THE AMERICAN LEGION

ADVANCE

A National Headquarters Monthly Publication for Post Commanders

Vol. IV | August 1961 | No. 8

Long-Lost 'Elmer' May Be Found!

"WHERE'S ELMER?" is the question asked and answered in the 1962 Membership Planning Guide now being distributed to commanders of American Legion Posts around the world.

By identifying "Elmer" with former members of The American Legion, the 1962 membership enrollment plan turns the good-natured gag into a practical, businesslike recruitment aid.

Research by the Legion's national membership committee found that during 1961 a total of 352,633 new members are being signed up while 346,888 former members are being lost by drop-outs.

Nine out of 10 of those who drop out still like the Legion, having nothing against its policies either nationally or locally, and would still be members today —IF SOMEONE HAD CONTACTED THEM AND COLLECTED THEIR DUES.

Diamond Rings in Cracker Barrel

ACCORDING TO NATIONAL Membership Chairman "Bill" Brennan of Indiana, "Repeated checks have shown beyond doubt that a planned, organized, and timely campaign will produce a growing membership for any Post.

"However," Chairman Brennan adds, "no matter how highly respected The American Legion is, a Post cannot maintain its numerical strength with a casual or haphazard membership effort.

"You don't sell diamond rings out of a cracker barrel, but that, I am afraid, is what some Posts have been trying to do."

Recommended Timetable

HERE IS THE THREE-PHASE timetable recommended by National Headquarters to get the 1962 membership job done expeditiously and thoroughly:

Phase I—Drop Outs

1. By August 1 make a list of every drop-out during the past three years.
2. By August 15 organize personal contact teams to visit each former member on your list to bring him back to the Legion.

Phase II—Renewals

3. During September mail "first dues notices" to each member.
4. By October 20 mail "second dues notices" to members who haven't enrolled.
   (Steps 3 and 4 usually enroll over 50% of last year's members.)
5. By November 1 set up teams to call on last year's members who didn't respond to the "first and second dues notices."
6. By December 1 mail "final dues notices."

Phase III—New Members

7. By January 1 urge every member to "sign up" at least one new member.

Elements of Success

THERE ARE THREE elements to any successful membership promotion. You have to have a PLAN. The timetable above gives the framework for your plan, but it's up to you to fill in the details and to adapt it to your own situation.

You have to have RECORDS. You need your 1961 membership records in order to get your renewals in. You need membership records from prior years to contact your dropouts from the recent past. You need a constantly refreshed list of non-member eligibles from which to draw your new members.

Finally, you have to have PEOPLE to put the plan into operation. By breaking the plan down into small assignments, no one person will be given more than he feels he can accomplish with a reasonable effort.

Your chances of success are much greater if you get 10 people who will promise to do 10 small jobs than if you try to talk one person into taking on all 10 jobs.

Membership Is High Privilege

YOU CAN'T BUY, barter, or beg the privilege of belonging to The American Legion. It is a right granted by the Congress of the United States only to those who served honorably in the military forces of the United States in World War I, World War II, or the Korean Conflict.

It is a privilege not to be taken lightly. Neither is the privilege of organizing and administering the enrollment program in any American Legion Post to be taken lightly.

So, while the phrase "Where's Elmer?" has its humorous overtones, it presents a deadly serious question to each Post commander and membership chairman.

THE AMERICAN LEGION

ADVANCE

Published monthly by National Headquarters, The American Legion, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Ind.—for American Legion Post Commanders

MEMBER AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION

(Formerly The American Legion National Newsletter)

August 1961 Vol. IV, No. 8

The Emblem - Wear It Proudly

How many members of your Post can be identified immediately as American Legionnaires? Sure, each paid-up member has an official card for the current year, but how many of your Post can show themselves to be Legionnaires without producing that official membership card?

The American Legion Emblem is a beautiful symbol of American citizenship of the highest order. It indicates that its wearer donned this nation's uniform during time of war, and thus discharged with honor the greatest obligation an American can perform.

Every part of The American Legion Emblem has a meaning, a rich symbolism that a glance does not reveal.

The Emblem is laid upon the rays of the sun, giver of life, warmth, and courage; foe of the cold, of the darkness, of fear, of apprehension.

In turn, each of the Emblem's many parts signifies a meaning which no Legionnaire who wears the Emblem should take lightly, and which he should know from the moment he puts his Emblem on.

There is no better opportunity to enlighten Legionnaires to the meaning of The American Legion Emblem than during the initiation ritual as outlined in the *Manual of Ceremonies*. Each candidate for membership should be given an American Legion lapel pin or button by his Post as a part of this ritual.

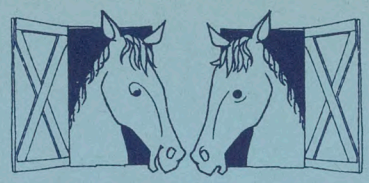
Just as it is a singular honor to belong to The American Legion, so it should be also a source of great pride to a properly instructed Legionnaire to wear the Emblem.

Mr. Post Commander, you can be of valuable assistance in this matter by (1) initiating new members in your Post, (2) giving a clear and meaningful explanation of the Emblem during your initiation ritual, and (3) encouraging the members of your Post to wear their Emblems throughout the year.

(Mr. Post Commander: The illustrated meaning of The American Legion Emblem is available in mat form for use in your Post's publication or for other printed reproduction. The mat is three newspaper columns (app. six in. wide by ten in. deep), and may be obtained by writing: The ADVANCE, The American Legion, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Ind.)

— "Where's Elmer?" —

From the Horse's Mouth



The American Legion has expressed its strong support before House and Senate Committees during hearings on proposed legislation to reopen National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) and establish a Modified Life Plan for those still holding term policies.

— "Where's Elmer?" —

National Commander William R. Burke, noting Soviet Premier Khrushchev's threat to sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany, has forecast, "Unless Khrushchev is bluffing on Berlin or we surrender, we will be at war with the Communists by the end of the year."

— "Where's Elmer?" —

Some 200 representatives of American Legion bands, drum and bugle corps, color guards, firing squads, and other units interested in pageantry will convene Oct. 21-22 at the Fifth Uniformed Groups Congress at National Headquarters in Indianapolis.

— "Where's Elmer?" —

One-hundred of the country's outstanding high school boys participated in a concentrated study of governmental operation during the 16th annual Boys Nation, sponsored by The American Legion, July 21-28 in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Post Commander: The next four pages contain all details pertaining to the 1962 National High School Oratorical Contest. Please pass them on to your Americanism chairman and advise him that he may obtain extra copies of this leaflet, if he needs them, from your Department Headquarters or the National Americanism Division, The American Legion, Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Indiana.

— "Where's Elmer?" —

Going . . . Going . . . They're going fast! Advance ticket sales for the senior drum and bugle corps finals at the National Convention in Denver indicate there may not be many, if any, ducats for sale by the opening of the conclave. Legionnaires planning on attending are advised to order their tickets by mail. Mail order ticket prices are $2.50, $2.00 and $1.50. Checks should accompany all orders and be made payable to The American Legion 1961 Convention Corporation. Mail orders to Room 360, Shirley-Savoy Hotel, Denver 2, Colo.

Twenty-fifth Annual

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST

★1962★

Silver Anniversary

A National
Americanism Activity of
The American Legion
Approved by
The National Association of
Secondary-School Principals
Since 1943
Sponsored by

THE AMERICAN LEGION

National Headquarters
P. O. Box 1055
INDIANAPOLIS 6, INDIANA

★

NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMISSION

★

History

A brief review of the progress of the National High School Oratorical Contest of The American Legion follows:

Year	Winner	Address	States Competing	Students Participating
1939	Fletcher Padgett, Jr.,	Saluda, South Carolina	20	24,000
1940	Thomas E. Haggerty,	Rosedale, New York	40	62,000
1941	Frank Church, Jr.,	Boise, Idaho	46	100,000
1942	Albert P. Smith, Jr.,	Hendersonville, Tennessee	46	110,000
1943	Burton Bernard,	Granite City, Illinois	42	100,000
1944	Brent Bozell,	Omaha, Nebraska	46	100,000
1945	Robert A. Kelly,	Jersey City, New Jersey	42	100,000
1946	William O. Wollin,	Los Gatos, California	43	160,000
1947	Roy F. Greenaway,	Fresno, California	44	200,000
1948	James H. Grant	Orlando, Florida	45	250,000
1949	Paul T. Heyne,	Concordia, Missouri	45	300,000
1950	James Arthur Robinson,	Blackwell, Oklahoma	45	300,000
1951	Miss Jeanne-Mann Dickinson,	Roanoke, Virginia	45	300,000
1952	Cliff Thomson,	Kansas City Kansas	45	300,000
1953	Joel M. Bernstein,	Buffalo, New York	47	325,000
1954	Jack McNees.	Kansas City, Missouri (Kansas)	47	325,000
1955	Michael Miller,	Los Angeles, California	47	330,000
1956	Daniel A. Duckworth,	Cleveland, Tennessee	48	340,000
1957	Dan Elliott McCall,	Modesto, California	47	350,000
1958	Reed M. Stewart,	Brazil, Indiana	48	350,000
1959	Roger R. Majak,	Lansing, Illinois	48	350,000
1960	Lanny D. Unruh,	Newton, Kansas	48	350,000
1961	Robert J. O'Connell,	New York, New York	48	355,000

It is estimated that more than 355,000 secondary school students participated in The American Legion's Twenty-fourth National High School Oratorical Contest, with forty-eight Department winners entering the National Competition.

The National Finals Contest was held in the East Hartford High School, East Hartford, Connecticut, April 20, 1961.

The 1961 winners were:

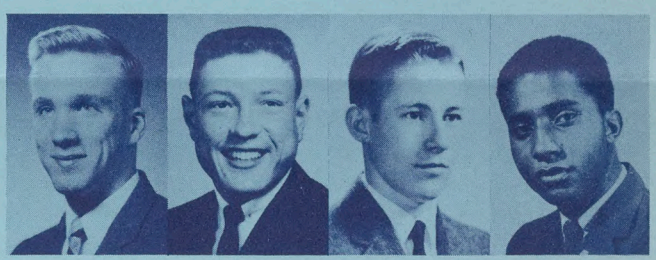
First Place—Robert J. O'Connell, New York, New York
$4,000.00 Scholarship.

Second Place—John T. Cox, Jr., Springhill, Louisiana
$2,500 Scholarship.

Third Place—John C. Quinn, Rapid City, South Dakota
$1,000.00 Scholarship.

Fourth Place—Alexander H. Gordon II, Tucson, Arizona
$500.00 Scholarship.

National Finalists—1961



Robert J. O'Connell New York (First) | **John T. Cox, Jr. Louisiana (Second)** | **John C. Quinn South Dakota (Third)** | **Alexander H. Gordon II Arizona (Fourth)**

National Contests

The National Finals Contest for 1962 will be held at Salt Lake City, Utah, April 12, 1962. Announcement of all sites and dates will be made as soon as scheduling is complete.

Department Contests

All arrangements for Department Contests, including Local, County, District, and other sub-divisions, shall be made by Departments. Each Department can certify one contestant into the National Contest program. All Department Finals Contests should conform with National Contest procedure, rules, and regulations.

A Department winner certified to the National Americanism Commission which did not conduct its Department Finals Contest in conformity with the rules and regulations set forth in the Twenty-fifth Annual National High School Oratorical Contest leaflet for 1962 may, in the judgment of the Director, be disqualified for competition in National Contests. **Department winners must be certified to the National Americanism Commission, Indianapolis, Indiana, not later than noon, March 16, 1962.**

RULES

Subject To Be Used For Prepared Oration

The subject to be used for the prepared oration in the 1962 Oratorical Contest must be on some phase of the Constitution of the United States which will give emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The same subject and oration used in the Department Contest must be used in the Na-

tional Contest. The subjects listed below are recommended as desirable topics but not mandatory:

An American Citizen's Rights and Responsibilities Under the Constitution.

Fulfilling the Aims of the Constitution.

Checks and Balances—Our Basic Governmental Principle.

Our Constitution—Worth Having, Worth Defending.

Our Constitution—Ordained by Free Men, Sustained by Free Men.

The People's Constitution—Ours to Defend.

The Constitution in a Changing World.

The Constitution in Our Every-Day Life.

The Bill of Rights—Reciprocal Rights and Duties.

The Constitution—A Barrier Against Tyranny.

The Constitution—Guardian of the People's Rights.

In Defense of Our Constitution.

The Constitution—Temple of Liberty.

Our Living Constitution.

Communism Threat to the Constitution.

The Constitution and the Federal Courts.

Powers of the States Under the Constitution.

Our Constitution and Free Capitalism.

THE PREPARED ORATIONS MUST BE THE ORIGINAL EFFORTS OF EACH CONTESTANT AND MUST NOT REQUIRE LESS THAN TEN MINUTES NOR MORE THAN TWELVE MINUTES FOR DELIVERY. THE PENALTY FOR PLAGIARISM WILL BE DISQUALIFICATION. Substitutions for Disqualified Contestants or Contestants unable to compete in the National programs for any reason are not permissible, nor can Contests be delayed from the official scheduled time and dates.

THE EXTEMPORANEOUS FEATURE

The Extemporaneous Discourse must not consume less than four nor more than six minutes for delivery. The purpose of the Extemporaneous Discourse Feature is to test the speaker's knowledge of the subject, the extent of his research, and the ability to discuss **extemporaneously** the topic as related to the basic principles of government under the Constitution. Judges will downgrade contestants if they suspect parts of their **Extemporaneous Discourse** has been memorized.

The full text for the Extemporaneous Discourse Feature Topic (drawn, but not announced, immediately before the last speaker begins delivery of his prepared oration) will be made known to each contestant approximately six minutes prior to the time of delivery. The topic will be on some phase of the Constitution of the United States, selected from Articles and Sections as listed on Page 4 of this pamphlet.

In the prepared orations, as well as in the Extemporaneous Discourse, quotations must be indicated as such. Where quotations are more than ten words in length, the author's name must be given orally and in the manuscript.

EXTEMPORANEOUS TOPICS FOR 1962

By action of the National Americanism Commission, the Extemporaneous Discourse Topics to be used in 1962 Contest are as follows:

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

Article I, Section 1 (Legislative Powers)

Article I, Section 5, Paragraph 1 (Authority Vested in Congress)

Article III, Section 1 (Judicial Power)

AMENDMENTS

Article I (Freedom of Speech, etc.)

Article VII (Right of Trial by Jury)

Article X (Delegation of Power)

Note: All contestants are required to participate in both the Prepared Oration Presentation and Extemporaneous Discourse Feature of this Contest.

Eligibility

All contestants must be bonafide students in secondary schools (Public High School or Parochial, Military and Private Schools whose academic curriculum is of Public High School level) and enrolled in classes equivalent to the regular 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grades on January 1 of the year when such national Contests are being conducted. Students taking post-graduate high school courses are not eligible, excepting students who graduate during the middle of the school year, which date of graduation must be after January 1.

Dress

Uniforms of all kinds will be barred because a uniform worn by one contestant and not by the others might create an unfair advantage. Informal dress will be required.

Awards

The contestant scoring highest, in the opinion of the judges, in the National Finals Contest will be awarded a $4,000.00 scholarship; second, a $2,500.00 scholarship; third, a $1,000.00 scholarship; and fourth, a $500.00 scholarship.

Finances

The National Organization of The American Legion will pay the travel cost of Department winners as they progress in National competition. A girl winner **must** be accompanied by a chaperon whose travel cost will be paid by National. Travel for an escort of a seriously handicapped boy winner may, in the judgment of the Director, be authorized at National expense.

The National Americanism Commission will make all travel arrangements and routings for all contestants, and lady chaperons, if any, from their home town to their National Contest, through its Director.

Neither the National Americanism Commission nor The American Legion will assume any liability for personal injury, property damage or loss sustained by any contestant or his or her chaperon enroute to or from the Contests.

Judges

Arrangements for judges shall be made by the representative of the National Americanism Commission in the Regional, Sectional, and National Contest centers. The names shall be submitted to the Director of the National Americanism Commission for approval prior to the Contest. Each Contest shall have five judges. No **publicity shall be given to the names of the judges in advance of the Contest.** During the Contest the judges shall be seated in different locations in the auditorium and each judge shall render his final decision without consultation with other judges or any other person. Official score cards will be furnished by the National Americanism Commission for the use of judges in National Contests. Each judge must sign his score card.

The manner of scoring and selecting the winner in the Regional, Sectional and Final Contests shall conform to the following point scoring schedule:

The American Legion

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST

Judge's Card for .....Contest
(Insert Name, Number or Letter of Contest—Regional 9—Sectional C—National Finals, etc.)

Name of Judge		Date			
	Number of Contestant	1	2	3	4
1. Presence, Poise and Personality 25 Points	Prepared Oration 18 Pts.	17	18	16	18
	Ex. Temp. 7 Pts.	6	5	6	7
2. Composition and Effectiveness 23 Points	Prepared Oration 18 Pts.	15	14	17	16
	Ex. Temp. 5 Pts.	2	4	3	5
3. Accuracy 27 Points	Prepared Oration 17 Pts.	16	12	14	16
	Ex. Temp. 10 Pts.	9	6	8	10
4. Oratory, Power to Convince 25 Points	Prepared Oration 18 Pts.	16	17	14	18
	Ex. Temp. 7 Pts.	5	6	6	6
Penalty 1 Point Deducted for each minute or fraction thereof over or under allotted time	Prepared Oration	—1	—0	—0	—2
	Ex. Temp.	—0	—1	—0	—0
	Total Points	85	81	84	94
	Record of Choice	2	4	3	1

Each judge shall insert the total number of points credited to the contestant and also insert in the proper column the standing of each contestant. The judges shall not confer prior to the announcement of their decision as to the standing of the contestants. The contestant receiving the low score total will be declared the winner. (For example, if one contestant receives two firsts, two seconds and a third on the judges' score cards, his total low score point will be nine. If the second contestant receives two firsts, two seconds and a fourth, his total low score will be ten. Even though the second contestant receives two firsts, his total low score of ten will place him second.)

Lack of emphasis in the prepared oration and the extemporaneous discourse on the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen must result in the judges downgrading the contestant involved. Judges will also downgrade contestants if they suspect parts of their extemporaneous discourse have been memorized.

In the event that two or more contestants receive the same point score total, the tie shall be broken by reference to high total percentage points received from all judges. The total percentage method shall be applied only to those contestants tied for any positions on the basis of the low score method. In the case of a tie on the percentage basis as well as the low score basis, the judges will then meet, compare their scores and discuss all features of the Contest in order to arrive at a final choice. The decision of the judges will be final.

National Representatives and Tabulators are not permitted to divulge judges' score cards to anyone at the site of the Contest.

National Representatives are required to send all judges' cards to National Headquarters following Contests.

Persons interested in the exact scoring, for professional purposes, may be furnished copies of cards, with judges' names deleted, at the discretion of the National Americanism Commission Director, upon request in writing. This pertains to National Contests only.

Contest Regulations

Contestants shall draw for the order in which they appear, the drawing to be conducted by the representative of the National Americanism Commission who will introduce the speakers as Number 1, Number 2, etc.

The Chairman will be expected to introduce each contestant by name immediately before he announces the decision of the judges. Public announcement of the first-place winner **only** shall be made in Regional and Sectional Contests.

The time allotted for each contestant to deliver his prepared oration shall be not less than ten nor more than twelve minutes, and for the extemporaneous discourse not less than four nor more than six minutes.

If a contestant fails to use all of his allotted time or uses more than his allotted time in the delivery of his **prepared oration or extemporaneous discourse,** a penalty of one point for each minute or fraction thereof shall be assessed against the contestant's total score.

An official timer shall be named by the chairman whose duty it shall be to keep an accurate time record of each contestant, and he shall be located on the main floor in full view of the contestants. The timer should be equipped with a stop watch and time cards for the prepared oration carrying the figures 10, 11, 12. When ten minutes have been used, the time warning card with the figure 10 thereon shall be placed in full view of speaker, following with 11 and 12 as the speaker progresses. The same procedure shall be used with cards bearing the figures 4, 5, and 6 during the Extemporaneous Discourse. The Chairman shall announce the time consumed by each contestant for the prepared oration and the Extemporenaous Discourse, immediately after each contestant speaks, for the benefit of the judges.

It is assumed that all National Contests will be conducted in auditoriums having a stage or platform from which contestants will speak; however, the use of notes, lectern, or speaker's stand by contestants OR PROMPTING IN ANY MANNER, is not permitted.

Prompting can be permitted by Department officials in Department contests, below the Department or State final contest, if desirable. Department (State) finals must conform to National rules.

As each speaker concludes his prepared oration, he will be retired to a private room, under the supervision of an individual appointed by the Chairman, where the discourse of the extemporaneous topic by other speakers cannot be heard.

Approximately six minutes prior to the time of the delivery of the extemporaneous discourse, contestant number one will be informed of the topic drawn for the extemporaneous discourse and shall be permitted to retire to privacy under the direction of an individual appointed by the Chairman, whose duty it shall be to see that no contestant is permitted to consult any text matter or notes having any connection with the subject matter upon which he is to speak, other than the actual words of the topic provided on the card drawn.

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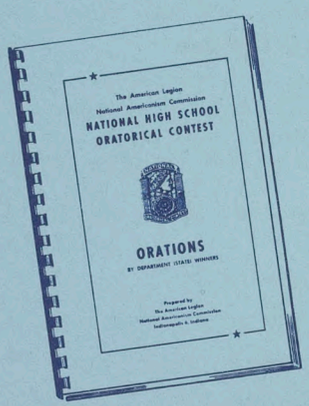
1961 ORATIONS BY ALL DEPARTMENT (STATE) WINNERS



This publication contains the full text of all of the Department (State) Winners' Orations for 1961, along with pictures of Winners, brief biography of each and the history of the Oratorical contest since its inception in 1938. Copies should be in all high school libraries for the benefit of speech teachers and students wishing to enter The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest. They make excellent gifts and all who read them will not only enjoy the Orations but will be better citizens because of the experience.

Order single copies, or in quantities, by filling out the back of this Order Blank and sending with remittance of $1.00 per copy to P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Indiana.

Note: 1957, 1958, 1959, and 1960 editions are still available at $1.00 per copy.

(Turn page for your order blank)

ORATORICAL PROGRAM AWARDS

Many American Legion Posts have taken an active part in the Oratorical Contest over the years. They have found this program both successful and beneficial to their community. Local schools have cooperated with the Posts in such programs.

For some time, there has been a demand for suitable recognition for both the participants in the Oratorical Contest as well as for the cooperating schools. Such awards are now available. Make your plans now for an Oratorical Contest and order these fine awards from: National Emblem Sales, The American Legion, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Indiana.

ORATORY PLAQUE

with reproduction of the oratorical medal as an integral part of the design. Bronze plaque, 8¼x12¼ inches, mounted on walnut stained backboard 10x14¼ inches. Complete with wall hanger. Fourteen raised plates for engraving of names of winners. Engraving on panels 10 cents per letter or numeral. Embossed at the bottom of the plaque "AWARDED ANNUALLY BY" plus the name, number, town, and state location of your Post. Embossing included in price. Two weeks for delivery. No. C.O.D. shipment.

No. 73559 ..... $33.00

ORATORY MEDAL

1¼ inches with new, attractive design featuring Patrick Henry. American Legion ribbon with pin and coil type catch.

No. 73558 ..... $2.00

Each succeeding contestant will be called upon in the order in which he previously appeared. He shall, also in turn, be informed of the topic of the Extemporaneous Discourse and shall then be escorted to privacy in the manner as provided for contestant number one.

Television and Radio Broadcasts, **including kinescopes, filming, or other types of media for later showing,** are permitted in all Contests, providing:

1. The American Legion is in no way obligated financially.

2. Satisfactory arrangements are made in advance with person in charge of auditorium where Contest is to be held.

3. The broadcast will in no way interfere with pre-announced scheduled time of Contest.

4. The normal speaking voice of the Contestant is not interfered with or amplified within the auditorium.

The first-place winner of a National Finals Contest will be ineligible for further participation.

THE AMERICAN LEGION

— National Americanism Commission — P. O. Box 1055 — Indianapolis 6, Indiana

_____ 196____

Please send to the address below_____copies of The American Legion publication of the 1961 Orations of the Department (State) Winners, National High School Oratorical Contest, at $1.00 per copy. The Amount of $_____is enclosed.

Name_____

_____

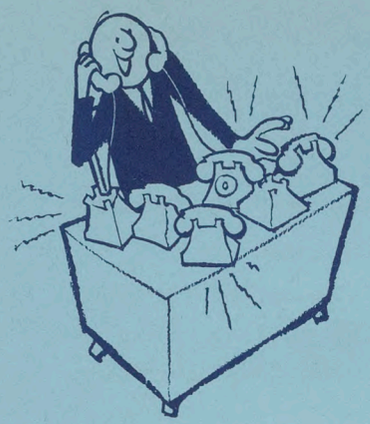
_____

(Full Mailing Address to which publications are to be sent)

Please also send Back Issues indicated.
$1.00 per copy is enclosed.

☐ 1957 ☐ 1958 ☐ 1959 ☐ 1960

Post Commanders' Exchange



KINGSTON, N. Y.

In our Third District we have seven Counties. In my own County of Ulster, we have already exceeded the highest membership in the history of The American Legion, and it has been accomplished through using the "salient mediums" furnished by National Headquarters.

I have found that the Posts which are unable to reach a high membership just fail to follow the Membership Program.

I would like to suggest that if you could successfully persuade each Post to prepare a card file for their respective communities of all present and former Legionnaires and showing on these cards their reasons for not enrolling, the results, after proper follow-up, would give the Legion the highest membership in its history. As we all know, so many Commanders are good Commanders, but they are not familiar with the "membership know-how." They must seek out the "membership getters."

THIRD DISTRICT — THOMAS BOHAN, COMMANDER

— "Where's Elmer?" —

UPPER DARBY, PA.

I have enjoyed each and every issue of ADVANCE. This publication is of tremendous value and should be distributed indiscriminately to each of the Post's top three officers. This publication has been an asset to me by the fact that it has given me material as a guide for governing my Post.

The news releases which you publish can go a long way toward keeping the communities and the Legion Posts in good harmony, provided the Posts use these releases. I suggest that all Post Commanders take a little time and send these releases to their local papers, if the subject matter of the news stories is applicable to their Post activities. The end results of these news releases appearing in the local paper will benefit both Post and community.

POST 227 — WALTER J. CRISANTI, COMMANDER

— "Where's Elmer?" —

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Thank you for the copies of the June edition of ADVANCE which you produced with our Petition.

We are grateful indeed . . . for your cooperation. We are sure that publication of our Petition in ADVANCE will give our campaign a big boost.

Thank you again. All best wishes,

MARVIN LIEBMAN, SECRETARY
Committe of One Million

(Ed. Note: Mr. Post Commander, have you forwarded your copy of the Petition, opposing the admission of Red China to the United Nations, to the Committee of One Million? See the June 1961 ADVANCE.)

— "Where's Elmer?" —

CLIFTON, N. J.

When I was installed as Commander of our Post last fall I based my speech on two points, to sell our American Legion to all and to rededicate ourselves to a genuine love of America.

Shortly after my term had started, Past Commander William O'Brien of our Post expressed the thought that perhaps my message should be heard and adopted throughout the entire organization of The American Legion. Bill agreed to draw up the resolution embodying the basic ideas we hold dear in our hearts. It was adopted by our Post, County, and Department.

This spring, we heard it was read to the National Executive Committee at Indianapolis. The NEC adopted the resolution as a guide to all Posts throughout the nation and overseas. We of our Post felt quite proud that we may have ignited a spark which could be kindled into a great flame of "old-fashioned, flag-waving" Americanism throughout our fine nation.

Tonight I picked up the July issue of ADVANCE and began to read the editorial. It was our resolution, word for word! Truthfully, as Commander, I feel very elated that you people gave our idea the wonderful coverage it has received. Thank you very much.

POST 8 — JACK W. KUEPFER, COMMANDER

— "Where's Elmer?" —

CHICAGO. ILL.

While reading the letters in the Post Commanders' Exchange in the June issue of The American Legion ADVANCE I noticed a letter from Scotia, N. Y., and signed by John W. Dodge, the post adjutant. His Post number was 1001. This is the same number we have.

Is this in error or do we have more than one Post in the Legion with the same number?

POST 1001 — CARL GALDINA, COMMANDER

(Ed. Note: American Legion Posts are assigned numbers by their respective Departments.)

— "Where's Elmer?" —

Suggested News Release
Enrollment Workers Appointed for 1962 Legion Membership Drive Here

The 1962 membership campaign of ..... (Name of Post) ..... Post No..... of The American Legion here will be under the direction of a (n) ..... (Number) ....-man committee, Post Commander ..... (Full Name) ..... said today as he announced the Post's committee appointments for the coming year.

Under the chairmanship of ..... (Full Name and address of Chairman.....) the committee will embark immediately on a drive to sign up all eligible veterans in ..... (Community) ....., Commander..... .... (last name only) ..... stated.

Appointed to the membership committee are: .... (List full names and addresses of committee).....

Other committees named by Commander ..... (Last Name) ..... are as follows:

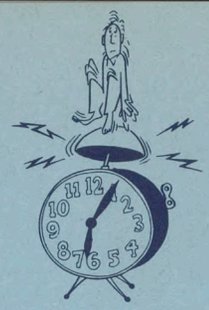
..... (Name of committee—full names and addresses of its members. Make each committee a paragraph.) .....

— "Where's Elmer?" —

Mr. Post Commander: You'll find an article of utmost interest in the August 1961 issue of The American Legion Magazine which should be in your mailbox in just a few days. The article, "What Sort of a Leader Are You?" written by C. W. "Pat" Geile, national membership director of The American Legion, tells how any Legionnaire, if elected Post Commander, could map his plans in August to have a successful year by applying general principles of true leadership.

— "Where's Elmer?" —

Time To Get Moving



Aug. 26-Sept. 2	Finals, American Legion Baseball, Hastings, Neb.
Sept. 9-14	43rd National Convention, The American Legion, Denver, Colo. *Bring the whole family to the "Mile High" Convention!*
Oct. 20-Nov. 11	AL (American Legion) Weeks. *These are the three big weeks to sew up your early membership campaign for 1962.*

— "Where's Elmer?" —

Going to Denver? Vistors to the 43rd National Convention, Sept. 9-14, are being offered daily tours through the Mile-High City and trips to the Air Force Academy at nearby Colorado Springs. Post-convention tours include a four-day jaunt to Las Vegas, Nev., and an overnight trip through Rocky Mountain National Park. Full details on all trips and tours may be obtained by writing the Denver Travel Agency, 1714 Stout St., Denver, Colo.

— "Where's Elmer?" —

Reminder: Mr. Post Commander, please urge your membership workers who are responsible for completing and mailing the 1962 Subscription cards for The American Legion Magazine to SEPARATE these cards before mailing to National Headquarters.

THE AMERICAN LEGION

ADVANCE

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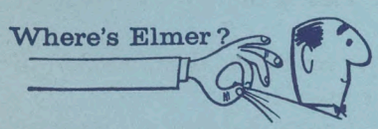

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FORM 3547 REQUESTED