a business session on Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. While no resolutions were properly brought before the group, a variety of issues were discussed. Updates were provided on NATO enlargement, foreign policy strategy for the new century and POW/MIA issues. In the latter area, extensive information was provided on the Jackson-Vanik waiver by the president, missing persons legislation and future actions. The United Nations including U.S. arrears and State Department resource financial projects were also discussed.
Executive Committee in 1939 authorized this Committee to study and make proper recommendations concerning all of the matters that pertain to the Constitution and By-laws, as well as matters relating to the Uniform Code of Procedure, which provides rules and regulations for the Revocation, Cancellation, or Suspension of Department and Post Charters of The American Legion.

National Information Conferences

Plan now to attend one of this fall’s or next spring’s conferences, especially designed with you in mind. The schedule for the series of eight weekend conferences around the country is listed below. For more information about these fundamental and important conferences for current and potential leaders, contact your Department office for a brochure. Members of every Post, Unit or Squadron are encouraged to attend one of the conferences.

Attendance is one of the best ways to build and maintain a strong, productive organization by having a membership that is well-informed about issues, objectives, programs and initiatives. It’s important to have a mix of first-time attendees, plus a like number of members who’ve already attended one, two, or many past conferences. The combination of the new and the old is the bridge from the past to the future.

The following information outlines the fall 1999 schedule, and the dates and locations for the 2000 conferences.

1999 CONFERENCES

September 24-26, 1999
Region 4 – Lafayette, La.
Lafayette Hilton & Towers
1521 West Pinhook Road
P.O. Box 52286
Lafayette, La. 70505-2286
$75 – Single or double occupancy + taxes.
September 9 – Reservations cut-off date.
Call (800) 332-2586.

September 24-26, 1999
Region 7 – Las Vegas, Nev.
Riviera Hotel & Casino
2901 Las Vegas Blvd. South
Las Vegas, NV 89109
$70 – Single or double occupancy + taxes.
$20 – Additional person.
September 1 – Reservations cut-off date.
Call (800) 654-6753 or (702) 794-9412.

October 1-3, 1999
Region 3 – Huntsville, Ala.
Huntsville Hilton Hotel
401 Williams Ave.
Huntsville, AL 35801
$81 – Single or double occupancy + taxes.
August 30 – Reservations cut-off date.
Call (256) 533-1490 or (800) HILTONS.

October 1-3, 1999
Region 5 – Evansville, Ind.
Radisson Hotel
600 Walnut Street
Evansville, IN 47708
$69 – Single or double occupancy + taxes.
August 30 – Reservations cut-off date.
Call (812) 424-8000.

2000 CONFERENCES

Region 1 – Burlington, Vt.
April 7-9
Region 2 – Charleston, W.Va.
Mar 31-Apr 2
Region 3 – Nashville, Tenn.
Sep 29-Oct 1
Region 4 – Texas
Oct 68
Region 5 – Toledo, Ohio
Oct 68
Region 6 – Sioux Falls, S.D.
Apr 7-9
Region 7 – Las Vegas, Nev.
Sep 29-Oct 1
Region 8 – Oregon
Mar 31-Apr 2
* City to be announced later

The Sons of The American Legion

The Sons of The American Legion will conduct its 28th National Convention at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel in Anaheim, Calif. For the 29th consecutive year, the Sons of The American Legion is at an “All Time High” in membership. The S.A.L. closed its membership at the end of 1998 with a record 211,256 members. This number represents a 5 percent increase over the previous year.

Membership figures for the 1999 year are exceeding the figures for this same period last year. By the National Convention in Anaheim, the S.A.L. will have surpassed the 1998 final figures, giving them another “All Time High” in membership.

The S.A.L. continues its support of American Legion programs and is heavily involved with the Citizens Flag Alliance in support of a constitutional amendment to protect our flag. The S.A.L. continues its support of our nation’s veterans in the V.A.S program. In 1998, the S.A.L. provided over 155,577 volunteer hours in VA homes and hospitals. Donations in cash and goods to these veterans exceeded $649,275 nationwide. The S.A.L. also raised over $167,473 this year for the Child Welfare Foundation surpassing all previous years. They also provided several grants through the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. This year the Sons have given well over the $1 million mark in donations to the Child Welfare Foundation since its initial involvement with the Foundation in 1988.

An integral part of The American Legion family, the Sons continue to serve and provide assistance to Posts and their communities.

National Emergency Fund

There is some good news so far this year in what is perhaps the most vivid example we have of veterans helping veterans and their families in need. Last year grants totaling $376,350 went to 474 individuals and 13 Posts. Most of those grants came from those areas that were ravaged by the floods in Texas and California and tornado damage in Georgia, Florida, Minnesota and Alabama. As of this writing, over $50,000 in grants have been awarded. We are fortunate our comrades have experienced very few disasters, thus far. That will soon change because of this spring’s massive tornado damage to much of the Midwest. It is expected that numerous grant applications will have been processed by the time this report is in print. So far we have forwarded 25 grant applications to the Department of Ohio, 50 to the Department of Illinois, 100 to the Department of Oklahoma and 25 to the Department of Kansas due to these destructive tornadoes.

Since National Commander Butch Miller’s kick-off of the “Give a Buck” fundraising initiative at the 1998 Fall Convention, Legionnaires and the Legion family have banded together to raise to the occasion. While Commander Miller’s objective of $1 million by the Legion’s birthday hasn’t been met, that shouldn’t slow down the donation emphasis or take away from the hard work at all levels to support this fund. Every opportunity to run local fundraising for the N.E.F. should be encouraged. Some Departments have organized concerted efforts early on and the “ball is rolling” to accomplish the $1 per member challenge while others are just coming on board. We are confident that the more this program is publicized, the more our Legionnaires will soon realize just how simple it is to donate $1 per member to care for our comrades in trouble.

Each and every dollar contributed to this fund is used for the express purpose
of rendering financial assistance to our members who have incurred devastation from wind, rain, fire and earthquakes. Money to support the administrative costs of maintaining this fund and conducting fundraising are absorbed through existing budget areas.

The true beauty of this fund is that our comrades know they can turn to their Legion for immediate financial assistance without any red tape or delays often associated with federal and state agencies. Most importantly, it is given without any repayment necessary. All contributions made to this fund are deposited in a special account and are used exclusively to meet our member's most urgent needs.

The Legion family has to act now! This is a golden opportunity for everyone who wears the Legion cap to continue the National Commander's goal. We should help our fellow comrades in need.

Consolidated Post Reports

The Consolidated Post Report – one of the American Legion’s most valuable documents – is our report card to Congress. It provides a summary of the collective assistance provided to the nation from our Legion Posts. Nearly 54 percent of American Legion Posts submitted reports to National Headquarters for the 1997-1998 year.

The total figures show the cost to outfit Color Guards, Firing Squads and other uniformed groups was $2,558,465. Legion baseball team support cost $7,980,335. Other athletic teams were provided $1,993,955; cash contributions to VA Voluntary Service was $1,795,650 and over 1,258,763 hours of volunteer service were provided: 62,868 Boy Scouts were sponsored at a cost of $1,481,691; scholarships valued at $3,514,117 were awarded to 8,418 students.

In addition, 3,527,835 hours were spent performing community service work, valued at $5,566,741; nearly 99,080 pints of blood were donated, and additional millions of dollars in goods and cash were contributed to programs helping veterans and their families.

Remember, these facts and figures represent just over half of all American Legion Posts; if all Posts submitted a report, the information would reflect substantially higher totals.

Paid-Up-For-Life Program

Each summer, when The American Legion prints and distributes membership cards for the coming year, there is an increasing number of Legionnaires who will receive a special card: These are the members whose dues are already paid for the coming year and for every year thereafter as long as they live. They are Legionnaires who have voluntarily chosen to become Paid-Up-For-Life members under the National plan. The number of Legionnaires that have applied for a lifetime membership since the beginning of the program 20 years ago is over 200,000.

Must Be In Good Standing - A Legionnaire must be in good standing to become a Paid-Up-For-Life member. To be in good standing, the member must have a valid membership card for the current year.

Most Buy At Dues-Paying Time - The average Legionnaire is most apt to decide to become a Paid-Up-For-Life member at the time when dues are paid for the coming year.

Post Commanders Adjutants and membership workers are asked to make sure their members know that with one payment they can take care of dues for all future years.

Not A Discount Membership - The National Constitution & By-Laws of The American Legion is very clear that "there shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership, and dues shall be paid annually or for life." Everyone must pay their fair share to support the organization. The National Paid-Up-For-Life plan was established for convenience only giving members an alternative to paying dues on an annual basis.

Post Receives Dues Portion Annually - Part of the total dues now being retained by the Post will be returned every year for all Paid-Up-For-Life members.

Many Posts are purchasing Paid-Up-For-Life membership for their long-time members, and in calculating the cost to remit, they may leave out their share of the dues...this will reduce the amount to submit with the application.

Membership Card - Each Paid-Up-For-Life member receives a permanent plastic card, as well as an annual paper membership card, directly from National, to verify continuing membership in The American Legion. The annual card will be mailed in July of each year.

Upon request, a replacement plastic or paper card can be provided at no additional charge to the Paid-Up-For-Life member.

Cost - The cost of a Paid-Up-For-Life membership is based on the member's age at the time of application and the current annual dues of the Post; an applicant may pay by check, MasterCard or VISA.

Time Payment Plan Members of The American Legion may use the Time Payment Plan to purchase a National Paid-Up-For-Life membership. No interest and no service charge will be added to the fee. The time payment plan instructions/established rules for application include: 1) The member must be in good standing. This means the member must have a paid membership card for the current Legion year.
The American Legion 1999 National Convention

The DMS Program will continue to support The American Legion’s ongoing membership efforts with special emphasis on the retention of all members.

The American Legion Life Insurance Committee

Steve A. George (Minn.),
Chairman

G. Paul Duen (Okla.),
Member Benefits Administrator

The American Legion Insurance Committee provides oversight for the several insurance plans currently offered by The American Legion and is assigned to the National Finance Commission. The American Legion Life Insurance Program supports several National programs which are among the most prominent and visible activities of The American Legion. The programs are listed below with the corresponding funding for 1999:

American Legion Baseball $625,688
National Oratorio Contest $273,887
Junior Uniformed Musical Groups $27,000
National Press Convention $139,925
Boy Scout of the Year Scholarship Award $14,000

these requests for grants are approved by The American Legion Insurance Committee, the National Finance Commission and National Executive Committee.

Level Term Life Plan
The American Legion currently offers a Level Term Plan to members, their spouses and dependents. This includes the Sons of The American Legion members and spouses. The Legion-approved Level Term Life Plan is underwritten by Hartford Life Insurance Company. The Administrator for the plan is Kirke-Van Orsdel, Inc., located in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Modern Vets
The American Legion has recently approved a new life insurance plan which is also underwritten by Hartford Life Insurance Company. This plan is designed specifically for members separating or retiring from the military. If you are a member of The American Legion, under age 40, live in the U.S., and have separated from the military in the last 12 months, you are eligible. The Legion Life Modern Vets Plan is a life insurance plan that picks up where your military coverage ends for about half the cost of Veterans Group Life Insurance.

LegionPlus Tricare/CHAMPUS Supplement
The American Legion has approved a National Tricare/CHAMPUS Supplement Program for active duty and retired military members and dependents. This program is designed to meet the needs of active duty and retired military members who may be referred to civilian facilities for care. It includes an active duty and retired version.

Requests for information on the Level Term Life Plan, Modern Vets Plan or the Tricare/CHAMPUS Supplement Plan, should be directed to the Administrator, Kirke-Van Orsdel, Inc., 1776 West Lakes Parkway, West Des Moines, IA 50308: (800) 542-5547.

Birthday Life
Another plan available to members and spouses is Birthday Life, underwritten and administered by Union Fidelity Life Insurance Company located in Trevose, Pa. This plan is a guaranteed-issue, whole life plan combined with accidental death insurance, with premiums at entry age which do not increase as the insured grows older. No medical exam is required.

The plan provides a limited death benefit for the first two years, for death from natural causes and provides full benefits during that period for accidental deaths. Full benefits in any event are payable after two years.

Requests for information on the Birthday Life Plan should be directed to the Administrator, Union Fidelity Life Insurance Co., 3850 Street Rd., Trevose, PA 19049; (800) 523-5758.

Healthcare
The National Organization has several healthcare products which are offered to Departments on an individual basis, as requested. Departments must approve the products by a vote of their Department Executive Committee and certify the approval to the National Adjutant. Departments may or may not approve all plans offered. Upon approval by a Department, appropriate announcements will be made to the membership. The National Health Insurance Program now has six Departments who have approved participation: Illinois, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and South Carolina.

The plan provides a limited death benefit for the first two years, for death from natural causes and provides full benefits during that period for accidental deaths. Full benefits in any event are payable after two years.

Requests for information on the Birthday Life Plan should be directed to the Admin-

isor, Union Fidelity Life Insurance Co., 3850 Street Rd., Trevose, PA 19049; (800) 523-5758.

Membership And Post Activities Committee

Kenneth Sorocchi (Maine),
Chairman

Billy R. Johnsen (Ark.),
Managing Director

Membership and programs go hand-in-hand to make The American Legion one organization able to provide the people and resources to serve the need of the veteran and his/her family. Your Membership and Post Activities Committee is pleased to report a continuing membership of nearly 29 million members worldwide.

Membership
1997 2,831,819
1998 2,806,854
1999 2,806,000* (as of Aug. 1)

*Estimate

The year-end membership should equal the 1998 final membership.

36th Annual National Membership Workshop
The 36th annual membership meeting was held in Indianapolis, on Friday, July 24, 1998 with over 400 Department and District officers in attendance from nearly all of the 55 Departments.

Many of those attending arrived in Indianapolis with a very good understanding of the membership program, especially as it pertains to their areas. But, by the time the workshop concludes they are prepared to face the day-to-day membership challenges with a better understanding of The American Legion as it relates to potential members.

The goal of this workshop is to provide these essential membership workers with the tools knowledge and desire to grow the membership in The American Legion. The continuing theme of "Still Serving America" remains the battle cry for not only the membership program, but permeates throughout the programs of organization. Whether it is membership recruitment or program implementation - it is all about veterans helping veterans and providing communities the essential programs to maintain a quality of life for which all veterans fought and served to preserve.
New Post Development/Revitalization Program
The Membership and Post Activities Committee developed a training program in January 1996 designed to assist Posts, Districts and Departments in developing and revitalizing posts. The program provides training workshops to interested volunteers along with practical field application. A total of 21 Departments has received assistance from this effort.

The success of the program is evident, based on the revitalization/development of 140 American Legion Posts. This adds up to a total of 6,100 new, renewed and transferred members. Many of the Departments have been successful in this program without any actual assistance from National Staff. Whether a Department requests field assistance or just the training workshop, if the guidelines are followed there will be success.

All the Departments are encouraged to participate in this program. The program, however, requires a commitment from every level of leadership. If it is to be successful, if you are interested in receiving additional information regarding the New Post Development/Revitalization program, contact your Department or write or call:

The American Legion, Membership Division, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206, or call (317) 630-1200 and ask for the Membership Division.

Membership Campaign Promotion
The National Membership Awards Program distributes over 65,000 various awards annually to recognize membership accomplishments at all levels of the organization. The promotion plan for the National Membership Campaign is formulated during the annual planning session of the M&P Committee held in Indianapolis in January.

Unofficial Membership Awards – 1999
Contained within this extensive program are a wide variety of prizes ranging from simple certificates and ribbons to valuable gifts and travel. The awards are designed to reward the membership success of dedicated Legionnaires at all levels of the organization and encourage continued growth. Get active in membership recruiting, ask a veteran to join our ranks today you'll be glad you did - and you can earn one of the many prizes and awards listed below. Contact your Department's Membership Chairman for more information.

Early Bird Contest - August 12, 1998:
Thirty-one Departments qualified for the 35 percent awards. They are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

Autumn Festival - September 10, 1998:
Forty-eight Departments qualified for the 45 percent awards with 30 of them qualifying for the 50 percent bonus awards. They are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

Oktoberfest - October 14, 1998:
Forty-six Departments qualified for the 55 percent awards with 17 of them qualifying for the 60 percent bonus awards. They are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

Pearl Harbor - December 9, 1998:
Thirty-seven Departments qualified for the 75 percent awards with four of them qualifying for the 80 percent bonus awards. They are: Alaska, California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

Big Twelve Competition – February 10, 1999:
Twelve Departments qualified for the 90 percent awards with zero qualifying for the 95 percent bonus awards. They are: Alaska, Delaware, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin.

*Big Twelve* Competition Winners:

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Category IV</td>
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The American Legion Birthday - April 14, 1999: Twenty-four Departments qualified for the 95 percent award. They are: Alaska, Arizona, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin.

May Day – May 12, 1999: By achieving 100 percent of the Department's 1999 membership goal, winning Department Commanders and Membership Chairmen have a choice of several gifts available, based on the number of targets/bonuses made during the year. The 100 percent Department's are: To be determined.

Department Commander of the Year: Any Department Commander who met or exceeded his/her 100 percent goal for 1999 by May 12, 1999, received a plaque recognizing his/her achievement. The plaque will be presented at the National Convention in Anaheim.

Geld Brigade Recruiter Award: A Legionnaire who recruited 50 or more new members by District Competition target date, May 12, 1999, qualified for enrollment in the elite Gold Brigade of The American Legion.

Geld Brigade Drawing: All certified members of the Gold Brigade will automatically be entered in a drawing with the five winners to be announced at the 1999 National Convention in Anaheim. The five winners of the drawing will receive a $1,000 Award Certificate.

Flag Day – June 9, 1999: By achieving 110 percent of the Department’s 1999 membership goal, the Department Commander and Membership Chairman will receive a $1,500 gift certificate. Each Department that qualifies for this award will also receive the 110 percent National Commander’s Plaque, to be presented at the National Convention in Anaheim.

Delegate Strength - August 10, 1999: Delegate Strength is determined by the membership in the hands of the National Treasurer 30 days prior to the National Convention. Total number of delegates for each Department is based on five delegates at large, one delegate for each 1,000 members or major fraction thereof, and the members of the National Executive Committee.

Post Honor Ribbons: Post Honor Ribbons were shipped to 1,831 Posts whose 1999 membership as of December 31, 1998 exceeded their final 1998 membership.

Certificate of Meritorious Service: These certificates were awarded for 167 Posts for attaining a new All-Time High membership for 1999 by December 31, 1998.
The American Legion Magazine

Milford Forrestor, (C.C.)
Chairman
R. Richard McTarn, (Wis.)
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

As we move through 1999, the overall budget of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE is exceeding expectations, showing a surplus of $1,205,536 at the end of June. That's $107,446 over the expected surplus of $1,098,092. Through June, subscription revenue is 5.52 percent below the budgeted amount. Although we have a better-than-expected surplus, advertising revenue is behind projections for the first five months.

We enjoyed decreases in paper prices in the early part of the year but the second half will see increases in costs. We are trimming operating costs where possible to offset lower ad sales, projected higher paper costs, and the double-digit postage increases we have experienced in the past year.

Paper. Beginning with the July 1999 issue, we were paying some $6 less per cwt for body paper than we were a year ago. However, we received notice that prices will rise nearly $2 with the October issue.

Postage. We absorbed an approximate 11 percent increase in postage in the past year. No further increases are anticipated this year. Additionally, our printer, R.R. Donnelley, has increased the number of direct postal entry points, mitigating the impact of the postage price increases.

Advertising. Projected revenue for 1999 is

The American Legion 1999 National Convention

Five Consecutive Years All-Time High: These citations are awarded to Posts with fire or more consecutive years of All-Time High membership in 1999.

District Commanders “Race to the Top”: District Commanders are the lynch pin of The American Legion’s Chain of Command, serving as the vital link between the National and Department organizations and all Posts. As we are all aware, the local Post is where the “rubber meets the road.” If it doesn’t happen at the Post level — it doesn’t happen at all. District Commanders are the people charged with insuring that all Posts in their District maintain their vitality. Consequently, this unique award was created to provide a meaningful incentive for the District Commanders and reward their successful membership efforts. The winning District Commander and guest receive: Reserved tickets to the Indianapolis 500, “the greatest spectacle in racing.” First class hotel accommodations for four nights at the Indianapolis Radisson Hotel; reserved seating for the Indianapolis 500 parade; dinner reservations Friday and Saturday evening at two of Indianapolis’ finest restaurants; Tour of the National Headquarters of The American Legion.

Previous winners have reported how much they enjoyed their opportunity to participate in this world renowned racing event and that they have fond memories that will last a lifetime.

The following provides more specific information on how you can win. District Commanders “Race To The Top”: Competition will be divided into five categories based on the membership of the District without regard to geographic locations. District Commanders will compete in each of the following categories based on the final 1998 totals, and a top District Commander for the National award will be selected from each of the five categories.

First and third place awards will also be presented in each category.

District Commander New Post Achievement Award Recipients

District Commanders who achieve the goal of creating new American Legion Posts in their respective District and have the new Post’s Temporary Charter Application on file in National Headquarters by the Target Date May 12, 1999, qualified for a special recognition plaque.

Department Recruiter of the Year: Each American Legion Post had the opportunity to submit the name of the “Top Recruiter” for that Post who had signed up the highest number of new members for the 1999 membership year. May 12, 1999. Department Adjutants determined the Top New Member Recruiter for their respective Department and certified their “Department Recruiter" to National Headquarters on or before May 20, 1999.

The “Department Recruiter” properly certified from each Department, will be awarded a Plaque with his/her accomplishment inscribed thereon.

National Recruiter of the Year: The individual with the highest number of new members recruited from among all the Departments will be declared "National Recruiter of the Year." The winner of this award will receive an all expense paid trip to the 1999 National Convention in Anchorage.

Districts of 15 to 1,499 members

District II - Districts of 1,500 to 2,999 members

District III - Districts of 3,000 to 4,999 members

District IV - Districts of 5,000 to 7,499 members

District V - Districts of 7,500 and above members

The Indy 500 trip will be presented to the Top District Commander and spouse in each category whose District membership for 1999 on March 31, 1999, represents the greatest percentage over the final 1998 membership of the District. Cannot be less than 100 percent to qualify. First Place Award entitles you and your guest to attend the 1999 Indianapolis 500 Race, and first-class hotel accommodations.

Second Place awards will be presented to the District Commander in each category whose District membership for 1999 on March 31, 1999 represents the second highest percentage over the final 1998 membership of that District. Cannot be less than 100 percent to qualify. Winners will receive a $500 gift certificate.

Third Place awards will be presented to the District Commander in each category whose District membership for 1999 on March 31, 1999 represents the third highest percentage over the final 1998 membership of that District. Cannot be less than 100 percent to qualify. Winners will receive a $375 gift certificate.

FIRST PLACE WINNERS:

Trip to the Indianapolis 500

Category I – James Walker, Georgia 10.07% Dist. 8

Category II – Robert D. Shales, Pott., Pa. 10.01% Dist. 2

Category III – Dale Neuman, Delaware 10.38% Dist. 4

Category IV – No Winner

Category V – No Winner

SECOND PLACE WINNERS:

Category I – Earl Swenson, Colorado 10.7% Dist. 12

Category II – Nelson Robinson, N. C. 10.02% Dist. 9

Category III – No one qualified

Category IV – No one qualified

Category V – No one qualified

THIRD PLACE WINNERS:

Category I – Gary Thor, Idaho 10.14% Dist. 8

Category II – Ronald Cook, New Jersey 10.75% Dist. 8

Category III – No one qualified

Category IV – No one qualified

Category V – No one qualified
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budgeted for $9.2 million. We ran behind the projected revenue for the first five months (February through June) of 1999. We were budgeted at $3,657,000, but our actual revenue was $3,574,088. We are $82,912 behind. Total ad pages for the first five months were 117.6; we were projected to have 165.48 pages during this period. Even though our page numbers are down, our perpage average revenue is up some 7.7 percent.

Editorial. The magazine has received several national awards for recent articles. The staff garnered 13 awards in the National Magazine Market Awards. The one gold, four silver, four bronze and four merit awards matched the total number of awards won in that contest in the previous three years combined. The magazine has undergone significant design changes this year that have resulted in more color in the publication and the use of more photos.

In January, our profile on JCS Chairman Gen. Hugh Shelton generated a lot of mail, as did J.D. Wetterling's 'Still the Noblest Calling' in May. Syndicated columnist and TV pundit George Anne Geyser wrote a piece about the damage inflicted by Pol Pot in Cambodia, which we ran in our July issue. She wrote articles about Fidel Castro as well as Russia, which appeared in recent issues.

The magazine ran an interview with Tom Brokaw in August. We also had an analysis on Social Security written by syndicated columnist Donald Lambro, and Col. Harry Summers continues to be a frequent contributor His "No More Task Force Smith's" article ran in April and did an excellent job at pointing out how America's military is woefully underfunded. Lambro will also interview Gen. Colin Powell for our November issue. Our September special issue is a retrospective of the 20th century and relies heavily on reader submissions. We received thousands of letters and phone submissions from readers. The issue also includes input from Roger Staubach, Rosemary Clooney and Sen. Richard Lugar, and even one of the rare interviews granted by the late Joe DiMaggio.

The AMERICAN LEGION DISPATCH, the twice-monthly national newspaper of the organization, continues to serve as a vital informational tool for American Legion leaders at all levels. About 16,000 are included on the complimentary subscription list. An additional 5,000 are paid subscribers.

The American Legion Magazine will continue to sound the call for the flag-protecting amendment, for sufficient VA funding, and for the GI Bill of Health. We will also cover legislative attempts to ensure veterans are adequately compensated for illnesses caused by tobacco use in the military.

The magazine commission and staff work in concert to evaluate and implement measures that are cost effective and to ensure the editorial product is relevant. We continue to focus on the philosophical principles of the organization, promoting national defense, veterans' affairs and rehabilitation, families, education, and civic responsibility and awareness.

Management Information Services

Ron Brooks (Tenn.),
Executive Director

THE MIS Division is responsible for many processes critical to the operations of The American Legion. MIS staff plays a key role in the selection of all hardware and software used by National Headquarters staff. MIS determines the hardware to be purchased for employees of National Headquarters and is responsible for troubleshooting and maintaining the equipment. Software support and program modifications are also handled by our staff.

MIS is responsible for the computer system which houses The American Legion's membership database as well as keeping its database updated with changes to the membership: adding new members, renewing existing members, changing addresses of members or changing other membership information. These services are also provided for the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sons of American Legion and the Citizens Flag Alliance.

In conjunction with the membership database capabilities, The American Legion has invested in sophisticated list processing software. The list processing and mailings are done at the lowest cost by: eliminating duplicate names from various lists so that only one item is sent to each addressee; and sorting mail in U.S. Postal Service sequence and printing the address using the USPS barcode to receive the most favorable U.S. Postal Service discounts; and identifying addresses that would not be recognized and thus not delivered by the Postal Service.

The MIS Division is also in the personalized laser printing business. Annual membership cards, membership solicitation letters, renewal notices, return address labels for the Departments' revenue programs, mailing labels for various publications and a variety of letters and fundraising materials are all produced by MIS. These lasers can print up to 450,000 letter-size documents in a day.

The American Legion MIS Division is an integral part of the Marketing Services Group, working closely with the Legion's wholly-owned direct marketing subsidiary, Haynes & Partners Communications, Inc. Many of the services described above are provided to clients of HPC. This type of work allows MIS to generate enough revenue to offset approximately forty percent of its operating expenses.

National Legislative Commission

Charles Pesso (N.Y.),
Chairman
Steve Robertson (la.),
Director

THE PURPOSE of the National Legislative Commission is to promote the legislative mandates of The American Legion before Congress. These mandates are dictated by resolutions adopted at either a National Convention or meetings of the National Executive Committee. Neither the Legislative Commission nor its staff can make policy decisions.

The American Legion's legislative portfolio covers a large spectrum of issues: veterans' healthcare to flag protection to military preparedness to juvenile delinquency prevention to veterans employment to foreign relations. Promoting the Legion's mandates requires oral and written testimony at congressional hearings, writing and mailing thousands of letters, lobbying Congress with countless hours of telephone calls, and meetings involving the commission's staff. The National Legislative Council, the Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion effectively augment the Legion's grassroots lobbying efforts. Because of protracted budget negotiations between the president and Congress, the FY 1999 appropriations process was behind schedule. By September 30, only two of the 13 funding measures needed to operate the federal government were signed into law, with three other bills awaiting the president's signature. After weeks of negotiations an omnibus spending bill, Public Law 105-277, was enacted on October 21, 1998. With passage of this measure, the second session of the 105th Congress adjourned on October 20, 1998.

In 1997, the House passed H.R. 240, the Veterans Employment Opportunities Act.
The bill would strengthen veterans' preference rules and redress procedures, as well as provide enhanced protection for veterans during federal government reductions in-force. The measure also mandates veterans' preference for most non-political positions in the federal government, including judicial and legislative branch positions. A Senate companion measure, S. 1021, passed October 5, 1998, and the House concurred October 8. The measure became P.L. 105-330 with the president's signature on October 31.

President Clinton on October 17, 1998, enacted P.L. 105-262, the FY 1999 Department of Defense appropriations bill which provides $250.5 billion for national defense, an increase of $2.8 billion over the previous year. The measure includes a 3.6 percent military pay raise; $84 billion for the cost of operations, training and maintenance; $36.8 billion for research, development, and testing; and $48.6 billion for weapons procurement.

The FY 1999 foreign operations portion of P.L. 105-277, the FY 1999 omnibus spending measure, provides $51.3 billion in foreign aid funding for FY 1999, which includes military and economic assistance to various foreign nations. The majority of this total, $41.9 billion, is a one-time appropriation for the International Monetary Fund. The measure included an additional earmark for Israel and Egypt as well as earmarks totaling $801 million for the Russian Federation and other states of the former Soviet Union. New NATO members Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic received $50 million each in order to make their military forces more compatible with those of NATO.

On October 21, 1998, President Clinton signed P.L. 105-276, a bill to fund the Department of Veterans Affairs for FY 1999, which received a total of $42.6 billion for FY 1999. A breakdown of various accounts shows individual funding levels: medical care, $17.3 billion; medical and prosthetic research, $316 million; National Cemetery System, $92 million; general operating expenses, $856 million; major construction projects, $142 million; minor construction projects, $275 million; state extended care facilities grants, $90 million; state veterans' cemeteries construction grants, $10 million.

The president on November 11, 1998, signed P.L. 105-368, an omnibus veterans' benefits act. The measure authorizes the National Academy of Sciences to review current evidence to determine if there is an association between illnesses experienced by Gulf War veterans and service in the Persian Gulf War; authorizes VA to provide priority health care to Gulf War veterans, their spouses and children; increases the special pension for Medal of Honor recipients from $400 to $600; redesignates the National Cemetery System as the National Cemetery Administration; renames the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims; authorizes 11 major medical facility construction projects and 3 major medical facility leases totaling $249.6 million; and provides a cost-of-living adjustment to the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain veterans.

A constitutional amendment to protect the American flag from physical desecration, House Joint Resolution 33, was introduced in the House on February 24, 1999, by Reps. Randy Cunningham and John Murtha with more than 250 original cosponsors. On March 17, the Senate introduced Senate Joint Resolution 1, sponsored by Sens. Orrin Hatch and Max Cleland with 58 cosponsors. The Senate Judiciary Committee on April 29 approved S.J. Res. 14 for action by the full Senate by an 11-7 recorded vote. Supporters are hopeful that action will occur prior to projected adjournment in early October.

As part of the president's FY 1999 budget proposal, the administration included a provision to eliminate and deny veterans' claims for service connection as a result of tobacco-related injuries or illnesses. Historically, Congress has encouraged, condoned and subsidized the use of tobacco products by service members. After the administration proposal was included in the Senate budget resolution, Senate Concurrent Resolution 86, was included in the conference report to P.L. 105-178, legislation to authorize and expand federal transportation projects into the 21st century. The American Legion immediately began a campaign to reverse these unfair provisions.

When a technical corrections bill to P.L. 105-178 was being considered in the Senate, the Senate leadership amended the conference report for that bill by combining it with the conference report to a bill to reform and restructure the IRS. Sen. Patty Murray argued that the veterans smoking provisions did not belong in the IRS conference report. However, her objections were overruled and the technical corrections bill was enacted.

Ceremonies were held in Washington, D.C., April 23-25, 1999, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the NATO alliance. During the weekend, NATO added Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to its membership, the fourth such expansion in the alliance's 45-year history.

The American Legion believes it is wrong to single out veterans and their families while other citizens who are ill from tobacco-related illnesses are not being arbitrarily stripped of their eligibility for federal benefits and medical care. The American Legion is truly disturbed that Congress is willing and eager to ignore the federal government's culpability, sacrificing veterans and their families on the altar of budgetary expediency. Several members of both chambers have introduced legislation to reverse this action.

As we look ahead, The American Legion expects continued challenges to veterans and their programs through the federal budgetary process, as well as protracted pressure to reduce defense spending.

National Security Commission

National Security has been one of the four major pillars of The American Legion since its inception in 1919. Despite the end of the Cold War, the need for our country to maintain a strong national defense remains as crucial as ever. During the past year, The American Legion through its National Security and Foreign Relations Division, has presented its mandates and views on a number of issues including the Fiscal Year 2000 budget for the Department of Defense and United States Coast Guard, the Administration and officials of the Department of Defense, and other federal agencies.

Meetings of the Commissions

Three meetings of the commission were held since the conclusion of the 80th National Convention. The commission met in conjunction with the National Executive Committee meetings in October 1998 and May 1999 in Indianapolis. The most extensive session for the commission was held at the Washington Conference, March 22-25. The highlights of this meeting follow.

On March 22, the National Security and Foreign Relations Commissions met in joint session. Col. Joseph D. Rozek, United States Army, Director of Combating Terrorism, Office of the Secretary of Defense, addressed the growing threat of weapons of mass destruction and the planning efforts underway within the United States government to prevent, counter and respond to potential terrorist employment of these
The American Legion 1999 National Convention

weapons against the United States. The Department of Justice would head the interagency effort for domestic preparedness within the United States and the State Department would head the counter-terrorism efforts overseas. The Department of Defense would be a major player in the government’s domestic and overseas programs due to the availability of its resources to include highly trained personnel. Undoubtedly, the first to respond to terrorist activity would be local firemen and police. Additionally, trained National Guard Rapid Assessment and Initial Detection teams could be summoned as well as FEMA, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other agencies. Colonel Rokoz indicated that the American people could certainly contribute to the counter-terrorism vigilance effort by reporting suspicious activities to their local police.

A panel composed of Charles Galkins from the Fleet Reserve Association, Col. Paul Arcari, USAF (Ret.), from the Retired Officers Association and Sydney Hickey from the National Military Family Association discussed the topic: “Military Realities and Legislative Goals for Fiscal Year 2000 and Beyond.” The organizations which these panel members represented are members of The Military Coalition. A array of quality of life issues ranging from an improved military retirement system and reducing the military pay comparability gap, an enhanced Survivors’ Benefits Plan, to Medicare subvention demonstration projects at VA medical centers were discussed. Legionnaires in the audience were reminded that in the current session of Congress only 31 percent of representatives were veterans and 43 percent of senators had prior military service. Hickey emphasized that the loss of, or threats to, family quality of life features, such as caps on cost of living allowances or attacks on commissary benefits, were not perceptions but were very real concerns as to whether military families remained in the military. Finally, it was noted that a long-range plan for addressing all these issues had to be developed and followed year after year. The trust of military families and military retirees has, in many cases, been broken, and one of the goals of military and veterans associations should be to restore that trust by making governmental policy-makers aware of the issues and then addressing them.

The final speaker for the morning was Rep. Floyd Spence, R.S.C., Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. Chairman Spence emphasized the need for continued development and deployment of a national missile defense system which was contained in House bill H.R. 4787. He also voiced strong support for the government’s coordinated counterterrorism efforts and the need to adequately protect the citizens of the United States. He addressed the Quadrennial Defense Review, the national military strategy, which contained the two-war “nearly simultaneously” strategy and noted that in his view the nation could perhaps fight one major regional conflict, but not two. Spence also reiterated the need for a strong quality of life package for the armed forces so as to enhance military recruiting and retention. Many of his points were addressed in the American Legion adopted resolutions and articulated in congressional testimony. During the question and answer session, he was asked about the need for Congress to re-institute a draft, and he responded that only after “everything else had failed.” On behalf of the National Security Commission, Chairman Albert Titus presented Spence with an award in recognition of his continuing support for a strong national defense.

At the afternoon session, the Foreign Relations and National Security Commissions met in a joint session to attend the POW/MIA update presented by the Special POW/MIA Committee and presided over by Chairman Robert S. Turner.

Brig. Gen. Terry L. Tucker, Commanding General of the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting in Hawaii, began his presentation by reviewing the mission statement of the Joint Task Force which is to conduct recovery operations and analyses in pursuit of the fullest possible accounting of American personnel missing in action in Southeast Asia. The total number of Americans currently missing in Southeast Asia as a result of the Vietnam War is 2,064. Since January 23, 1992, 465 remains have been repatriated, 203 remains have been identified; and 598 sets of remains are considered non-recoverable. Recovery operations are expensive but, as a matter of policy, the United States pays for the costs of the operations themselves but not for information leading to the recovery or identification of American remains.

Matthew J. McKeown, Deputy Attorney General of the State of Idaho, spoke of the Freedom of Information Act and documented declassification in regards to the POW/MIA issue. McKeown has been involved in litigation against the federal government on behalf of the state of Idaho for the release of classified information. His remarks outlined a plan, using current laws, to obtain recently declassified information from the federal government by employing some of the experience he has gained from this litigation. Many documents that pertain to the POW/MIA issue remain classified. If these documents were made available to researchers, we would be closer to our goal of achieving the fullest possible accounting.

Dino Carluccio, Senior Legislative Aide to Sen. Robert Smith, R.N.H., spoke on the need for legislative action in regards to the POW/MIA issue. Carluccio outlined the current Administration’s lackluster performance on accounting for America’s POWs and MIA’s. Carluccio said that currently Sen. Smith is in the process of drafting comprehensive new POW/MIA legislation. “The POW/MIA Full Disclosure and Accounting Act of 1999” will be presented this fall, in the second session of Congress.

This new legislation will encompass a full range of issues including declassification of foreign and American documents. He is looking forward to American Legion input on this issue.

The National Security Commission conducted a business session on Wednesday morning which began with a presentation by William Owens, a member of Sen. Charles Robb’s staff, on the senator’s proposal to construct a National Military Museum in the area now occupied by the vacated Navy Annex buildings. The Museum would feature displays of all the Military Services, the United States Coast Guard, National Guard and Merchant Marine. During the ensuing discussion it was pointed out that this area was where it was planned to expand Arlington National Cemetery.

The commission chairman reminded commission members that 1999 was not a renewal year for resolutions at The American Legion’s 81st Annual National Convention in Anaheim. The National Security Commission is planning to visit Camp Pendleton United States Marine Corps Base before Convention. The commission also heard Penny Macklary, the American Legion Auxiliary National Security Chairman, who delivered greetings and outlined the Auxiliary’s goals of working with the USAF, Federal Emergency Management Agency and other objectives.

The commission chairman also briefed commission members on current legislation affecting the armed forces and other issues to include national and theater missile defense systems, Arlington National Cemetery, military funeral honors and the financial solvency of the United States Soldiers’ and Airmen’s Home.

The American Legion convened a PCAG meeting in February 1999 which was prompted by DoD and media reports regarding declining military quality of life features and readiness as well as the impact of increased operating temps and under-resourced defense budgets on recruiting, retention and readiness. Based on briefings by senior DoD officials, congressional staffs and others, the PCAG directed the preparation of a white paper containing recommendations for a strong National Defense. These recommendations were
consolidated into a resolution and adopted by the National Executive Committee at its Spring meetings.

**Blood Donor Activities**

The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary continue to be principal sources of supply for blood. Through our vast network of Posts and Units organized into Department programs, Legionnaires and Auxiliary members continue to supply the blood needs of their own members and hospitalized veterans, and under cooperative agreements, to patients in civilian hospitals.

**National Commander's Awards**

To stimulate activities on the part of Departments and Posts, annual awards are made by the National Commander. During the period from June 1, 1997, through May 31, 1998, many Departments of The American Legion actively participated in the Blood Donor Program.

The criteria for the National Commander’s Awards for Post and individual participation were based on Res. 14, adopted at the Spring Meeting, May 8-9, 1985, of the National Executive Committee. The resolution directs that Departments be placed in one of six groups based on the size of the Department; using standards established by the Membership and Post Activities Committee. The winning Departments were Florida, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska and Rhode Island.

The Departments are doing an excellent job of encouraging Posts to participate in The American Legion’s ROTC Medals Program. During the period from July 1, 1997, to June 30, 1998, nearly 10,000 medals were awarded to deserving Senior and Junior ROTC cadets. Presentations of medals were made to ROTC units in most of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and in overseas Departments.

**Paul H. Griffith ROTC Trophy**

The National Executive Committee at its October 1975 meeting approved Res. 21 which established the Paul H. Griffith Trophy for the ROTC Program. The trophy honors the memory of Past National Commander Paul H. Griffith, who served as an Assistant Secretary of Defense, and throughout his lifetime maintained an active interest in our nation’s defense.

The criterion for judging the winner of the trophy is based on the Department or Departments giving the greatest degree of support to ROTC units, including the number of medals presented and Legion participation in award day ceremonies. Last year's winners are the Departments of Alaska, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island and Tennessee. This participation speaks well of The American Legion in their recognition of America's youth enrolled in ROTC programs.

**Public Relations Commission**

The National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award

This prestigious award will be presented for the third consecutive year at Convention. It recognizes law enforcement officers who have selflessly distinguished themselves over and above their normal duties, primarily through community service and professional achievement.

**World Distribution Services, Inc.**

Celebrates A 12-Year Anniversary

For the last 12 years, World Distribution Services, Inc. (WDS) has focused on one thing... servicing our clients.

WDS maintains a constant commitment to excellence in delivering corporate mail, ad mail, publications and parcels throughout the world. The value-added service programs unique to WDS prove time and again that we are the "state of the art" international mail delivery company in the U.S.A.

WDS offers substantial discounts over traditional postal and parcel delivery methods. In addition to the full range of mail services, WDS now provides a time sensitive international parcel and freight courier service, with complete proof of delivery capabilities.

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Corporate Headquarters
Chicago, Illinois
800-356-4467
FAX: 847-640-1972

"Promising the World and Delivering"™
disseminated by electronic and print media in every geographic location where the National Commander was present.

**PR Tools**

A radio spot promotion package was produced for both national radio advertising and local Post use in community radio stations. The 60-second spots each highlight benefits of American Legion membership and provide either the toll-free telephone number or a music bed where each Post can provide the local telephone number and point of contact to either join or obtain more information. Two 30-second television spots were also released and are available for use on local cable or broadcast stations. A Veterans Day ad slick was mailed to newspapers and used by hundreds of publications free of charge. The e-mail address and 800 phone number for membership information were included.

The commission continued to provide volunteer support materials including suggested speeches for key patriotic holidays and maintained the Veterans Media Data Bank for national media seeking to interview wartime veterans. The commission provided "The American Legion Internet Website news releases, editorials, clip art and the PR Handbook for full access and download by Legionnaires and media.

**Media Relations**

The commission staff continued to create and utilize media opportunities to foster the Legion's resolutions and to establish the Legion as the leading advocate of America's veterans. A compelling national voice for a strong national defense, support of our service men and women deployed to Kosovo, the status of military honor guards at the funerals of veterans, the future of the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington, and the future of military transition benefits.

Steven Spielberg's masterful film, "Saving Private Ryan," continued to be in the news through the year, giving the Legion many opportunities to talk about the contributions of our World War II veterans and the need to honor them with a memorial in Washington, D.C. At the end of the Gulf War, the American Legion was in the forefront of those advocating for the interests of Gulf War veterans, and, thanks to effective public relations work at all levels throughout the Legion, we continue to be their leading advocate.

**Awards**

The National Commander's Public Relations Award was presented to Alan Keyes at the Washington Conference. He was the 1967 Boys Nation President and National Oratorical Contest champion in the same year and later served as Ambassador to the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Keyes was cited for his daily radio talk show, appearances on major television programs and frequent speeches where he "continues to challenge Americans to uphold values necessary for the future of our country."

The American Legion Fourth Estate Award for 1999 will be presented during the 81st National Convention to reporter Jerry Mitchell of "The Clarion-Ledger," Jackson, Miss. Mitchell's reporting helped bring a Klan killer to justice, prompted the re-examination of the 1994 deaths of three young civil rights workers, revealed the secrets of the now-open Mississippi Sovereignty Commission files and hastened healing in Mississippi.

The commission encourages nominations for the Public Relations Volunteer Award Program. The need to recognize highly effective PR volunteers is critically important, as is the sharing of their successes with other volunteers throughout the Legion.

**Looking Ahead**

As new communication technologies, publications and broadcast/cable media come online, the Public Relations Commission and staff stands ready to work with them to advance the corporate goals of The American Legion. We will continue to use creativity in targeting diverse audiences through a variety of media using multiple resources and look forward to the challenges of the 21st century.

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission**

- **Chairman:** Carroll Williams (Mich.), Director

The American Legion Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission provides advocacy in support of veterans' benefit programs, hospital and healthcare concerns, the national cemetery administration and many other topics. The Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission is the keystone program of The American Legion and is one of the primary reasons why World War I veterans founded the organization in 1919.

The VA&R Commission consists of three main components. First is the service program provided by the National Headquarters staff to Department and Post Service Officers in developing and presenting claims, appeals and dealing with other issues related to veterans benefit programs. The second element is the continuing effort to protect, preserve and improve veterans' benefit and service programs. This is accomplished through legislative channels by working with Congress and by maintaining liaison with the White House and the Department of Veterans Affairs. The VA&R staff appears on numerous occasions before congressional committees to testify on behalf of veterans on various programs and benefits issues.

The third element of the VA&R program is the continuing oversight of the various programs operated by VA.

The Veterans Health Administration is in the fourth year of a continuing overhaul of its healthcare system. The VA remains fiscally challenged in its healthcare delivery system. As the system continues to adjust to its decentralization into 22 Veterans Integrated Service Networks, VHA continues to consolidate programs and facilities. The VHA system continues to shift its patient treatment emphasis from hospital care to primary care. The VA&R Division conducts an aggressive oversight of all VA programs and facilities and provides its findings and recommendations to members of Congress and various congressional committees.

VA is in the first full year of its new patient enrollment system. Approximately 3.7 million veterans are enrolled with VA during fiscal year 1999. Acceptance into the patient enrollment system is for a one-year period, with the veteran assigned to a primary care team. Continued future enrollment will be determined by priority group category and on the level of congressional appropriations support.

The seven priority groups for the patient enrollment system are:
- **Priority Group 1:** Veterans who have any service-connected disability rated 50 percent or greater.
- **Priority Group 2:** Veterans who have any service-connected disabilities rated 30 or 40 percent.
- **Priority Group 3:** Veterans who are former POWs, have a service-connected disability rated 10 or 20 percent, were discharged or released from active military service for a compensable disability that was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty, and veterans who are in receipt of benefits under 38 U.S.C., section 1151 - Benefits for persons disabled by medical treatment or vocational rehabilitation.
Priority Group 4: Veterans who are receiving an increased pension based on a need for regular aid and attendance or by reason of being permanently house bound and other veterans who are catastrophically disabled.

Priority Group 5: Veterans who have an annual income and net worth below the means test threshold.

Priority Group 6: Veterans who are not required to pay a co-payment for medical care (WWI, Mexican Border, receiving care for exposure to toxic substances or environmental hazards while in service). Also, compensable zero percent service-connected veterans.

Priority Group 7: Nonservice-connected veterans and non-compensable zero percent service-connected veterans with income and net worth above the statutory threshold who agree to pay specified co-payments.

The American Legion's answer to the current and future needs of VHA is the GI Bill of Health. Slowly and inevitably, members of Congress and their staffs will come to the realization that the GI Bill of Health offers the best hope for VHA's necessary transformation in the 21st century. The sooner Congress recognizes this reality the sooner the funding problems of VHA can be repaired. The longer the delay in enacting and implementing the GI Bill of Health, the greater will be the long-lasting damage to the VA healthcare system. The American Legion believes that piecemeal approaches to improve VA healthcare are too slow and short-circuits the need to change the manner in which VA receives its funding support.

In 1998, highway robbery occurred when Congress passed the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century - Public Law 105-178. The legislation, while good for the country's infrastructure, places veterans in a lower priority category than roads and bridges. Public Law 105-178 denies veterans, who suffer from tobacco-related illnesses manifested after military service, their right to quality for a service-connected disability even if they prove the medical condition existed while on active duty. The 105th Congress overturned a VA General Counsel ruling without any hearings or recommendations from the Veterans Affairs Committees, but rather from the president's budget proposal and the Senate Budget Committee. The questionable budgetary 'savings' of $15.2 billion over five years offset the 'budget-busting' transportation authorization bill. The American Legion supports current congressional efforts to reverse the impact of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century on service disabled veterans.

The Report of the Congressional Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans Transition Assistance was published on January 14, 1999. The Commission was created by Congress to review the benefits and programs available to newly discharged veterans. The Commission reviewed many programs that provide benefits and services to veterans making the transition to civilian life and to service members for career enhancement. The Commission proposed specific recommendations to ensure that the Armed Services achieve their recruitment goals in the 21st century, and that the men and women in service have access to the tools to build a successful future.

The American Legion generated responses to the Commission's 101 recommendations. The recommendations are centered on veterans' education programs, employment and training, healthcare within the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs, veterans' housing programs, the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs disability evaluation programs, Small Business Administration programs, and the organizational structures of the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs.

The American Legion believes the Veterans Benefits Administration is committed to bringing needed changes in the claims adjudication system with the overall goal of providing quality service to veterans and its other stakeholders. The number and complexity of its problems must be solved and the pressure of budget constraints makes the task formidable. The American Legion is ready to support VBA's efforts to improve its operating efficiency and the quality and timeliness of its service. The Legion also recognizes that such ambitious plans naturally raise stakeholder expectations and there is a need to begin delivering on the promised improvements. The American Legion urges strong oversight of VBA programs and its business plan.

The Persian Gulf Task Force continues to focus on outreach to Department Officials, Service Officers and Gulf War veterans. Town Hall meetings and other events are a part of this outreach. Town Hall meetings were held in South Dakota, Nebraska and Colorado and smaller meetings were held in Oklahoma, Missouri, and Minnesota. The Task Force also focuses on medical research, outreach and in maintaining the World Wide Web site geared to the interests of Gulf War veterans and their families.
Independent Auditor's Report

Mr. Harold L. Miller, National Commander
and Members of the National Finance Commission
The American Legion National Headquarters
Indianapolis, Indiana

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statement of financial position of The American Legion National Headquarters and its wholly owned subsidiary (the Legion) as of December 31, 1998 and 1997, and the related consolidated statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Legion's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The American Legion National Headquarters and subsidiary as of December 31, 1998 and 1997, and the changes in their net assets and their cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole. The reconciliation of audited financial statements to internal financial statements is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the consolidated financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the consolidated financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole.

O. M. H. Hospitality
Indianapolis, Indiana
April 2, 1999
## The American Legion National Headquarters and Subsidiary

### Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$1,607,309</td>
<td>$1,059,824</td>
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<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>$2,662,498</td>
<td>$2,917,143</td>
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<td>Restricted cash</td>
<td>$56,118</td>
<td>$56,472</td>
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<td>Deposits on employee retirement accounts</td>
<td>97,499</td>
<td>145,625</td>
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<td>Due from The American Legion Endowment</td>
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<td>Deferred advertising income</td>
<td>71,828</td>
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<td>Fund Corporation (Special Account)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Deferred dues income</td>
<td>20,138,838</td>
<td>20,053,298</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deferred income—direct membership solicitation</td>
<td>854,102</td>
<td>644,673</td>
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<td>Emblem Division</td>
<td>125,152</td>
<td>160,294</td>
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<td>619,191</td>
<td>599,643</td>
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<td>Publications Division</td>
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<td>1,588,008</td>
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<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>1,561,277</td>
<td>1,363,775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1,734,259</td>
<td>1,548,935</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deferred dues income—Paid-Up-For-Life memberships</td>
<td>30,627,517</td>
<td>26,563,739</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and deposits</td>
<td>652,546</td>
<td>550,161</td>
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<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>56,532,749</td>
<td>52,184,116</td>
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<td>Deferred membership expense</td>
<td>3,910,895</td>
<td>3,977,031</td>
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<td>Net Assets</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Inventories</td>
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<td>Unrestricted—general</td>
<td>11,423,800</td>
<td>8,772,187</td>
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<td>Emblem Division</td>
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<td>1,426,913</td>
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<td>Unrestricted—designated</td>
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<td>Publications Division</td>
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<td>219,559</td>
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<td>Citizens Flag Alliance</td>
<td>203,676</td>
<td>272,362</td>
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<td>Investment in affiliate (CFA)</td>
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<td>Computer reserve</td>
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<td>500,000</td>
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<td>Prepaid pension expense</td>
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<td>9,499,804</td>
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<td>Convention reserves</td>
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<td>25,188,435</td>
<td>22,514,593</td>
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<td>Convention stabilization</td>
<td>257,699</td>
<td>222,489</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Employee insurance stabilization</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
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<td>Segregated for Designated Funds</td>
<td>15,793,240</td>
<td>14,716,551</td>
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<td>Ootericel contracts</td>
<td>285,690</td>
<td>245,995</td>
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<td>Segregated for Washington, D.C. building</td>
<td>1,768,400</td>
<td>1,118,911</td>
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<td>Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund</td>
<td>8,870,171</td>
<td>7,156,365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overseas Graves Decoration fund</td>
<td>960,083</td>
<td>851,537</td>
<td></td>
<td>Real estate reserve</td>
<td>1,268,400</td>
<td>1,118,911</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund</td>
<td>39,306,413</td>
<td>34,215,155</td>
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<td>Reserve Fund</td>
<td>2,316,653</td>
<td>2,159,638</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>23,472,670</td>
<td>22,256,151</td>
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<td>Restricted Fund</td>
<td>13,447,879</td>
<td>12,400,778</td>
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<td></td>
<td>81,200,806</td>
<td>73,538,355</td>
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<td>Youth programs (Life Insurance Plan)</td>
<td>5,440,343</td>
<td>4,370,748</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property, equipment, and intangible asset</td>
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<td>Veterans’ rehabilitation/child welfare (Special Account)</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land—Indianapolis parking lot</td>
<td>238,359</td>
<td>238,359</td>
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<td>Others</td>
<td>51,298</td>
<td>55,153</td>
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<td>Washington, D.C. real estate</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>46,265,609</td>
<td>40,729,326</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building</td>
<td>4,172,718</td>
<td>4,138,918</td>
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<td>Buck scholarship</td>
<td>601,540</td>
<td>435,366</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furniture, fixtures, and equipment</td>
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<td>Overseas Graves Decoration Fund</td>
<td>992,722</td>
<td>975,994</td>
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<td>National Headquarters, Indianapolis, In.</td>
<td>8,482,184</td>
<td>9,593,188</td>
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<td>Samsung scholarship</td>
<td>1,489,959</td>
<td>987,248</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>1,547,095</td>
<td>1,567,925</td>
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<td>National Emergency Fund</td>
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<td>Haynes and Partners Communications, Inc.</td>
<td>694,233</td>
<td>735,972</td>
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<td>Others</td>
<td>46,919</td>
<td>538,392</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15,564,589</td>
<td>16,053,672</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,234,554</td>
<td>2,936,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated depreciation and amortization</td>
<td>(11,020,918)</td>
<td>(10,776,788)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,543,671</td>
<td>5,276,884</td>
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<td>Samsung scholarship</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>$111,132,912</td>
<td>$101,049,842</td>
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<td>Total net assets</td>
<td>54,500,163</td>
<td>48,665,726</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total liabilities and net assets</td>
<td>56,532,749</td>
<td>52,184,116</td>
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</table>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.
### Year Ended December 31, 2006

#### Revenue, Gains and Other Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Unrestricted General</th>
<th>Unrestricted Designated</th>
<th>Unrestricted Total</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>National membership dues</td>
<td>$22,946,958</td>
<td>$1,429,611</td>
<td>$24,376,569</td>
<td>$24,376,569</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales of items</td>
<td>8,112,800</td>
<td>8,112,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales—IPC</td>
<td>1,112,800</td>
<td>1,112,357</td>
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<td>Advertising</td>
<td>8,547,502</td>
<td>8,547,502</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct membership solicitation</td>
<td>1,966,017</td>
<td>1,966,017</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Legion Endowment</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Corporation support</td>
<td>508,886</td>
<td>508,886</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>743,326</td>
<td>743,326</td>
<td>816,936</td>
<td>1,560,262</td>
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<td>MBFA financial program income</td>
<td>1,720,137</td>
<td>1,720,137</td>
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<tr>
<td>Label and printing fees</td>
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<td>1,905,963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member service fees income</td>
<td>880,035</td>
<td>880,035</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment income, net of transfer fees</td>
<td>2,377,222</td>
<td>2,377,222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net realized gains (losses)</td>
<td>467,402</td>
<td>467,402</td>
<td>273,260</td>
<td>259,743</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1,490,836</td>
<td>1,490,836</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue, gains, and other support</td>
<td>52,502,212</td>
<td>52,502,212</td>
<td>54,540,762</td>
<td>1,459,309</td>
<td>56,510,712</td>
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</table>

#### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unrestricted General</th>
<th>Unrestricted Designated</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Unrestricted General</th>
<th>Unrestricted Designated</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>10,034,000</td>
<td>10,034,000</td>
<td>10,034,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employee benefits</td>
<td>767,695</td>
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<td>Cost of sales</td>
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<td>Direct publication</td>
<td>12,476,667</td>
<td>12,476,667</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive and staff travel</td>
<td>901,534</td>
<td>901,534</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commission and committee fees</td>
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<td>1,363,619</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printing and postage</td>
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<td>3,927,315</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships, grants and awards</td>
<td>1,412,996</td>
<td>1,412,996</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office and other operating</td>
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<td>8,724,406</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Special projects and programs</td>
<td>4,516,757</td>
<td>4,516,757</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>52,708,806</td>
<td>52,708,806</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

#### Changes in Net Assets Before Net Unrealized Gains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change in Net Assets</th>
<th>Before Net Unrealized Gains</th>
<th>Net Unrealized Gains</th>
<th>Increase (Decrease)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,957,122</td>
<td>31,602</td>
<td>4,088,724</td>
<td>152,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,957,122</td>
<td>31,602</td>
<td>4,088,724</td>
<td>152,341</td>
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<tr>
<td>4,011,931</td>
<td>1,514,352</td>
<td>5,536,283</td>
<td>298,154</td>
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<tr>
<td>8,972,187</td>
<td>31,757,139</td>
<td>40,229,326</td>
<td>2,536,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>5,170,318</td>
<td>1,570,318</td>
<td>6,740,636</td>
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<tr>
<td>5,143,880</td>
<td>39,841,809</td>
<td>46,265,699</td>
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#### Net Assets, End of Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</td>
<td>$5,072,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>5,072,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenues, gains, and other support</td>
<td>54,540,762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>52,502,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets Before Net Unrealized Gains</td>
<td>4,161,265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net unrealized gains</td>
<td>5,834,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, End of Year</td>
<td>$58,078,430</td>
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See notes to consolidated financial statements.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
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<td><strong>Operating Activities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>$5,834,437</td>
<td>$6,521,101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation and amortization</td>
<td>1,062,017</td>
<td>1,492,407</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loss on sale of investments</td>
<td>12,653</td>
<td>170,268</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Gain) loss on sale of fixed assets</td>
<td>(33,424)</td>
<td>158,932</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrealized gains on investments</td>
<td>(1,673,172)</td>
<td>(3,674,315)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Changes in</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted cash</td>
<td>(1,546)</td>
<td>(26,620)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>(307,994)</td>
<td>(336,175)</td>
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<td>Prepaid expenses and deposits</td>
<td>(102,385)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred expenses</td>
<td>66,106</td>
<td>960,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in CFA</td>
<td>23,886</td>
<td>(45,200)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>(504,995)</td>
<td>161,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid pension expense</td>
<td>(1,499,329)</td>
<td>(1,557,681)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>(254,645)</td>
<td>462,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income</td>
<td>4,286,228</td>
<td>2,206,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued vacation</td>
<td>19,548</td>
<td>16,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>197,502</td>
<td>593,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net cash provided by operating activities</strong></td>
<td>$7,124,792</td>
<td>7,771,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investing Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of property and equipment</td>
<td>(315,917)</td>
<td>(459,332)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds from sale of property and equipment</td>
<td>20,537</td>
<td>24,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of investments</td>
<td>(69,604,829)</td>
<td>(54,178,471)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and maturities of investments</td>
<td>63,322,902</td>
<td>47,588,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net cash used by investing activities</strong></td>
<td>(6,577,307)</td>
<td>(7,025,365)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financing Activity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction of long term debt</td>
<td>(559,960)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents</strong></td>
<td>$547,485</td>
<td>186,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year</strong></td>
<td>$1,059,824</td>
<td>873,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year</strong></td>
<td>$1,607,309</td>
<td>$1,059,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supplemental Cash Flows Information</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash paid for interest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income taxes paid</td>
<td>$382,572</td>
<td>$45,207</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.
The following classes of net assets are maintained:

Unrestricted Net Assets
The unrestricted net asset class includes general assets and liabilities of the Legion, as well as assets and liabilities designated by the National Executive Committee, the governing body of the Legion. The unrestricted net assets of the Legion may be used at the discretion of management to support the Legion's purposes and operations.

Temporarily Restricted Net Assets
The temporarily restricted net asset class includes assets of the Legion related to gifts with explicit donor-imposed restrictions that have not been met as to specified purpose, or to be used over an extended period of time or on specified dates. Unconditional promises to give that are due in future periods and are not permanently restricted are classified as temporarily restricted net assets.

Permanently Restricted Net Assets
The permanently restricted net asset class includes assets of the Legion for which the donor has stipulated that the contribution be maintained in perpetuity. Donor-imposed restrictions limiting the use of the assets or to its economic benefit neither expire with the passage of time nor can be removed by satisfying a specific purpose.

Cash and Cash Equivalents
For purposes of reporting cash flow, the Legion considers all liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. At December 31, 1998, the Legion's cash and cash equivalents included balances of approximately $1,460,000. However, all of these amounts were collateralized by overnight repurchase agreements.

Unbilled Production Costs
HPC records time incurred on approved projects each day at standard billing rates (based on the employees' years of experience, job quote, market conditions, etc.). Production time is accumulated daily and is recorded on either an unbilled production time, accounts receivable (when billed) or written off as uncollectible. Production costs also include the cost, plus a standard mark-up, for purchases from outside vendors.

Inventory
Inventory consists of emblem items held for sale, magazine paper and publication rights and is stated at the lower of cost or market. Supplies which are not intended for sale are expensed when purchased.

Investments
Investments are carried at fair value. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are reflected in the consolidated statement of activities. Premiums or discounts on investments are generally recognized at the time of disposal or maturity.

Property and Equipment
Expenditures for property and equipment and items which substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets are capitalized at cost. The Legion provides for depreciation on the straight-line method at rates designed to depreciate the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives.

Support and Revenue
The Legion reports gifts of cash and other assets as restricted support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Dues Income and Expense
Dues are recognized as income over the applicable membership period, which is on a calendar-year basis.

In addition to other methods of obtaining new members, the Legion uses direct mail and other direct marketing approaches. The income generated from the direct membership solicitation is recognized over the applicable membership period (calendar year).

Income Taxes
The Legion is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(19) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. The Legion is not considered to be a private foundation. The Legion is subject to income tax on unrelated business income. However, due to net operating loss carryforwards, the Legion paid no taxes for the years ended December 31, 1998 and 1997.

Federal and state income tax expense is recorded for HPC as incurred.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments
The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents approximates fair value. Investments are carried at fair value.

Expense Allocation
Expenses have been classified as program services, management and general, member development and fundraising based on actual direct expenditures. Additionally, some expenses are allocated among departments based upon estimates of the amount of time historically spent by Legion employees performing services for these departments.

Reclassifications
Certain information for 1997 has been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation.
**Note 2 - Investment in Affiliate**

During 1994, the Legion, in conjunction with approximately 80 other organizations, created a nonprofit corporation known as The Citizens Flag Alliance, Inc. (CFA) for the purpose of aiding in the campaign to secure a constitutional amendment empowering the Congress and the States to enact legislation to protect the Flag of the United States of America from physical desecration. To support these efforts, the Legion invested $1,425,000 and $1,225,000 in CFA during 1994 and 1993, respectively. CFA recognized net losses of $1,448,886 for 1998 and $1,178,000 for 1997. Accordingly, the Legion’s investment in CFA has been reduced by this amount and a corresponding charge has been reflected in unrestricted designated net assets.

**Note 3 - Investments**

The Legion’s market value of investments is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Market Segment</th>
<th>December 31, 1998</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Segregated for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Government obligations</td>
<td>$15,403,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate bonds</td>
<td>4,815,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common and preferred stocks</td>
<td>18,327,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual funds</td>
<td>179,794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money market accounts</td>
<td>213,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$15,792,240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 31, 1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Segregated for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Government obligations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State and municipal bonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate bonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutual funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money market accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificates of deposit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 4 - Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund**

The National Executive Committee approved the establishment of a life membership plan available to any member of a participating department. In accordance with the plan, the assets of the Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Fund are segregated in a trust account from which funds equal to the annual dues of life members are withdrawn for current operations each year. The trust agreement provides that the Legion has the right to withdraw part or all of the assets of the trust account and to modify or terminate the trust agreement at its discretion.

**Note 5 - Restricted and Reserve Funds**

The Restricted Fund is designated for use by the National Finance Commission and National Executive Committee of the American Legion. Earnings of the Restricted Fund, along with the principal, can be expended only upon recommendation of the National Finance Commission and a two-thirds affirmative vote of the National Executive Committee at two successive meetings. It is the policy of the Legion to transfer 10% of the prior year's defined net income to the Restricted Fund. There were no transfers in 1998.

The Reserve Fund is also designated for use by the National Finance Commission and National Executive Committee. However, earnings of the Reserve Fund may be used for the general operations of the Legion. The principal can be expended only by action of the Legion at its national convention, or by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the National Executive Committee in two successive meetings not less than 60 days apart.

**Note 6 - Life Insurance Plan**

During October 1992, the National Executive Committee approved a resolution to terminate the Legion's Life Insurance Trust. Upon dissolution in April 1993, funds remaining in the Trust totaling $4,285,984 were transferred to a non-trust sub-account (named the American Legion Life Insurance Plan) under control of the Legion for use in youth programs.

The Legion's National Executive Committee has directed that monies within the American Legion Life Insurance Plan be used for student travel, Boys' Nation, American Legion Baseball, and other youth programs of the Legion. At December 31, 1998, $1,100,000 in funds had been approved for use in designated programs during 1999.

**Note 7 - Permanently Restricted Net Assets**

The Legion received $5,000,000 from the Samsung Group during 1996. The principal is to be permanently endowed and the income is to be used to fund undergraduate scholarships for descendants of Korean War veterans and other wars in which U.S. servicemen and servicewomen participated. Such scholarships will be administered by the Legion.

**Note 8 - American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation**

The American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation (the Corporation) was incorporated in 1925 as a not-for-profit corporation with perpetual existence to act as trustee for the American Legion Endowment Fund (the Endowment Fund), which was created to provide permanent funding for rehabilitation of American veterans and assistance to orphans of veterans. In August 1944, the Legion transferred securities having a market value of $2,200,000 to the Endowment Fund. The assets transferred have been held segregated by the Endowment Fund and the principal related to the 1946 transfer, which had a market value of $2,131,470 and $2,115,808 at December 31, 1998 and 1997, may be withdrawn by the Legion, if needed, for rehabilitation of veterans or assistance to orphans of veterans.

Income earned on the investments of the Endowment Fund, net of administrative expenses, is payable to the Legion to support its programs for the above-mentioned purposes. Income from the Endowment Fund amounted to $569,886 and $502,072 in 1998 and 1997.
NOTE 9 - Leases
The Legion and HPC have several non-cancelable operating leases, primarily for facilities, computer equipment, copies and cash registers that expire over the next six years. Rental expense for these leases aggregated $505,824 in 1998 and $781,954 in 1997. Future minimum lease payments under operating leases are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years Ending December 31</th>
<th>1999</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>Thereafter</th>
<th>Total minimum lease payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
<td>$139,932</td>
<td>138,289</td>
<td>115,552</td>
<td>77,000</td>
<td>46,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>$530,773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, the Legion has a lease with the State of Indiana for rental of the National Headquarters building in Indianapolis through June 30, 2002. The lease can be renewed at the option of the Legion for nine additional four-year periods. According to the terms of the lease, the Legion is required to maintain the interior of the building, and provide adequate insurance on the building in lieu of lease payments. The cost of maintenance approximated $368,000 and $352,000 in 1998 and 1997, respectively. Insurance coverage is included in the Legion's general insurance policy.

NOTE 10 - Income Taxes
The following is a reconciliation of income taxes at the federal statutory rate to actual income tax recorded by HPC:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income tax expense:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently payable:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$299,146</td>
<td>$90,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>73,211</td>
<td>12,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>(101,925)</td>
<td>(95,191)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$270,422</td>
<td>$198,118</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reconciliation of federal statutory to actual tax expense:

- Federal statutory income tax at 34%: $191,882
- Nondeductible expenses: 2,982
- Effect of state income taxes: 8,266
- Change in valuation allowance and other: 10,647
- Actual tax expense: 270,422

The components of the net deferred tax (liability) assets are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asset</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net operating loss carryforward</td>
<td>$15,447</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrual to cash adjustment</td>
<td>$8,713</td>
<td>$95,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>(8,713)</td>
<td>(95,191)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>$6,734</td>
<td>$(95,191)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The deferred tax asset and liability are included in other accounts receivable and other liabilities, respectively, in the statement of financial position.

NOTE 11 - Net Assets Released from Restriction
Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes or by occurrence of other events specified by donors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purpose restrictions accomplished:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oversee graves decoration</td>
<td>$289,765</td>
<td>$55,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships and grants (including relief aid)</td>
<td>562,551</td>
<td>1,801,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>454,432</td>
<td>287,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>$1,306,768</td>
<td>$2,794,133</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 12 - Net Assets Released from Designation
Net assets were released from designations by satisfying the designations previously established.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purpose designations accomplished:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag education</td>
<td>$1,448,886</td>
<td>$1,178,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid-Up-For-Life memberships</td>
<td>2,019,064</td>
<td>1,829,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth programs (Life Insurance Plan)</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>424,998</td>
<td>407,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total net assets released from designations</td>
<td>$4,992,948</td>
<td>$4,515,582</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 13 - Employee Benefits
The Legion has a defined benefit pension plan covering substantially all of its employees as well as those of certain affiliated and subsidiaries. The plan was established in 1944 by vote of the Legion's National Convention. Contributions to the plan are made by the Legion and other participating groups on the basis of annual actuarial valuations. The following table sets forth the Legion's portion of the plan's funded status and amounts recognized in the Legion's consolidated statement of financial position on December 31, 1998 and 1997.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benefit obligation</td>
<td>$(22,069,554)</td>
<td>$(18,686,662)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair value of plan assets</td>
<td>45,634,005</td>
<td>39,928,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funded status</td>
<td>$23,564,451</td>
<td>$21,242,051</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prepaid benefit cost recognized in the balance sheet: $11,199,193

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benefit cost</td>
<td>$1,344,191</td>
<td>$1,405,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employer contribution</td>
<td>154,553</td>
<td>152,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits paid</td>
<td>1,222,593</td>
<td>1,161,473</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weighted-average assumptions:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discount rate</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected return on plan assets</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate of compensation increase</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 14 - Functional Expenses
The following represents a functional breakdown of the American Legion National Headquarters' expenses by program and supporting services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program Services:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans affairs</td>
<td>$38,120,652</td>
<td>$30,888,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americanism and children and youth activities</td>
<td>3,552,204</td>
<td>5,988,497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal education and legislation</td>
<td>2,879,708</td>
<td>2,922,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct response advertising and marketing</td>
<td>536,801</td>
<td>707,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total program services</strong></td>
<td><strong>35,091,365</strong></td>
<td><strong>39,107,311</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Services:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>10,945,237</td>
<td>9,113,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>5,830,306</td>
<td>6,849,117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>841,898</td>
<td>1,046,579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$52,708,806</strong></td>
<td><strong>$56,077,871</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 15 - Litigation
The Legion is currently involved in and/or has been mentioned as a defendant or co-defendant in several legal actions. It is the opinion of the National Judge Advocate that these claims are without merit and any ultimate liability of the Legion with respect to these actions will not materially affect the financial position of the Legion.

Note 16 - Year 2000
Like all entities, the Legion is exposed to risks associated with the Year 2000 issue, which affects computer software and hardware transactions with customers, vendors, and other entities; and equipment dependent upon microchips. The Legion has begun, but not yet completed, the process of identifying and remediating potential Year 2000 problems. It is not possible for any entity to guarantee the results of its own remediation efforts or to accurately predict the impact of the Year 2000 issue with which the Legion does business. If remediation efforts of the Legion or third parties with which the Legion does business are not successful, the Year 2000 issue could have negative effects on the Legion’s financial condition and results of operations in the near term.
## Reconciliation of Audited Financial Statements to Internal Financial Statements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Ended December 31</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets - Internal Financial Statements</td>
<td>$3,957,122</td>
<td>$2,204,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets before net unrealized gains</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not included in internal financials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted designated</td>
<td>51,602</td>
<td>329,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>152,541</td>
<td>312,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,161,265</td>
<td>2,846,786</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net unrealized gains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>1997</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>64,809</td>
<td>245,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted designated</td>
<td>1,462,750</td>
<td>3,070,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>145,613</td>
<td>358,836</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$5,834,437</td>
<td>$6,521,101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foreseeing the necessity of a recurring income source for funding its war veterans rehabilitation and child welfare programs, The American Legion conducted a national campaign in 1925 which raised approximately $5 million for this purpose. The funds contributed were entrusted to the custody of the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation.

The Corporation was incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware in 1925 and a trust agreement between The American Legion and the Corporation was signed. Funds are administered by the Corporation in accordance with the trust agreement and annual net investment income is paid to The American Legion for use in the aforementioned programs.

The results of operations and financial condition of The American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation for each of the last five years is summarized below (taken from the annual audit report prepared by Olive LLP, Indianapolis, Indiana).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total assets (1)</td>
<td>$8,035,983</td>
<td>$7,927,268</td>
<td>$8,694,567</td>
<td>$8,162,289</td>
<td>$7,846,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments (1)</td>
<td>$7,918,724</td>
<td>$7,823,846</td>
<td>$7,830,853</td>
<td>$7,991,301</td>
<td>$7,644,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>$503,588</td>
<td>$519,819</td>
<td>$539,900</td>
<td>$575,688</td>
<td>$550,155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions (4)</td>
<td>27,964</td>
<td>(744,754)</td>
<td>765,598</td>
<td>7,552</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net realized gains</td>
<td>5,596</td>
<td>9,739</td>
<td>48,948</td>
<td>60,891</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net unrealized gains (losses)</td>
<td>133,672</td>
<td>39,724</td>
<td>(258,531)</td>
<td>424,307</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation and Children and Youth Programs of The American Legion National Headquarters (2)</td>
<td>(459,669)</td>
<td>(467,152)</td>
<td>(500,367)</td>
<td>(496,538)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other expenses</td>
<td>(53,252)</td>
<td>(32,667)</td>
<td>(39,533)</td>
<td>(48,226)</td>
<td>(46,472)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>$157,899</td>
<td>($695,291)</td>
<td>$556,015</td>
<td>$523,674</td>
<td>$503,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds transferred to The American Legion (3)</td>
<td>$508,886</td>
<td>$502,072</td>
<td>$524,339</td>
<td>$550,057</td>
<td>$537,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average yield on value of investments at market</td>
<td>6.47%</td>
<td>6.77%</td>
<td>7.44%</td>
<td>8.14%</td>
<td>6.99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Beginning in 1995, investments are included at fair value in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 124, contributions are recorded in accordance SFAS 116, and the financial statements are prepared in accordance with SFAS 117.

(2) Accrual basis

(3) Cash basis

(4) 1997 amount includes adjustments to write off contribution receivable of $759,000.
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THE ISLANDS GOLF CENTER
Rated "3rd Best Urban Driving Range" in the nation by Sports Illustrated
$1 off any Bucket of Range Balls
Valid one coupon per visit, not valid with any other promotion or discount.
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ANAHEIM, SEPTEMBER 3–9, 1999

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MEMBER SAVINGS CARD
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Your Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number: G343600
To request your discount, give the Avis reservation sales agent the AWD number when you call, and show this card to the Avis rental sales agent when you pick up your car. Important: Be sure to retain this card for future rentals and use it each time you rent to obtain your member benefits.
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81ST AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION
ANAHEIM, SEPTEMBER 3–9, 1999

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AVIS IDENTIFICATION CARD
Important: Use this card every time you reserve and rent to obtain your member benefits. Rates and discounts are available at participating Avis locations in the contiguous U.S. Daily contract rates where applicable are nondiscountable. Additional per-day charge applies in certain metropolitan areas and their airports. Rates, discounts and additional charges subject to change without notice. Mileage limitations applicable to certain rates, with additional per-mile charge for miles in excess of the mileage allowance. Cars and car groups are subject to availability and must be returned to rental location. Taxes and optional items, such as LDW, additional driver fees and fuel service, are extra. Renter must meet Avis age, driver and credit requirements. Minimum age is 25, but may vary by location.

THIS IS NOT A CREDIT CARD.

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National Emblem Sales Convention Special
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Original Price – $29.95
With This Coupon – ONLY $7.95

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(91 Fwy to Imperial Highway)
DAD MILLER GOLF COURSE
Golf Shop 765-3481 * 430 N. Gilbert
(Between Lincoln and Crescent)

Both buckets must be purchased at same time.
Good Mon. thru Fri. before noon.

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CONVENTION COUPON

Danny K’s Billiards & Sports Bar
FEATURING
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• 4 - 10 ft. big screen TVs
• Good food & over 100 beer selections
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$1.00 - Good toward any purchase of food or drink
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The Best Daily Sightseeing Tours & Shuttle Services in Southern California
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Phone 750-2411
One Block East of A.V.C.

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ANAHEIM, SEPTEMBER 3-9, 1999

CONVENTION COUPON

Member Savings Card
The American Legion
Your Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number: G343600
To request your discount, give the Avis reservation sales agent the AWD number when you call, and show this card to the Avis rental sales agent when you pick up your car. Important: Be sure to retain this card for future rentals and use it each time you rent to obtain your member benefits.

CONVENTION COUPON

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ANAHEIM, SEPTEMBER 3-9, 1999

CONVENTION COUPON

AVIS Identification Card
Important: Use this card every time you reserve and rent to obtain your member benefits. Rates and discounts are available at participating Avis locations in the contiguous U.S. Daily contract rates where applicable are non-refundable. Additional per-day charge applies in certain metropolitan areas and their airports. Rates, discounts and additional charges subject to change without notice. Mileage limitations applicable to certain rates, with additional per-mile charge for miles in excess of the mileage allowance. Cars and car groups are subject to availability and must be returned to renting location. Taxes and optional items, such as LDW, additional driver tax and fuel service, are extra. Renter must meet Avis age, driver and credit requirements. Minimum age is 21, but may vary by location.

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National Emblem Sales Convention Special
20' Telescoping Flagpole
3' x 5' Nylon U.S. Flag Included
Regular Price - $199.00
With This Coupon - ONLY $159.00

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ANAHEIM, SEPTEMBER 3-9, 1999

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Just minutes from Anaheim!
Daily Fishing trips from $18 to $65
½ DAY - $50 OFF ANY TRIP - GOOD UP TO 5 ADULTS
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RESERVATIONS REQUIRED ON ALL TRIPS

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The interaction of people is the industry of our future. That's why we've created the Midwest Express Center. With a total of 667,475 square feet of meeting, ballroom and exhibit space, we can host any type of gathering. In addition, our new Riverwalk offers visitors a place to relax and sightsee. Area hotels are spending millions on renovations and expansions. Plus, dining and entertainment options have never been more plentiful. So give us a call for more information about bringing your organization here to Milwaukee.

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