



FOREIGN AND OUTLYING DEPARTMENTS AND POSTS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

ALASKA • CANADA • FRANCE • HAWAII • MEXICO • PHILIPPINES • PUERTO RICO • CHINA POST

Still Serving America's Veterans...Around the World



October 2015 News

FODPAL WEBSITE

I need help from everyone in FODPAL with the Website. Right now Laura Edwards from the Headquarters Media staff and I are working hard to keep the FODPAL Website fresh, but the only place we are getting information from is The Department of France and Seward Post 5 in Alaska. What we need is more input from the Post to the Department level around the world.

We are looking for any information that will promote FODPAL, from Post meetings and functions to Department Ceremonies. If you have meets or ceremonies coming up please give us the dates so we can help you advertise it. If you have held an important meet or ceremony, please give us a short write up and pictures so we can post it.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT, PLEASE HELP LAURA AND MYSELF TELL YOUR STORY.

One last thing we need is information from the Posts within FODPAL. We need a point of contact, we also need to know if you have a Post home, and if you do, we need to know the address and hours of operation, we're getting a lot of calls and e-mails requesting Post information.

MY LEGION.ORG

Departments we need you to make a concerted effort to insure that every Post is on **MyLegion.org**. This program is the next big step in communication and record keeping in The American Legion. Posts, it's not that hard to use this program after you get your password from your Department Adjutant. For the Legion member, it allows him or her to view information on file at National Headquarters, view messages and events published through the department and post **MyLegion** sites, and network with other myLegion members using networking tools. At Department level it provides membership information, reports and electronic membership tools such as data change forms for all posts and squadrons within their department. At the Posts/Districts/Counties it provides Legion and SAL information for all members in their post. Allows posts to submit member data change forms and Consolidated Post Reports electronically, upload post image, newsletter, message, and calendar. Create membership listings, view members renewing online, search for members who have expired or are members of the department headquarters post, and chat with other officers discussing veterans issues and sharing membership ideas. So you see **MyLegion.org** is a one stop information center.

Signup today.

BOOKLETS AND PUBLICATIONS

National Headquarters is starting to get out of the printing of booklets and publications, if you are looking for information on say the Oratorical Contest, or Boys State etc. this can now be found on and printed off of The American Legion Website at Legion.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Here we go again, a new membership year and right out of the blocks every Department in FODPAL made the first cutoff of 50%, and every Department in FODPAL will make the 55% cutoff on 14 October. But then it gets harder after 55% cutoff and unlike past years where we could coast to May or June and hopefully make all of the cutoffs, well this year is

different. This year we need to be more vigil with the dues increase looming just three short months away. Every Post and every Department must work extra hard to beat that dues increase date. Departments, it would be a good idea to accelerate your transmittals, if you normally transmit every two weeks, you may want to do it every Friday, As of Friday October 2 we have 4 Departments over the 55% and 2 under (Please see the attached membership report). The Department of the Philippines jumped to the top, Hawaii and France hit the 55% cutoff but for the last two weeks there hasn't been much movement. Puerto Rico started slow and they are over the 55% cutoff, Alaska is knocking on the door and Mexico is short but should make it with no problem. The goals for FODPAL in the 2016 membership year are a little different than in past years, yes we want every Department to make the cutoff dates, and yes we want every Department to be at 100% of goal at the end of the year, but to benefit everybody at the Post and Department we don't have to the end of the membership year, we only have to the middle of January 2016. Don't sit back and wait till the last minute, because it is easier to sell membership now than it is on the 25th of December.