

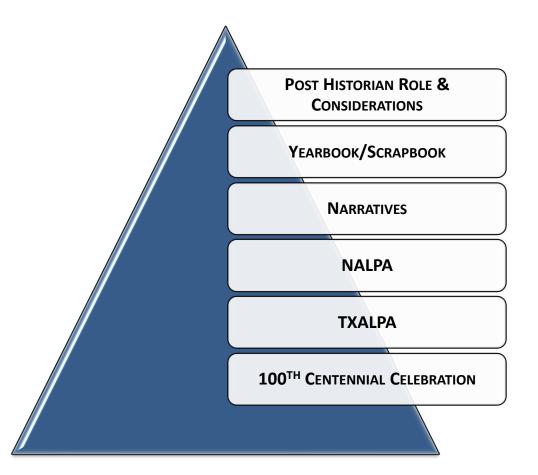
# DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS POST HISTORIAN BRIEFING



Al Alford - State Historian Department of Texas



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# POST HISTORIAN ROLES & CONSIDERATIONS

@2013, The American Legion



- Preserving and compile records of post
- Provide annual report of Post Activities to Department convention
- Develop close and effective cooperation with Post Adjutant
  - Adjutant records matters of current interest
  - Historian records matters of historical interest



- Prepares annual yearbook/scrapbook
- Attends Post functions & documents events with narrative and photographs
- Mentors & trains replacement
- Work with Website and/or social media coordinator to reflect post history
- Share photos and narratives from major event(s) to Department Historian during year



### **CONSIDERATIONS FOR HISTORIAN**

- Historian's Work is cumulative
- At start of new post year, historian begin making permanent record of Post for year ahead
- Yearbook/Scrapbook Timeframe: From installation of officers up to/and including installation of next year's officers
- Provide annual report of Post Activities to Department convention



## **CONSIDERATIONS FOR HISTORIAN (CONT.)**

- Two Options for documenting Post History
  - Yearbook/Scrapbook
  - > Narrative
- Where possible -- <u>Record Oral Histories</u>
  - Cassettes or Digital Recording
  - Tape interview with American Legion Leaders
  - First hand, accurate info on historical event



### **CONSIDERATIONS FOR HISTORIAN (CONT.)**

- Oral Histories (Cont.)
  - Important Initiative <u>American Folklife Center</u>
    - Part of Library of Congress
    - AFC to collect & preserve audio and video recorded oral histories of America's war vets
    - Also, capture documentary materials (e.g., letters & diaries)



#### **CONSIDERATIONS FOR HISTORIAN (CONT.)**

• History Contest Information Sources:

## The American Legion Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies





## See "Post Histories" - The American Legion | Officer's Guide | 2018 p.139



#### SUGGESTED HISTORIAN SOURCES

- American Legion Basic Training (www.legion.org/alei)
- The American Legion magazine
- Post Officers (Past and Present)
- Meeting Minutes
- District/Department Proceedings
- Post Reports
- Biographies



# YEARBOOK/SCRAPBOOK

@2013, The American Legion



#### WHERE TO GET INFORMATION?



Individual Members/ Committee Reports





Checkbook Records



Call Members



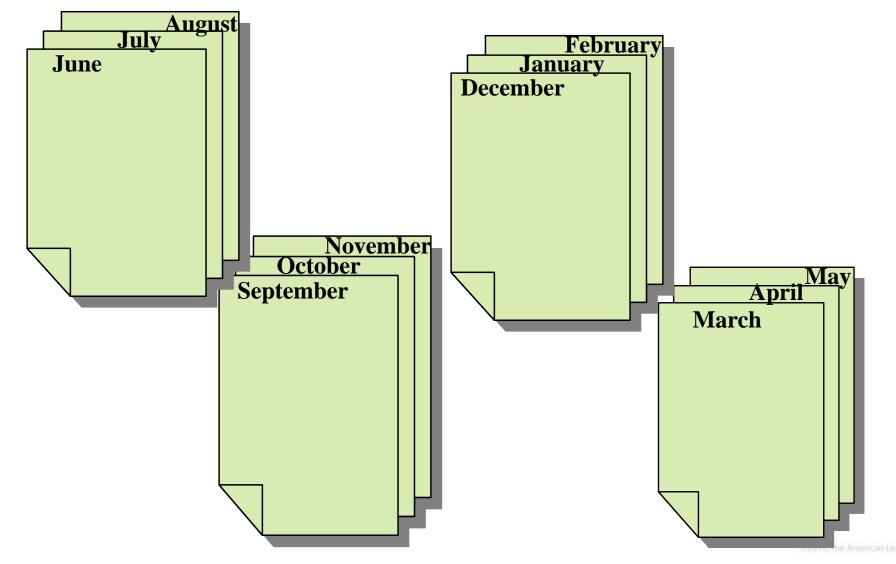
Post Calendar



News Clippings



#### **GATHER MONTHLY INFORMATION!**





### **IMPORTANT ITEMS TO KEEP IN MIND!**

- Be Creative:
  - Judges have optional points that they can award for items that are especially attractive or useful
- Use the K.I.S.S theory
  - Only three or four photos per event (recommended)
  - Leave Napkins and Matchbooks out
  - Add any "Fluff" back into book when it's returned from competition

## Make Sure You Follow The Rules!



#### YEARBOOK/SCRAPBOOK JUDGING



- A. THE COVER
  - **5** POINTS
  - SIZE 12 X 15 MAX.



- LEGION EMBLEM CENTERED L TO R
- NAME AND NUMBER OF POST
- VOLUME NUMBER IF NEEDED
- BINDERY





## A. THE COVER (CONT.)

- **5** POINTS
- NOT TO EXCEED THREE (3) INCHES BETWEEN FRONT AND BACK COVER



USE SPACERS TO MAKE BOTH SIDES OF BOOK SAME THICKNESS



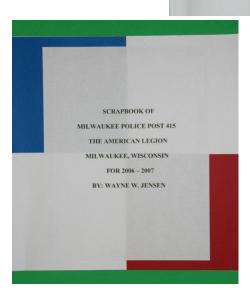
- **B. NAME/ADDRESS** 
  - **3** POINTS
  - FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUTHOR
  - LOCATED IN LOWER LEFT CORNER
  - NEATLY TYPED
  - CENTERED
  - **3 x 5 INDEX CARD**

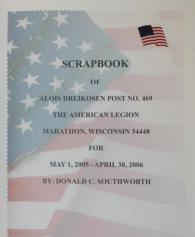




#### C. TITLE PAGE

- **5** POINTS
- FIRST PAGE FACING THE READER
- CENTERED ON PAGE
- DOUBLE SPACED OR MORE







#### **D.** INTRODUCTION

- 5 POINTS
- FORMATION OF NATIONAL AND DEPARTMENT (BRIEF)
- How Post NAME WAS SELECTED (BRIEF)



- **BRIEF RESUME OF THE COMMUNITY**
- POST HOME INFORMATION
- POST OFFICER BACKGROUND



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- SEPARATE UNITS COVERING
   PROGRAMS WITH PAGE
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- IF MORE THAN ONE
   VOLUME, EACH VOLUME
   SHOULD HAVE A COMPLETE
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1. Badger Boy	a. September 7, 2005 (1) Marathen Fun Davy	
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9. T-Bal Players Coacher	g. Mohr Steamer	
a. Kloczieni Bullden	h. Parade Marshols	
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### F. PREAMBLE

- 5 POINTS
- MULTICOLORED PRINT IS AVAILABLE FROM EMBLEM SALES
- BE CREATIVE AND MAKE YOUR OWN



The Preamble to the Constitution of

The American Legion

"For God and Country,

We associate ourselves together

For the following purposes: To uphold and defend The Constitution of the United States of America

To maintain law and order;

To foster and perpetuate A one hundred percent Americanism; To preserve the memories and incidents Of our associations in the Great Wars;

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation To the community, state and nation; To combat the autocracy Of both the classes and the masses; To make right the master of might; To promote peace and good will on earth;

To safeguard and transmit to Postenity The principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship By our devotion to mutual helpfulness."



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	National Officers	100 202/103	Perry, Alexis	
	Nelson, Curtia 15	19.30.31.364	Peterson, Dale	08,100,20

• THIS IS AT THE END OF THE BOOK

 IF MORE THAN ONE VOLUME, EACH VOLUME SHOULD HAVE A COMPLETE INDEX



## H. PAGE NUMBERING

- **5 POINTS**
- START WITH TITLE PAGE
- BE CONSISTENT
  - **\*** IN LOCATION
    - TOP OR BOTTOM -
- COUNT ALL PAGES EVEN IF THEY ARE BLANK
- BLANK PAGES SHOULD STATE "PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK"





## PART 2 – ACCOUNT/READABILITY (40 PTS)

### A. ARRANGEMENT

- **20 POINTS**
- **BE SYSTEMATIC AND LOGICAL**
- CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER
- EASY FOR READER TO FOLLOW





### **B. I**DENTIFICATION

- **10 POINTS**
- WHO (USE FULL PROPER NAME)
- WHAT / WHERE / WHEN
- IDENTIFIED LEFT TO RIGHT
   & FRONT TO BACK
- LARGE GROUPS DON'T NEED IDENTIFICATION

## PART 2 – ACCOUNT/READABILITY (40 PTS)



PAST DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS COMMANDERS AT 2018 DEC 22



## C. CLEAR CUT PHOTOS

- **10 POINTS**
- CLEAR AND SHARP
- BLURRY OR FUZZY WILL DISTRACT
- PROPER ARRANGEMENT

## Part 2 – Account/Readability (40 Pts)





## PART 3 – JUDGES OPTION/ ORIGINALITY (10 PTS)

### **D.** ORIGINALITY (CONT.)

- ITEMS NOT READILY CATALOGED
   UNDER OTHER HEADINGS
- FEATURES THAT MAKE THE BOOK MORE USEFUL
- INACCURACIES WILL HAVE A DISQUALIFYING EFFECT



#### SCORING

- IF AN ITEM IS IN THE BOOK, CAN NOT GIVE THE BOOK A ZERO (0) FOR THAT ITEM
- **EXCEPT, JUDGES POINTS START AT ZERO**



# NARRATIVES

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#### NARRATIVES

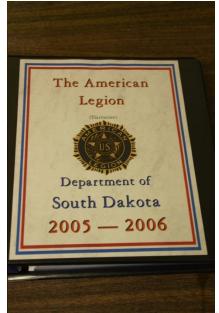
- SOME ITEMS ARE THE SAME AS YEARBOOK, OTHERS ARE VERY DIFFERENT.
- RE-EXAMINE THE OUTLINE USING THE STANDARDS AS A CHECKLIST BEFORE
   SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY.



## A. THE COVER (CONT.)

- **5** POINTS
- STANDARD 3 RING BINDER FOR 8 ½ X 11 PAPER
- LEGION EMBLEM
- NAME AND NUMBER OF POST
- VOLUME NUMBER IF NEEDED
- NOT TO EXCEED 3 INCHES FRONT TO BACK







### **B. NAME/ADDRESS**

- **3** POINTS
- FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF AUTHOR
- LOCATED IN LOWER LEFT CORNER
- NEATLY TYPED
- CENTERED
- **3 x 5 INDEX CARD**



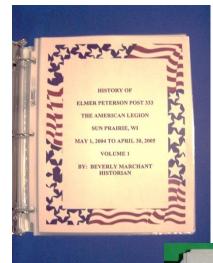


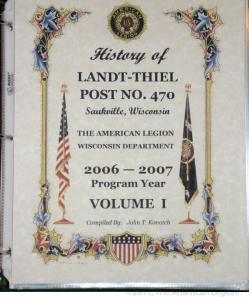


#### PART I – FORMAT (40 PTS)

## C. TITLE PAGE

- **5** POINTS
- FIRST PAGE FACING THE READER
- CENTERED ON PAGE
- DOUBLE SPACED OR MORE



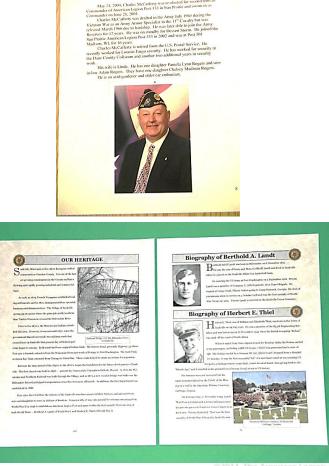




PART I – FORMAT (40 PTS)

### **D.** INTRODUCTION

- **5 POINTS**
- FORMATION OF NATIONAL AND DEPARTMENT
- How Post NAME WAS SELECTED
- BRIEF RESUME OF THE COMMUNITY
- POST HOME INFORMATION
- POST OFFICER BACKGROUND



POST 333 COMMANDER CHARLES MCCAFFERTY



#### PART I – FORMAT (40 PTS)

#### E. TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **5 POINTS**
- PAGE REFERENCE OF CHAPTERS AND APPENDICES

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TABLE OF CONTENTS	
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American Legion - Who we are	vi to vii
Our Heritage	viii
Biographies of Berthold A. Landt and Herbert E. Thiel	ix
Photos of Post Clubhouse	×
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Department Commander, District and County Commanders and Adjutants	7
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American Legion Badger Boys State	69-70
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# PART I – FORMAT (40 PTS)

- F. INDEX
  - **10 POINTS**

# ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF

- \* NAME
- PLACES
- **\*** Events
- PLACE AFTER THE APPENDICES

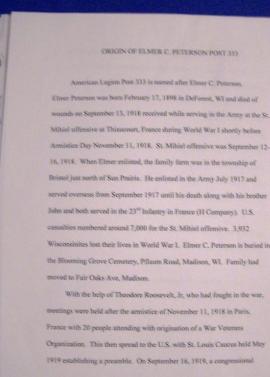
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# **G.** PAGE NUMBERING

- **5** POINTS
- TITLE PAGE 1 OR I
- INTRODUCTION 2 OR II
- TABLE OF CONTENT 3 OR III
- PREAMBLE 4 OR IV
- THE REST USING ARABIC NUMBERS





### **CHAPTERS**

### **CHAPTER I – ROSTER OF OFFICERS**





### **APPENDICES**

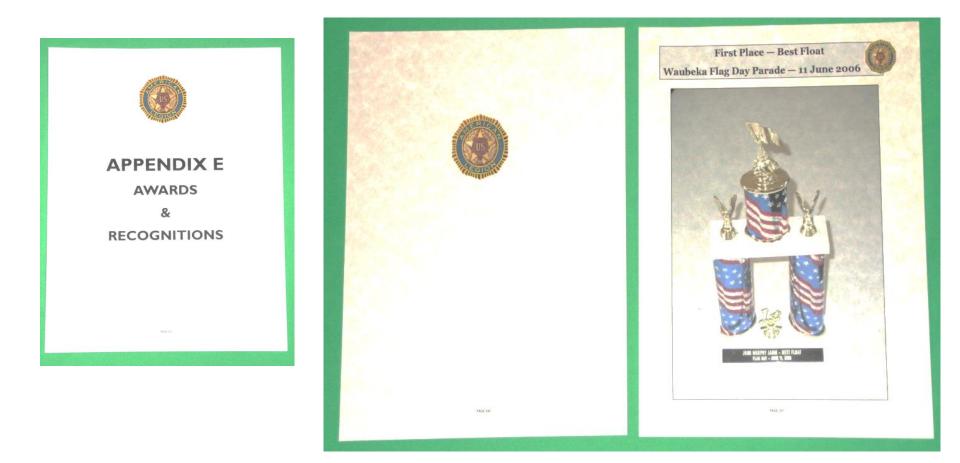
### **ROSTER OF PAST COMMANDERS**





## **APPENDICES**

## **CITATIONS & AWARDS**





## **APPENDICES**

### **News Coverages**

LOCATION FOR DISPLAYING NEWS
 CLIPPINGS. RECOMMEND USING PHOTOS
 OF NEWS CLIPPINGS BECAUSE
 NEWSPAPER DETERIORATES OVER TIME



**APPENDIX G** 

**NEWS COVERAGE** 



# PART II – GRAPHIC ACCOUNT / READABILITY (30 PTS)

- NARRATIVE NOT STATISTICAL STYLE
- PLEASING TO GENERAL READER
- WRITE IN THIRD PERSON
- CHRONOLOGICAL / DETAILED ACCOUNT
- NO ANALYSIS OR INTERPRETATION

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# PART III – ILLUSTRATION (10 PTS)

### ARRANGEMENTS (10 PTS)

## ✓ ALL PHOTOS IDENTIFIED

- ✤ WHO (USE FULL PROPER NAME)
- ✤ What
- **WHERE**
- WHEN
- ✤ IDENTIFIED LEFT TO RIGHT
- **FRONT TO BACK**
- ✓ CHECK FOR RELATION TO TEXT
- CLEAR-CUT PHOTOS (5 PTS)



# NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION (NALPA)

@2013, The American Legion







- POST/DISTRICT/DIVISION HISTORIANS ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION (NALPA) & TEXAS AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION (TXALPA)
- NALPA ESTABLISHED IN 1922 TO FACILITATE COMMUNICATIONS, FROM THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION TO THE POST LEVEL, WITHIN THE AMERICAN LEGION.
- <u>NALPA MISSION</u> FOSTER PUBLICATIONS AND ADVANCE THE STANDARDS AND PRACTICES OF COMMUNICATION WITHIN ALL LEVELS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY.



#### • **OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:**

PROMOTE EXCHANGE OF COMMUNICATION IDEAS, EXAMPLES, AND BEST PRACTICES WITHIN OUR ASSOCIATION;

NALPA (CONT.)

- PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT, UNDERSTANDING, AND APPLICATION OF EXISTING AND FUTURE MEDIA COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY;
- DEMONSTRATE THE PRACTICAL VALUE OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS THROUGHOUT OUR LEGION FAMILIES, LOCAL COMMUNITIES, AND COMMERCIAL MEDIA OUTLETS.;
- **PROMOTE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR MEMBERS**
- **PRODUCING QUALITY PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER MEDIA CONTENT.**
- PROVIDE AN ANNUAL MEDIA AWARDS CONTEST TO HIGHLIGHT MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS EXCELLENCE AND BEST PRACTICES.



# MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

- PUBLIC RELATION OFFICERS
- HISTORIANS
- STAFF MEMBERS OF PUBLICATIONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
- PERSONS CLOSELY ALLIED WITH PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAMS, PUBLICATIONS AND NEWS SERVICES OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
- MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY.
- DUES: \$15/YR. (JAN 1 DEC 31)



- NALPA ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAMS:
  - To be Eligible for Annual Awards –
     Submitters must be a member NALPA.



- For INFORMATION ABOUT NALPA AWARDS PROGRAM -GO TO - <u>https://www.legion.org/nalpa/awards</u>
  - **Rules For Basis of Judging**
  - **ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS**
- NALPA Awards.
  - **Newspapers:** local, county, district, state and national news
  - **EDITORIALS**
  - **WEBSITES**
  - SOCIAL MEDIA SITES
  - ✤ VISUAL MEDIA
  - **ENTRY MAILED DIRECTLY TO NALPA POINT OF CONTACT**



# TEXAS AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION (TXALPA)

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# **TXALPA**

#### PURPOSES:



- PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING, COOPERATION AND AN EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AMONG MEMBERS.
- PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF IMPROVED METHODS AND PROGRAMS OF COMMUNICATIONS.
- DEMONSTRATE PRACTICAL VALUE OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL.
- PROMOTE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS THROUGH COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION OF VALUE AND INTEREST TO THE MEMBERS..
- **ENCOURAGE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF MEMBERS**
- TO ASSIST IN PROMOTING THE PURPOSES AND PROGRAMS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION.



# MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

- PUBLIC RELATION OFFICERS
- HISTORIANS
- STAFF MEMBERS OF PUBLICATIONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
- PERSONS CLOSELY ALLIED WITH PUBLIC RELATIONS
   PROGRAMS, PUBLICATIONS AND NEWS SERVICES OF
   THE AMERICAN LEGION
- MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY.
- DUES: \$5/YR. (JAN 1 DEC 31)



- TXALPA ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAMS:
  - To be Eligible for Annual Awards –
     Submitters must be a member TXALPA.



- FOR INFORMATION ABOUT TXALPA AWARDS PROGRAM -GO TO - <u>https://txlegion.org/affiliated-org/texalpa/</u>
  - **CONTEST RULES & JUDGING CRITERIA**
  - **JUDGING CRITERIA**
- **TEXALPA AWARDS.** 
  - CATEGORY 1: NEWSLETTERS OR ONLINE PUBLICATIONS: CHUCK DONALDSON PLAQUE
  - CATEGORY 2: WEBSITES:
     DAN FALLON PLAQUE & LEONARD MILLS PLAQUE
  - CATEGORY 3: FACEBOOK PAGES:
     PATSY PALMQUIST PLAQUE
  - **CATEGORY 4: PRESS SCRAPBOOKS: JIM LANDERS PLAQUE**



https://txlegion.org/affiliated-org/texalpa/

- **PURPOSES:** 
  - PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING, COOPERATION AND AN EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AMONG MEMBERS.



**TXALPA (CONT.)** 

- PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF IMPROVED METHODS AND PROGRAMS OF COMMUNICATIONS.
- DEMONSTRATE PRACTICAL VALUE OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL.
- PROMOTE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS THROUGH COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION OF VALUE AND INTEREST TO THE MEMBERS..
- **ENCOURAGE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF MEMBERS**
- TO ASSIST IN PROMOTING THE PURPOSES AND PROGRAMS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION.



# 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

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- THE 100TH AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION IN 2018 - KICKS OFF A 15-MONTH COMMEMORATION.
- EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT POSTS ALL AROUND WORLD WILL SHOWCASE THE AMERICAN LEGION "STILL SERVING AMERICA."



- THE AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 100TH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE PROVIDED TOOLS TO ASSIST POSTS WITH PLANNING & EXECUTING CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS:
  - **WEBSITE**
  - **WORKBOOK**
  - **VIDEO TUTORIAL**

(<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8P27GxOPhc&list=UUIEg8BvcEH4ZV</u> <u>kK6f9s\_Z6Q)</u>



## **SUGGESTED TASKS FOR POSTS**

- ESTABLISH PROJECT OFFICER/POINT OF CONTACT/CHAIR PERSON
- ESTABLISH CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
- SEPARATE FROM TRADITIONAL POST HISTORIAN OFFICES.
- **DEVELOP A PLAN OF ACTION**
- COLLABORATION WITH THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AND THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY ENCOURAGED.



# **STEP 1: COLLECT DETAILS UNIQUE TO YOUR POST**

- WHO FOUNDED POST, AND WHEN?
- ID NAMES ON ORIGINAL POST CHARTER?
- WHO (IF ANYONE) WAS POST NAMED AFTER, AND WHY?
- HAS POST ALWAYS BEEN AT CURRENT LOCATION? IF NOT NAME OTHER LOCATIONS?
- **ID** NOTABLE MEMBERS IN POST'S HISTORY?
- ID IMPORTANT DATES IN HISTORY OF POST, AND WHAT HAPPENED TO MAKE THEM IMPORTANT?
- **ID** FAMILIES INVOLVED WITH POST FOR MULTIPLE GENERATIONS?
- WHAT COMMUNITY SERVICE ROLE POST PLAY NOW OR PLAYED IN PAST?



## **STEP 2: POST HISTORY RESOURCES**

#### LIBRARIES

- **LOCAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY HOLDINGS**
- **LOCAL AND COUNTY HISTORIES**
- > NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES
- **Holdings by families, churches, censuses, etc.**
- **CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS**
- HISTORICAL SOCIETIES
- LOCAL MEDIA OUTLETS (NEWSPAPERS, RADIO, TV, ETC.)



# **STEP 3: USE AMERICAN LEGION TOOLS**

- **CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WEBSITE** 
  - PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT LEGION'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY, AND AN INTERACTIVE MODULE FOR POST MEMBERS TO UPLOAD TEXT, PHOTOS AND VIDEO
  - **WWW.LEGION.ORG/CENTENNIAL**
- CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WORKBOOK OFFERS GUIDANCE AND FORMAT FOR POSTS TO SUBMIT THEIR LEGACIES AND VISIONS
  - **Include tips for gathering materials**



# **STEP 4: SHARE POST STORY**

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF WAYS TO PRESENT AND SHARE POST INFORMATION:

AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WEB PAGE -

OFFERS CONVENIENT WAY TO PRESENT POST HISTORY, IN WORDS AND IMAGES, FOR ALL TO SEE - <u>WWW.LEGION.ORG/CENTENNIAL</u>

- **CENTENNIAL HISTORY BOOK ABOUT POST**
- FACEBOOK PAGE: DEDICATED TO HISTORY OF POST
- SERIES OF STORIES OR COLUMNS -
  - ABOUT POST HISTORY BY LOCAL NEWSPAPER, TELEVISION OR RADIO STATION
- CENTENNIAL EXHIBIT --

> AT POST OR TRAVELING AT LOCAL MUSEUM OR SPECIAL EVENTS



# GET INVOLVED! ITS UP TO YOU!

# "DON'T FORGET OUR HISTORY. T PAVES THE WAY TO THE FUTURE."

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