

## HUBMASTER REPORT DECEMBER 2015

### Purpose

The Hubmaster Report is published monthly to promote membership retention and member involvement through effective communication. Please help by ensuring distribution to each Post. Suggestions and ideas are always welcome.

### Department Headquarters Post 345 Members

Each Post received a letter dated November 5, 2015, outlining this program for 2015. Transferring these members into a *Post Home* is very important as it significantly increases retention and builds your local Post strength. Contact your District Commander for full details and any questions.

### 2015-2016 Department Objectives

The Department Strategic Plan calls for Objectives to support the Departments vision and priorities. Both of these documents are on the Department website at Form & Publications > Department Manuals. *Working together as a team on common objectives is a proven path to success.*

### Membership Update

Membership standings are published at the close of each business day on the Department website > Membership > Current Reports. Posts must submit transmittals in a timely manner. Our Department Constitution & By Laws states...*"all funds collected for the Department and the National Headquarters shall be forwarded to the Department Headquarters within 30 days of receipt"*.

### Membership Standings on November 30 vs. 75% December 2 Target

	1st Division	2 <sup>nd</sup> Division	3 <sup>rd</sup> Division	4 <sup>th</sup> Division	Total
<b>Goal</b>	15,537	16,669	21,524	10,132	63,862
<b>Current</b>	9,652	10,799	14,393	6,687	41,531
<b>Percent</b>	62.1	64.8	66.9	66.0	65.0

### Salutes!

*To the 122 (25.8%) of 472 Posts that have achieved the 75% Target*

*To the five District Commanders with the highest percentage of Posts over 75%*

- *District 17 Commander, Kenneth Simonton, 8/19 = 42.0%*
- *District 20 Commander, Robert Masten, 7/17 = 41.2%*
- *District 11 Commander, Steve Cook, 6/15 = 40.0%*
- *District 18 Commander, Don Sherman, 9/23 = 39.0%*
- *District 1 Commander, Andy Lowen, 7/19 = 36.8%*

**The next Target is 85% on January 6, 2016**

### Direct Renewal Notices

National will mail the third renewal notice on January 8, 2016. To prevent members who have already renewed from receiving this notice you will need to have all transmittals in the Austin office by December 2, 2015.

## **You Are Invited**

On January 16, 2016, the Department Membership, Organization & Post Activities, Sub-Committee for Awards and Trophies will convene to establish the Awards for the following year. Committee Chair, Olivia Burnside has extended an open invitation to all Texas members to submit their ideas and suggestions for consideration by this committee. Send to: [olivia.burnside@gmail.com](mailto:olivia.burnside@gmail.com)

## **Need Some New Free Threads?**

A commemorative Department Recruiter red dress shirt will be awarded to Legionnaires that recruit 25 or more new members into The American Legion by May 1, 2016, for the current membership year. Details are available in the Post Administrative Manual, page 53 or from your District Commander.

## **American Legion Extension Institute (ALEI)**

An excellent way to learn more about The American Legion history and programs is thru The American Legion Extension Institute. The course is available online at <http://legion.org/alei> or in a local seminar class when scheduled by your Division or District Commander. The course was updated in April 2012, and all previous graduates are encouraged to retake the course and earn the new distinctive hatpin and certificate that is awarded to all graduates.

## **How Big Is Your Membership Recruiting Opportunity?**

Total wartime Texas veterans as of September 30, 2014 = 1,309,440. Please contact your District Commander if you would like to know the breakdown on how many reside in your county. This data is located at [www.va.gov/vetdata](http://www.va.gov/vetdata).

## **December Dates To Remember**

**December 7** – National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, to honor the more than 3,500 Americans that lost their lives or were wounded on this solemn day in 1941.

**December 4** – Department Newsletter, “*The Legion Times*” is posted at [txlegion.org](http://txlegion.org) the link is on the home page. Posts are encouraged to submit articles. Details on how to submit an article is on the above website

**December 12** – National Wreaths Across America Day, a movement to cover all Veterans grave markers with a wreath at over 800 cemeteries across the USA.

**December 15** – Bill of Rights Day, designated by Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941.

**December 24 – January 4** – Department office closed for the holidays

**December 28** – Pledge of Allegiance Day, which was written in 1892 in celebration of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the discovery of America and formally recognized by Congress in 1945

**December 31** – There are several National and Department Membership Awards with this deadline. Details are in Section II of the Post Administrative Manual.

- Post Cash Award - See page 54 Post Administrative Manual for details.
- VA Volunteer Awards – See page 6 Post Administrative Manual for details.

**January 27-31, 2016** – Department Mid Winter Conference, Omni Southpark, Austin. Registration fee has been waived. Training on many interesting topics will be presented on Saturday morning January 30, 2016.