

COMMUNITY SERVICE SCRAPBOOK:

SUBMISSION: Scrapbook to National Headquarters (National Adjutant)

ELIGIBILITY: Squadrons, Counties/Districts, Detachments

CONTENTS: See Rules

DEADLINE: July 15

DETAILS: The National Americanism Commission holds an annual Scrapbook Contest, open to submissions from Squadrons. The rules of the contest are very explicit. All submissions for judging must adhere directly to these rules. A copy of the rules can be found in Section V. An award is presented at the National Convention.

As the contest is open to all Squadrons, Detachments are requested to distribute copies of the rules. Detachments are also urged to develop their own judging system, so to allow one main entry in the Squadron section of the judging. To assist in that effort, in Section V of this Manual is the "Official Scrapbook Contest Judging Guidelines" which is the scoring sheet used by the Americanism Commission to determine the National Scrapbook winner.

HISTORY CONTEST:

SUBMISSION: History Book to National Headquarters (National Adjutant)

ELIGIBILITY: Squadrons and Detachments

CONTENTS: See Rules

DEADLINE: July 15

DETAILS: The National Historian, in conjunction with the National Executive Committee and the National Convention, conducts an annual History Book Contest open to submissions from Squadrons and Detachments. All submissions to this contest must adhere to the prescribed contest rules. They are self-explanatory. A copy of these rules can be found in Section V. Also in Section V of this Manual can be found the "History Contest Judging Sheet", which is used to determine the National History Book winners. Detachments may also consider using this sheet to determine their Detachment winner.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION:

GEORGE B. EVANS GRASSROOTS VETERANS' ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD:

The National Legislative Commission is concerned with the promotion and active participation in the National Legislative Grassroots Advocacy Program. An award will be presented at each National Convention. The George B. Evans Grassroots Veterans' Advocate of The Year Award recognizes a member who has performed

Sons of The American Legion National George B. Evans Grassroots Veterans' Advocate of The Year Award
**GEORGE B. EVANS GRASSROOTS VETERANS' ADVOCATE
OF THE YEAR AWARD**
Instructions and Guidelines

Description:

The George B. Evans Grassroots Veterans' Advocate of The Year Award recognizes a member who has performed outstanding service and made significant contributions of time and effort in Grassroots Veterans' Advocacy work. In no instance will more than one award be given in a year. It is possible that this award may not be given every year. One award will be presented each year to a member who displays an aggressive leadership role by building relationships with elected officials that directly impact public policy; by actively taking the message of the National Sons of The American Legion to key media outlets; and by developing strong grassroots initiatives.

Criteria: (The winners are determined based on the following categories)

1. Anyone who has been an individual Sons of The American Legion member for one or more years and meets the criteria for this award is eligible.
2. Active involvement of a legislative committee, including reporting to state/regional legislative chairs
3. Initiating a Key Contact program to communicate with legislators
4. Sponsoring a state "Day on the Hill" or a special legislative day event
5. Strong liaison with Congressmen, Senators and/or state legislators
6. Involvement in the formation or continuation of a grassroots Veterans' Advocate program
7. Maintaining good relationships with local media by sending press releases to the newspapers, articles for business publications, letters to editor, etc.
8. Establishing and maintaining a means through which to communicate to the membership on legislative issues (e.g. legislative newsletter/insert, website, and telephone/fax tree or e-mail distribution)
9. Attendance at state and/or national legislative leadership workshops and/or American Legion National Informational Conference (NIC)
10. Bonus points for attendance at congressional in-district town hall meetings and other special legislative activity
11. Bonus points for attendance at American Legion Washington Conference
12. Attended Congressional/Legislative Hearings (in Capitol or in District)

Rules:

1. To nominate your candidate, submit a detailed narrative summary (2,000 word limit), outlining your nominee's accomplishments, using the criteria listed above as a guideline.
This award nomination may be submitted by an individual member, district or by the Detachment. All criteria noted in the summary should be documented to support the narrative. You may summarize any large amount of documentation.
2. The commission will review paper documentation only.
3. Where required, copies of letters, faxes, e-mails, citations, newspaper articles, and Squadron, District, and/or Detachment reports/minutes may serve as documentation.
4. The decision of the Awards Committee is final.

APPLICATION FORM:

**GEORGE B. EVANS GRASSROOTS VETERANS' ADVOCATE
OF THE YEAR AWARD APPLICATION**

Member's Name (Print):

Membership Number:

Nominator's Name (Print) Individual, Squadron, District/Area/Zone, Detachment:

Nominator's Signature:

Nominator's Address:

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____ **Fax** _____

Email: _____

Please make a copy of everything you submit for your own records and mail the original application form, score sheet, and documentation, to *Sons of The American Legion P.O. Box 1055 Indianapolis, IN 46206* or scan and email to sal@legion.org.

Due date:

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS, REGARDLESS OF DELIVERY METHOD, MUST BE RECEIVED NOT LESS THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION OF EACH YEAR, SO THAT SUBMISSIONS MAY BE JUDGED IN A TIMELY FASHION.

**GEORGE B. EVANS GRASSROOTS VETERANS' ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD
SCORE SHEET**

To be eligible, the following events, except otherwise noted, must have occurred during the period of July 1st of the prior year through June 30th of the current year. (*Indicates submit documentation with this form. No points are awarded in a category without this documentation). Please arrange documentation by Application Section and Number.
[Example: Section I (2)]

I. Meetings & Events

1. District and/or Detachment -- Sponsoring a "Day on the Hill"* 1 x 200 pts. = _____ (max 200)
Squadron and/or District — Sponsoring a Legislative Day Event*
(Note: Squadrons must provide a special legislative event that is either a separate or expanded format of their regular monthly membership meeting.)
2. Detachment – Conduct or assist a State Legislative Workshop* 1 x 50 pts. = _____ (max 50)
Squadron — Participate in State Legislative a Workshop*
3. Individual participated in Sons of The American Legion National Executive Committee Legislative Commission Meetings (including National Legislative Commission Chat Rooms), and/or National Legislative Commission E-Group * 2 x 25 pts. = _____ (max 50)

II. Legislative Committee Activity

1. Maintaining an active legislative committee* 1 x 50 pts. = _____
(Submit documentation from strategic plan, Squadron, District, and/or Detachment minutes, leg. reports showing an active leg. Committee that monitors legislation; has established communication methods, and solicits grass roots involvement on key issues)
Participation on separate Legislative Activities for federal issues 1 x 20 pts. = _____
Participation on separate Legislative Activities for state issues 1 x 20 pts. = _____
Maintaining Legislative Communications 1 x 10 pts. = _____
(List area of responsibility)
2. State -- Regular reporting of Legislative Committee/Chairman activity to National Legislative Commission* 1x 50 pts. = _____ (max 50)
Squadron/District – Coordination with Detachment Legislative Committee*
3. Interaction with State Legislators on veteran issues 1 x 25 pts. = _____ (max 25)
(Visits, letters, emails)*
4. Interaction with State Legislators on American Legion Family issues 1 x 25 pts. = _____ (max 25)
(Visits, letters, emails)*
5. Interaction with Congressmen/Senators on veteran issues 1 x 25 pts. = _____ (max 25)
(Visits, letters, emails)*
6. Interaction with Congressmen/Senators on veteran issues 1 x 25 pts. = _____ (max 25)
(Visits, letters, emails)*

III. Grass Roots Activity

1. Initiating a Key Contact program* 1 x 50 pts. = _____ (max 50)
(Note: Show activity that involves key contact volunteers that make special effort to communicate with their designated legislators/Congressmen/Senators when E-Group Alerts are issued.)
2. Involvement in the formation and/or support 1 x 50 pts. = _____ (max 50) of Detachment Grassroots Veterans' Advocacy program*
3. Member support of Grassroots Legislative promotion of National Legislative Commission E-Group* (max 50)
(Based on the activity period 7/1 through 6/30)
Having 10 of members support 1x 15 pts. = _____
Having 11 to 20 of members support 1 x 25 pts. = _____
Having more than 21 members support 1 x 50 pts. = _____
(Note: Basis for above calculations will be based on signing up new members for the National Legislative Commission E-Group)

IV. Public Relations/Communications

1. Developing local media exposure on legislative issues by press releases to newspapers, letters to editor, articles in business publications, etc.* (max 5) _____ x 20 pts. = _____ (max 100)
2. Holding press conference with local media involvement* 1 x 50 pts. = _____ (max 50)
3. Radio/TV appearances on Veterans' and American Legion Family issues* 1 x 50 pts. = _____ (max 50)
4. Establish and maintain a means to communicate to membership on legislative issues*
 - a. Special legislative newsletter or insert 1 x 25 pts. = _____
(Provide two examples)
 - b. Maintain website with legislative links 1 x 15 pts. = _____
(List website address)

V. Bonus Points

1. Attendance at Congressional In-District Town Hall Meetings 1 x 15 pts. = _____ (max 15)
[Submit announcement and include documentation on time, location and subjects discussed.]
2. Other special legislative activity or involvement 1 x 10 pts. = _____ (max 10)
[List details of other specific activity (i.e. grassroots campaigns such as Flag Amendment, serving on special committees)]
3. Organizing or assisting in a Town Hall Meeting held at an American Legion Post 1 x 20 pts = (max 40)