

MILEGIONNAIRE

Vol. XCII No. 5

michiganlegion.org

May 2024

Memorial Day is May 27th

Does Your Post Have a Memorial Day Plan?



May 2024

Big Amendment Edition! See all Proposed 2024 Amendments on Page 7-14!

AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

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DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

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— Joshua McGinnis, Master of Public Administration

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AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS PRESENTS

JUNE 13-15, 2024
8TH ANNUAL

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VETERAN AND CHILDREN
FOUNDATION

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There's No Time Like the Present!

Brian Mohlman
Department Commander

As we enter the month of May, we find ourselves in the midst of a Full-Blown Membership Mobilization...more commonly referred to as a Department-wide Membership Revitalization. Reaching the 95% Target Date for the first time in years, we find ourselves in 12th place in the Nation, thanks to the outstanding efforts of the Department Membership & Post Activities Committee. With the help of

your Post, District, and Department Leadership, we have laid out a plan to successfully reach the 100% Membership Target by May 15.

Now is the time to roll up our sleeves and physically reach out to our unrenewed members, showing them the value of their continued American Legion Membership. There are MANY at-large, or 225 Members, in your area, and we should focus on bringing them into your local Post as soon as possible. Many at-large members may not even know a local American Legion Post exists near them, and it's up to all of us to tell them about their options.

As I've traveled around the Department for the past couple of months, I've been amazed at the dedication and quality of our members. I had multiple opportunities to attend local Americanism Banquets, honoring local heroes and first responders. I recently had the opportunity to present St. Clair Police Officer Sgt Don Ennes with the Department Law Officer of the Year Award at a ceremony at City Hall. What a fitting testament to the quality of the thousands of Law Enforcement Officers across this great state!

I'm looking forward to visiting with more of you during my travels these next few months...you have taught me so much about The American Legion Department of Michigan!



STATE OFFICERS

State Commander. Brian Mohlman
 State Adjutant. Ron Runyan
 1st Vice Commander Dan Cooper
 2nd Vice Commander Wayne Blank
 1st Zone Robert Kamin
 2nd Zone. Duane Miller
 3rd Zone Jerry Kunzelman
 4th Zone Randy Gilbert
 5th Zone Ray Carlson
 Chaplain. Norm Soli
 Finance Officer. Leo Cowdry
 Historian Robert Higley Jr.
 N.E.C Larry Money
 Judge Advocate. Barry Wood
 Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Salamon
 Immediate Past Commander- Marilyn Britten
 Alt. N.E.C Brett Holt
 VA and R Director Gary Easterling

DEADLINE DATES

June 2024 is May 10th

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HEADQUARTERS DIRECTORY

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michiganlegion.org

media@michiganlegion.org

Runyan's Ramblings

Why the Michigan American Legion is Important to Your Community



Ron Runyan
Department Adjutant

There is one tool we ask each Post and Squadron to use every year, which seems to be ignored or forgotten. This tool or document is the Consolidated Post Report (CPR) or Squadron Data Report (SDR). The state sends these forms out to every Post and SAL every year in late March or early April.

This document is very important to your entity, the state and most importantly to the US Congress! That's right; the US Congress and the lawmakers in this great nation will get raw data and numbers on what we collectively do in our state. Now, you might be scratching your head thinking...Ron, why do they care? Well, that's a great question. They see the importance of why we belong, why they allow The American Legion to be a Congressionally Chartered organization, and why we are a 501c19 Tax Exempt organization. They see the countless hours our volunteers put in at VA Hospitals. To put this one item into retrospect, if the federal government had to employ people to do what our organization does volunteering, it would cost millions of dollars more every fiscal year, and that is per hospital. So, there is a massive benefit for us to continue doing our volunteer work, but most importantly let-

ting them know what we are doing. Check out this article, "By the Numbers," which breaks down the information from CPRs/CSRs: <https://www.legion.org/bythenumbers>. THIS MAY BE THE REASON SOMEONE BECOMES A MEMBER OR REMAINS A MEMBER!

The form can be intimidating for many of our Posts and SAL squadrons. It is true that it is lengthy. However, answer every question to the best of your ability. To make it easier next year, try to document areas within the form throughout the year. Use your best judgment when answering or your best guess, but be as realistic as possible. If nothing else, once it is completed, make sure the top portion is filled out fully with your post information and membership numbers, and send it back to Department HQ by early June. Our staff will scan and email these to the National organization to have them recorded.

As of mid-April, Michigan only had 6% of all Posts with the CPRs turned in. I would like to see posts and squadrons get up to or exceed 80% CPR/CSR turn-in percentages. All current and past leadership and other involved members should be taking the initiative and calling to help get these forms filled out and turned in.

Since it is now May, and if you need help with your forms, please feel free to contact our office for assistance at 517-220-2749 or member@michiganlegion.org.

	<i>Extension</i>
LEGION AND SAL MEMBERSHIP	124
member@michiganlegion.org	
LEGION FINANCE	117
finance@michiganlegion.org	
PROGRAMS, BOYS STATE, SCHOLARSHIPS, & BASEBALL	123
legion@michiganlegion.org	
VETERANS SERVICE	112
Tuesday & Friday	
PUBLIC RELATIONS, WEBSITE, NEWSPAPER & SOCIAL MEDIA	116
media@michiganlegion.org	
ADMINISTRATION	113
kim@michiganlegion.org	

If you have a photo you would like to submit for the Michigan Legionnaire and/or website use, E-mail it to us at media@michiganlegion.org or mail it to Department, Attn: Jim Showers.

Please keep the photo at least 200 dpi or larger. If you are submitting a hard copy photo, please note photos printed from a home printer cannot be used, nor can photos clipped from newspapers.

We look for photos showing Legion caps in action whenever possible.

Interested in placing an ad in the Michigan Legionnaire? Please Contact Jim Showers

media@michiganlegion.org

517-220-2747

Membership Report

Dan Cooper
1st Vice Commander

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL POSTS AND DISTRICTS. THE DEPARTMENT HAS HIT THE 95% TARGET DATE.

The Department has not reached the 95% target for at least a decade, and we have now made every target date so far this year. We have only the 100% target to make on May 15.

The Membership Committee this year has been successful. We changed the form of the committee from the District First Vice Commander being on the Committee to five members selected for their expertise in a particular area of membership growth.

The committee has met every month to discuss our growth plan and has continued to work on the plan throughout the year. In September, the Department started in 22nd place in the National Standings and rose steadily until we were in the top 10, reaching 5th place in January.

We are in 1st place in the Central Region, and we now have 81 Posts at 100% or higher, 12 Posts that have achieved at least 98%, and 49 Posts at 95% or above.

The Post Development Subcommittee has had an active year with the revitalization of Walker Post 1111, canvassing 225 members in their area and had a VSO present to handle any claims for the VA. Post 1111 is now at 100%.

At the Winter Meeting, the DEC closed the East Detroit/Roseville Post 261, with most of their members and assets transferred to nearby Mt Clemens Post 4. The DEC has voted to close Inkster Post 285 in District 16. It will now go to the National Executive Committee for approval at their Spring Meeting.

A new post was started in the 3rd District, the David Nims Post 420, which has received its temporary charter and is well on its way to its permanent charter.

I want to thank everyone who has worked so diligently to make this year successful. What You have achieved is simply phenomenal.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Membership Director this year. It has been an honor and a pleasure.



Chaplains Corner
An Activist for the Right Cause
Norm Soli, Department Chaplain

On 28 February 1967, PFC James Anderson Jr. pulled an enemy grenade to his chest and curled around it to protect his fellow Marines from the blast that was about to happen. Many other similar stories can be recounted throughout the history of this great nation. John 15:13: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Why did we answer our country's call when drafted, and why did some of us enlist? There may be various reasons for joining the American military. But I would guess that all of us would agree that we believed in and wanted to protect our Republic.

How do we know what a person has faith or belief in? We know by noticing the things they do, which are based on what they believe. We see the actions that they take. As Galatians 5:6-7 puts it, "...The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."

PFC James Anderson Jr. expressed his love and devotion to his Country and fellow Marines through his ultimate sacrifice. He was an activist for a right and noble cause.

In today's turbulent environment, let's make sure our actions are founded in a faith in God and His Word, love for all people, with action that expresses what we believe. Malachi 2:10a, "Do we not all have one Father? Did not one God create us?"



Americanism Report

Wayne Blank
2nd Vice Commander



We are ending the 2023-24 year and have had success with most of our Americanism Programs. We must start thinking about next year. We must bring attention to our Americanism representative

at the post level and District when we have elections and appointments. Yes, they are important because this is our first line of development for our whole program year.

When young people register for a Legion program, we must stay in touch with each of them. This is a duty of each post member, Americanism post chair, Post commander and District commander.

Next, our District should have Americanism Chairs, and these chairs should have a report and registration material for all Legion Programs. Our post commanders should attend all District meetings to get updates on Americanism programs and all information about the American Legion.

Are you getting to know your members? Do members at your post know what the legion has available for them and their families? How are you getting the word out to your members efficiently?

Please contact me if your post has a successful program in your community that is adding members.

Blood, Eye and Vital Organ

Jerry Andrus,
Subcommittee Chairman



I was honored to present a plaque for 40 gallons of blood at our winter conference. James Kulas has been giving most of his life.

How many other donors do we have? We have awards for 10, 20, 30 and 40. Have you ever thought of donating your body after your time with us? They are doing miracles nowadays. A person can see since an eye transplant. Our souls go to heaven but our bodies just turn to dust. My committee meets with National Security at the Convention this summer, so join us for more information.

WE ARE PROUD TO PARTNER ONCE AGAIN WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN AMERICAN LEGION
WATCH FOR OUR VETERANS BURIAL BENEFITS BRIEFINGS IN YOUR AREA WHERE WE EXPLAIN YOUR BENEFITS AND ENJOY A NICE MEAL TOGETHER

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CONTACT TONY LAURI FOR INFORMATION
TONY.LAURI@DIGNITYMEMORIAL.COM (248) 804-8493

District Meetings

First District

Meetings start at 1 pm.

May 19, 2024

Knights of Columbus Post 390
19801 Farmington Road, Livonia,
MI 48152

June 16, 2024

American Legion Post 32
9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia,
MI 48150

July 21, 2024

American Legion Post 147
100 W Dunlop Street, Northville,
MI 48167

Second District

Meetings start at 11 am with the
SAL followed by the Riders at
Noon with a Lunch VSO starts
at 1 pm and Legion meetings are
at 2 pm.

May 19, 2024

Jackson- Rose City Post 324
1190 Falahee Rd. Jackson, MI
49203 517.662.3387

Third District

Meetings Officers at 11:30 am,
Lunch is at 12pm, and Business
at 1:00 pm. Training will take
place once the meeting is ad-
journed.

May 5, 2024 TBD

Fourth District

Service officers training at 11:00
am Dinner at 12:30 pm Meetings
at 1:30 pm.

May 5, 2024

Hastings
269-331-0623

Fifth District

Meetings are on the 2nd Thurs-
day of every month. Dinner @
5:30 pm and Meeting @ 7 pm.

May 9, 2024

Post 28

July 11, 2024

LOCATION TBD by Next Com-
mander

Sixth District

Service Officer School at 11:10
am (when scheduled),Lunch at
Noon, Meetings at 1 pm

May 19, 2024

Buck-Reasoner Post 238
1785 Cedar Street Holt, Michigan
48842

Seventh District

Lunch at 12:30 wilth meetings at
2:00

May 19, 2024

Lapeer post #16
1701 W. Genesse

Eighth District

Trainings will start at Noon, Din-
ner at 1:00pm with Legion and
Auxiliary meetings immediately
following.

May 19, 2024

Greenville Post 101
1320 W. Washington St. 616-754-
5063

Ninth District

Executive meetings are at
11:00am with Lunch at noon.
Meetings at 1:00pm.

May 11, 2024 Post 69

Whitehall, MI

Tenth District

All meetings will start with lunch
at noon. Meetings at 1:00 pm.

May 4, 2024

Luzerne, Post 162

Eleventh District

All Meetings Start at 10 am, with
Lunch to after.
Locations TBD

Twelfth District

Starting at 10 am, with a lunch
and additional hour after lunch if
needed.
Locations TBD

Sixteenth District

All meetings start at 7:30 pm.

May 14, 2024** Lincoln Park

Post 67
313-388-2088

June 11, 2024 Garden City Post
396

313-381-2245

*** Service Officer School at 6:30**
pm

****Memorial Service & Elections**

Eighteenth District

All meetings Meeting for the
District Legion and Auxiliary
Convne at 2:00 p.m

May 19, 2024 - Chief Pontiac

Post 377 *Election of District
Officers for 2024

(248) 673-9301

Nineteenth District

Meetings will be held at the
Gaylord Bowling Center, 1200
Gornick Ave, Gaylord, MI 49735.
Meetings start with training at
10:00 am, Social at 11:00 am,
lunch served at noon. The both
the Legion and Auxiliary will
start at 1:00 pm.

YOU'RE INVITED!

LEGACY RIDE LUNCH AND MEMORIAL BRICK DEDICATION!

FRIDAY JUNE 14TH AT NOON

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN HEADQUARTERS 212 N. VERLINDEN AVE. LANSING MI 48915



AUXILIAIRE



A Time to Remember

Anita Mennel – Department Chaplain

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” John 15:13

Memorial Day is fast approaching—when our nation reflects on those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Our active duty and veterans also know what selfless sacrifice is about. Each of us can take away lessons from them. Remember always to keep our mission and focus on the forefront of everything we do. In our meetings, interactions, and actions, remember we are part of a family that strives to ‘Change lives and Save lives! Be The One to make a difference!

May we pray to our Heavenly Father to give us the willingness to sacrifice all things unessential to decent living so that we may have the means whereby we may be a blessing to the sick, the helpless, and needy people of our world. God help us to do so. Amen. by— *The Rev. Isadore Gertrude Fox, American Legion Auxiliary National Chaplain (1970-1971) and spouse of Rev. Fox-one of the Four Chaplains.*

MVH of Chesterfield Township

Shannon Wawruck, Representative

It has been a very busy year here at MVH of Chesterfield Township. The doors are open, and volunteers are welcome, creating an enjoyable environment for the members of the home. There are currently 125 residents, seven women and 118 men. Find more information about the home at <https://www.michigan.gov/MVH>.

Poppy assembly started in July, and we had one veteran of the home who began assembling his first kit. The program has evolved to veterans joining me in a discussion about the poppy as I assemble them, and a few attempt to finish a poppy, and a few succeed. I also assembled poppies while handling the reception desk in the evening. To date, 40,000 poppies have been assembled in honor of veterans and turned in through this program.

We have supplied needed clothing for veterans who have arrived with very little or no changes of clothing, robes, slippers, and shoes—also, items requested for therapy and recreation. We have stocked the canteen with beverages and snacks on several occasions. Many wish list items have been purchased and delivered as approved by the DEC.

“Adopt A Veteran”-Units and Juniors have adopted veterans and receive special attention and care throughout the year, and it is appreciated. We have a waiting list of veterans to be adopted. If you, your unit or your district would like more information about adopting a Veteran, please contact me, and I will assist you.

Receiving cards from the “Cards for Soldiers” program

has been nice. Various Thinking of You, Birthday, Feel Better, Holidays Christmas, Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day and Easter Cards are given to our members. Send a letter, note or postcard whenever they all love getting mail.

We purchased candy for Halloween as members participated in a Trunk or Treat at the local elementary school across the street. They were adorable Dalmatians, and staff members dressed as Cruella de Vil. They also had trick-or-treating in the home.

Our first annual Christmas Shop was held in November; Units #4, #63, #108, #143, #149, #216, #351, #377 and #382, the 7th and 18th District all donated money and gifts with a total value of over \$10,000. Eight volunteers helped set up, and 11 for a shopping day and clean up. It was a success.

The Valentine’s Day Party was a big hit. Unit #510’s donation of \$250 went towards the band and snacks. We had five energetic volunteers from the 7th and 18th Districts that afternoon.

I look forward to the MVHCT Annual Heroic Walk, Run & Roll Fundraiser on May 11, 2024. This year, participation is open to the public. Find more information at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/Chesterfield/MVHCTVeteranWalkRunRoll>.

We are planning a 4th of July luau, which will be fun. If you want to sponsor an event or volunteer, Chesterfield MVAC is the place. Volunteers have generously given over 200 hours this year, but there is always more to be done.

Thank you, Volunteers, you made this year successful and rewarding.

Public Relations Department

Debbie Weatherbee, Chairman

As we finish this year, remember to pass this information on “Who, What, When, Where, Why and How.” Remember this information when we are out in public and wear your American Legion Auxiliary brand. Be kind and stay positive, uplifting and encouraging to the public, members and social media. Welcome your new members (don’t forget your current members) and make sure they are informed of events, meetings, etc.

The convention will be here before we know it, and I look forward to seeing all of you and presenting some great awards!

Thank you, President Kim Champion, for giving me this appointment. A big thank you to Executive Director Shannon Werner. This has been challenging and rewarding. Without your help, I would not have been able to have completed this assignment successfully.

**Something Happening
at your Unit?
Submit it to the
Michigan Auxiliaire!**

**Send your articles and Pictures (with
Cutline) to : info@michalaux.org**

Proposed Amendments to the Department Constitution and Bylaws

A Quick Reference guide to all Proposed Amendments

24-CA-1	Const	Article IV, Section 2	Change the limited options for amount of time paying dues to reflect Natl authorizing 3 year membership and also allow for possible future payment option that may be authorized by Natl
24-CA-2	Const	Article VII, Section 8	Add: Comm, Adj and Fin Ofcr shall be separate individuals and be current members of the Post
24-CA-3	Const	Article VII, Sect 12	Change first "shall" to "may", and the second "may" to "shall"
24-CA-4	Const	Article VII, Sect 10	Add: "or their designee" after "newly elected Post Commander"
24-CA-5	Const	Article XI, Section 2	Remove the current phrase "in paper form" and insert sentence "Said Call shall, at the same time, be mailed"
24-CA-6	Const	Article XVI, Section 1	Insert: "Said proposed amendments shall be included with the Call of the Annual Convention and mailed in"
24-CA-7	Bylaws	Article XII, Section 1	Insert: "Said proposed amendments shall be included with the Call of the Annual Convention and mailed in"
24-CA-8	Const	Article IX, Section 6	Remove Article IX, Section 6, and renumber appropriately
24-CA-9	Const	Article VI, Section 2	Remove "Vice Commanders"
24-CA-10	Const	Article VI, Section 4	Update verbiage adding Department & National
24-CA-11	Const	Article XIII, Sect 2	Adding 'Department' before 'Executive Committee'
24-CA-12	Const	Article XIII, Sect 1	Adding '1st and 2nd' in front of 'Vice Commanders'
24-CA-13	Const	Article XII, Sect 2	Adding 'Department' before 'Executive'
24-CA-14	Const	Article VI, Section 2	Add 'Alternate NEC' and remove 'Vice and Zone Commanders'
24-CA-15	Const	Article VI, Section 3	Add 'DMS Coord, UP Membersp Dir, Asst Membersp Dir, Asst Judge Adv, Asst Dept Chaplain, Asst Sgt-at-Arms'
24-CA-16	Const	Article IX, Section 8	Clarify the 2 methods to elect a District Commander
24-CA-17	Bylaws	Article XI, Section 1	Reword the Process for Disciplining of Department Officers
24-CA-18	Bylaws	Article IV, Section 1	Reworded for Clarification
24-CA-19	Bylaws	Article IV, Section 2	Adding "Department" for Clarification
24-CA-20	Bylaws	Article V, Section 1	Rewording to conform with National standards
24-CA-21	Bylaws	Article V, Section 2	Rewording to conform with National standards, word changes
24-CA-22	Bylaws	Article V, Section 3	Separate 1st and 2nd Vice to allow descriptions, etc.
24-CA-23	Bylaws	Article V, Section 4	Rewritten for clarification and remove duplication
24-CA-24	Bylaws	Article V, Section 5	Consolidate and reword Section 5 with Section 13
24-CA-25	Bylaws	Article V, Section 6	Verbiage changes to Conform to National's C&BL
24-CA-26	Bylaws	Article V, Section 7	Verbiage changes to Conform to National's C&BL
24-CA-27	Bylaws	Article V, Section 8	Verbiage changes to Conform to National's C&BL
24-CA-28	Bylaws	Article V, Section 9	Verbiage changes to Conform to National's C&BL
24-CA-29	Bylaws	Article V, Sect 10	Verbiage changes to Conform to National's C&BL
24-CA-30	Bylaws	Article V, Sect 11	Adding "Department" and "National" to existing Verbiage
24-CA-31	Bylaws	Article V, Sect 12	Delete Section 12, move second sentence to Section 9
24-CA-32	Bylaws	Article V, Sect 13	Delete Section 13 to eliminate redundancy
24-CA-33	Bylaws	Article XI, Section 1	Rewritten for clarification
24-CA-34	Const	Article XVI, Sect 3	Change punctuation and adding Department Judge Advocate
24-CA-35	Bylaws	Article VI, Section 6	Remove Section 6
24-CA-36	Bylaws	Article VI, Section 7	Remove a line, change a line, add a line
24-CA-37	Bylaws	Article VI, Section 4	Remove 2nd paragraph
24-CA-38	Const	Article VII, Sect 18	Add line regarding Post Insurance
24-CA-39	Bylaws	Article XII, Sect 3	Change punctuation adding Department Judge Advocate
24-CA-40	Const	Article XVI, Sect 3	Change punctuation adding Department Judge Advocate
24-CA-41	Const	Article VI, Section 2	Remove "Vice Commanders" Add Alternate NEC

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-3

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VII, Section 12, which now reads:

"In addition to the newly elected Post Commander, each Post shall select one (1) Delegate for each fifty (50) paid-up members, or major fraction thereof, to represent such Post at the annual Department Convention. Each Post may select an Alternate for each Delegate chosen. The Delegates and Alternates may be chosen by each Post from among its own members in good standing. The names of all Delegates and Alternates shall be certified to the Department Adjutant no later than the close of business on the Friday before the opening date of the annual Department Convention."

To be Amended by:

Changing: The first "shall" to "may", changing the (currently) second "may" to "shall"

So that when amended, Article VII, Section 12, shall read:

"In addition to the newly elected Post Commander, each Post may select one (1) Delegate for each fifty (50) paid-up members, or major fraction thereof, to represent such Post at the annual Department Convention. Each Post may select an Alternate for each Delegate chosen. The Delegates and Alternates shall be chosen by each Post from among its own members in good standing. The names of all Delegates and Alternates shall be certified to the Department Adjutant no later than the close of business on the Friday before the opening date of the annual Department Convention".

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-4

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VII, Section 10, which now reads:

"All Posts shall hold elections of Post Officers not less than ten (10) days nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the annual Department Convention. The newly elected Post Commander shall be a delegate to said Department Convention and shall attend the same as such delegate. Newly elected Post Officers shall be installed not later than forty-five (45) days after the close of the annual Department Convention, and all Post Officers shall have paid their dues for the year of their term of office by the time of their installation."

To be Amended by:

Adding: "or their designee" after "newly elected Post Commander."

So that when amended, Article VII, Section 10, shall read: "All Posts shall hold elections of Post Officers not less than ten (10) days nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the annual Department Convention."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-1

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article IV, Section 2, which now reads:

"There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership, and dues shall be paid annually or for life." To be Amended by: Changing the limited options for amount of time of paying dues to reflect the recent change by National authorizing three (3) year membership and to also allow for possible future dues paying option that may be authorized by National.

So that when amended, Article IV, Section 2, shall read: "There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership and dues shall be paid as prescribed by the National organization".

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-2

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, which now reads:

"Each Post shall have a Commander, an Adjutant and a Finance Officer and such other officers as shall be provided in the Post's Constitution and Bylaws."

To be Amended by: Adding: The Commander, Adjutant, and Finance Officer shall be separate individuals and be current members of the Post.

So that when amended, Article VII, Section 8, shall read:

"Each Post shall have a Commander, an Adjutant, and a Finance Officer and such other offices as shall be provided in the Post's Constitution and Bylaws. The Commander, Adjutant, and Finance Officer shall be separate individuals and be current members on the Post".

REASONING: Licensing and Regulatory Affairs agency of Michigan requires each nonprofit corporation of Michigan to have at least three (3) directors. With the defining requirement within the proposed amendment, this requirement can be met by all Posts of the Department.

The newly elected Post Commander, or their designee, shall be a delegate to said Department Convention and shall attend the same as such delegate. Newly elected Post Officers shall be installed not later than forty-five (45) days after the close of the annual Department Convention, and all Post Officers shall have paid their dues for the year of their term of office by the time of their installation”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-5

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article XI, Section 2, which now reads: “Notice shall be given of the Annual Department Convention by the Department Adjutant to all Posts of the Department of the time and place of the Convention, which notice shall be entitled “Call of the Annual Convention”, and which shall be published electronically on the Department website at least sixty (60) days prior to said Convention and be published in paper form in a Spring edition of the Michigan Legionnaire. There shall be no other official notice of the Department Convention.”

To be Amended by:

Removing the current phrase “in paper form” and inserting the sentence “Said Call shall, at the same time, be mailed in letter form to each member of the Department at their most current mailing address and include any Proposed Amendments to the Department Constitution and/or Bylaws.”

So that when amended, Article XI, Section 2, shall read: “Notice shall be given of the Annual Department Convention by the Department Adjutant to all Posts of the Department of the time and place of the

Convention, which notice shall be entitled “Call of the Annual Convention”, and which shall be published electronically on the Department website at least sixty (60) days prior to said Convention and be published in a Spring edition of the Michigan Legionnaire. Said Call shall, at the same time, be mailed in letter form to each member of the Department at their most current mailing address and shall include any proposed amendments to the Department Constitution and Bylaws. There shall be no other official notice of the Department Convention.”

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-6

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article XVI, Section 1, which now reads:

“This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote at any Annual Department Convention, provided notice be published electronically on the Department website at least sixty (60) days prior to said convention and be published in a Spring edition of the Michigan Legionnaire. Said proposed amendment shall be referred to the Convention Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which shall submit the same to the Department Convention with its recommendations with regard thereto.”

To be Amended by:

Inserting the sentence: “Said proposed amendments shall be included with the Call of the Annual Convention and mailed in letter form to each member of the Department at

their most current mailing address.”

So that when amended, Article XVI, Section 1, shall read:

“This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote at any Annual Department Convention, provided notice be published electronically on the Department website at least sixty (60) days prior to said convention and be published in a Spring edition of the Michigan Legionnaire. Said proposed amendments shall be included with the Call of the Annual Convention and mailed in letter form to each member of the Department at their most current mailing address. Said proposed amendment shall be referred to the Convention Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which shall submit the same to the Department Convention with its recommendations with regard thereto.”

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-7

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article XII, Section 1, which now reads:

“These Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote at any Annual Department Convention, provided notice be published electronically on the Department website at least sixty (60) days prior to said convention and be published in a Spring edition of the Michigan Legionnaire. Said proposed amendment shall be referred to the Convention Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which shall submit the same to the Department Convention with its recommendations with regard thereto.”

To be Amended by:

Inserting the sentence, “Said proposed amendments shall be included with the Call of the Annual Convention and mailed in letter form to each member of the Department at their most current mailing address.”

So that when amended, Article XII, Section 1, shall read:

“These Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote at any Annual Department Convention, provided notice be published electronically on the Department website at least sixty (60) days prior to said convention and be published in a Spring edition of the Michigan Legionnaire. Said proposed amendments shall be included with the Call of the Annual Convention and mailed in letter form to each member of the Department at their most current mailing address. Said proposed amendment shall be referred to the Convention Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which shall submit the same to the Department Convention with its recommendations with regard thereto.”

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-8

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article IX, Section 6, which now reads:

“The Eleventh and Twelfth Districts may form a joint Districts Association, to be known as the Upper Peninsula Association. Such Association shall elect from its members a number of District Commanders equal to a number of Districts in the Association. No other sector, City or County organization of Posts shall be formed in said District.”

To be Amended by:

Removing Article IX, Section 6, in its entirety and renumbering the following sections as appropriate.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-9

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VI, Section 2, which now reads:

“The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of the officers of the Department, the Immediate Past Department Commander and National Executive Committeeman, together with the Vice Commanders, Zone Commanders, District Commanders, as hereinafter provided. The Department Commander shall serve as the Chairman of the Department Executive Committee.”

To be Amended by: Removing “Vice Commanders”, as Vice Commanders are officers of the Department and are already recognized in this section. So that when amended, Article VI, Section 2, shall read: “The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of the officers of the Department, the Immediate Past Department Commander, and National Executive Committeeman, together with Zone Commanders, District Commanders, as hereinafter provided. The Department Commander shall serve as the Chairman of the Department Executive Committ”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-10

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VI, Section 4, which now reads:

“All Past Department Commanders, except as otherwise noted in Section 2 of this Article, shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee with voice, but without vote and without expenses, as long as they remain a member in good standing of a duly chartered American Legion Post in the Department of Michigan. They shall be accorded all the courtesies of the floor of the Committee, with the privilege of making and seconding motions and of speaking on any motion or subject pending before the committee, but shall have no right to vote.”

To be Amended by: Inserting the word “Department” in front of “Executive”, as well as inserting the words “Department Executive” between the words “the” and “Committee.” So that when amended, Article VI, Section 4, shall read: All Past Department Commanders, other than the Immediate Past Department Commander, as noted in Section 2 of this Article, shall be ex-officio members of the Department Executive Committee with voice, but without vote and without expenses for so long as they remain a member in good standing of a duly chartered American Legion Post in the Department of Michigan. They shall be accorded all the courtesies of the floor of the Department Executive Committee, with the privilege of making and seconding motions and of speaking on any motion or subject before the Department Executive Committee, but shall have no right to vote”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-11

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article XIII, Section 2, which now reads:

“All Past Department Commanders, except as otherwise noted in Article XIII, Section 1 above, shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee with voice, but without vote and without expenses, as long as they remain a member in good standing of a duly chartered American Legion Post in the Department of Michigan.”

To be Amended by: Adding the word ‘Department’ in front of the words ‘Executive Committee’ to clarify that Executive Committee does, in fact, reference the Department Exec

utive Committee

So that when amended, Article XIII, Section 2, shall read:

“All Past Department Commanders, except as otherwise noted in Article XIII, Section 1 above, shall be ex-officio members of the Department Executive Committee with voice, but without vote and without expenses, as long as they remain a member in good standing of a duly chartered American Legion Post in the Department of Michigan”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-12

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article XIII, Section 1. which now reads:

“Between the Department Conventions, the executive, legislative, and judicial powers shall be vested in the Department Executive Committee which shall be composed of the following: Department Commander, Department Vice Commanders, District Commanders, Department Finance Officer, Department Judge Advocate, Department Historian, Department Chaplain, Department Sergeant-at-Arms, immediate Past Department Commander, National Executive Committeeman, all with vote, and the Department Adjutant, who is without vote. Each member of the Department Executive Committee shall be entitled to one (1) vote. In the absence of a District Commander such vacancy shall be filled by their Alternate District Commander and in the absence of the National Executive Committeeman such vacancy shall be filled by the Alternate National Executive Committeeman.”

To be Amended by: Adding the words First (1st) and Second (2nd) in front of “Vice Commanders”, as well as adding Zone Commanders following Vice Commanders, as well as adding Alternate National Committeeman after National Executive Committeeman and removing everything after Alternate District Commander.

So that when amended, Article XIII, Section 1, shall read: “Between the Department Conventions, the executive, legislative, and judicial powers shall be vested in the Department Executive Committee, which shall be composed of the following: Department Commander, Department First (1st) and Second (2nd) Vice Commanders, Zone Commanders, District Commanders, Department Finance Officer, Department Judge Advocate, Department Historian, Department Chaplain, Department Sergeant-at-Arms, Immediate Past Department Commander, National Executive Committeeman, Alternate National Executive Committeeman, all with vote, and the Department Adjutant, who is without vote. Each member of the Department Executive Committee shall be entitled to one (1) vote. In the absence of a District Commander, such vacancy shall be filled by their Alternate District Commander”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-13

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article XII, Section 2. which now reads:

“Department Officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be installed at the close of the Department Convention and shall immediately enter upon their duties. The Department Commander and

Vice Commanders shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. District Commanders, Department Finance Officer and Department Sergeant-at-Arms may serve more than one (1) term but shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. Department Judge Advocate, Department Chaplain and Department Historian are appointed for one (1) term and may be reappointed indefinitely. All officers elected and appointed shall remain in office until their successors shall be/have been duly appointed, elected and installed.”

To be Amended by: Adding the word ‘Department’ in the first line of the section, in front of the word ‘Executive’

So that when amended, Article XII, Section 2, shall read:

“Department Officers and members of the Department Executive Committee shall be installed at the close of the Department Convention and shall immediately enter upon their duties. The Department Commander and Vice Commanders shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. District Commanders, Department Finance Officer and Department Sergeant-at-Arms may serve more than one (1) term but shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. Department Judge Advocate, Department Chaplain and Department and Historian are appointed for one (1) term and may be reappointed indefinitely. All officers elected and appointed shall remain in office until their successors shall be/have been duly appointed, elected and installed”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-14

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VI, Section 2. which now reads:

“The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of the officers of the Department, the Immediate Past Department Commander, National Executive Committeeman, together with the Vice Commanders, Zone Commanders, District Commanders as hereinafter provided. The Department Commander shall serve as the Chairman of the Department Executive Committee.”

To be Amended by:

Adding ‘Alternate National Executive Committeeman’ and removing ‘Vice and Zone Commanders’, as they are already listed as Department Officers in Article VI, Section 1 of this document.

So that when amended, Article VI, Section 2, shall read:

“The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of the officers of the Department, the Immediate Past Department Commander, National Executive Committeeman, Alternate National Executive Committeeman and duly elected District Commanders, as hereinafter provided. The Department Commander shall serve as the Chairman of the Department Executive Committee”.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-15

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VI, Section 3. which now reads:

“The following special Department officers are authorized, but shall not serve on the Department Executive Committee: Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Director, Department Service Officers and Department

Communications Director.”

To be Amended by:

Adding ‘DMS Coordinator, Upper Peninsula Membership Coordinator, Assistant Membership Coordinator, Assistant Judge Advocate, Assistant Department Chaplain, and Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms, and adding the sentence “The officers may be appointed by the Department Commander, with approval of the Department Executive Committee, clarifying that VA & R Director and Department Service Officers are Department officers as part of job description.’

So that when amended, Article VI, Section 3, shall read:

“The following special Department officers are authorized, but shall not serve on the Department Executive Committee: Department Communications Director, DMS Coordinator, Upper Peninsula Membership Coordinator, Assistant Membership Coordinator, Assistant Judge Advocate, Assistant Department Chaplain and Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms. The Officers may be appointed by the Department Commander, with approval of the Department Executive Committee. Department Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation Director, with voice, but without vote, and Department Service Officers, who shall have neither voice or vote, are Department Officers per job description.”

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-16

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article IX, Section 8. which now reads:

“Each District shall elect its District Commander by vote of the Delegates representing Posts in the said District in attendance at the Annual Department Convention and prior to the adjournment thereof or else at a regular District Meeting to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the Annual Department Convention. Alternates shall be chosen at the same time and place as the District Commanders.”

To be Amended by: Changing format and wording to clarify there are two (2) methods to elect a District Commander

So that when amended, Article IX, Section 8, shall read:

“Each District shall elect its District Commander by one of two (2) methods:

- a) At a regular District Meeting to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the Annual Department Convention, using a method defined by the District By-laws. Alternates shall be chosen at the same time and place as the District Commanders. Or,
- b) By vote of the Delegates representing Posts in the said District in attendance at the Annual Department Convention prior to the adjournment thereof, using a method defined by the Delegates in attendance. Alternates shall be chosen at the same time and place as the District Commanders.
- c) If method in Paragraph A is used to elect the District Commander, method in Paragraph B cannot be used to override the election of a District Commander.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-17

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article XI Discipline. Section 1, which now reads:

“The Executive Committee may, by two-thirds vote of all its members, remove from office any officer or committee member of the Department for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office or for conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion. Complaints seeking removal of such officer or committee member shall be reduced to writing, signed by a member of the Michigan Department and verified by oath that the charges therein contained are true of the member’s own knowledge. Such complaint shall be immediately referred to the Administrative Committee, which shall cause the matters therein set forth to be investigated by the Judge Advocate, unless the Judge Advocate be an interested party or necessary witness, in which case the Commander or the Administrative Committee shall appoint a special Judge Advocate for such purpose. The Judge Advocate shall cause a copy of the complaint to be sent by registered letter to the official address of the accused and shall afford the accused opportunity to reply thereto. The result of such investigation shall be reduced to writing and promptly returned to the Administrative Committee, with the recommendation of the Judge Advocate endorsed thereon. Unless the Administrative Committee shall, by a four-fifths vote of all the members, find the complaint to be without merit, the matter shall be referred to the Department Executive Committee.”

“It shall be the duty of the Commander to forthwith call a special meeting of the Executive Committee to convene within twenty (20) days thereafter to consider and act upon the complaint. Upon failure of the Commander to call such a meeting within a period of five (5) days after the complaint shall have been referred to the Executive Committee by the Administrative Committee, any other officer of the Department shall be authorized to call such meeting. The Executive Committee shall, by resolution, determine the manner in which such complaint shall be heard and action taken thereon. The action of the Executive Committee shall be final and conclusive.”

To be Amended by adding new wording:

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article XI Discipline. Section 1, shall read:

Article XI DISCIPLINE OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS
“The Executive Committee may, by two-thirds vote of its members, remove from office any officer or committee member of the Department for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office or for conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion. Complaints seeking removal of such officer or committee member shall be reduced to writing, signed by a member of the Department of Michigan, and verified by oath that the charges therein contained are true of the member’s own knowledge. Such complaint shall be immediately referred to the Administrative Committee, which shall cause the matters therein to be sent forth to be investigated by the Judge Advocate, unless the Judge Advocate be an interested party or necessary witness, in which case the Commander or the Administrative Committee shall appoint a special Judge Advocate for such purpose. The Judge Advocate shall cause a copy of the complaint to be sent by registered letter to the official address of the accused and shall afford the accused opportunity to reply thereto. The result of such investigation shall be reduced to writing and promptly returned to the Admin-

istrative Committee, with the recommendation of the Judge Advocate endorsed thereon. Unless the Administrative

Committee shall, by a four-fifths vote of all its members, find the complaint to be without merit, the Administrative Committee will move forward with the matter.”

“It shall be the duty of the Department Commander to forthwith call a special meeting of the Administrative Committee to convene within twenty (20) days thereafter to consider and act upon the complaint. Upon failure of the Commander to call such a meeting within a period of five (5) days after the complaint shall have been referred to the Administrative Committee, the Judge Advocate will refer the matter to the Department First-vice Commander who shall be authorized to call such meeting. The Administrative Committee shall determine the way such complaint shall be heard, and action taken thereon. The action of the Administrative Committee shall be final and conclusive, except when the accused takes action to appeal the decision made by the Administrative Committee. An appeal by the accused must be received within twenty (20) days of the final decision by the Administrative Committee.”

“If and when the accused appeals the decision of the Administrative Committee, the Department Commander shall call a special meeting of the Department Executive Committee within twenty (20) days of the receipt of the written appeal addressed to the Department Executive Committee, through the Department Commander, unless the Department Commander be an interested party or necessary witness, in which case the Department First-vice Commander shall take the request for appeal. The Department Judge Advocate will chair the appeal. The Department Commander, or Department First-vice Commander, if sitting in for the Department Commander, will make every effort to convene the Department Executive Committee within the twenty (20) days of receipt of the appeal. The accused is to appear before the Department Executive Committee during the appeal to present any additional evidence and to answer questions from the Department Executive Committee. The Department Executive Committee will make a final decision within ten (10) days of the close of the appeal meeting. The Department Judge Advocate will write and send a letter to the accused of the results of the Department Executive Committee’s appeal decision which shall be final and conclusive.”

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-18

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article IV. Section 1, which now reads:

“The Commander, the First (1st) and Second (2nd) Vice Commanders, the Zone Commanders, the Finance Officer, with vote, and the Judge Advocate, who shall be without vote, shall constitute the Administrative Committee.”

To be Amended by: Rewording for clarity

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article IV, Section 1, shall read:

“The Department Administrative Committee shall consist of the following Department Officers: Commander, First (1st) Vice Commander, Second (2nd) Vice Commander, Finance Officer, Zone Commanders, with voice and vote; the Judge Advocate with voice, but without vote.”

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-19

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article IV. Section 2, which now reads:

“Administrative Committee shall, upon emergency, possess and may exercise the authority of the Executive Committee between meetings of such committee.”

To be Amended by: Inserting the words “The Department” at the start of the section and inserting the word “Department” in front of “Executive Committee.”

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article IV, Section 2, shall read:

“The Department Administrative Committee shall, upon emergency, possess and may exercise the authority of the Department Executive Committee between meetings of such committee.”

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-20

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V. Section 1, which now reads:

“Department Commander shall be the chief executive officer of the Department and shall be empowered and directed to do such acts as may be necessary and proper to conduct the business of the Department. The Commander shall preside at the Annual Convention and at all meetings of the Executive Committee and shall issue all necessary orders and may direct the Adjutant or any other Department officer, when necessary, to proceed to any place on American Legion business. The Commander shall appoint all standing committees, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, except as otherwise provided. The Commander shall represent the Department in all of its relations with the federal, state and local government and with the people of the State of Michigan. The Commander shall see that all provisions of the National Constitution and Bylaws and all policies established under them are duly observed. The Commander shall be reimbursed up to the budget allowance for necessary actual travel expenses while in performance of the duties of the office, with any additional funding to be determined by the Finance/Personnel Committee, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The Commander shall not be eligible for more than one (1) term of office as Commander.”

To be Amended by: Rewording to conform with National standards so that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 1, shall read:

“The Department Commander shall be the chief executive officer of the Department and shall be empowered and directed to do such acts as may be necessary and proper to conduct the business of the Department. The Department Commander shall preside at the Annual Convention and at all meetings of the Department Executive Committee and shall issue all necessary orders and may direct the Adjutant or any other Department officer, when necessary, to proceed to any place on American Legion business. The Department Commander shall appoint all standing committees, subject to approval of the Department Executive Committee, except as otherwise provided. The Department Commander shall represent the Department in all of its relations with the federal, state and local government and with the people of the State of Michigan. The Department Commander shall see that all provisions of the National Constitution and Bylaws and

all policies established under them are duly observed. The Department Commander shall be reimbursed up to the budget allowance for necessary actual travel expenses while in performance of the duties of the office, with any additional funding to be determined by the Finance/Personnel Committee, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee. No persons shall be eligible for re-election to the office of Department Commander."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-21

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 2, which now reads: "Past Commanders: Each retiring Commander shall, upon the installation of his successor, be declared to be a Past Department Commander and shall be presented with a Past Department Commander's symbol. Each past Department Commander shall become a delegate to each succeeding Convention and shall have, if present, all the rights of a Delegate in the affairs of the Convention provided he remains a member in good standing in the Department of Michigan and is not an employee of the Department of Michigan. If a Past Department Commander shall become an employee of the Department, he shall waive his voting right as a Delegate and shall continue to waive his voting right so long as he remains an employee. The vote of each Past Department Commander, except as stated above, shall be announced with the vote of the District in which his Post is located."

To be Amended by: Changing the opening line to conform with National Constitution and Bylaws, changing the word "his" to "their" in three (3) places, changing "remains" to "remain" in two (2) places, and changing the word "he" to "they" in three (3) places.

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 2, shall read:

"Past Department Commanders: Each retiring Department Commander shall, upon the installation of their successor, be declared to be a Past Department Commander and shall be presented with a Past Department Commander's symbol. Each Past Department Commander shall become a delegate to each succeeding Convention and shall have, if present, all the rights of a Delegate in the affairs of the Convention provided they remain a member in good standing in the Department of Michigan and is not an employee of the Department of Michigan. If a Past Department Commander shall become an employee of the Department, they shall waive their voting right as a Delegate and shall continue to waive their voting right so long as they remain an employee. The vote of each Past Department Commander, except as stated above, shall be announced with the vote of the District in which their Post is located."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-22

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 3, which now reads: "First and Second Vice Commanders: First and Second Department Vice Commanders shall be elected annually at the State Convention and shall not serve more than one (1) consecutive term with the same office. It is preferred that Legionnaires desiring to serve as Department Commander become a part

of the "team" by being elected Department Second Vice Commander, then progressing by receiving the official nomination for Department First Vice Commander and, eventually, by receiving the official nomination for Department Commander."

To be Amended by:

Separating First and Second Vice Commanders to allow individual position descriptions and assignment of primary responsibilities and to remove any inference to automatic progression to the next office.

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 3, shall read:

"Department Vice Commanders:

(a) The Department First (1st) Vice Commander shall be elected in accordance with Article XII, Section 1 of the Department Constitution and shall not serve more than one (1) consecutive term in this office. The Department 1st Vice Commander shall be the Department Membership Committee Chair and responsible for creation and promotion of Department membership incentives, coordination of efforts to encourage retention and growth throughout the Department. They shall assume the duties of the Department Commander when necessary.

(b) The Department Second (2nd) Vice Commander shall be elected in accordance with Article XII, Section 1 of the Department Constitution and shall not serve more than one (1) consecutive term in this office. The 2nd Vice Commander shall be the Department Americanism Committee Chair and responsible for the promotion and fulfillment of Department Americanism Programs (i.e.: Boys State, Junior Shooting Sports, Student Trooper, Law Enforcement/Fire Fighter/Eagle Scout of the Year, etc.) They shall assume the duties of the Department 1st Vice Commander when necessary."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-23

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 4, which now reads:

"Department Zone Commanders shall perform such duties as may be required of them by the Department Commander or the Department Executive Committee. For the purpose of administration by the Zone Commanders, the various Districts shall be grouped into "Zones." The Zone Commander representing each "Zone" shall represent the Department in the Districts comprising the "Zone" from which they were elected, and it shall be their duty to attend all District Conventions within their "Zone", so far as possible, and to initiate constructive programs and policies for the furtherance of the interest of the Posts therein. The Zone Commanders shall not be eligible to serve two (2) consecutive years. The Districts and Zones will be determined by the Department Executive Committee and published in the DEC Manual each year."

To be Amended by: Rewritten for clarification and remove duplication so that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 4, shall read:

"Department Zone Commanders: The Department Zone Commanders shall perform such duties as may be required of them by the Department Commander or the Department Executive Committee. They shall attend all District Conventions within their Zone, so far as possible, and to initiate constructive

programs and policies for the furtherance of the interest of the Posts therein. The Zone Commanders shall not be eligible to serve two (2) consecutive years. The Districts and Zones will be determined by the Department Executive Committee and published in the DEC Manual each year."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-24

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 5, which now reads:

"Department Adjutant shall be the chief administrative officer of the Department. The Adjutant shall be the custodian of and shall cause to be kept all official Department records. The Adjutant shall perform all administrative and clerical acts necessary to conduct the business of the Department. The Adjutant shall receive all dues and monies from Posts, keep a record thereof, and shall deposit the same in the name of "The American Legion, Department of Michigan" in a bank or banks as ordered by the Finance/Personnel Committee, with the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The Adjutant shall perform any other duties as may be directed to do by the Department Commander or the Department Executive Committee. The Adjutant shall receive such salary as shall be fixed by the Finance/Personnel Committee, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The Adjutant shall be reimbursed for actual traveling expenses while in the performance of the necessary duties of the office."

Also, a proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 13, which now reads:

The Department Adjutant shall be hired by the Department Administrative Committee. When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Department Adjutant, the exiting Department Adjutant will sit in an advisory capacity, without vote, in the selection process, except when the exiting Department Adjutant has been removed for cause. The term of office for the Department Adjutant shall be three (3) years, on a contractual basis renewable at the end of three (3) years, as long as said Department Adjutant's service is satisfactory and acceptable. The Department Adjutant shall be given an Annual Effectiveness Evaluation by the Department Commander forty-five (45) days prior to the Department Convention. Said Effectiveness Evaluation shall be reviewed by the Department Administrative Committee for filing and/or necessary action. The first Employment Contract shall be for a period of three (3) years, commencing January 1, 1987."

To be Amended by: Consolidating and rewording both articles as a new Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 5, eliminating Section 13

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 5, shall read:

"Department Adjutant: The Department Adjutant shall be an employee of The American Legion, Department of Michigan, and shall be the chief administrative officer of the Department. They shall be the custodian of and shall cause to be kept all official Department records. The Adjutant shall be ultimately responsible for all administrative and clerical

acts necessary to conduct the business of the Department. They shall receive all dues and monies from Posts and all sources due to the Department, keep a record thereof, and shall deposit the same in the name of "The American Legion, Department of Michigan" in a bank or banks as ordered by the Finance/Personnel Committee, with the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The Adjutant shall perform any other duties as may be directed to do by the Department Commander or the Department Executive Committee."

"The term of office for the Department Adjutant shall be three (3) years, on a contractual basis renewable at the end of three (3) years, as long as said Department Adjutant's service is satisfactory and acceptable. The Department Adjutant shall be given an Annual Effectiveness Evaluation by the Department Commander forty-five (45) days prior to the Department Convention. Said Effectiveness Evaluation shall be reviewed by the Department Administrative Committee for filing and/or necessary action. The first Employment Contract shall be for a period of three (3) years, commencing January 1, 1987."

"The Department Adjutant shall be hired by the Department Administrative Committee. The Department Adjutant shall receive such salary as shall be fixed by the Finance/Personnel Committee, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee. They shall be reimbursed for actual traveling expenses while in the performance of the necessary duties of the office. When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Department Adjutant, the exiting Department Adjutant will sit in an advisory capacity, without vote, in the selection process, except when the exiting Department Adjutant has been removed for cause."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-25

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 6, which now reads: "Department Finance Officer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Department. He shall pay out money only on vouchers properly signed by himself, or the Department Adjutant, or Finance Chairman, and only for such purposes as shall have been duly authorized. He shall keep a full and complete record of all transactions, including receipts and disbursements, and shall exhibit all records when requested to do so by any Department Officer or member of the Executive Committee or Finance/Personnel Committee."

To be Amended by:

Changing the opening line to conform with National Constitution and Bylaws, changing the word "he" to "they" in two (2) places and replacing the words "signed by himself" with the words "endorsed by themselves", and then removing the word "or" in front of "the Department Adjutant."

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 6, shall read:

"Department Finance Officer: The Department Finance Officer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Department. They shall pay out money only on vouchers properly endorsed by themselves, the Department Adjutant, or Finance Chairman, and only for such purposes as shall have been duly authorized. They shall keep a full and complete record of all transactions, including receipts and

disbursements, and shall exhibit all records when requested to do so by any Department Officer or member of the Executive Committee or Finance/Personnel Committee."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-26

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 7, which now reads:

"Department Judge Advocate shall advise the officers of the Department upon all legal matters of The American Legion, including interpretation of the Department Constitution and Bylaws, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Commander or Executive Committee. The Department Judge Advocate, by and with the approval of the Commander and Executive Committee, shall appoint such Assistant Judge Advocates as may be necessary. The Judge Advocate shall receive such reimbursement for expenses of the office as shall be determined by the Finance/Personnel Committee, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee."

To be Amended by: Changing the opening line to conform with National Constitution and Bylaws, as well as inserting the words "the Department" in front of the words "Executive Committee", in two (2) places in the section, and replacing the word "him" with "the position."

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 7, shall read:

"Department Judge Advocate: The Department Judge Advocate shall advise the officers of the Department upon all legal matters of The American Legion, including interpretation of the Department Constitution and Bylaws, and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Commander or the Department Executive Committee. The Department Judge Advocate, by and with the approval of the Commander and the Department Executive Committee, shall appoint such Assistant Judge Advocates as may be necessary. The Judge Advocate shall receive such reimbursement for expenses of the office as shall be determined by the Finance/Personnel Committee, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-27

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 8, which now reads:

"Historian shall prepare a history of this Department during the term of office and shall submit such history to the Department Convention. The Historian shall collect such other information as may be required to complete the History of the Department from its inception. The Historian shall receive compensation for his services."

To be Amended by:

Changing the opening line to conform with National Constitution and Bylaws, changing the word "the" to "their" between the words "during" and "of" and changing "The" to "They" at the start of the second (2nd) sentence and changing the third (3rd) sentence to read "They shall receive compensation for monies spent while conducting their assigned duties."

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 8, shall read:

"Department Historian: The Department His-

torian shall prepare a history of this Department during their term of office and shall submit such history to the Department Convention. They shall collect such other information as may be required to complete the History of the Department from its inception. They shall receive compensation for monies spent conducting their assigned duties."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-28

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 9, which now reads:

"Department Chaplain shall perform such divine and non-sectarian services as may be necessary, adhering to such ceremonial rituals as may be recommended by National Headquarters from time to time."

To be Amended by: Changing the opening line to conform with National Constitution and Bylaws, as well as moving the second (2nd) sentence from Article V, Section 12, as follows to be the second (2nd) sentence in this section: Such an appointment of a Chaplain shall be in the spirit traditionally practiced in The American Legion on the National and Department levels; that the rotation of a Chaplain among the three (3) major faiths be continued whenever a Chaplain is available."

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 9, shall read:

"Department Chaplain: The Department Chaplain shall perform such divine and non-sectarian services as may be necessary, adhering to such ceremonial rituals as may be recommended by National Headquarters from time to time. Such an appointment of a Chaplain shall be in the spirit traditionally practiced in The American Legion on the National and Department levels; that the rotation of a Chaplain among the three (3) major faiths be continued whenever a Chaplain is available."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-29

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 10, which now reads:

"Department Sergeant-at-Arms shall have charge of the ceremony of advancing and retiring the colors at the official Department meetings, and shall be in charge of the ushering, seating and keeping order during all official Department meetings. Sergeant-at-Arms shall be empowered to appoint such Assistants as may be necessary to carry out his/her duties, with the approval of the Commander and Department Executive Committee."

To be Amended by: Changing the opening line to conform with National Constitution and Bylaws, and inserting the word "Department" between the words "the" and "Commander."

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 10, shall read:

"Department Sergeant-at-Arms: The Department Sergeant-at-Arms shall have charge of the ceremony of advancing and retiring the colors at the official Department meetings, and shall be in charge of the ushering, seating and keeping order during all official Department meetings. Sergeant-at-Arms shall be empowered to appoint such Assistants as may be necessary to carry out his/her duties, with the approval of the Department Commander and Department Executive Committee."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-30

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 11, which now reads:

“Vacancies occurring in any of the elective offices of the Department shall be filled by the Department Executive Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Department Commander, the Department Adjutant shall forthwith call a meeting of the Executive Committee to be held within seven (7) days thereafter to fill such vacancy. The Department 1st Vice Commander shall serve as Department Commander until the vacancy is filled by the Executive Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the office of National Executive Committee member, the Alternate Executive Committee member shall become the National Executive Committeeman. The vacant position of the Alternate National Executive Committeeman will be filled by the Department Executive Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the office of 1st Vice, the 2nd Vice shall become the 1st Vice. The 2nd Vice position will be filled by the Department Executive Committee.”

To be Amended by: Inserting the word “Department” in front of “Executive Committee” in two (2) spots and inserting the word “National” in front of “Executive Committee.”

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article V, Section 11, shall read:

“Vacancies occurring in any of the elective offices of the Department shall be filled by the Department Executive Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Department Commander, the Department Adjutant shall forthwith call a meeting of the Department Executive Committee to be held within seven (7) days thereafter to fill such vacancy. The Department 1st Vice Commander shall serve as Department Commander until the vacancy is filled by the Department Executive Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the office of National Executive Committee member, the Alternate National Executive Committee member shall become the National Executive Committeeman. The vacant position of the Alternate National Executive Committeeman will be filled by the Department Executive Committee. In the event of a vacancy in the office 1st Vice, the 2nd Vice shall become the 1st Vice. The 2nd Vice position will be filled by the Department Executive Committee.”

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-31

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 12, which now reads:

“The Department Judge Advocate, Department Historian and the Department Chaplain shall be appointed by the Commander, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee. Such an appointment of a Chaplain shall be in the spirit traditionally practiced in The American Legion on the National and Department levels; that the rotation of a Chaplain among the three major faiths be continued whenever a Chaplain is available.”

To be Amended by: Moving the second sentence of this section from Article V, Section 12, to Article 5, Section 9, in accordance with prior amendment to Article 5, Section 9; and, deleting the rest of the section as the appointment of these positions is covered previously in Article XII, Section 2, of the Constitution of The American Legion, Department of Michigan.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-32

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article V, Section 13, which now reads:

“The Department Adjutant shall be hired by the Department Administrative Committee. When a vacancy occurs in the office of the Department Adjutant, the exiting Department Adjutant will sit in an advisory capacity, without vote, in the selection process, except when the exiting Department Adjutant has been removed for cause. The term of office for the Department Adjutant shall be three (3) years, as long as said Department Adjutant’s service is satisfactory and acceptable. The Department Adjutant shall be given an Annual Effectiveness Evaluation by the Department Commander forty-five (45) days prior to the Department Convention. Said Effectiveness Evaluation shall be reviewed by the Department Administration Committee for filing and/or necessary action. The first Employment Contract shall be for a period of three (3) years, commencing January 1, 1987.”

To be Amended by: Deleting Article V, Section 13, as it is now redundant in accordance with prior amendment addressing Article V, Section 5.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-33

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article XI, Discipline, Section 1, which now reads:

“The Executive Committee may, by two-thirds vote of all its members, remove from office any officer or committee member of the Department for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office or for conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion. Complaints seeking removal of such officer or committee member shall be reduced to writing, signed by a member of the Michigan Department and verified by oath that the charges therein contained are true of the member’s own knowledge. Such complaint shall be immediately referred to the Administrative Committee, which shall cause the matters therein set forth to be investigated by the Judge Advocate, unless the Judge Advocate be an interested party or necessary witness, in which case the Commander or the Administrative Committee shall appoint a special Judge Advocate for such purpose. The Judge Advocate shall cause a copy of the complaint to be sent by registered letter to the official address of the accused and shall afford the accused opportunity to reply thereto. The result of such investigation shall be reduced to writing and promptly returned to the Administrative Committee, with the recommendation of the Judge Advocate endorsed thereon. Unless the Administrative Committee shall, by a four-fifths vote of all the members, find the complaint to be without merit, the matter shall be referred to the Department Executive Committee. It shall be the duty of the Commander to forthwith call a special meeting of the Executive Committee to convene within twenty (20) days thereafter to consider and act upon the complaint. Upon failure of the Commander to call such a meeting within a period of five (5) days after the complaint shall have been referred to the Executive Committee by the Administrative Committee, any other officer of the Department shall be authorized to call such a meeting. The Executive Committee shall, by resolution, determine the manner in which such complaint shall be heard and action taken thereon. The action of the Executive Committee shall be final and conclusive.”

To be Amended by: Rewritten for clarification. So that when amended, Bylaws, Article XI, Discipline, Section 1, shall read:

The Department Executive Committee may, by two-thirds (2/3) vote of all its members, remove from office any officer or committee member of the Department for malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office or for conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion. Complaints seeking removal of such officer or committee member shall be reduced to writing, signed by a member of the Michigan Department and verified by oath that the charges therein contained are true of the member’s own knowledge. Such complaint shall be immediately referred to the Department Administrative Committee, which shall cause the matters therein set forth to be investigated by the Department Judge Advocate, unless the Judge Advocate be an interested party or necessary witness, in which case the Department Commander or the Department Administrative Committee shall appoint a special Judge Advocate for such purpose. The Department Judge Advocate shall cause a copy of the complaint to be sent by registered letter to the official address of the accused and shall afford the accused opportunity to reply thereto. The result of such investigation shall be reduced to writing and promptly returned to the Department Administrative Committee, with the recommendation of the Department Judge Advocate endorsed thereon. Unless the Department Administrative Committee shall, by a four-fifths (4/5) vote of all the members, find the complaint to be without merit, the matter shall be referred to the Department Executive Committee. It shall be the duty of the Department Commander to forthwith call a special meeting of the Department Executive Committee to convene within twenty (20) days thereafter to consider and act upon the complaint. Upon failure of the Department Commander to call such a meeting within a period of five (5) days after the complaint shall have been referred to the Department Executive Committee by the Department Administrative Committee, any other officer of the Department shall be authorized to call such meeting. The Department Executive Committee shall, by resolution, determine the manner in which such complaint shall be heard and action taken thereon. The action of the Department Executive Committee shall be final and conclusive.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-34

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article XVI, Amendments, Section 3, which now reads:

“No proposed amendment shall be submitted through the Department Adjutant to the several Posts of the Department and members of the Department Executive Committee, as provided in Section (1) of this Article, unless said proposed amendment shall first have been submitted by a Post or District or Department Association, or by any standing Department Committee or the Department Executive Committee.”

To be Amended by: Changing the punctuation and verbiage and adding Department Judge Advocate

So that when amended, Constitution, Article XVI, Amendments, Section 3, shall read:

"No proposed amendment shall be submitted through the Department Adjutant to the several Posts of the Department and members of the Department Executive Committee, as provided in Section (1) of this Article, unless said proposed amendment shall first have been submitted by a Post, District, Department Association, any standing Department Committee, Department Executive Committee or the Department Judge Advocate."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-35

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article VI, Committees. Section 6, which now reads:

"No Legionnaire may be appointed to serve on more than one regular standing appointive Department Committee at any one time."

To be Amended by: Removing Section 6 and renumbering subsequent sections.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-36

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article VI, Committees. Section 7, which now reads:

Finance/Personnel Committee: "The Commander shall appoint, subject to ratification by the Department Executive Committee, a Department Finance/Personnel Committee to be composed of five (5) members, one (1) member to be appointed from each Zone of the Department and two (2) Alternate members, without vote. The Commander and Finance Officer shall be ex-officio members of this committee, with vote, the Director of Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation shall be an ex-officio member of this committee and the Adjutant shall be ex-officio Secretary of this committee, without vote."

To be Amended by:

Removing "one (1) member to be appointed from each Zone of the Department"

Changing "and two (2) Alternate members" to "unlimited number of Alternates"

Adding "The appointment of one (1) member from each Zone is preferred, but not required."

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article VI, Committees, Section 7, shall read:

Finance/Personnel Committee: "The Commander shall appoint, subject to ratification by the Department Executive Committee, a Department Finance/Personnel Committee to be composed of five (5) members, and an unlimited number of Alternate members, without vote. The Commander and Finance Officer shall be ex-officio members of this committee, with vote, the Director of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation shall be an ex-officio member of this committee and the Adjutant shall be ex-officio Secretary of this committee, without vote. The appointment of one (1) member from each Zone is preferred, but not required."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-37

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article VI, Committees. Section 4, which now reads:

"All committee members shall be appointed and may be removed for cause by the Department Commander, with the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The Department Commander shall name the Chairman of each committee to serve until the next Department Convention.

Members that are on mandated committees (Per-

manent Time and Place), or serving in an Alternate or Assistant position on the Department Executive Committee, may also serve on an appointive Department committee but not in a Chairmanship, with the exception of the Permanent Time and Place Chairman, who may serve in that role.

No member shall receive per diem and travel pay more than once per call, regardless of the number of committees they serve on."

To be Amended by:

Removing "Members that are on mandated committees (Permanent Time and Place), or serving in an Alternate or Assistant position on the Department Executive Committee, may also serve on an appointive Department committee but not in a Chairmanship, with the exception of the Permanent Time and Place Chairman, who may serve in that role."

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article VI, Committees, Section 4, shall read:

"All committee members shall be appointed and may be removed for cause by the Department Commander, with the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The Department Commander shall name the Chairman of each committee to serve until the next Department Convention.

No member shall receive per diem and travel pay more than once per call, regardless of the number of committees they serve on."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-38

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VII, Post Organization. Section 18, which now reads:

"The Department Executive Committee shall require all Post Officers who handle funds to be insured under a fidelity and crime insurance policy to be furnished by an incorporated insurance company, which has been approved for this purpose by the National Adjutant. The expense of the insurance provided for herein shall be borne by the Post."

To be Amended by: Adding "The Post shall provide proof of insurance to the Department annually."

So that when amended, Constitution, Article VII, Post Organization, Section 18, shall read:

"The Department Executive Committee shall require all Post Officers who handle funds to be insured under a fidelity and crime insurance policy to be furnished by an incorporated insurance company, which has been approved for this purpose by the National Adjutant. The expense of the insurance provided for herein shall be borne by the Post. The Post shall provide proof of insurance to the Department annually."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-39

A proposed change to the Department Bylaws, Article XII, Amendments. Section 3, which now reads:

"No proposed amendment shall be submitted through the Department Adjutant to the several Posts of the Department and members of the Department Executive Committee, as provided in Section (1) of this Article, unless said proposed amendment shall first have been submitted by a Post or a District or Department Association, or by any standing Department Committee or the Department Executive Committee."

To be Amended by: Changing the punctuation and verbiage and adding Department Judge Advocate

So that when amended, Bylaws, Article XII,

Amendments, Section 3, shall read:

"No proposed amendment shall be submitted through the Department Adjutant to the several Posts of the Department and members of the Department Executive Committee, as provided in Section (1) of this Article, unless said proposed amendment shall first have been submitted by a Post, District, Department Association, any standing Department Committee, Department Executive Committee or the Department Judge Advocate."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-40

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article XVI, Amendments. Section 3, which now reads:

"No proposed amendment shall be submitted through the Department Adjutant to the several Posts of the Department and members of the Department Executive Committee, as provided in Section (1) of this Article, unless said proposed amendment shall first have been submitted by a Post or a District or Department Association, or by any standing Department Committee or the Department Executive Committee."

To be Amended by: Changing the punctuation and verbiage and adding Department Judge Advocate

So that when amended, Constitution, Article XVI, Amendments, Section 3, shall read:

"No proposed amendment shall be submitted through the Department Adjutant to the several Posts of the Department and members of the Department Executive Committee, as provided in Section (1) of this Article, unless said proposed amendment shall first have been submitted by a Post, District, Department Association, any standing Department Committee, Department Executive Committee or the Department Judge Advocate."

PROPOSED AMENDMENT 24-CA-41

A proposed change to the Department Constitution, Article VI, Section 2, which now reads:

"The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of the officers of the Department, the Immediate Past Department Commander, National Executive Committeeman, together with the Vice Commanders, Zone Commanders, District Commanders, as hereinafter provided. The Department Commander shall serve as the Chairman of the Department Executive Committee."

To be Amended by: Adding "Alternate National Committeeman" and removing "Vice and Zone Commanders"

So that when amended, Constitution, Article VI, Section 2, shall read:

"The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of the officers of the Department, the immediate Past Department Commander, National Executive Committeeman, Alternate National Executive Committeeman and duly elected District Commanders, as hereinafter provided. The Department Commander shall serve as the Chairman of the Department Executive Committee."

Pull out this Section for a Handy Reference guide to all of the Amendments to be Considered at The Summer Convention

Greetings from the 4th District!

Kathie Hartman/Gleason, President

I hope this message finds you well. As we reflect on the past year's challenges, it's clear that we've encountered numerous obstacles that have tested our resolve. In facing these challenges, I've spent considerable time engaged in problem-solving. We are striving to navigate the complexities that have arisen.

Throughout this process, it has become apparent to me that a fundamental aspect of our organization may have been overlooked: our mission. Our purpose extends far beyond the balance of our bank accounts; rather, it lies in our commitment to supporting our veterans and their families. Amidst the chaos, we must realign ourselves with this core principle.

Recently, I had the opportunity to review reports from 24 units within our district, and I couldn't help but notice a concerning trend. I received only one report. This lack of communication is disheartening and suggests we may not be doing enough to support our veterans. This realization has prompted me to reach out to each of you with a heartfelt plea. Let us not forget why we are here.

I urge each district member to consider adopting a veteran and extending a helping hand. It doesn't require grand gestures; even the smallest acts of kindness can make a difference. By recommitting ourselves to our mission, we can honor the sacrifices of those who have served and ensure that they receive the support and recognition they deserve.

As we move forward, I encourage you to revisit our mission statement and reflect on its significance. Let us rekindle our sense of purpose and rededicate ourselves to the noble cause that unites us all. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to working with you to uphold the values that define our organization.

DO YOU HEAR ME?

Julie Becker, VA&R Chairperson

How often have you said that or been asked that question? Now, I would like you to put yourself in a veteran's point of view. The person you talk with may be listening, but do they HEAR you? The statement "you can't understand" is made (a verbal stop sign), yet the other person keeps talking. Do you feel as if you have been heard?

One problem for many veterans is that very few people have the emotional strength to listen to them talk about what they went through. Their feelings of isolation and poor relationships with others are, in part, from having bad experiences with people who are poor listeners. People who have distressing experiences will usually talk with a good listener who will take the time to HEAR their whole story. If you are willing to listen to a veteran speak truthfully about their experiences, here are some things you can do:

1. Don't ask about a person's experience unless you can handle honest answers. When combat veterans returned home, they found that very few people had the emotional strength to listen to their stories. Don't let someone open up only to "chicken out" when the story gets rough.

2. Give the person time. Researchers working with veterans found that the average person could listen fully for only several minutes. When a veteran is willing to talk to you, allowing them plenty of time to talk is important. Don't interrupt to state your feelings. Plan to listen as long as needed.

3. Be an active listener. Ask about feelings. Ask questions when you feel puzzled about facts or incidents.

4. Remain quiet if they start crying. Please don't suggest a better way to look at it. Leave their thoughts and feelings alone. Your quiet presence is more useful than anything else.

5. Listen with empathy but minimize sympathy. Survivors of traumatic experiences talk more easily to a person with calm concern. Don't make the veteran have to handle your emotional reactions as well as their own. If you need emotional support, seek it elsewhere.

6. Ask if they see something positive about being in combat. Research shows that those who served in combat became significantly more mature and developed a healthy personal identity. The same extreme circumstances that cause emotional trauma for some people cause others to become stronger.

Veterans have important—essential—stories to tell. We all need to hear them.



American Legion Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY EXPLAINED

RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN:



- MOTHER
- DAUGHTER
- SISTER
- GRANDMOTHER
- GRANDDAUGHTER
- SELF — FEMALE VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED
- MALE or FEMALE SPOUSE

ELIGIBILITY PERIODS: April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941

TWO PATHS FOR ALA ELIGIBILITY

PATH ONE

The potential member is related to a living veteran by one of the relationships stated above and the veteran is living AND a current member of The American Legion.



If the potential member is a female veteran, she only needs to have served during the eligible time periods to be eligible for ALA membership.

PATH TWO

The potential member is related to a deceased veteran who served during the eligible time periods and was honorably discharged.



The deceased veteran did not have to be a member of The American Legion in order for the potential member to join the ALA.



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Michigan

JOHN BEEMAN

Detachment Commander 2023-2024



Hello again fellow brothers and Legion Family. This last month I have been traveling throughout the state, going to events like the 30th anniversary party of the American Legion Riders, the Americanism dinner at Post 143, and the fundraiser dinner of little sister Abbie Jones for her special project, Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs. What a great cause! Actually, all of our special projects are great causes. Commander Mohlman supports Fisher House. President Kim's for PTSD and mine for raising money for golf carts for Wilwin. All of the projects will help

veterans.

Earl Ruttkofsky, Dave Miller, and I attended past state detachment commander Robert Stacey's funeral in Dexter. I never met him, but what I heard at the funeral and listening to others talk about the world would be better with more people like him. First Lady Pat and I went down to Ida's birthday party. We met up with 1st zone commander Greg Price, his wife Juanita, detachment chaplain Dave Seydell, and his wife Vicki. What a great time. I also attended several squadron meetings to get them better informed and back on track.

The Commanders and President's testimonial dinner is on Saturday, June 1st, at Harry Ollrich American Legion Post 4. Address 401 N. Groesbeck Hwy Mt. Clemens. Social

hour 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Dinner is at 5:00, with the program immediately after. Tickets are \$30 each. You can register at www.legion-post257.org/testimonial by April 30th.

The state convention is coming up fast in Okemos on June 7th, 8th and 9th. You will be voting on new officers to represent our detachment. We do have a great detachment here in Michigan, but there's always room for improvement. Don't forget to get your squadron consolidated reports turned in by the convention or at the convention.

As always, keep working on membership. Get out there and help Veterans. Be the one to make a difference. It's a great feeling.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the convention, if not before.

1ST ZONE UPDATE Greg Price, Commander

As the weather becomes nicer many Legion Family Members will be enjoying some outside post activities such as Golf Outings, Car Shows, and Post Picnics. Legion Riders will be enjoying events that raise money to benefit Veterans programs in their communities.

Edward C. Headman American Legion Post #217 is helping students in their community. They now offer to Theodore Roosevelt High School (Wyandotte) Seniors a \$1,000.00 scholarship. Applicants submit an essay to their Post Scholarship Committee. The topic of the essay will change yearly, but the theme of Americanism will remain the same. One winner will be chosen every year.

Squadrons will hold elections for 2024-2025 Officers. You must send the list of New Squadron Officers to the Department when you request your new membership cards. We are no longer required to send in the \$10.00 insurance bond, as We should now be covered under the umbrella of our Posts' policies.

I would like to mention three individuals who have recently passed away. They were my friends and mentors. John Bradford - Steve Podgornik - and Skipper Townes truly supported the American Legion Veteran policies. They actively supported events that benefited their neighbors in the communities in which they lived. They touched my life and shared their knowledge with many Legion Family members, which has helped to make the Legion a stronger organization.

Our Detachment Convention will be in June. I look forward to meeting with many Sons members while we conduct our meetings, including reports and elections. I am also looking forward to having fun with other Legion Family members at the picnic, which will be a lot of fun.



5TH ZONE UPDATE Dennis Larson, Commander

We're a month into Spring, and I'm encouraged by all the good work I see throughout the 5th Zone. At our visit to Wakefield to grant their new charter, there was a tremendous turnout of new members. Thank you to Legion Dual Member Gary Lane for establishing this new Squadron. The New Commander signed up thirty members and will be eligible for the Blue Brigade award. First-time recipients of the SAL Blue Brigade Award will now have an option on which jacket they wish to receive to mark their efforts.

The revised SAL Blue Brigade Award Certification Form is available at Legion.org/sons/publications. The award is presented to SAL members who enroll 30 or more new members into the SAL by July 31.

First-time recruiters can select a three-season fleece jacket or lightweight soft-shell jacket for their Blue Brigade Award. All jackets are custom-made and embroidered with the recruiter's name and membership year.

We were honored to have our State Commander John Beeman attend our Winter meeting at Stambaugh/ Iron River Squadron #21—many thanks to Commander Danny Fitzpatrick for hosting us. Over 25 Members were in attendance. Special guests were John Devitt, Aaron, and Liza Grey from the White Pine Legion Post, caretakers of the Vietnam Moving Wall. A check was presented to them for \$6500.00. PDC Victor Fisher raised that money as his special project from last year.

Congratulations to the 100% membership squadrons in the 5th Zone. Engadine #290, Gladstone #71, Wakefield # 11. Membership has been a little slow this year, so I am asking all Squadrons of the 5th Zone to get your membership cards sent out and contact your delinquent members. Spring/Summer convention for the 11th and 12th Districts is planned for June 15 at 11 am EST, in Gladstone. Thanks for the honor of being your 5th Zone Commander this year. See you in Okemos in June.



**2024 SAL Membership: April 29th Goal = 26,236
Current Total: 25,756-98.17%**

HELL TO PARADISE UPDATE

Wow, where has time gone? We started this adventure over a year ago. Now, here we are, less than 100 days away from this epic adventure. With over 340 participants already signed up, this event is steadily growing. The amount of support has been overwhelming for its first year of existence. I wonder how big this can grow in the upcoming years. We have had numerous new sponsors sign up. We cannot thank them all for their support. We have had numerous items donated and will be up for raffle. I cannot wait to see the results. As many of you know, the final stop of our journey will be at the Sault Ste Marie American Legion Post 3. Entertainment, food and drinks will be available. This will also be where we will present the checks to our recipients and other awards, with some secret surprises in store. Vendors will be set up and in place starting around noon that day. We hope the public and those not riding will come and see what we are about.

I was honored and humbled that I was invited to be a guest speaker at the American Legion Post 248

in Laingsburg's annual Welcome Home dinner. This event humbled me. Why was I chosen? I can tell it wasn't experience with public speaking. It was the passion that people around me see that I have for helping our veterans who are suffering from PTSD. As I spoke about the signs, effects on the body and mind

and its effect on those around us, I saw many people looking at me in awe. They were seeing these signs in themselves or others they know. I also looked at other admin team members on this ride who were present and could see the passion in their eyes. We, as a team, are fully committed to helping. To see this passion in so many people has given me a boost. I will admit I was getting tired. I have put so much into this ride that I was getting burned out. I had not told anyone but just kept pushing. Guess what? This is a major sign of my PTSD.

We vets are taught we leave no man behind. I was reminded why I wanted this ride in the first place. No one is left behind, including myself. When this idea started in my head and grew into this epic event, I continued to say, and I will say today, "This is not MY RIDE." I have never wanted to be the face, the name, etc. I wanted this ride to be about those suffering "the hidden wounds." As you have read this article, I hope that everyone understands we are doing this ride as a team to help a team of great people. We are all in this together. Remember, YOU ARE NOT ALONE. Together, we can help.

Please, folks, if you can make the ride join us. If not, we will gladly accept donations. Just log onto our Facebook page or our website. Links to mail a donation are available or you can Venmo your donation.

Brighton Post 235 holds first ever Public Service Awards



L-R Roger Deaton Sixth District Commander, with post 235's honorees, Firefighter of the Year Derrick Bunge, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Jeremy Bell, Brian Mohlman Department Commander, Livingston county Veteran of the Year Tim Maher, And Teacher of the Year Brian Haussler

The first-ever American Legion Post 235 Public Service Awards in Brighton took place Thursday at the American Spirit Centre, 10590 E. Grand River Ave.

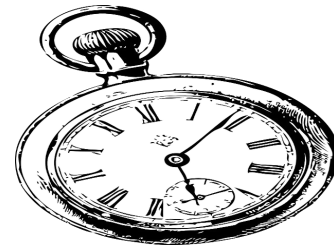
Brighton Police Officer Jeremy Bell was named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the post. Brighton Area Fire Authority Captain/Fire Inspector Derrick Bunge was named post 235's Firefighter of the Year. The post also awarded Brian Haussler, a sixth-grade teacher at Maltby Intermediate School, with Teacher of the Year.

INTERESTED IN A PUFL?
Paid Up For Life-
800-433-3318

STEP BACK IN TIME

SPRING OUTING

FREE EVENT FOR ALL SCOUTS



Free
Camping
Sites
Provided

Water Available
Generators ok
NO PETS ALLOWED

Your troop provides all your own camping gear and food!
Camping and activities are FREE

May 17-19, 2024

Old time skills, activities, prizes and more...

Flint Knapping Fire Skills Blacksmithing
Fur Trapping Glass Blowing Trade Blanket

Register at www.wilwinlodge.com/scouting

Registration closes May 11th

Wilwin Lodge at Cygnet Cove
3383 W Hawley Rd, Custer MI
231-757-0140 231-742-6614

Wilwincoutmaster1193@gmail.com





**WEST MICHIGAN WHITECAPS
AMERICAN LEGION NIGHT**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3 • 7:05PM

THE WEST MICHIGAN WHITECAPS INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR AMERICAN LEGION NIGHT AT LMCU BALLPARK ON JULY 3RD, 2024! A PORTION OF ALL TICKETS PURCHASED THROUGH THIS ORDER FORM OR USING THE QR CODE BELOW GOES DIRECTLY TO WILWIN LODGE!

GAME INFORMATION:
GATES OPEN: 5:45PM FIRST PITCH: 7:05PM
WEST MICHIGAN WHITECAPS VS. GREAT LAKES LOONS
LMCU BALLPARK
4500 WEST RIVER DR. NE, COMSTOCK PARK, MI 49321

WILWIN LODGE
AT CYGNET COVE
AMERICAN LEGION

QUESTIONS? IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ACCESSIBLE SEATING NEEDS, PLEASE CONTACT EMILY WITH THE WHITECAPS AT 616-726-7048 OR EMILYM@WHITECAPSBASEBALL.COM

WHITECAPSBASEBALL.COM • LMCU BALLPARK IS CASHLESS

ORDER TICKETS: MAIL OR EMAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM TO EMILY OR ORDER TICKETS THROUGH THE QR CODE BELOW!

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____
EMAIL: _____
PHONE: _____ *POST #: _____
NUMBER OF TICKETS: _____ X \$16.00
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: _____

CREDIT/DEBIT CARD CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO
WHITECAPS BASEBALL

CARD#: _____
EXP.: ____ / ____ CVV: _____

TICKETS WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU OR AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP AT WILL CALL ON THE DAY OF THE GAME.
*You do NOT need to be a Legion member to order tickets. Friends and family are welcome!



SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA TO ORDER ONLINE!

WEST MICHIGAN WHITECAPS
ATTN: EMILY MILNE
P.O. BOX 428
COMSTOCK PARK, MI 49321



The Fisher Houses are available to families/caregivers of active duty service members and Veterans seeking medical treatment at VA hospitals or are receiving care at a local hospital authorized by the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) under VA Community Care. Fisher House guest suites each have a private bedroom and bath. There is a shared common kitchen, laundry area, dining room, living room, library and toys for children. All homes are professionally furnished and decorated and are wheelchair accessible.

There is currently a Fisher House in Ann Arbor, and one is being built in Detroit. My wife and I have been utilizing the Fisher House in Cleveland, Ohio, while receiving treatment at the Cleveland Clinic. It is located about a mile away on a shared street. It isn't easy to find inexpensive motels in the area; we had previously been staying at least 20 minutes away.

For Veterans and active duty service members experiencing complicated care plans or seeking a second opinion of their diagnosis, the Fisher House may make that easier. Individuals requesting a Fisher House stay must be referred via electronic consult by a member of the Veterans VA health care team (Physician, Nurse Care Manager, Social Worker, etc...). If a Veteran or family member/caregiver has any questions about Fisher House eligibility, they can always reach out to the Fisher House staff for more information.

For typical circumstances, the health care available to us locally is outstanding. My experience has involved complicated diagnoses, and I've found the level of experience at larger hospitals and the large number of similar cases they treat often translates to better care for Veterans. However, we may be resistant to that option because of the cost of traveling and temporary housing. For Veterans, Fisher House has solved the temporary housing problem and done so with care and dignity.

Register for the Summer Convention
Sault Saint Marie, July 11-14
Register now at <https://michiganlegion.org/convention-24/>

The Only Written
Official Call to the 106th Annual Department Convention
American Legion, Department of Michigan
July 11-14, 2024
Kewadin Casino & Resort
Sault Ste Marie, Michigan

Purpose: To receive Department Officers' annual reports, consider Department Constitution and By-Laws amendments, elect Department Officers and conduct any other business brought to the convention. Only the committees and chairpersons listed below are called to officially participate in the Convention.

Registration: Registration fee of \$15 will be charged to all delegates, alternates and guests.

Department Executive Committee Meeting: Thursday, July 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Opening Session: Friday, July 12th at 5:00 p.m.

Subsequent Convention Sessions: Saturday, July 13th, 9:00 a.m. & Sunday, July 14th, 10:00 a.m.

CALLED - Standing Committee: Thursday, July 11th Permanent Time & Place / Resolutions Assignment, Americanism, Children & Youth

CALLED: ALL Standing Committee Chairmen – Note this is for Chairmen Person Only

Convention Committee Meetings: Conducted on Friday July 12th from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Convention Committees are comprised of one person per district. Each Delegation Chairman will name the members to serve on the Convention Committees and certify that list to the Department Adjutant.

Americanism & Community Service (includes Education & Scholarship, Boys State, Law and Order, Junior Shooting and Scouting) – Children & Youth, Constitution & Bylaws, Credentials, Veterans Employment & Education, Finance, Legislative, Membership, National Security & Foreign Relations, Post Development, Media & Communications, Reconnect, Rules, Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation and VAVS/VHVS

District Caucuses: Friday, July 12th, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Zone Caucuses: Friday, July 12th, 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Joint Memorial Service: Sunday, July 14th, 8:00 a.m.

Elections & Adjournment: Sunday July 14th, 10:00 a.m. (Noon at the latest) *The new 2024-2025 Department Executive Committee and the 2024 National Convention Delegates and Alternates will meet upon Convention adjournment.*

Veteran Service Office Locations



Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Gary Easterling
Director

Our staff is dedicated to providing the very best veterans' advocacy to Michigan Veterans and their families. They can assist with Claims Preparation, Presentation and appeal counsel in Veterans' benefits services. Let us assist you and your dependents in getting the benefits that you have earned by your service to your country.

Gary Easterling, Director
geasterling@michiganlegion.org
Cell (313) 549-8557

Tripp Cantwell, Assistant Director
Office Phone (313) 964-6640
Fax (313) 964-5697

Call for a Service officer in your area:
833.648.3826 Option 1

e-mail - al.vbadet@va.gov
[like us on Facebook @Michigan-
VAR](#)

Service Officers

Shay Grady
Daryl Kinder
Elizebeth Cuddington
Stephanie Fisher
Thomas Kaiser
Rebecca Lewis
Rick Wiles
Patty Breas
Phillip Babcock
Tommy Simpkins
Stacy Thill
Courtney Thurber
Lisa Misenko

Check out all your benefits at
www.mivabenifits.org

VFW Post 5670, 54 N. Mitchell Rd, Gwinn, MI 49841
Hours: Thursday 8am-4pm

Radcliff Center, 1751 Radcliff St, Garden City, MI 48135
Hours: Monday 8am-4pm

Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building

477 Michigan Ave. Rm 1231
Detroit, MI 48226
Hours: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
Phone: 833.648.3826 ext. 1

AL Post #257
7475 B Drive North
Battlecreek, MI 49014
Hours: Thursday 8am-4pm

AL Post 558
400 E. Ludington Dr.
Farwell, MI 48622
Hours: Tuesday 8am-4pm

AL Post 412
5480 Clark Rd
Bath, MI 48808
Hours: 3rd Wed 8am-4pm

AL Post 301, 10584 N. Main St.
Rapid River, MI 49878
Hours: Wednesday 8am-4pm

AL Post #194
455 Bay St.
Petoskey, MI 49770
Hours: Tuesday 8am-4pm

AL Post 491
422 Woodworth St.
Leslie, MI 49251
Hours: 2nd Tue 6pm-10pm

AL Post 44, 700 W. Bluff St.
Marquette, MI 49855
Hours: M, Tu, F 8am-4pm

Delta County Veterans Office
2840 College Ave, Ste 2,
Escanaba, MI 49854
Hours: Wednesdays 8a-4pm

AL Post 76 318, N. James St.
Ludington, MI 49431
Hours: 1st & 3rd Wed 8:30am-4:30pm

AL Post #245
3564 S. Reserve Rd.
Prudenville, MI 48651
Hours: Tuesday 8am-4pm

AL Post 248
1240 W. Grand River
Lainburg, MI 48848
Hours: 1st Wed 8am-4pm

AL Post 28
700 S. Harbor Dr
Grand Haven, MI 49417
Hours: Mon 9am-2pm

AL Post 305
9548 Cherry Valley Ave SE,
Caledonia, MI 49316
Hours: 2nd & 4th Fri 8:30-4:30

AL Post 443
2080 N. Meridian Rd
Sanford, MI 48657
Hours: 2nd & 4th Thurs 8-4

AL Post 396
6860 Middlebelt Rd,
Garden City, MI 48135
Hours: Friday 8am-4pm

AL Post 297
3590 Conklin St,
Ravenna, MI 49451
Hours: Wednesday 9am-2pm

Ann Arbor VAMC
2215 Fuller Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Hours: M-F 7am-3pm

Charlevoix County OVA
301 State Street
Charlevoix, MI 49720
Hours: 2nd & 4th Wed
8:30am-4:30pm

County Office, 400 River St.
Manistee, MI 49660
Hours: 2nd 4th Thurs 8:30-4:30

Department Headquarters
212 N. Verlinden
Lansing, MI 48915
Hours: Daily 8am-4:30pm

Jackson County OVA
1715 Lansing Ave. Rm 252
Jackson, MI 49202
Hours: T,2&4W,F 8am-4pm

Kalkaska County OVA
890 Isl. Lake Rd. NW, Rm 8
Kalkaska, MI 49646
Hours: 1st & 3rd Thurs 8:30-4:30

Mackinac County OVA
100 S. Marley St.
St. Ignace, MI 49781
Hours: Tue & Fri 8am-4pm

Mecosta County Office
14330 Northland Dr.
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Hours: Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Michigan Works Bldg
401 North Lake St., Suite
700
Cadillac, MI 49601
Hours: Mon 8:30am-4:30pm

Otsego County OVA
225 W. Main St, Room
104
Gaylord, MI 49735
Hours: Wed, Thur 8am-4pm

Presque Isle County
Veterans
151 E. Huron, 3rd flr.
Rogers City, MI 49779
Hours: M,W,Th 9am-4pm

Saginaw VAMC, 1500
Weiss st
Saginaw, MI 48602
Hours: M,T, W- 8am-4pm

Schoolcraft County OVA
300 Walnut St. #206B
Manistique, MI 49854
Hours: Tue & Wed 8am-4pm

Sault Ste. Marie CBOC
509 Osborn Blvd, Ste
306
Sault Ste. Marie, MI
49783
Hours: Monday 8am-4pm

Wyoming CBOC
5838 Metro Way SW
Wyoming, MI 49519
Hours: Tues 9-2, Th 8-4

Downriver Community
Conference Building
15100 Northline Road
Southgate, MI 48195
Hours: T,W,Th 8am-4pm

Grand Rapids Vet Center 2050
Breton Rd SE Grand Rapids,
MI 49546
Hours: Tuesday 8am-4pm
Phone: 616.268.8073

DON'T FACE THE VA ALONE!

Find an American Legion Veteran Service Officer near you. Use an Accredited Veteran Service Officer. Here are where American Legion Department Service Officers are. If one is not near you call 833.648.3826 Option 1 and they will guide you to an accredited veteran service officer who will help you.

Register Now!
JULY 26-28, 2024
PARADISE



HELL TO PARADISE

PTSD AWARENESS RIDE

Presented by: The American Legion Riders



HELL




MOTORCYCLES AND MOTOR VEHICLES WELCOME
 \$35 PER RIDER, \$20 PER PASSENGER

THIS WILL BE A 2 DAY PTSD AWARENESS RIDE.
 Come join us in raising awareness and funds for Mission Six Service Dogs, ZeroDuck30, Bikes and Battle Buddies and Wilwin Lodge.

EMAIL: alrhell2paradise@gmail.com
 FACEBOOK: ALR HELL TO PARADISE

More info to Follow




WILWIN LODGE
 At Cygnet Cove

AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

LOOKING FOR A WAY
TO SAVE MONEY?





National is raising their dues! Your Post may be raising dues, too! So, if you ACT NOW, you can renew your dues at the current rate through 2027. And now, members who have already renewed their dues can add up to two more years on top of the current year.

Even if you had passed up on the offer earlier this year when you renewed, it is now possible to renew for 2 more years on top of the current year. With prices going up everywhere, who knows how much savings this could mean?

Go to: <https://www.legion.org/renew> and start saving!

WILWIN LODGE
 At Cygnet Cove

WILWIN LODGE WAS RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE BEST CHARITIES FOR VETERANS BY SMILEHUB


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 &
2nd District Association
 Proudly Endorses

Wayne Blank
 for

First Vice Commander
Department of Michigan
2024 - 2025

Wayne Blank
Eligibility
 U.S. Air Force
 1967 - 1971
 Vietnam Era

MICHIGAN LEGIONNAIRE & AUXILIAIRE

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2024 Membership: April 29th Goal = 54,119
Current Total: 52,378-96.78%