



American Legion Training Newsletter

National Headquarters Internal Affairs & Membership Division

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Engage - Train - Empower

NALCAA's continued service to the mission



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Service after graduation from National American Legion College (NALC) doesn't end – it just begins! And, as alumni, we hold ourselves to a high standard of commitment. The mission of the National American Legion College Alumni Association (NALCAA) is to “exchange best practices, ideas and plans to continue the ideals and values learned” at NALC. Our alumni represent the organization at all levels, to include three past national commanders.

This network communicates regularly via email and through a private Facebook page. There is a seven-member executive board that meets every month, virtually. Board members are elected each year during the annual NALCAA Business Meeting, which is held at The American Legion's national convention. Among

other things, board members are responsible for planning the annual banquet.

NALCAA's main reason for existence is to network and have fun. But they also come together to answer the Legion's call when necessary.

For example, many members volunteer for the community service project that's held during national convention. And last year, a request was made for subject matter experts to provide training at the 102nd National Convention in Phoenix, and the response was overwhelming. NALCAA members from many different departments conducted live training sessions for convention attendees. The interaction and shared knowledge were so well received that the same model is planned for this year's 103rd National Convention in Milwaukee.

During the spring of 2020, the NALCAA conducted an online fundraising challenge that raised \$5,295 for The American Legion's Veterans & Children Foundation. The Class of 2019 contributed the

most, so their class picture was featured at the top of the Facebook page. They also encouraged each other during the second annual 100 Miles for Hope Challenge, which promotes wellness while supporting the Veterans & Children Foundation.

At the local level, NALCAA members are encouraged to conduct training, develop training modules, and collaborate with their peers on strategies to keep training content fresh and relevant. They also assist their departments by encouraging members to take the online Basic Training course, participating in national training opportunities, and developing curriculum for department-level colleges.

Being a part of NALCAA's nearly 700-strong community enables alumni to share ideas and experiences with each other. This collective resource of knowledge and leadership helps each department improve their posts and programs. So, be sure to leverage your NALC graduates – they respond to American Legion requests in force!

Veterans Strengthening America

The vision and mission statements, along with the value principles and motto, help define the purpose of The American Legion, align the organization's resources toward a successful future, and provide clear and effective decision guidance.

In November, Media & Communications Division Director Jeff Stoffer, and Visual Media Manager Holly Soria, presented a Training Tuesday session on how the new motto and mission statement of The American Legion is deeply rooted in the organization's history.

If you were unable to attend, or wish to revisit the session, the video recording may be viewed at [Training Tuesday: November 2021 - Veterans Strengthening America on Vimeo.](#)



Send us your submissions

If you have comments, questions, or suggestions for training topics, we want to hear from you!

As we all know, the best ideas come from the people who are working the programs. So please share your ideas about topics you'd like us to cover in our *Training Tuesday* sessions and *Training In A Box* modules.

If you'd like to contribute to the *Training Newsletter*, we welcome your articles, pictures and anecdotes.

You can send your ideas and articles via email to LegionTraining@legion.org.

About this newsletter

This periodic and Legionnaire-driven newsletter, produced by the Internal Affairs & Membership Division, is designed to address best practices, ideas and training that every Legionnaire needs to know to engage our membership through effective training now and into the future.

Highlighting new training ideas and resources becoming available, it will also feature essays from successful leaders and training ideas of posts, districts, departments and individuals throughout

The American Legion.