DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2023MY

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Nine Legion QR codes to download and use
Hello Everyone,

Well, I am guessing that by the time everyone receives this newsletter we will be in the new year 2023. I hope that everyone got through the holidays safe and healthy. Mostly I hope that everyone had fulfilling and joyful holidays with family and friends. Next, I do want to mention those comrades that have gone to Post everlasting this past year, I send these families my sincere condolences and prayers.

This new year brings many things that the Department will have to accomplish, first being, getting to 100% Membership. I am asking everyone to get out and make that push to renew and recruit and get your Post’s and the Department to that magic goal, 100%. This extremely important for your Post’s and not just Department. Remember, there is strength in numbers, this is how The American Legion takes care of Veterans. Using our numbers to push the laws through Congress that help Veterans and those still serving get the benefits that we and they all Deserve.

We have several things going on over the first half of this new year. First up will be the Mid-Winter Conference coming up on 11 & 12 February 23. I have sent out the schedule to all the presenters so that they can complete their Power Point presentations and prepare for this event, I am hoping that we get good participation. The link to this training will be sent out by the Department Adjutant or our digital media committee. The training should be interesting to many Legionnaires but, everyone can look at the schedule and log in and listen to the training that you feel would benefit you as an individual. This is what the Mid-Winter Conference is all about, take advantage of it. This is not far off so mark your calendars and plan to attend.

After the Mid-Winter Conference, we have an Internal Affairs Committee meeting on 27 February 2023 and then the final IA for this membership year on or about 8 June 2023. This then leads us into the DEC in March. We will then look forward to our Department Convention in June. Dates and information should be out no later than the 3rd DEC in March.

Finally, once again, please put the dates for these events in your calendars. This prevents you from missing or planning something else on those dates. I am looking forward to seeing a lot of you at the Mid-Winter Conference.

For God and Country
Lee Preston
VCAL
Greetings Department of France,

I hope everyone had a very pleasant entree into 2023, may it be more productive and rewarding than 2022 was. The further we get from the Pandemic, the better.

I have been sending out the Post and Department Contact Lists along with our Department Constitution and Bylaws to all Post Commanders and Post Adjutants as well as all Department Officers. It is your responsibility to have read and understand these documents. I hope you will let me know if you find any errors in the documents. Any changes in your Post Officers status needs to be brought to my attention so I can send your Adjutant the proper forms to send up. We do this to let National know who is holding which officer position to give that individual credit in National for holding that Office and when.

We are now half way through our 2022/2023 year. I would like to congratulate Commander Steinlicht for leading us all in a very professional manor. I see that communications have vastly improved between Posts and Department. His every other month Meetings with the Post Commanders and Post Adjutants has been a great success allowing much better the dialogue both ways. Our next one will be on the 5th of Feb. at 14:00. Please put that in your calendar.

It is time to have your CPR started. If you need the paper form, please reach out to me and I will send it to your home address. Adjutants, the best way is for you to get to www.mylegion.org and start your Post’s CPR there. Just do Not hit SUBMIT as you can still edit it through the year, hit submit at the end of the 2022/2023 year. I have always thought the Adjutant should update the CPR after every Post meeting or event. That way, it is fresh in your minds and can be entered more completely. These CPRs are of great importance to our National Commander to provide to Congress what the American Legion is doing for Veterans. If you need any assistance, just reach out to me. Sadly, only half of our Post submitted their CPR last year. We did not look very good as compared to other Departments on that front. I am hoping for a 100% CPR goal. Only you can help us make that goal.

Please understand that all Posts and Department Officers are required to attend the Department Executive Committee Meetings (DEC). There are only three calendar events that your Post needs to send at least one Delegate to, you are allowed to send two Delegates to all DECs. These dates can shift a bit, but we hold our 4th DEC, Department Convention and 1st DEC on the third weekend in June every year. The other two events are the 2nd DEC normally held on the third weekend on October, and the 3rd DEC normally held on the third weekend in March. Our Bylaws state that you might lose your Post Charter if you fail to attend three consecutive DECs. This Department is getting serious about that and from the Department Judge Advocate through the Department Commander, I will be sending out letters to Post Commanders shortly to give them a warning. On the good news point here is that our last DEC voted to allow 12 Posts to attend these DECs via Virtual Platform. Those 12 posts are CP01, TH01, TH02, IR01, IR02, IR03, IR03, EG01, EG02, EG03, GC01 and SP292. At the same vote, it was approved that members who are 70 years and older be granted that same privilege. If he or she is on your Posts Delegates Letter then everyone wins. Please do reach out to me if you have any questions on this subject. Our Next DEC will be in St. Avold France on the 18th of March 2023.

Upcoming events to get in your calendar are… Note: TBD means To Be Determined

-17 Jan @19:30 Americanism Training via Virtual Platform
-25 Jan @14:00 Commander’s Advisory Committee via Virtual Platform
-5 Feb @14:00 Commander/ Adjutants meeting with Department Officers via Virtual Platform
-11&12 Feb 09:00 through 16:00 is the Department Mid-Winter Conference via Virtual Platform, More information to follow in Newsletters and email.
-27 Feb (Time TBD) Internal Affairs Meeting prior to 3rd DEC
-4 March 13:00 Department Oratorical Contest in Ansbach High School
-18 March 3rd DEC, Location St. Avold France
-1 Apr Awards Packages Due to Department
-2 April @14:00 Commander/ Adjutants meeting with Department Officers via Virtual Platform
-8-11 May Spring Meetings in Indianapolis
-25 May @14:00 Commander’s Advisory Committee via Virtual Platform
-4 Jun @14:00 Commander/ Adjutants meeting with Department Officers via Virtual Platform
-8 Jun (Temp Date) (Time TBD) Internal Affairs Meeting prior to 4th DEC
-15 Jun (Temp Date) 4th DEC (Location TBD)
-16 Jun (Temp Date) Department Convention (Location TBD)
-17 Jun (Temp Date) 1st DEC (Location TBD)

All the best wishes for 2023!

Dennis

Dennis Owens / Department Adjutant / Department of France
The American Legion / DFR-Adjutant@dennisowens.com

Tel. EU: +49 175 360-4353 / Tel. USA: +1 (719) 507-9096
Hello Department, Legion Riders,

I hope that this newsletter finds you all safe, healthy, and happy after this Holiday Season. I also hope that everyone found the joy and happiness that you and your families deserve.

We will be holding our 5th Department Legion Riders meeting on 15 April 2023 at GR01 Post Home in Kaiserslautern. Please see the flyer for information. I hope that we will have the same great turnout for this meeting as we had for all the other meetings. As most every Rider knows, we will be conducting elections for the Department Legion Riders positions. Our Department Director, Eddie Kane and I, Assistant Director will be stepping down at that time. We are hoping that several of you will step up and run for the positions. We will be electing a Director, Assistant Director, and an Adjutant should we have enough Riders that are willing to run for the Positions.

Please see the flyer and mark the date in your calendars as well as plan to be there. I cannot wait to see you all at our elections.

Thank you all, Lee Preston, Assistant Director, Department of France Legion Riders.

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Department of France
American Legion Riders

This is the official notification that the Department of France, American Legion Riders will be holding their official meeting for the purpose of elections.

Date: 15 April 2023
Time: Registration 1200
Meeting Begins Promptly at 1300
Place: GR01 Post Home
Rhein Ordinance Barracks
Kaiserslautern, Germany

Elected Officials: Department Director
Department Assistant Director

Other positions may be filled through appointment by the newly elected Director.

Please let me know no later than 1 April 2023 if you are coming so that I can plan for meals: lpreston1057@gmail.com

Eddie Kane
Director

Lee Preston
Assistant Director
Paris Post 1 was very grateful for the opportunity to meet Mark Pedri, and watch his award winning documentary Dear Sirs when he was in Paris. Being able to watch this documentary, and to speak with Mark about his grandfather's extraordinary history in World War II, was moving and unforgettable. Thank you Mark for creating this amazing documentary about your grandfather and highlighting the family history of World War II that our families are eager to learn about our veterans who have served. Join Mark and other American Legion posts in Europe for film screenings of Dear Sirs this month!

Paris Post 1 is the 1st post of The American Legion that was chartered in France in the days after the signing of the Armistice to end World War I. Since 1919, Paris Post 1's legacy has grown more than any of our founding members could have ever imagined! Our duties in France were tested during World War II when tyranny and human sacrifice tore families and communities apart. The invasion of France during World War II almost took away everything that our veterans fought so hard for.

Paris Post 1 honors and never forgets the sacrifices that have been made during World War I and World War II. It was Paris Post 1's duty to erect American national monuments in France in honor of those who gave their lives. Paris Post 1 is responsible for many historic and well known places in France, which express the gratitude, honor and emotion of two World Wars, both of which caused unsurmounted human sacrifice and heavy tolls upon families, communities and cultures. In the process of healing, these historic places were forged by the survivors who could live to honor the horrid moments which took their loved ones lives. In the 1920's, Paris Post 1 started to rent space at 49 rue Pierre Charron, and over time raised enough funds to purchase the building under the corporation: American Legion Building Paris Inc.

After this property was fully renovated into a living memorial building, the President of France, Paul Doumer, inaugurated it as Pershing Hall in 1929 for the Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons of Paris Post 1. This living memorial building, which at one time provided sufficient space for the existence of many non-profit associations, has hosted over the course of six decades the following entities who occupied and/or used the spaces at Paris Post 1's headquarters, also known as Pershing Hall:

1. Pershing Hall Operating Committee (PHOC)
2. United States Navy Room
3. Memorial Hall of B. P. O. Elks
4. Myron T. Herrick Memorial Room
5. Y. M. C. A. - Masonic Memorial Library
6. U. S. Army Room
7. American Legion organizations:
   - Department of France
   - The American Legion (TAL) Paris Post 1 (PP1)
American Legion Auxiliary (ALA)
Paris Post 1
Sons of The American Legion
(SAL) Paris Post 1
The American Legion (TAL) Myron T. Herrick Post 4
La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux
(aka The Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses)
8. U. S. Marine Corps (USMC)
9. Salvation Army
10. Knights of Columbus
11. American Red Cross
12. National Guard Association of the U.S.A.
13. Jewish Welfare Board
14. USA Girl Scouts Overseas (USAGSO)
15. Boy Scouts of America (BSA)
16. State of Massachusetts and Harvard University
17. Daughter of the American Revolution (DAR)
18. American Dental Association (ADA)
19. American Medical Association (AMA)
20. Military Order of the World War
21. Legion Childrens’ School (Pershing Hall School)
22. World War I Memorial Library
23. Loyal Order of Moose
24. The American Club of Paris
25. The American Women’s Group
26. Association of American Residents Overseas (AARO)
27. Association of American Wives of Europeans (AAWE)
28. Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
29. United Services Organization (USO)
30. Euronews
31. PARIS-MATCH
32. Reserve Officers Association
33. American Overseas Memorial Day Association (AOMDA)
34. French War Veterans (organization)
35. The American College in Paris (AUP)
36. The University of Maryland
37. Schiller University
38. Common Cause
39. Clark, University of Virginia
40. The American School
41. Democrats Abroad
42. Republicans Overseas
43. The Council on International Student Exchange (CIEE)

Paris Post 1 is thankful for achievements spanning over 100 years in supporting veterans and our community in France. We look forward to next year to continue our hard work!

Paris Post 1’s Mausoleum Painting goes on display in Paris
Painted by artist Tom Schenk from Southwest Harbor on Mount Desert Island in Maine, USA. Accountability for the Pershing Hall Collection is a priority. Washington D.C. meetup scheduled for 1st Quarter 2023!

In the 1930’s, Paris Post 1 started a committee to raise funds to build this historic mausoleum. Paris Post 1’s Mausoleum was created after World War I to bury Americans who died in the war. The Paris Post 1 Mausoleum was designed by American architect William Welles Bosworth, who was in the 1920’s put in charge of the restoration of the Palace of Versailles, of the Palace of Fontainebleau and of the rebuilding of the roof of the cathedral Notre-Dame de Reims.

Born in 1903, artist Tom Schenk grew up and studied art during a time of recovery and introspection after the horrors of World War I. The painting of Paris Post 1’s Mausoleum by American artist Tom Schenk was gifted to Paris Post 1 in 1962. Today, the Paris Post 1 Mausoleum has almost 300 souls buried within its tomb.

During World War II, the Adjutant of Pershing Hall, and his wife, a member of Paris Post 1’s Auxiliary, remained in Pershing Hall during the Nazi occupation of France. They protected Paris Post 1’s headquarters, and when the war was finally over, Pershing Hall remained one of the only buildings in Paris that was not looted by the Nazis.

In the 1990’s, when all tenants of Pershing Hall were forced out of the building, the historic Collection of artwork, furnishings and memorials were packed up and moved out too (including Tom Schenk’s painting of Paris Post 1’s Mausoleum). The Paris Post 1 Mausoleum painting was found in 2020 at the Musée de Château de Compiègne after being abandoned for 30+ years.

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is the rest of the Pershing Hall Collection??

Tom Schenk's painting is currently on display at the Art deco France - North America exhibition at La Cité de l'Architecture Le Palais de Chaillot from now until March 6, 2023.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE PARIS POST 1's MAUSOLEUM PAINTING WITH US?

Join Paris Post 1 for a visit of the mausoleum painting in the first quarter of 2023!

To join our veterans group visit to La Cité de l'Architecture Le Palais de Chaillot at Place du Trocadéro, please email your request to contact@parispost1.fr.

Paris Post 1 Meet Up, 1st Quarter 2023, WASHINGTON D.C.

Major concerns regarding the condition and location of many historic items of the American Legion Building Paris, also known as Pershing Hall, remain unaccounted for...

The Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons at Paris Post 1 ask for everyone's help to lobby for the investigation, location, and inventorying of all Pershing Hall Collection historic items.

CAN YOU HELP ENSURE THE PERSHING HALL COLLECTION IS ACCOUNTED FOR?

Join Paris Post 1 for our 1st Quarter 2023 Meet Up in Washington D.C., please email usaliaison@parispost1.fr for additional information.

Veterans helping veterans: working together to save the life of a homeless U.S. Marine in France

With the need for urgent medical care, Legionnaires and Auxiliary at Paris Post 1 acted quickly to save a U.S. Marine stranded in France.

Special thanks to our community partners for their extraordinary work in helping one of our veterans return home:

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
AMERICAN LEGION PALISADES POST
283
U.S. VETS (Los Angeles)
AMERICAN AID SOCIETY

Timothy (Tim) Means served active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps as a Machine Gunner from August 1975 to August 1979.

Tim was stationed at Camp Hansen in Okinawa, Japan, and he served a short tour in Korea while being stationed in Asia.

After moving to France over a decade ago, Tim ran into some hard times. For the past 6 years, Tim had been living on the street when he met Paris Post 1 Finance Officer Patrick Morrissey near Paris Post 1's Mausoleum (by La Defense). Patrick, a prior U.S. Marine Corps Captain who served from May 1991 to July 1997, immediately became friends with Tim.

When times got hard for Tim over six years ago, he survived by constructing a shelter within a 50 square foot concrete bunker under a sidewalk next to the entrance of an underground parking garage in La Defense.

He was able to secure his entrance with a bicycle lock, and he could run electricity by tapping into a nearby electric line. However, he had no running water nor any sanitation facilities. This space was shared with a friend with whom he came to France with 11 years ago.

When Tim explained his current medical needs and interest in returning home to California to receive treatment, Patrick discussed this with Paris Post 1's Executive Committees, and he started to build his team to help Tim.

Tim joined The American Legion for the first time.

Anna Marie Mattson, an Executive Committee member in Paris Post 1's Auxiliary, plus Chair of the Democrats Abroad France (DAF) Veterans and Military Families Caucus, who stepped up right away to assist Tim in his return to the USA.

Tim seen here with friends: Foreign Legionnaire Boyce, Anna Marie Mattson and Marjorie Bernstein. Anna Marie and Marjorie are both members of the DAF Veterans and Military Families Caucus who hosted Tim and Boyce at their Thanksgiving Dinner this year.
Photo from left to right: VFW Post 605 Quartermaster Charles Steiner, Paris Post 1 Auxiliary Anna Marie Mattson, Assistant Superintendent Suresnes American Cemetery James Williamson, Paris Post 1 Finance Officer Patrick Morrissey and Legionnaire Timothy Means on Armistice Day 2022 at Suresnes American Cemetery.

To bring additional aid to Tim's voyage back to the USA, Paris Post 1 Commander Bryan Schell contacted fellow Legionnaires from Palisades Post 283, Joshua Lang and Daryl Hoss with Mechanical Dragons, to see if they could help with Tim's travel home to California plus helping him find a place to stay upon arrival.

Daryl and Joshua contacted their Post Commander, Palisades Post 283 Commander Jim Cragg, for assistance, and the Department of California's Adjutant Samy Flores and Department Commander Jere Romano. Thanks to their leadership, the coordination of Tim's return to California started to take place.

Daryl and Joshua contacted their Post Commander, Palisades Post 283 Commander Jim Cragg, for assistance, and the Department of California's Adjutant Samy Flores and Department Commander Jere Romano. Thanks to their leadership, the coordination of Tim's return to California started to take place.

Paris Post 1 Finance Officer Patrick Morrissey and Legionnaire Timothy Means on Armistice Day 2022 at Suresnes American Cemetery with a group of Air Force cadets visiting France for November 11th.

Patrick continued to receive more support from the local community in Paris. Special thanks to Pamela Combastet from the American Aid Society in Paris for her dedication and support for Tim.

Pamela helped Tim with receiving local medical care, and she also assisted in preparing him to travel back to California by donating funds for new clothes and personal items for Tim.

Pictured above, Tim and Patrick at the École Militaire for Thanksgiving. Tim was able to have several Thanksgiving meals in Paris this year.

We have a lot to be thankful for and we thank everyone in the Paris community who helped Tim get back in his feet!

Tim's daughter Victoria was contacted in the USA so that she could know where her Dad was, and to inform her of Tim's plans to return to the USA.

As seen in the photo above, Tim and daughter Victoria meet for the first time in Paris when she came out to bring him home. This was the first time that Victoria and Tim had ever met.

Vice-Commander Banko arranged Timothy's transportation from Los Angeles International Airport to the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center for his medical treatment, along with room and board at New Directions for Veterans in Los Angeles.

Paris Post 1 is thankful to all who have helped Tim successfully make the trip back to the USA. We are very grateful for the continued efforts of all of our community partners in California, and for Vice-Commander Banko who continues to stand by to support Tim and Victoria during this transition.

Paris Post 1 is very grateful for the support of our community for this international collaboration. We are thankful for the assistance and dedication of everyone involved!

Support our Troops for the Holidays!

Special thanks to Cynthia Browne from the Department of California, and Tess Banko-RDP Post 283 Vice-Commander and Director – Lead Service Provider for U.S.VETS Los Angeles.

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Special thanks to Anna Marie Mattson for her dedication to the troops and medical staff at Landstuhl Medical Center.

Every year, Anna Marie volunteers countless hours to gather gifts, supplies and donations to help serve those involved with saving the lives and recovery of our military troops who are brought to Landstuhl, Germany to recover after serving in overseas operations.

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Paris Post 1’s Auxiliary is a historic unit for The American Legion Auxiliary. Chartered in November of 1919, the Paris Post 1 Auxiliary received their charter earlier than the Legionnaires at Paris Post 1! While this may come as a surprise to many, it does not to the Legionnaires of Paris Post 1! Celebrating 103 years of working together, the Legionnaires and Auxiliary are legendary for their work together in France.

Since 1919, these two organizations have been saving lives & enhancing our communities abroad ensemble. They were joined by the new Sons of The American Legion Squadron which was chartered in 1934.

Since World War I, the Auxiliary of Paris Post 1 has been dedicated to the livelihood and health of all family members in our community. In 1934, the Paris Post 1 Auxiliary was documented caring for a 12 year old child named John S. who had recently had his right leg amputated above the knee.

Another child, Jacqueline M., was an orphan who had lost their father during World War I, and was now under the care of the Auxiliary since she no longer had any family alive. Young child Jack D. was under the care of the Auxiliary in a sanatorium.

Every year, our National and Department leadership has the opportunity of visiting us in Paris. This past year, we were happy to have our leaders visit us. This photo above is of Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel and her group from National visiting Paris Post 1. President Ginette Crosley and daughter Legionnaire Michele Crosley, both members of the Paris Post 1 Auxiliary, are shown on the bottom right.

Auxiliary National President Kathy Daudistel with Paris Post 1 Auxiliary Vice-President Beth Herwood during her visit to France in 2022.

Special thanks to all Auxiliary at The American Legion for your support, courage and unending dedication to making our lives better. We will never forget your hard work for Paris Post 1!

Happy holidays and New Year from Paris Post 1!

Merci beaucoup et bisous from your Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons from Paris Post 1! We wish you a beautiful holiday season, and we look forward to joining you again next year to continue our missions and projects!

Department of France Past Commanders Club 2023MY

PCC President Joshua Steinlicht

PCC Secretary Lee Preston

Who is eligible to join the Department of France Past Commanders Club?
Past and Present Department Commanders, Department Vice Commanders At Large, Department Vice Commanders, Post Commanders, SAL Detachment Commanders, SAL Squadron Commanders, Auxiliary Department Presidents, Auxiliary Unit Presidents… so if you were just voted into the office, you are eligible to join!

Initial dues for the Past Commanders Club is only $25.00
Renewal dues for the Past Commanders Club is only $10.00
RILEY L. PITTS POST GR07  WIESBADEN, GERMANY

Du Bois, Johnson, and Lamb newest post members - Raugh completes Basic Training

John du Bois  Louis Johnson  Shawn Lamb  Dr. Harold Raugh

Story and photos by Todd Johnson, Riley L. Pitts Post No. GR07, The American Legion

RILEY L. PITTS POST No. GR07, Wiesbaden, Germany — Veterans John du Bois, Louis Johnson, and Shawn Lamb were recently sworn in as the newest members of Riley L. Pitts Post No. GR07 located at Crestview Housing Area, U.S. Army Garrison, Wiesbaden.

Du Bois, a U.S. Air Force retiree transferring in from William M. Randolph Post No. 593 at Converse, Texas is a Panama, Persian Gulf and Global War on Terrorism era veteran. Johnson, currently serving on active duty with the U.S. Army, is a Global War on Terrorism era veteran. Lamb, a U.S. Army retiree, is also a Global War on Terrorism era veteran.

Dr. Harold Raugh has successfully completed the requirements of the Basic Training course of the American Legion Education Institute. Raugh, a U.S. Army retiree, has been a member of Riley L. Pitts Post No. GR07 here in Wiesbaden for three continuous years.

The American Legion Basic Training course provides a pillar-by-pillar understanding of Legion services, programs and history. The core Legion topics are History & Organization, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.
Martin Luther King History

Martin Luther King Day celebrates the life and accomplishments of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. MLK promoted Civil Rights through nonviolent civil disobedience. He is perhaps best known for his 'I have a dream...' speech in 1963. He was assassinated in 1968. Martin Luther King, Jr. day became a federally recognized holiday in 1983. The first year this holiday was observed was 1986, and not by all states. In 2000, it became a nationally observed holiday in all states. Martin Luther King Jr. Day takes place on the third Monday of January each year.

DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN / AMERICANISM COMMITTEE  Joseph Schram

Boys State 2023

18-24 June 2023 at McDaniel College in Westminster MD.

The Department of France has coordinated with the Department of Maryland to have their candidates from Europe participate in their weeklong training program. High school juniors are selected by local American Legion posts to attend the program. Expenses associated with attending this program are paid by the sponsoring American Legion post.

The Department Maryland’s Boys State program is conducted annually and typically begins on Father’s Day and runs through the following Saturday. To be eligible for Boys State, a youth must be a male who has successfully completed their junior year in high school (or equivalent) by the beginning of Boys State. Any boy who has previously attended a Boys State is not eligible.

American Legion Boys State is among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for high school students. Participants are exposed to the rights and privileges, the duties, and the responsibilities of a franchised citizen. It is a participatory program where each participant becomes a part of the operation of his local, county and state government. The training is objective and practical with city, county and state governments operated by the students elected to the various offices. Activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies, bands, chorus, and recreational programs.

Once the candidate is selected by the sponsoring American Legion Post, candidates are asked to complete the required documentation located at: http://mdlegion.org/boysstate/. Travel arrangements will be coordinated by the sponsoring American Legion Post and the Department’s Boys State director. Candidates will depart from home station to Baltimore Washington International (BWI) Airport on Saturday, 17 June 2023. Staff from the Department of Maryland will coordinate for transportation from BWI to the McDaniel College.

Further information can be obtained from the Department of France’s Boys State coordinator, Joseph Schram at joseph.schram@gmail.com.
Department of France Oratorical Contest

Date: Saturday, 04 March 2023
Venue: Ansbach American High School
Kattebach Kaserne
Neukirchener Str.,
91522 Ansbach, Germany

Time: 10:00 Rehearsal
12:00 Contestants & Judges Arrive
13:00 Semi-Final Contest Begins
16:00 Finals Contest

Volunteer to Help - We need help to conduct the contest
- Moderators (4x)
- Time Keeper (8x)
- Escorts (8x)
- Tabulators (8x)

Please visit: www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094bafa62da6ff2-department
Review the available slots and click on the button to sign up.

Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year
Nomination Application Forms are NOW Available
The deadline for nominations to Department Adjutant is 10 Mar 2023
Nomination forms can be obtained from Americanism Chairperson Joseph Schram
(www.joseph.schram@gmail.com) or from the Dept Adjutant
Girl Scout Gold Award “Scout of the Year”
Nomination Application Forms are NOW Available
The deadline for nominations to Department Adjutant is 10 Mar 2023
Nomination forms can be obtained from Americanism Chairperson Joseph Schram (www.joseph.schram@gmail.com) or from the Dept Adjutant

Eagle Scout of the Year
Nomination Application Forms are NOW Available
The deadline for nominations to Department Adjutant is 10 Mar 2023
Nomination forms can be obtained from Americanism Chairperson Joseph Schram (www.joseph.schram@gmail.com) or from the Dept Adjutant

BSA Transatlantic Council
Friends of Scouting Campaign Challenge

Each American Legion Post is challenged to donate a designated donation determined by its membership. Additional donations from the membership then add up a total of $1,000

Friends of Scouting - Transatlantic Council (tac-bsa.org)
FRIENDS OF SCOUTING

What you see above the water is only about 20% of what Scouting provides to our members.

Tip of the Iceberg
Most people are aware of these costs of Scouting.

But most are not aware of these very real costs that help make that possible:

Insurance
- Health & Medical
- Property
- Liability

Camp Maintenance
- Roads
- Permits
- Plumbing & Heating
- Utilities

Field Professional Staff
- Transportation
- Community Relations
- Volunteer Training and Support
- Organizing New Scouting Units
- Year-Round Planning
- Organizing Activities and Events
- Jamborees & High Adventure
- Membership Development
- National Support and Relationships with Other Councils

Books, Badges, Awards, Event Registration fees, Weekend Camping, Summer Camp, Camping Gear, Boys’ Life, Uniforms, Day Camp, National Registration Fee

Service Centers
- Knowledgeable Staff
- Inventory of: Literature, Insignia, Forms, Certificates, Program Support, Training Materials, etc.
- Advancement & Training Records
- Unit History Files
- Eagle Award Kits & Processing
- Roundtable Handouts
- Trading Post (The Scout Store)
- Membership Applications and Processing
- Website
- Charter Renewal
- Web-based Program Licenses
- Recruiting Flyers, Posters & Yard Signs
- Training Awards

Basic Building Expenses
- Electricity
- Phone
- Equipment
- Paper, etc.
Post Histories

Post Historical Book Competition

1. The American Legion National Historian hosts an annual one-year narrative history and yearbook (pictorial) history contest for the post level. Details can be found in the Post Officers Guide (pages 125-131).

2. The One-Year Post History should be a one-year post chronicle. The history is to cover one year, beginning with the installation of officers, up to and including the installation of the next year’s officers. The activities of all standing post committees should be given considerable coverage, particularly if one committee performs an outstanding service. You may want to include each committee in separate chapters: Americanism, Membership, Boys State, School Award Medals, Oratorical Contest, Junior Shooting Sports, Baseball, Children & Youth, Sons of The American Legion, patriotic observances, post parties, Boy Scout troops and other sponsored groups, to name a few. Collect and record of all post activities. Including photographs in the committee chapters adds to the attractiveness of the entry.

3. To be eligible for the national contests, an entry in either category must be a first-place winner in the department’s contest and must be certified as such by the department historian. The Post Historical Book needs to be submitted (hard-copy) to the Department Adjutant no later than 10 June. The contest winner will be announced at the Department Convention. The Department’s winning Post historical book will be forwarded to the national historian to arrive in Indianapolis NLT 15 September 2023.

Post Bios and Pictures

Please submit the following to the Department Historian:

1. Roster of your Post Officers with their Official Photograph and a biography of no more 500 words.

2. Roster of Post Chairpersons to include their Official Photograph and a biography of no more 500 words.

3. Any newspaper clippings, photographs, copies of programs, tickets, badges and other items pertaining to the post and its activities.
All Legionars are welcome to participate in The Mid-Winter Conference. Join and attend All classes or just the classes of your interest.

11&12 February 2023

Subjects can include:

1. My Legion/Checking Post Records
2. Setting up Payments/Card/Echeck
3. Constitution and By Laws/Online meetings, Protocol, and allowed participation.
4. Post Tax Reporting

As well as several more!!

Please log on and join us for this year’s Mid-Winter Conference.

The link will be sent out by the Department Adjutant.

Thank you all in advance for your participation.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Agenda</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Opening Comments</td>
<td>VCAL Preston</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:05</td>
<td>Effective Leadership</td>
<td>VC Todd Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:15</td>
<td>Department of France Mid Winter Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Closing Comments</td>
<td>VCAL Preston</td>
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La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux (The Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses) is an independent, by invitation, honor society of American veterans, more commonly known as “The Forty & Eight”.

The Forty & Eight is committed to charitable and patriotic aims. Our purpose is to uphold and defend the United States Constitution of the United States, to promote the well-being of veterans, their widows, widowers, and orphans, and to actively participate in selected charitable endeavors, which include among others, programs that promote child welfare and nurses training.

Membership is by invitation, and open only to honorably discharged veterans and honorably serving members of the United States Armed Forces.

Grand Chef de Gare David Garcia (standing) address’s the Voyageurs and members of GR79 at our annual Grand Mid-Winter Promenade Saturday 03 December 2022 in Heilbronn, Germany.

**REMEMBER:** **Grand Promenade:**
**Saturday 14 January 2023.**
*Hosted by Voiture 1467,*
*Kaiserslautern, Germany*