

HUBMASTER REPORT - AUGUST 2016

Purpose

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

98th Annual Department Convention – Highlights

Our convention convened in El Paso on July 13 and adjourned on Sunday July 17, 2016, and was another tremendous success. Our thanks and appreciation goes out to the El Paso Convention Committee and the Headquarters staff that made this possible.

Election Results & Changes

Walter Ivie, Commander	Lloyd Buckmaster, Vice Commander
Byran Coleman, Judge Advocate	David Paris, Treasurer
SGT At Arms, Jim Forbus	Asst. SGT At Arms, Kimberly Biggerstaff
NEC, Butch Sparks	Alt. NEC, Kenneth Mueller

All other positions were re-elected by acclamation. During the Installation Ceremony, Immediate Past Commander, John McKinny, exhorted the membership to support all of our Officers and give them full cooperation by working together, as a team, for a successful year.

2016-2017 Membership Year

Our new membership year has begun! Yes! It's that time already. It has been proven that the easiest way to accomplish your assigned Post goal is to start early. Encourage members to renew online at legion.org/renew, plan your recruiting events and contact current members to thank them for their continued membership as well as their honorable military service to America. First target date – 50% on September 7.

Stuff You Need To Know & Share

- The 2016-2017 Department Objectives as approved by the Executive Committee are posted on the Department website. This is our path to a successful year
- 15 Changes were approved to the Department Constitution & By-Laws and the updated document is now available on the Department website
- 16 of the 33 Resolutions submitted were approved and forwarded to National
- The updated list of Commissions & Chairs is now on the Department website.

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship

This fund supports children of fallen post – 9/11 service members and has recently been expanded to include children of VA rated, post - 9/11 veterans with a disability of 50 percent or higher. Applications must be submitted using the online scholarship submission system no later than April 20, 2017. Full details are available at legion.org; enter 'Legacy' in the search block.

American Legion Oratorical Program

This "Constitutional Speech Contest" is an excellent opportunity for all Posts to interact with High School students in the community. Now is the time to begin planning your local event that should begin after October 29, 2016. District and Division contests will be held throughout January and the Department contest will be held in February 2016.

From the bench of...Department Judge Advocate

Bryan Coleman – bdcoleman@yahoo.com

Article V of the Department Constitution states:

"Section 1. All Department and Post officials handling American Legion money shall be bonded with a bonding and surety company in an amount equal to double the average amount of money handled in a single year or such other amount as the Post Executive Committee deems adequate to protect the funds of the Post.

"Section 2. Bonds for Department officials shall be approved by the Department Judge Advocate and the Department Executive Committee.

"Section 3(a) Bonds for Post officials shall be approved by the Post Judge Advocate and the Post Executive Committee.

(b) Posts shall provide the Department Judge Advocate a copy of all surety bonds annually by October 1st.

Pecos Outlaws Bow To League City Post 554

Thanks to Jerome Iltis for submitting

The final game of the American Legion State Baseball Championship was played on July 29th with League City Post 554 crowned the victor over the West Texas Outlaws. The Post 554 team will represent the Department of Texas at the upcoming Regional tournament in Arkansas against the state champions from several other Departments. Most Outstanding Player was awarded to Garrett Polston of League City. [Baseball is alive and well in Texas thanks to the baseball Chair Jerome Iltis and all of the committed volunteers!](#)

In Case You Missed It...

A statement from National Commander Dale Barnett on Legion Americanism Programs

"I am humbled when I see Legionnaires give their time to the future leaders of tomorrow. You have my gratitude whether you work in the concession stand at a Legion Baseball game, teach a young person gun safety at a Junior Shooting Sports club, serve as a counselor at Boys State or stay involved some other way."

August Dates To Remember

August 4 – Happy 224th Birthday to the U.S. Coast Guard

August 7 – Purple Heart Day – the Purple Heart is a military decoration awarded for being killed or wounded in any action against an enemy of the United States on or after April 5, 1917

August 8 - VJ Day (also known as Victory over Japan Day) – the day on which Japan surrendered in World War II, in effect ending the war

August 29 – Happy 100th Birthday U.S. Marine Corps Reserve

Important Up-Coming Deadline

September 1 – Ronald P. McCluskey Scholarship is awarded to a deserving American Legion member. This is a merit-based scholarship. Full details are in the Post Administrative Manual, page 2.

Quote of the Month

"Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results". - Willie Nelson