

American Legion Post 77

NEWSLETTER

LEGION COLLEGE
2025

DATES CHANGED

nclegion.org
for details



EVENT: Memorial Day Ceremony

LOCATION: Forest Lawn

Hendersonville, NC

DATE: 26MAY2025

TIME: 11am

WTZQ Veteran Interviews: 10-10:45am

Classic Car Parade: Legion77 - Forest Lawn



IN MEMORY OF OUR HEROES

Memorial Day Event Sponsored By:

Forest Lawn Funeral Home and Memorial Park
Disabled American Veterans Chapter 14



MEMORIAL DAY EVENT: HENDERSONVILLE, NC

Location: **FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME AND MEMORIAL PARK**

538 Tracy Grove Rd
Hendersonville, NC 28792

Date: **26MAY2025**

Time: 11am

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Memorial Day is a day to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for this great country.

Join us to give honor and remembrance.

WTZO Veteran Interviews: 10-10:45am

Classic Car Parade: Legion 77 - Forest Lawn

**If Bad Weather, Ceremony at Legion 77*



American Legion Post 77

ADJUTANT: Shuford Edmisten

Join us as we remember and honor those that gave the ultimate sacrifice

- Bring Lawn Chairs
- BBQ Following Event (while Supplies last)

Sponsored By:

Forest Lawn Funeral Home and Memorial Park

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 14

REMEMBER



AND HONOR

American Legion
Post 77
C a n t e e n
H e n d e r s o n v i l l e , N C

OPEN DAILY!

Kitchen Open:
Monday-Saturday

Breakfast
Lunch
Dinner

*Dessert Offered
Friday Dinner

Sunday Kitchen Closed:

*Limited Bar Menu
-items may vary

HALF STAFF 04MAY2025

NATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL DAY



National Military Appreciation Month (May 1-31):

This month-long observance is dedicated to recognizing and appreciating the service and sacrifices of all members of the U.S. military, both past and present. 📌

Military Spouse Appreciation Day (May 9):

This day acknowledges the significant contributions and sacrifices of military spouses. 📌

Children of Fallen Patriots Day (May 13):

This day honors the children of service members who have died while serving their country. 📌

Armed Forces Day (May 17):

Observed on the third Saturday of May, this day honors current service members of the U.S. Armed Forces. 📌

Memorial Day (May 26):

This holiday is a solemn occasion to remember and honor those who have died while serving in the military. 📌



SCAN FOR GUIDE

TAMPA RIVERWALK



2.6 miles of pedestrian thoroughfare connecting cultural venues like the Tampa Museum of Art and the Tampa Bay History Center, along with parks, bars, and restaurants.

PIRATE WATER TAXI



Over 15 stops conveniently located along the Riverwalk, Channel District, and Davis Islands, water taxi crews offer historical narration and concessions.

YBOR CITY



National Historic Landmark District packed with old-world charm and world-famous cuisine, all just a free TECO Line Streetcar ride away from downtown Tampa.

ARMATURE WORKS



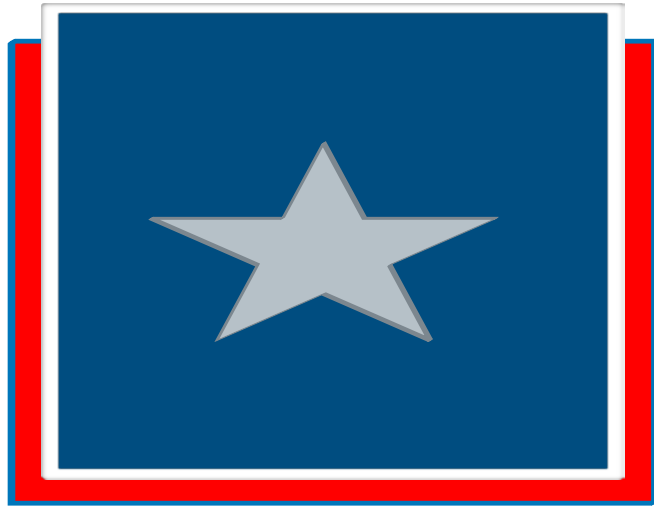
Armature Works at The Heights Public Market offers a culinary journey through various local vendors, showcasing the diverse flavors of Tampa Bay.

TAMPA BAY, FL

22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th AUGUST 2025

AMERICAN LEGION

NATIONAL CONVENTION



HONORING SACRIFICE AND PATRIOTISM: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SILVER STAR BANNER DAY AND LOYALTY DAY ON MAY 1ST

Each year on May 1st, Americans pause to observe two meaningful occasions: Silver Star Banner Day and Loyalty Day. These observances, rooted in the nation's deep respect for military sacrifice and patriotic unity, offer a moment to reflect on the values that shape American culture—honor, resilience, and devotion to country. While distinct in their focus, both days intertwine to celebrate the individuals who serve and the collective spirit that binds the nation.

SONS OF THE
 AMERICAN
LEGION

SILVER STAR BANNER DAY: A TRIBUTE TO THE WOUNDED

Silver Star Banner Day, officially recognized by Congress in 2010, is dedicated to honoring wounded, ill, and injured U.S. military service members. The day is not tied to the Silver Star Medal, a prestigious award for valor in combat, but rather to the Silver Star Service Banner, a symbol of recognition for those who have endured physical or invisible wounds in service to the nation. The banner, with its blue star edged in silver, represents hope and gallantry, acknowledging the profound sacrifices made by service members and their families.



The tradition of service banners traces back to World War I, when families displayed flags with blue stars for loved ones serving in the military. A silver star, originally a silver thread overlay, signified a service member wounded in action—a practice that faded after World War II but was revived by organizations like the Silver Star Families of America (SSFOA), founded in 2004.

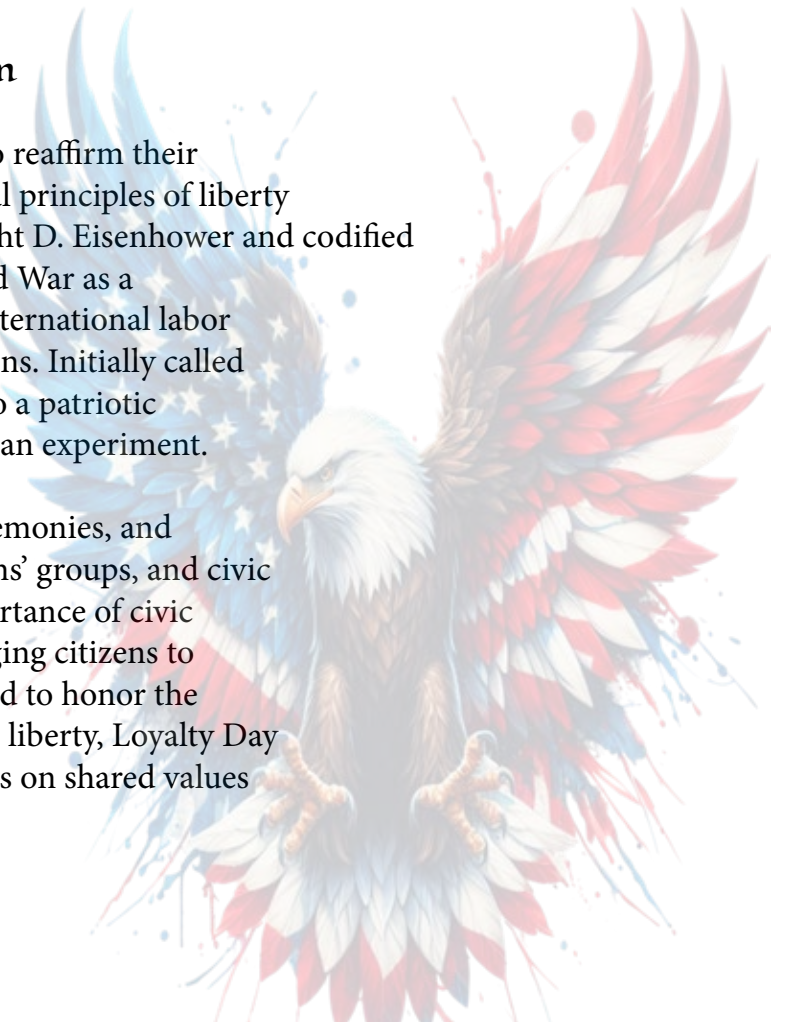
The SSFOA's advocacy led to the formal designation of May 1st as a day to honor these heroes, with ceremonies, wreath-laying, and banner presentations held across the country.

In American culture, Silver Star Banner Day underscores a commitment to never forget those who bear the lasting scars of war. It reflects a society that values not only the act of service but also the ongoing struggles of veterans, from physical injuries to invisible wounds like post-traumatic stress (PTS). The day serves as a call to action—urging communities to support veterans through education, advocacy, and tangible aid, reinforcing the cultural ethos of gratitude and responsibility toward those who have given so much.

Loyalty Day: Celebrating Unity and Freedom

On the same day, Loyalty Day invites Americans to reaffirm their dedication to the United States and its foundational principles of liberty and justice. Established in 1958 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower and codified by Congress, Loyalty Day emerged during the Cold War as a counterpoint to May Day, a date associated with international labor movements and, at the time, communist celebrations. Initially called “Americanization Day” in the 1920s, it evolved into a patriotic observance to foster unity and pride in the American experiment.

Loyalty Day is marked by parades, flag-raising ceremonies, and community events, often involving schools, veterans’ groups, and civic organizations. These activities emphasize the importance of civic engagement and collective responsibility, encouraging citizens to reflect on the sacrifices made to secure freedom and to honor the nation’s heritage. In a culture that prizes individual liberty, Loyalty Day serves as a reminder that national strength depends on shared values and mutual commitment.



WHY MAY 1ST MATTERS

The convergence of Silver Star Banner Day and Loyalty Day on May 1st is no coincidence; it reflects a deliberate effort to intertwine personal sacrifice with national pride. In American culture, military service is often seen as the ultimate expression of loyalty, and honoring the wounded alongside a broader call for unity creates a powerful narrative of gratitude and purpose. These observances highlight a society that seeks to balance individual heroism with collective identity, recognizing that the nation's strength lies in both.



The reasoning behind remembering May 1st lies in its dual call to action: to support those who have sacrificed and to recommit to the values they fought for. For Americans, it's a moment to bridge past and present, ensuring that the courage of service members and the ideals of freedom remain at the forefront of national consciousness. Whether through a quiet moment of reflection, a community parade, or a banner presentation, May 1st invites every citizen to participate in a culture of remembrance and renewal.

-By Grok3

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The Silver Star Medal: A Legacy of Valor in the U.S. Military

The Silver Star Medal stands as one of the United States' most revered military honors, recognized as the third-highest decoration for valor in combat. Awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces for gallantry in action against an enemy, the Silver Star embodies a legacy of courage and sacrifice that spans over a century. Its history reflects not only the evolution of military recognition but also the enduring American commitment to honoring those who risk their lives in defense of freedom.

Origins: The Citation Star

The Silver Star Medal traces its roots to the Citation Star, established by an Act of Congress on July 9, 1918, during World War I. The Citation Star was a small, 3/16-inch silver star worn on the ribbon of a campaign medal, awarded to Army personnel for gallantry in action that did not warrant the Medal of Honor or the newly created Distinguished Service Cross. This modest emblem filled a gap in the U.S. military's awards system, which previously relied solely on the Medal of Honor and the Certificate of Merit, neither of which could be conferred by field commanders.

The Citation Star was retroactively available for acts of valor dating back to the Spanish-American War, and it was also awarded to Navy and Marine Corps members by the War Department. Its creation was spurred by the need to align with allied nations, whose robust award systems recognized gallantry and service effectively during World War I. The Citation Star thus marked a step toward a more comprehensive U.S. military honors framework, setting the stage for a more distinguished decoration.

Birth of the Silver Star Medal

On July 19, 1932, the Citation Star was transformed into the Silver Star Medal, a full-fledged decoration approved by the Secretary of War. This conversion, championed by Army Chief of Staff General Douglas MacArthur, coincided with the revival of George Washington's Badge of Military Merit as the Purple Heart. The new medal, designed by Rudolf Freund of Bailey, Banks, and Biddle, incorporated the original Citation Star at its center, encircled by a laurel wreath on a gold five-pointed star. The inscription "For Gallantry in Action" on the reverse underscored its purpose.



The Silver Star Medal was initially an Army decoration, but its scope expanded during World War II. On August 7, 1942, Congress authorized the Navy to award the Silver Star, followed by the Army on December 15, 1942, formalizing its status across all branches. Retroactive awards were permitted, allowing recognition for actions as far back as December 7, 1941, for the Navy and earlier for the Army. This expansion reflected the medal's growing significance as a universal symbol of combat heroism, bestowed not only on U.S. service members but also on foreign allies and, in rare cases, civilians supporting military operations.

Criteria and Significance

The Silver Star is awarded for singular acts of gallantry—heroism that stands out but does not meet the threshold for the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, Air Force Cross, or Coast Guard Cross. The action must occur in combat against an enemy of the United States, during military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force, or while serving with friendly forces against an opposing armed force in which the U.S. is not a belligerent party. Typically, the medal recognizes bravery over a brief period, such as one or two days in battle.

The medal's design is striking: a 1.5-inch gold star with a smaller silver star at its core, suspended from a ribbon of blue with a central red stripe flanked by white. For subsequent awards, the Army and Air Force use bronze or silver oak leaf clusters, while the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard use gold or silver stars. Its rank as the fifth highest military award—behind the Medal of Honor, service crosses, and distinguished service medals—underscores its prestige as the highest combat valor decoration not tied to a specific branch.

legion77.org

NOTABLE RECIPIENTS AND IMPACT

Since its inception, an estimated 100,000 to 150,000 Silver Star Medals have been awarded, though exact numbers are uncertain due to limited Department of Defense records. Among the most decorated is Colonel David “Hack” Hackworth, who received ten Silver Stars for his actions in the Korean and Vietnam Wars, a record of extraordinary bravery. General Douglas MacArthur himself earned seven Citation Stars during World War I, later converted to Silver Stars, marking his early role in shaping the medal’s legacy.

The Silver Star has also broken barriers. In World War II, four Army nurses—First Lieutenant Mary Roberts, Second Lieutenants Elaine Roe and Rita Virginia Rourke, and Second Lieutenant Ellen Ainsworth (posthumously)—became the first women recipients for their courage in evacuating a field hospital under fire at Anzio in 1944. In 2005, Army National Guard Sergeant Leigh Ann Hester became the first woman since World War II to receive the medal for direct combat action, followed by Army Specialist Monica Lin Brown in 2008 for her heroism as a combat medic in Afghanistan. These awards highlight the medal’s role in recognizing diverse contributions to military valor.

A Lasting Symbol

The Silver Star Medal remains a testament to the U.S. military’s commitment to honoring gallantry. From its humble beginnings as a ribbon device to its status as a coveted decoration, it has evolved alongside the nation’s understanding of heroism. In American culture, the medal represents not just individual courage but the collective resolve to uphold freedom against adversity. Each award tells a story of sacrifice, reminding us that valor, though rare, is a cornerstone of the nation’s identity.

-By Grok3

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Memorial Day

Honoring Heroes: The Heart of Memorial Day in the USA

Memorial Day, observed annually on the last Monday of May, holds a profound place in the American calendar. Far beyond marking the unofficial start of summer, it's a day dedicated to honoring the men and women who gave their lives in service to the nation's armed forces. As we look toward Memorial Day 2025, let's explore its history, significance, and the ways Americans come together to commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

THE ORIGINS OF MEMORIAL DAY

The roots of Memorial Day trace back to the Civil War, a devastating conflict that left over 600,000 Americans dead. In 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of the Grand Army of the Republic, a Union veterans' organization, proclaimed May 30 as "Decoration Day," a time to adorn the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers. Communities across the country gathered to lay wreaths, recite prayers, and honor those lost on both sides of the war (History.com Editors).

After World War I, the observance expanded to include all American service members who died in any war, from the trenches of Verdun to the deserts of Iraq. In 1971, Congress formalized Memorial Day as a federal holiday, shifting it to the last Monday in May to create a three-day weekend. This change balanced solemn remembrance with an opportunity for families to gather, ensuring the day's meaning endured (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs).



Why Memorial Day Matters

Memorial Day invites reflection on the true cost of freedom. It's not just about sales, barbecues, or beach outings—though these have become modern traditions. At its heart, the holiday calls Americans to pause and honor those who never returned home. Whether they fell at Gettysburg, Iwo Jima, or Kandahar, their sacrifices secure the liberties we cherish today.

The day also fosters gratitude for veterans and active-duty military families. Many Americans volunteer at cemeteries, placing flags on graves, or support organizations like the Wounded Warrior Project. Events like the National Memorial Day Concert in Washington, D.C., broadcast nationwide, blend music and storytelling to remind us of the human toll of war (PBS).

HOW AMERICA COMMEMORATES

Across the country, Memorial Day is marked with quiet reverence and communal spirit. Cemeteries, like Arlington National Cemetery, host ceremonies where families lay flowers and officials deliver speeches. The President often places a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a powerful symbol of all unidentified fallen heroes (Arlington National Cemetery).

-By Grok3

Memorial Day Events: [Check local listings for times](#)

*Forest Lawn Memorial Park - Hendersonville

*WNC Veterans Cemetery - Black Mountain

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The Power of Positive Thinking: Transforming Your Outlook on Life

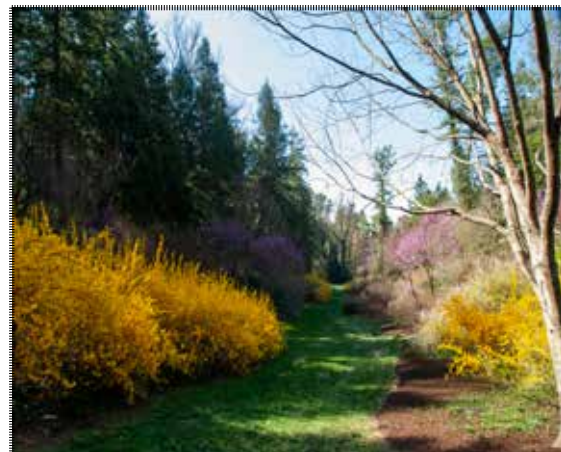
By Grok3

In today's fast-paced world, maintaining a positive outlook can be a game-changer for personal growth and well-being. Positive thinking isn't about ignoring life's challenges but approaching them with resilience, optimism, and a belief in possibilities. By cultivating this mindset, individuals can reduce stress, enhance relationships, and find greater purpose in their daily lives. For veterans and community members at American Legion Post 77, this approach not only transforms personal outlooks but also strengthens the bonds of camaraderie and service that define the organization.

Positive thinking begins with small, intentional steps. Practicing gratitude, reframing challenges as opportunities, and surrounding oneself with supportive people can shift perspectives dramatically. Research shows that optimism is linked to better mental and physical health, including lower anxiety levels and improved coping skills during tough times. For example, focusing on what's going well-

whether it's a kind gesture from a friend or a personal achievement—releases feel-good neurotransmitters like dopamine, fostering a sense of calm and happiness.

At **American Legion Post 77**, membership offers a unique platform to harness the power of positive thinking through community and purpose. Veterans and their families come together to support one another, share experiences, and contribute to meaningful causes. Whether it's organizing events, mentoring youth, or advocating for veterans' rights, these activities provide a sense of belonging and accomplishment. Members often find that serving others—such as through Post 77's community outreach or volunteering—lifts their spirits and reinforces a hopeful outlook. The shared mission of honoring service and strengthening America creates an environment where positivity thrives.



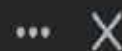
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American Legion Post 77 Hendersonville North Carolina

1h · 🌐



Mark your calendars for our Auxiliary Unit yard sale! May 17th 8am - until. \$25 a table. Contact Mandi if you'd like a table!

American Legion Community Yard Sale

Looking to declutter your space & make some extra cash? Come and be a part of our exciting Yard Sale event!

SATURDAY ~ MAY 17
8am until...

Legion Family & Public Welcome!

Anyone can participate as a seller!

**Bring your items and set up
your own table.**

\$25 A TABLE

For table rental or
additional information,
please contact Mandi:

828-693-3922

Alfvbarmanager77
@gmail.com

We look forward
to seeing you there!

216 4th Avenue West
American Legion
Event Hall (upstairs)





American Legion Post 77 Hendersonville North Carolina

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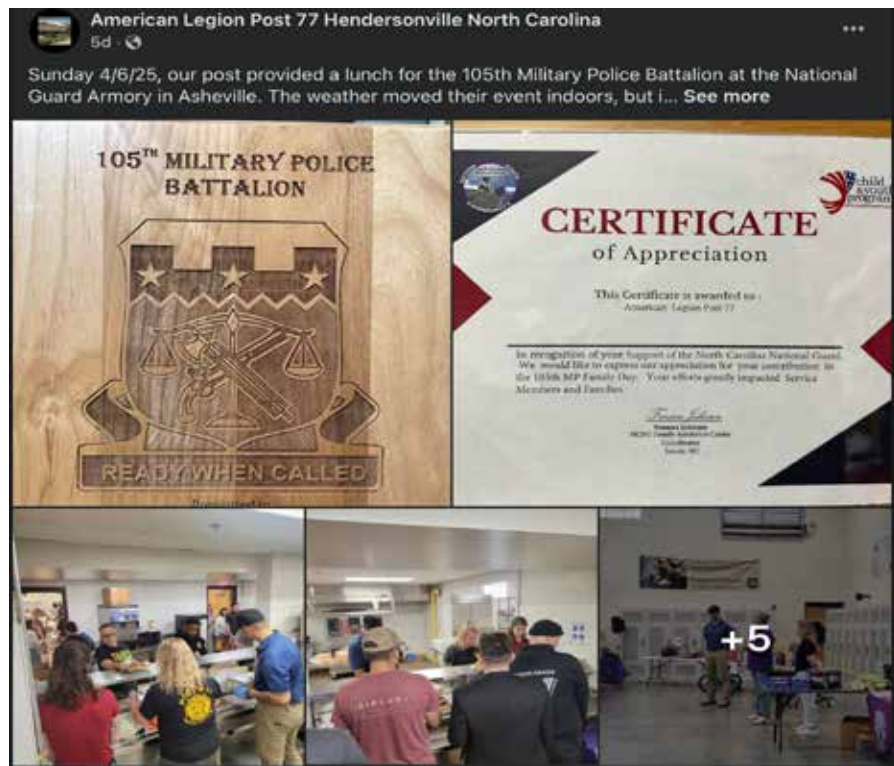
4/8/2025 Mills River Academy has a new platform and flag pole for the flag Post 77 donated. It looks amazing. Thank you to those who helped make this happen! A statemen... See more





Mills River Academy presentation from
American Legion Post 77







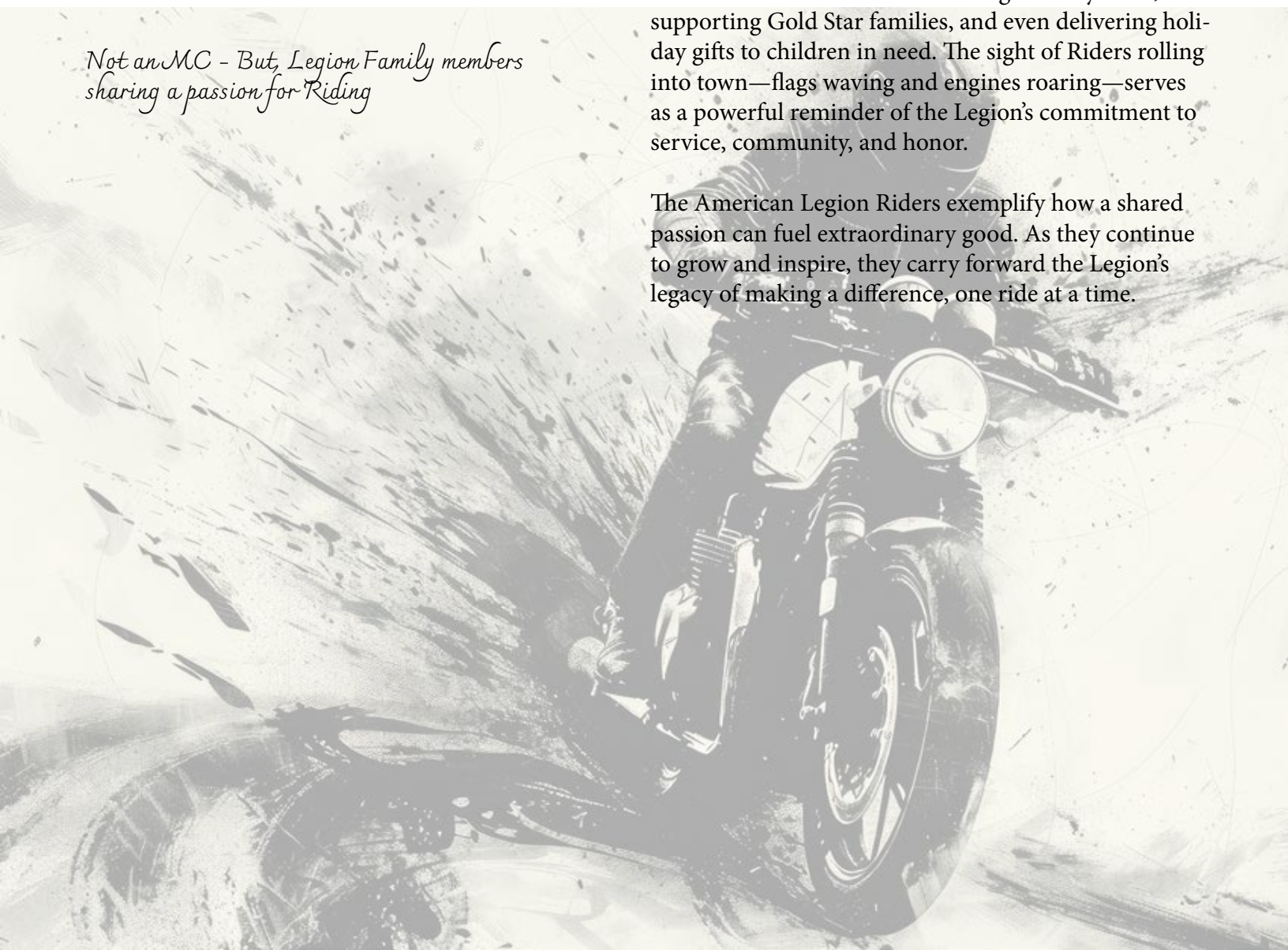
*Not an MC - But, Legion Family members
sharing a passion for Riding*

Charitable Work That Hits the Road

The American Legion Riders are renowned for their charitable efforts, raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for causes close to their hearts. From local children's hospitals and schools to veterans' homes and scholarships, their impact is felt far and wide. One of their flagship events, The American Legion Legacy Run, is an annual cross-country motorcycle ride that raises funds for the Legacy Scholarship Fund. Established to support the children of U.S. military personnel killed in action since September 11, 2001, the Legacy Run has become a cornerstone of the Riders' mission. Since its inception in 2006, Riders nationwide have contributed millions to this cause, ensuring educational opportunities for the next generation of military families.

Beyond the Legacy Run, Riders participate in regional rides like Operation Wounded Warrior in the western U.S., sponsor local charity events, and join motorcycle runs to raise awareness and funds for veterans' issues. Their efforts often include escorting military units, supporting Gold Star families, and even delivering holiday gifts to children in need. The sight of Riders rolling into town—flags waving and engines roaring—serves as a powerful reminder of the Legion's commitment to service, community, and honor.

The American Legion Riders exemplify how a shared passion can fuel extraordinary good. As they continue to grow and inspire, they carry forward the Legion's legacy of making a difference, one ride at a time.



Henderson County, NC AMERICAN LEGION POST 77 HONOR GUARD

Color presentation for BlueRidge Honor Flight's return from D.C.

-Crowd size reported by WLOS: 350 Welcomed Veterans back at the Asheville Regional Airport
19Apr2025





HONOR GUARD

AMERICAN LEGION POST 77

JOIN OUR TEAM

Think Fire Safety This Spring Time

By Grok3

FIRE SAFETY: SPRING TO-DOS AND MEMORIAL WEEKEND GRILLING SAFETY

As spring blooms and Memorial Weekend approaches, it's the perfect time to prioritize fire safety. From sprucing up your yard to preparing for summer barbecues, taking proactive steps can protect your home and loved ones. Below, we outline essential spring fire safety to-dos for your yard, home or apartment, and safe grilling practices for Memorial Weekend.

Spring Yard Fire Safety To-Dos

Spring cleanup reduces fire hazards in your outdoor spaces. Here's what to do:

- **Clear Debris:** Remove dry leaves, pine needles, and dead branches from your yard, roof, and gutters. These can ignite easily, especially in dry conditions.
- **TRIM VEGETATION:** Cut back overgrown grass, shrubs, and tree branches, keeping them at least 10 feet from your home. Create a defensible space by maintaining a 30-foot buffer zone around structures.
- **Store Firewood Properly:** Keep firewood stacks at least 30 feet from your home and elevated off the ground to prevent moisture buildup.
- **Check Outdoor Equipment:** Inspect lawnmowers, chainsaws, and other gas-powered tools for leaks or damage. Store fuel in approved containers, away from heat sources.



INSIDE YOUR HOME OR APARTMENT

Indoor fire risks increase with spring cleaning and seasonal changes. Take these precautions:

- **Test Smoke Alarms:** Check batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors monthly. Replace batteries if needed and ensure alarms are less than 10 years old.
- **Clean Appliances:** Remove lint from dryer vents and filters to prevent fires. Vacuum dust from behind refrigerators and other heat-producing appliances.
- **Inspect Electrical Cords:** Look for frayed or damaged cords and replace them immediately. Avoid overloading outlets or using extension cords as permanent solutions.
- **CREATE AN ESCAPE PLAN:** Review or develop a fire escape plan with your household. Practice two ways out of every room and designate a meeting point outside. For apartments, know all stairwell exits and never use elevators during a fire.

Memorial Weekend Grilling Safety

Grilling kicks off summer, but it's a leading cause of fires. Follow these tips for a safe barbecue:

- **GRILL OUTDOORS ONLY:** Never grill inside, including in garages or under overhangs, to avoid carbon monoxide buildup and fire spread.
- **MAINTAIN A SAFE DISTANCE:** Keep grills at least 10 feet from buildings, deck railings, and overhanging branches.
- **CHECK FOR LEAKS:** For propane grills, inspect hoses and connections for leaks using a soapy water solution. If bubbles form, repair or replace parts before use.
- **STAY ATTENTIVE:** Never leave a lit grill unattended. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away from the grilling area.
- **BE PREPARED:** Keep a fire extinguisher, bucket of sand, or garden hose nearby. If a grease fire occurs, cover the grill and turn off the burners—never use water.

By tackling these spring to-dos and grilling safely, you can reduce fire risks and enjoy a worry-free season. Stay vigilant, plan ahead, and keep safety first.



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American Legion Post 77 Newsletter: Summer Travel Tips for Conventions and Vacations

As summer approaches, members of American Legion Post 77 are gearing up for conventions, family vacations, and road trips across the country. Whether you're attending an American Legion convention or exploring the nation's scenic highways, safe and informed travel is key to making the most of your summer adventures. This article provides essential safety tips for road and air travel, along with important information about the upcoming REAL ID deadline.

REAL ID DEADLINE: MAY 7, 2025

Starting May 7, 2025, a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or another acceptable form of identification (such as a passport) will be required to board domestic flights or enter certain federal facilities. The Department of Homeland Security has set this deadline, and noncompliant IDs will no longer be accepted at TSA checkpoints.

- **CHECK YOUR ID:** Verify if your state-issued ID is REAL IDcompliant by looking for a star or other designated symbol.

Contact your state's Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to confirm compliance or upgrade your license.

- **ACT NOW:** With summer travel and conventions approaching, avoid last-minute delays by obtaining a REAL ID now.

Processing times can take weeks, and demand is expected to surge as the deadline nears.

- **ALTERNATIVE IDS:** If you don't have a REAL ID, a U.S. passport, military ID, or other TSA-approved identification will suffice for air travel.

TRAVELING TO AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTIONS

American Legion conventions are a highlight for Post 77 members, offering opportunities to connect, share experiences, and honor our nation's veterans. The American Legion, the largest wartime veterans' service organization, hosts events nationwide, and summer is a prime time for these gatherings. When attending:

- **BOOK EARLY:** Convention destinations attract large crowds, so reserve flights, hotels, and rental cars well in advance. AAA notes that rental car availability may be tight at airports due to **HIGH DEMAND**.
- **STAY INFORMED:** Check Legion.org for updates on convention schedules, travel discounts through partners like American Forces Travel, and safety protocols.
- **Travel Light:** For air travel, consider packing carry-on only to avoid baggage claim delays and reduce the risk of lost luggage. Online check-in and TSA PreCheck can further streamline your airport experience.

Making the Most of Your Summer Vacation

Whether you're road-tripping to Glacier National Park or flying to the Florida Keys, summer vacations are a chance to create lasting memories. Tailor your trip to your interests—hiking, history, or beach relaxation—and prioritize safety. As travel expert Samantha Brown suggests, book attractions and restaurants in advance to secure spots and save money during peak season. For Legion members, consider destinations with veteran-friendly activities, such as San Antonio's historic landmarks or Mackinac Island's scenic trails.

Airport Travel Safety Tips

For those flying to American Legion conventions or vacation destinations, airports will be bustling this summer. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) forecasts record passenger volumes, with nearly 3 million travelers expected on peak days.

Here's how to navigate airports safely:

- **Arrive Early:** Arrive at least two hours before domestic flights and three hours before international ones. Busy airport roadways and parking lots can add delays, so plan extra time.
- **Pack Smart:** Follow TSA's 3-1-1 rule for liquids (3.4 ounces or less per container, in a 1-quart bag, 1 bag per passenger). Place large electronics and liquids in accessible spots in your carry-on for screening. Never pack firearms in carry-ons; they must be unloaded, locked in a hard-sided case, and declared in checked baggage. Violators face fines up to \$15,000 and loss of TSA PreCheck eligibility.
- **Know Your Rights:** Airlines aren't required to compensate for delays or cancellations on domestic flights unless you're bumped

from an oversold flight. For international flights, you may claim reimbursement under the Montreal Convention for delay-related expenses. Ask airline staff about meal vouchers or amenities during delays.

- **Stay Safe in Flight:** Pay attention to pre-flight safety briefings and review the safety card. Stow carry-ons properly in overhead bins or under seats to avoid hazards during turbulence. Use restrooms before boarding, as beverage carts may block access early in the flight.

Conclusion


Summer travel offers Post 77 members a chance to attend conventions, explore new destinations, and reconnect with family and friends. By preparing your vehicle, packing smart, arriving early, and securing a REAL ID, you can ensure a safe and enjoyable journey. Stay connected with American Legion Post 77 at Legion77.org

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12 WAYS TO PREPARE

<input type="checkbox"/>  Sign up for Alerts and Warnings	<input type="checkbox"/>  Make a Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>  Save for a Rainy Day	<input type="checkbox"/>  Practice Emergency Drills	<input type="checkbox"/>  Test Family Communication Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>  Safeguard Documents
<input type="checkbox"/>  Plan with Neighbors	<input type="checkbox"/>  Make Your Home Safer	<input type="checkbox"/>  Know Evacuation Routes	<input type="checkbox"/>  Assemble or Update Supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>  Get Involved in Your Community	<input type="checkbox"/>  Document and Insure Property

Spring Cleaning

CHECKLIST

Every Room

- ☐ Wipe down Baseboards, door ceilings, window sills, doors, and walls.
- ☐ Vacuum and wash vents
- ☐ Dust and/or vacuum light fixtures and lamp shades.
- ☐ Dust and shine overhead lights - replace burnt light bulbs.
- ☐ Dust blinds.
- ☐ Wash window treatments (drapes, etc.).
- ☐ Wash Windows - inside and out

Kitchen

- ☐ Clean out pantry.
- ☐ Wipe down kitchen cabinets.
- ☐ Deep clean fridge inside - wipe down outside.
- ☐ Vacuum coils on fridge.
- ☐ Move fridge - vacuum and mop behind it.
- ☐ Deep clean oven.

Bedroom

- ☐ Purge anything stored under bed you don't need anymore.
- ☐ Wash all bedding & throw pillows.
- ☐ Flip Mattress - if using pillow top, rotate mattress.

Living Room

- ☐ Dust and wipe any and all mirrors, frames, and decorative items.
- ☐ Vacuum all lamp shades
- ☐ Vacuum all upholstery.
- ☐ Dust furniture and fixtures.
- ☐ Polish furniture.
- ☐ Wash all throw pillows and blankets (use steam).
- ☐ Vacuum and shampoo carpets - mop and wax floors

Bathroom

- ☐ Clean and disinfect tub and shower.
- ☐ Dust and replace decorative items.
- ☐ Wash and/or replace shower liners and shower curtains.
- ☐ Wash bathmats.

Other

- ☐ Discard old and expired makeup. Clean your makeup holders
- ☐ Update all your house first aid kits. Toss expired medication while sorting other medication.
- ☐ Donate any unused clothes items to Goodwill, The Salvation Army, or other local community organizations.
- ☐ Dry clean any necessary winter clothing or items. Store all winter items for next year.

you got this!



The Legion Bulletin

April 2025

Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Mon – Fri. website – www.nclegion.org
919-832-7506 email – adjutant@nclegion.org

PO Box 26657
Raleigh, NC 27611

2025 Department Convention

The 2025 Department Convention will be held June 18-21 at the North Raleigh Hilton Hotel, Raleigh, NC. Reservations can be made by calling, 1-800-445-8667 or online: :

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=RDUNHHF&groupCode=AMLEG&arrivaldate=2025-06-18&departuredate=2025-06-22&cid=OM> The code is AMLEG.

Reminder to change your arrival and departure date at the top of the page. Parking is complimentary. Be sure to get a parking pass for your car.

Room rates are \$117 plus tax, single or double. The cut-off for rooms at this rate is May 19, 2025.

Convention Delegate Certification

The Department Constitution requires that all Post Officers, Delegates, and Alternates to the Department Convention shall be elected annually at a Post meeting held not more than 45 days prior to the Department Convention and that all Post Officers, Post Delegates and Alternates to the Department Convention shall be certified to the Department Headquarters not more than 30 days nor less than 10 days prior to the Department Convention, certification to be made on forms furnished or prescribed by the Department. Delegates and Alternates to the Department Convention must be certified to the Department Headquarters not less than 10 days prior to the Department Convention regardless of whether their registration fee is paid in advance or not. In order to vote, every Post in the Department must comply with this requirement and be sure to certify their Department Convention Delegates and Alternates. This form must be completed and received at department headquarters no later than June 10, 2025.

The Department Judge Advocate has ruled that in order for a delegate or alternate to vote at the convention, the person's name must be on the original Certification form.

submitted to department headquarters, and no changes may be made after June 10, 2025. Also, you may only list as many alternates as you are authorized delegates.

SAL Squadrons Must Complete a Delegate Certification Form for the SAL Elections to take place at the Annual Convention.

**The Form is included with this mailing.
The same guidelines as stated above for
Legion apply to the SAL Form**

Student Trooper Program

The Student Trooper Program will be held at the North Carolina Highway Patrol Training Center in Raleigh the week of June 22-27, 2025. Forty (40) students who have just successfully completed their junior or senior year can be accommodated at the facility, so be sure to get applications in early. The fee is \$200.00. Applications may be obtained by calling Department Headquarters. Deadline for this program is June 10, 2025 or until filled.

Post Officers for 2025-2026

Enclosed is a Post Information Form for reporting your newly elected or re-elected Post Officers. It is extremely important to fill this out and return it to Dept. Headquarters. This is how we update our mailing list for monthly mailings as well as our Post Officers Roster. Be sure to include the area code when listing your phone numbers. Also, be sure to include your e-mail addresses. This is our main source of information from your Post informing us where to send vital information concerning your Posts.

Membership Reminders!

Adjutants, you will be receiving your annual Post Data Report Form. It needs to be returned to Department Headquarters no later than April 15. If not returned, any changes will not show up on renewal notices for next membership year. This includes the correct dues as well as the correct address for the dues notice to be mailed. Also complete the American Legion National Headquarters Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders and Adjutants. These forms are forwarded to national. It is where all info posted at national is updated. Our NC website will also be directing any post inquiries to the information national headquarters has listed for each NC post under Find a Post.

Inside This Issue

1	Delegate Certification Form
2	Legionnaire of the Year Form
3	Patriotic School Award
4	Children & Youth Post Narrative & Children & Youth Volunteer Form
5	Service To God and Country Form
6	SAL Delegate Certification Form
7	Post Information Form
8	Community Service Report Form
9	District/Division Meeting Schedule

Final District Meetings

Please see enclosed District Meeting Schedule for the date and time of your District's final meeting. It is very important to have a Post representative attend. Nominations for election of District Commander, District Vice Commander and National Convention Delegates will take place at this meeting.

Consolidated Post Reports

A Reminder – it is important that your Post complete the Consolidated Post Report. In order for your Post to be considered for any awards presented by Community Service Committee, Children and Youth Commission or Americanism Commission at the Convention, this form must be completed and returned to Department Headquarters by May 31. This form is available for download on our website, or go to www.legion.org to fill it in online. Contact Loree at lmiller@nclegion.org to have the form emailed or for a hard copy to be mailed.

Post Everlasting

It is customary to honor the memory of our departed comrades each year at this time by listing the names of all Legionnaires who have passed away during the membership year in the Convention Memorial Service Program. We have the names of all those who have been reported as deceased on membership transmittal cards and member data forms. Please check your rosters and submit those deceased members who have not yet been reported. Names must be submitted by May 30, 2025 for us to include them in the program.

Bits and Pieces

The Department and the National Judge Advocates have ruled that No Drinking is allowed in any official Legion meeting.

This includes regular monthly meetings and post executive meetings. If you need clarification on this issue please be in contact with Judge Advocate Gaither Keener.

Your uniform Cap: Post Cap is solid blue in color. Nothing is allowed on left side except, City name in full, state abbreviated. Example; Raleigh, NC Name tag should be blue in color.

District Cap is a blue cap with a white crown. Nothing on left side except District name in full and your state abbreviated. Example; 11th District, NC. Name tag should be white/blue.

Department Cap is solid white in color. Nothing on the left side except your state in full Example; North Carolina. Name tag should be white in color

National Cap should be solid red in color. Nothing on the left side except your state in full. Example; North Carolina. Name tag should be red in color.

These items can be purchased through Emblem Sales 1-888-453-4466 or emblem.legion.org, except where noted.

District Vice Commander and higher office, caps, must be ordered through Department Headquarters. If you need assistance, please be in contact with Loree, 919-832-7506.

A reminder from Dept. Judge Advocate, a post must contact Department Headquarters before the sale of post property. This is to ensure that the proper legal guidelines are followed thus preventing possible legality issues.



The Legion Bulletin

Boys' State Program

The Boys' State application deadline is May 1, 2025. After this date, please be sure that all applications are completed with the correct information along with the completed medical form. Students just completing their Jr. year will be permitted to attend the program. The fee for this year's program is \$500. The SAMSUNG application can only be completed on the national website. Once submitted, the delegate needs to print out and bring to Catawba College and turn it in at registration. Please do not mail the applications to Department Headquarters. Students can go to www.tarheelboysstate.org to start the process online.

Legion College

This year's Legion College will be held at the Hilton Raleigh North Hills. The dates are July 17-19, 2025. Room rates are \$117.00 per night plus tax. There will be a food and entertainment event on Friday evening. Ticket price to be announced. Registration form and a schedule of classes will be available at a later date. For reservations, call 919-872-2323. Be sure to mention you are with the American Legion.

Membership Awards

Deadlines

May 15, 2025

New Recruiter of the Year

Department Recruiter of the Year

May 15, 2025

Commander's Coin Award

May 31st 2025

Silver and Gold Brigade

National Recruiter of the Year

All forms and manual available on www.nclegion.org or contact lmiller@nclegion.org 919-832-7506 ext.104.



National Convention in Tampa

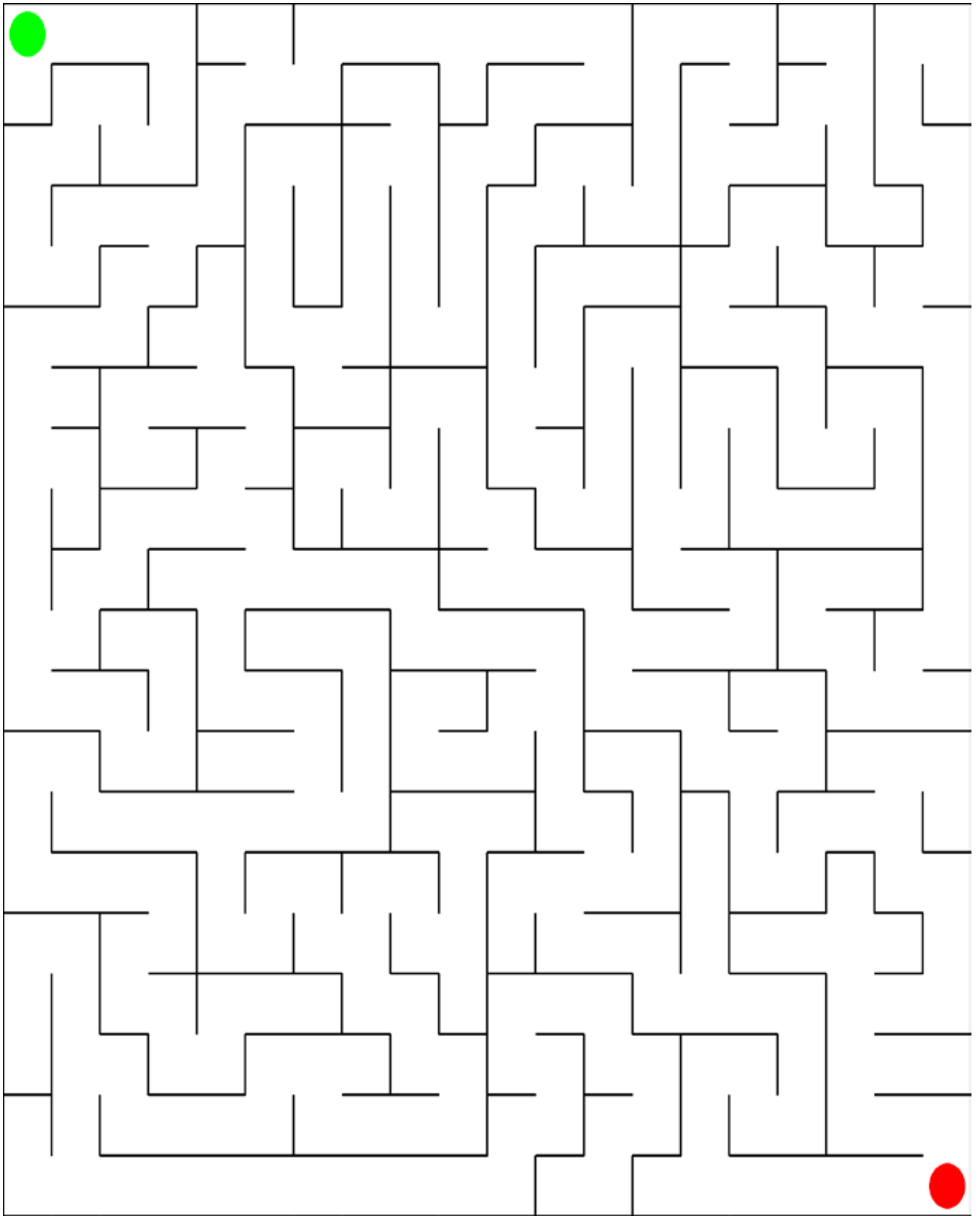
The American Legion National Convention will be held in Tampa, FL August 22 - 28, 2025. Any delegates and alternates not nominated at the Final District meetings will be selected by lottery at the convention in June.

All hotel reservations must be made through the Department. The form will be included in next month's mailing. Our hotel will be Hilton Tampa Downtown. Room rates will be \$129.00 per night, (\$146.42 with tax). Additional occupant is \$10.00 per day. Parking is \$29.00 per day (Valet ONLY).

More information will be available next month.







email for solution: info@legion77.org



**Support
Local**

ALA Unit 77

MEMORIAL CANDLE LIGHTING -
\$5 PER NAME

ALA Unit 77

Poppies Bracelets **\$5** - while supplies last









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Co-Editor: Andrew
Photography: Greg
Contributor: Bob
Bar Manager: Amanda

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Adobe (Generative ai)

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info@legion77.org

Canteen Bar Manager:

alfvbarmanager@gmail.com



828-693-3922



Hubert M Smith American Legion Post 77
Hendersonville, NC

