



Legion News

DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE



BELGIUM-CHINA 01-DENMARK-ENGLAND-FRANCE-GREECE-GERMANY-IRELAND-ITALY-NETHERLANDS-SPAIN-THAILAND

May 2022

Vol. 20, No. 4



DEPARTMENT COMMANDER *SANTOS ALVARADO*

My Fellow Legionnaires,

Another month has gone by. In April, the Awards Committee met to review and vote on this year's Award Nominations. The Awards will be announced at the Department Convention in June.

I want to congratulate our Department Oratorical winner from GRo6 for giving his best effort at the National Contest. I also want to thank everyone who help put this together so we could get a contestant up to National.

The Pandemic numbers are slowly coming down and restrictions are being lifted. Even though the count is lowering here in Germany, we must still protect ourselves. You should still wear a mask.

As everyone is aware, we have hopefully hit the final stage of the Pandemic. Many other EU countries are lowering their status, but they are still pushing for 100 % vaccination of all residents. If you have not been vaccinated, you should get yours. We must remember that Covid-19 is still around. We must remain safe and protect ourselves, practice social distancing, and wear a mask when and where required. Follow your Host

Nation's laws. If you are having in-person Post meetings, follow the local laws.

Our 2022 Membership is still active!

Most of all, let us not forget the Buddy Check. Remember that some Post members might not have a smartphone or computer. Visit them to see how they are doing. I am keeping track of the Pandemic daily, to view the Stats and the Health and Safety of all our Members which is the utmost importance to me.

We are holding our Convention at Ludwigshafen in June, during which we will be holding Elections. If you are interested in being a Department Officer, I ask that you run for a position. All members in good standings can run. Please read the Department's Constitution and Bylaws for information about Department Officers duties.

Thank you.

Santos Alvarado
Commander
Department of France

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2022MY

COMMANDER Santos Alvarado

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NECMAN James Settle

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ALT NECMAN Hans Stockenberger

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VCAL Lee Preston

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VICE COMMANDER Todd Johnson

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(GR02-GR05-GR13-GR30-GR45-GR79-GR1982)

VICE COMMANDER Joshua Steinlicht

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(BE02-DK01-FR01-GR20-IR63-IT01-IT02)

VICE COMMANDER Vacant

CHAPLAIN John Jones

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HISTORIAN Joseph Schram

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FINANCE OFFICER Gary Miller

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SERVICE OFFICER Frank Phillips

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JUDGE ADVOCATE James Settle

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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS James Dennis

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ASSISTANT ADJUTANT Robert Fuelling

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ASSISTANT ADJUTANT James Settle

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DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT...JOHN FLEMING

Greetings Comrades,

1. Certification of Officers: Thank you to the Posts who have recently held elections and sent in the Notification forms. I can add all Post officers to the Post Officers Roster in Nationals database. Reminder, after Post elections or a change in Post Officers, it is required to send two forms to the Department Adjutant. Immediately after Post elections, the Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders & Adjutants form must be sent to the Department Adjutant. As soon as possible, after Post elections, the Certification of Post Officials report needs to be forwarded to the Department Adjutant.
2. NOTE: If you change your email address, please let me know. If I do not know about the change, **YOU WILL** miss emails.
3. Dates to Note (these are not all inclusive):
 - 1 May, at 1630 CET – Monthly Officers Meeting
 - 5 June, at 1500 CET – Monthly Adjutant's and Commander's Meeting
 - 5 June, at 1630 CET – Internal Affairs Committee Meeting
 - 15 June – Consolidated Post Report due to Department Adjutant
 - 16-19 June – 4th DEC, Convention, 1st DEC

John Fleming
Adjutant
Department of France

The 98th Annual Department of France Convention
Best Western Leoso Hotel
Ludwigshafen, Germany
Thursday 16 June to Sunday, 19 June 2022

The Department of France has selected the Best Western Leoso Hotel in Ludwigshafen, Pasadenaallee 4, 67059 Ludwigshafen, Germany as the site for the 98th annual convention. This hotel is well located for the different modes of transportation for in country and international attendees.

For those arriving via air, both the Frankfurt and Stuttgart airports offer direct train service to the Ludwigshafen Bahnhof (train station) with the hotel located next to the train station. If driving from either of those airports the driving time from Frankfurt will be about 1 hour, 1 ½ hours from Stuttgart, and is located approximately 500 meters from the A 650 Autobahn.

Parking is available either in the underground garage or outside of the hotel for a daily fee of €4.00. Free electricity to charge electric vehicles is available for guests.

During this convention, participants will not have to pay for the rental of conference rooms as this fee will be paid by Department. This will reduce the cost for each attendee however, no free beverages will be on the tables during the meetings, so these beverages and coffee breaks with snacks will be on a “pay your own” basis. A buffet breakfast is included in the room rates. A buffet lunch with mineral water or soft drinks is available for € 23.00 per person or as an alternative the nearby train station has several eating facilities. Dinner in the dining room is a la carte.

The banquet on Saturday evening will cost €30.00 and includes mineral water and or soft drinks.

THE “CONVENTION PACKAGE” INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

Note: the below costs are per participant

<i>3 days, 3 nights (Arrive Thursday and depart Sunday)</i>		Euro
1	Package for a single room (Room €75.00 per night)	225.00
2	Package, sharing a double room (Room €95.00 per night)	285.00
<i>2 days, 2 nights (Arrive Friday and depart Sunday)</i>		
3	Package for single room (Room €75 per night)	150.00
4	Package, sharing a double room (Room €95.00 per night)	190.00
<i>1 day, 1 night (Arrive Saturday and depart Sunday)</i>		
5	Package for a single room (Room €75.00 per night)	75.00
6	Package, sharing a double room (Room €95 per night)	95.00
7	Banquet only, Saturday	30.00

Booking for the Convention is made by calling the hotel directly: +49 (0)621/59510. They do not have online booking on their website. Make sure that you inform them that you are there for The American Legion Department of France Convention to ensure you get the correct room rate.

After you have registered with the hotel, please email your name, guest name (if any), dates of your stay, and if you plan to attend the Saturday Banquet to the following people.

John Fleming department.adjutant@gmail.com

James Settle americanlegionfr@gmail.com

James Dennis departmentdennis@gmail.com



DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER AT LARGE... LEE PRESTON

Fellow Legionnaires,

Another month has gone by and here we are just a couple of months away from our Department Convention. I hope that many can make the convention as this is our time to all come together to conduct Department Business, elect our new Officers, and generally spend some time together with people we do not see every day. I truly encourage all Post's within the Department to send, at least, the two (2) delegates you are authorized to represent you at the 4th DEC, Convention, and 1st DEC. Let your voices be heard in this process then the Department is better off for it. One more thing, bring your families if possible and make this a real family-oriented experience.

Next, here are the things that I have been doing. My wife and I were in Waldorf-Mörfelden over the weekend on 8-10 April 22 attending the Department Legion Riders meeting. We had a great turnout with 7 members and 2 Department officers present. The total present represented 6 Department Chapters. We got several things accomplished and planned for the next meeting location. We will be in Heilbronn for the October meeting. More to come on this as we get closer to the meeting date.

I was invited to attend the general membership meeting for GR1982, Ansbach. Primary mission was to speak with the member that is going to resurrect their Riders Program. It looks promising for them to get going again, while there, J. P. Wilington signed up a new member and he owns a motorcycle so, we will be trying to get him involved in the GR1982 Riders Chapter. While there though, I was asked to conduct their annual elections for the Post. It was an honor to perform this form them. The installation will be performed by our Department NEC at the next meeting in May.

Finally, I am announcing that I will be attending the National Legacy Run again this year. I would hope that our Post's throughout the Department would start collecting for this worthy cause. It is too easy to collect for this program, just set out a donation can at each of your meetings and functions that you have. Make a flyer explaining the program and answer question that people might have. I believe that when speaking to Military members past and present this program sells itself when explained completely. I would be willing to come the Post's located in a decent riding distance (Germany/Netherlands/France/Possibly Italy?) to pick up your donations. The Department was credited with a \$400 donation last year and hope that we can make it more this year.

Thank you all for everything you do for the American Legion, The Department of France, your Post's, and most of all our veterans.

Lee Preston
Department of France
VCAL



DETACHMENT OF FRANCE

Detachment Commander Joe D. Brown
vcalbrown50@gmail.com



2022 MY OFFICERS

Commander Joe D. Brown vcalbrown50@gmail.com

Adjutant James Dennis detachmentdennis@gmail.com

NEC Maxwell Rice ricemax559@gmail.com

Alternate NEC Lee Preston lpreston1957@gmail.com

First Vice Donald Chamberlain chamberlaindw@hotmail.de

Second Vice Joseph Ray Rayjoseph.earl@dhl.com

Chaplain Casby Logan casbyj@hotmail.com

Historian Stephen Somers stef.ss17@gmail.com

Judge Advocate James Dennis detachmentdennis@gmail.com

Sergeant-at-Arms David Craig dcdavid16@googlemail.com

[Link to Department of France Website](#)



DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Christopher L. Lampert:
sea@standardenglishacademy.com



Greetings Legionnaires,

I hope everyone's doing well.

If you'd like an article included in the DFR monthly newsletter, please send your input to my above email, by the 15th of every month. If you send accompanying pics or graphics, please make sure they're high quality.

I'll surely include all of your input in the newsletter.

AMERICAN LEGION
POST GR 01
**VETERANS FAMILY
★PICNIC★**

11 JUNE 2022

10:00 - 4:00 PM

**FREE FOOD
AND DRINKS**

LIVE DJ

Pulaski Park





The 98th Annual Department Convention will take place in Ludwigshafen, Germany: June 16 – June 18, 2022.

The Convention will be held at the Leoso Hotel Ludwigshafen.

Web: [Hotel Ludwigshafen - Leoso Hotel Ludwigshafen \(leoso-hotel-ludwigshafen.de\)](http://leoso-hotel-ludwigshafen.de)

Leoso Hotel Ludwigshafen
Pasadenaallee 4
D-67059 Ludwigshafen

Tel.: [+49 621 5951 0](tel:+4962159510)

E-Mail: info@leoso-hotel-ludwigshafen.de

Costs: Single room: Euro 75.00 Double room: Euro 95.00

Parking: One-time fee: Euro 12.00

The hotel requires booking by June 1, 2022.

Inform the Department Adjutant of your booking or attendance (Do not forget your delegate letters!) at pastcmdr.fleming@gmail.com or americanlegionfr@gmail.com .

Schedule:

June 16 PM: 4th Department Executive Committee meeting

June 17 AM: Convention – First session

June 17 PM: Convention – Second session

June 18 AM: Convention – Third Session (Elections)

June 18 PM: 1st Department Executive Committee meeting