## **The American Legion**

Benefits Department P.O. Box 7017 Indianapolis, IN 46207



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JOHN Q. SAMPLE: <u>NOW MORE THAN EVER</u>, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO STRENGTHEN OUR VOICE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. AND PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF AMERICA'S WARTIME VETERANS. PLEASE OPEN AND RESPOND IMMEDIATELY.

# For your country and your fellow veterans, we need you.

## **Now** is the right time to join The American Legion.

John Q. Sample,

When your country called, you answered.

You served in a time of war to defeat our enemies and help preserve the freedoms we hold so dear.

The American Legion salutes your wartime service and your commitment to helping the United States continue to be a defender of freedom, a liberator of the oppressed and a beacon of hope for the entire world. We are proud to present you with the enclosed "Certificate of Appreciation."

To ensure that you and your fellow warriors who have given so much to this country receive the services and care you earned, The American Legion needs to remain a powerful voice in Washington, D.C.

To make that happen, we need you in The American Legion.

## More challenges, more voices needed.

Thousands of new veterans are now returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, while funding for military and veterans' programs is being cut. When you add in the aging population of World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War veterans, you can see that there's a bigger need than ever for The American Legion to protect the interests of America's veterans and active-duty personnel.

The number of members in The American Legion affects our ability to be seen and heard by our nation's political leaders. When you join the Legion, our voice will be stronger.

## With the full support of our members in the past year, The American Legion was able to:

- ✓ Manage 140,978 cases and 8,496 disability claims appeals for veterans
- Work with Congress to pass 13 bills, including legislation that improved:
  - GI Bill benefits
  - Caregiver relief
  - VA medical facilities
  - Career opportunities for those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces
- Log nearly 4 million volunteer community service hours
- Raise and donate more than:
  - \$1.5 million for VA hospitals
  - \$4.6 million for community services
  - \$2.25 million for local emergency aid



# Join the Legion today to receive this FREE gift:



We're honoring your military service with this custom-designed commemorative lock-back knife engraved with your Branch of Service. This extra heavy-duty knife with durable polypropylene handle is a full 8 ½" when open, but folds to a compact 4 5%" for carrying in its Kelvlon™ belt pouch.



Also receive a subscription to The American Legion Magazine

This monthly, full-color magazine is a must-read publication for military veterans.

## Plus, we've enclosed the following in this package for you:

- A Certificate of Appreciation for your military service
- Benefits Summary
- Acceptance Certificate

Continued on next page...

# Make a lasting difference in your fellow veterans' lives for just 7¢ a day.

Your \$25 annual dues—about 7¢ a day—will help us provide all this and more for you, your fellow veterans and your community:

- Emergency assistance for veterans and their families
- Assistance with employment
- Help with filing VA claims
- Support for the troops presently serving in the United States military
- Community activities such as hospital services and blood drives
- ✓ Youth programs including the Boy Scouts, American Legion Baseball, scholarships and more

#### As a member of the Legion, you will also receive:

- ✓ Discounts on prescription medicines through The American Legion discount drug program
- Savings on eyewear, cell phones, computers, insurance, travel and more

# Just fill out the enclosed Acceptance Certificate and return it in the envelope provided.





By joining our ranks, you're helping The American Legion represent all veterans' interests in Washington, D.C., as well as providing other important services to veterans and their families. <u>There isn't a more important time</u> to join The American Legion than right now. We need your membership to make us a strong and unified voice for America's veterans. I look forward to having you in our ranks.

Serving those who served,

Daniel S. Wheeler National Adjutant

## John, Here are 3 easy ways to join The American Legion today:



Return the Acceptance Certificate in the enclosed envelope.



Call 1-888-805-6180 to speak with a representative.



Go to www.legion.org/mailoffer



## John Q. Sample

## THE AMERICAN LEGION

Keep this temporary card handy while you await your official American Legion membership card. If you have questions about benefits or are in need of further assistance, call our Membership Customer Support Specialists Toll-Free at

#### 1-888-805-6180.

## Join the Legion today to receive this FREE gift:

We're honoring your military service with this custom-designed commemorative lock-back knife. This extra heavy-duty knife with durable polypropylene handle is a full 8 ½" when open, but folds to a compact 4 ⅔" for carrying in its Kelvlon™ belt pouch.

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- Acceptance Certificate



U.S.ARIM

### To join by mail, fill out both sides of this Acceptance Certificate, detach and mail in the enclosed envelope

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## ACCEPTANCE CERTIFICATE

lominee:
John Q. Sample
1234 Any St.

Cityname, ST 56789

If address above is not correct, please cross out and make corrections on back.

☐ YES, I accept my membership in The American Legion. Please send me my gift the lock-back knife commemorating the Branch of Service I have selected to the right. ▶

\$25 check payable to The American Legion enclosed.

I would like to charge my dues. My information is on the back of this reply. I certify that I have served or am still serving honorably on active duty in the following: Please check appropriate boxes

#### **Eligibility Dates**

AUG 2, 1990-OPEN DEC 20, 1989-JAN 31, 1990 AUG 24, 1982-JULY 31, 1984 FEB 28, 1961-MAY 7, 1975 JUNE 25, 1950-JAN 31, 1955 DEC 7, 1941-DEC 31, 1946

APRIL 6, 1917-NOV 11, 1918

#### Branch of Service

- U.S. ARMY
- U.S. NAVY
- U.S. AIR FORCE
- U.S. MARINES
- U.S. COAST GUARD
- MARINE (WWII Only)

ble to legion enclosed. charge my dues.

# **Questions & Answers about The American Legion**.

# Q. How do I know if I qualify for membership in The American Legion?

A. Look on your Acceptance Certificate. If it lists your dates of military service, and if you served honorably, at least one day of active duty, you qualify for Legion membership. If you are still serving on active duty, in the Reserves or National Guard, you are also eligible to join.

# Q. Why is membership in The American Legion limited to certain periods?

**A.** The American Legion was chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1919 as an organization of wartime veterans. Our membership eligibility dates parallel dates set by Congress for wartime service.

#### Q. Why should I join The American Legion?

A. Your membership in The American Legion allows you to take full advantage of your status as a wartime veteran and receive additional American Legion benefits to which you are entitled. With your membership, you also support the troops presently serving and honor the other men and women in the United States military who have given so much for our country. And as a Legionnaire you'll have the opportunity to build friendships and camaraderie with fellow wartime veterans and continue your service to America.

# Q. What types of service activities are Legionnaires involved with, and how do they contribute to my community?

A. The American Legion was instrumental in the creation of the Veterans Administration and having the VA elevated to a cabinet level agency and designated as the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The Legion is also universally recognized as the originator of the GI Bill of Rights, and it continues to work to maintain the rights and benefits earned by veterans through service to their country. Legionnaires are also deeply involved with community activities ranging from hospital services and blood drives to youth programs such as the Boy Scouts, the National High School Oratorical Contest, American Legion Baseball, scholarships and the annual American Legion Boys State/Boys Nation programs.

## John, Here are 3 easy ways to join The American Legion today:

Return the Acceptance Certificate in the enclosed envelope.	Call 1-888-805-6180 to speak with a representative.	Go to www.legion.org/mailoffer
ΙΜΡΟΠΤΑ	NT INFORMA	ATION
Charge \$25 to my: VISA	MasterCard Dis	cover
Card # Signature	(3-digit number on the back	
Date of Birth		of card on far right side.) Date Optional)
Phone Number:	(Optional)	
Email Address:		(Optional)
Please make any address correc	ctions here as necessary:	
Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS P.O. BOX 7017, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46207-7017

# **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

In recognition of your wartime service this certifies that

## JOHN Q. SAMPLE

upon meeting the strict requirements set forth by the Congress of the United States of America shall thereby be accepted for Official Membership in The American Legion.

National Adjutant

Please detach and proudly display this special Certificate of Appreciation, honoring your wartime service. (Frame Size: 8"x10")

# How The American Legion benefits you and your fellow veterans:

# **VETERANS ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION**

## **Veterans and Active-Duty Representation**

The American Legion is an advocate for military veterans and fights for better active-duty pay, improved housing for active-duty families, and helps to ensure that VA's medical system can properly care for the sick and wounded returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

## **Veterans Employment**

The Legion works with the Department of Labor on national employment and training programs for veterans and with the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities and its Committee on Disabled Veterans.

## **Operation Comfort Warriors**



Operation Comfort Warriors meets the needs of wounded, injured or ill military personnel at U.S. military hospitals and

warrior transition units. Comfort items, such as sweat suits, DVDs, electronic devices, books, calling cards and more are provided to patients, while larger items such as ping pong tables, entertainment centers and computers are given to facilities for their common areas.

## **Family Support Network**

The American Legion's Family Support

Network provides assistance to the families of deployed service personnel (Afghanistan, America's War on Terrorism) that are unable to meet normal monthly expenses. American Legion members also donate their time to complete everyday chores for these families, including grocery shopping, child care, mowing, automotive repair and more.

## **Homeless Veterans Help**

The Legion supports public and private sector organizations that aid homeless veterans and their families. We also back legislative proposals to provide medical, rehabilitative and employment assistance to homeless veterans and their families. An American Legion Homeless Veterans Task Force has been created to augment homeless service providers and fill in gaps where no assistance programs are available.

## myLEGION.ORG | For more information, visit mylegion.org.

This is where members can connect with The American Legion: your Department (state) leadership, other veterans with similar interests; and find out more about all of the services offered by The American Legion.

# **EXCLUSIVE AMERICAN LEGION MEMBER DISCOUNTS**

## **Healthcare Services**

Thanks to our many member discount providers, you and other veterans can save on prescriptions, Life Line screenings, eye care, hearing aids and more.

#### Insurance and Financial Services

Receive a full range of financial products from USAA, such as insurance, banking, investments and more. Veterans 45 to 85 are eligible for guaranteed issue whole life policies through Mutual of Omaha (not available in all states).

## **Electronics**

Enjoy discounts on the latest technology from Dell Computers and Apple Computers, wireless services (including a free cell phone) from American Legion Wireless, and savings on satellite TV services through DirecTV and Dish Network.

## **Travel and Vacations**

You and your family can receive discounts on hotel and condominium stays, vehicle rentals, roadside assistance, vacation packages, cruises and more.

## **For Your Home**

Save on moving services from North American Van Lines, Allied Van Lines and Atlas Moving Company. Enjoy discounts from Budget Truck Rental and on Sears appliances and home goods. Plus, save on mortgage services, real estate services and secure stress-free home financing through Legion Home Benefits.



Budaet

northAmerican.

Truck Renta



CAREMARK

<u>Hear</u>PO





Screening

JCPenney

PEARLE VISION







LIFE LINE 🌘

LENSCRAFTERS

Sears

OPTICAL



Cityname, ST 56789 John Q. Sample 1234 Any St.

PO BOX 7017 NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS INDIANAPOLIS IN 46207-7017 THE AMERICAN LEGION

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Daniel S. Wheeler, National Adjutant

PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE

**EASY WAYS TO JOIN:** 3



**Return the Acceptance** Certificate in the enclosed envelope.

Call 1-888-805-6180 to speak with a representative.

Go to www.legion.org/mailoffer

Sincerely,

PLEASE DETACH THIS STUB BEFORE MAILING

John Q. Sample, I would like to welcome you to The American Legion

and look forward to sending you your Branch of Service knife.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION – FOR WARTIME VETERANS – PLEASE RESPOND IMMEDIATELY