



Department
of Iowa

Legion  Link

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2026 Department Convention July 16-19, 2026

All meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport.

Detailed schedule available on our website.

[Learn More](#)

Vice Commander Jerry Landkamer

National Vice Commander Jerry Landkamer from the Department of Nebraska will be the keynote speaker during a joint session of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion.

Also speaking on Friday will be American Legion Auxiliary Central Division Vice President Ann Buchanan from the Department of West Virginia.





The American Legion, Department of Iowa, extends its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who donated during the month of May. Your generosity provides vital support to our youth programs, local communities, and fellow veterans.

Area of Greatest Need

Bob Colin
Darrin Alderson
Dave & Ann Rehbein
Doug Honse
Don Swan
Kenneth Fields
Patrick Morris
Scheels Employees

Foundation

Ann Crawford
Bob Colin
Curtis Coudy
James Kessler
Jim & Lu Rolfes
Larry Haitz
Hibu
Samuel & Mariah Johnson
Steve & Kim Dixon
Steve Malmquist

Legislative

Randy Johnson

Boys State

DBI Signs
Brian Ring
Charlie Bowser
Captain Mandsager
Gary Haverman
James Kessler
Jeffrey Abbas
Randy Freel
Terry Hull

Firefighter/Law Enforcement of the Year

Green State Credit Union

Service Office

Bob Colin
Don Swan

Veterans Emergency Fund

Auxiliary Unit 37
Dell Wagner
Doug Honse
Lloyd Jones
Jennifer Rehbein

SAL Membership Packets

2027 membership cards for the SAL have not yet been received at Department Headquarters. Membership packets will be mailed to the Adjutant on file once all materials are received from National, provided all documentation has been submitted by the Squadron.

The following forms must be submitted in order to receive the membership packet. These forms are due annually.

1. Squadron Officers Report (Due by September 15)
2. Squadron Officers Membership Eligibility Verification (Due by September 15)
3. Squadron Data Report (Due by April 15)
4. Consolidate Squadron Report (Due by June 15)



Post Histories

With the evolution of the National Post History Contest into the National Historian's Showcase at the annual American Legion national convention, library staff at National Headquarters in Indianapolis have released a list of frequently asked questions – and answers – sent in by post historians as to the process in 2026.

[Visit Website](#)



Veterans Day at the Iowa State Fair Parade - America 250

To honor those most responsible for America's semiquincentennial, this year's Veterans Day at the Iowa State Fair Parade, August 17, will celebrate America 250-IA by honoring the veteran-patriots of every U.S. conflict.

Presented by the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) and the Iowa National Guard, we are calling on all Iowa veterans, military organizations, and community supporters to join us on the Grand Concourse. Whether you are marching to represent a specific era of service, organization, playing in a band, or showing your community's support, we want you in the lineup or along the route as we celebrate 250 years of American resilience.

Want to Participate in the Parade?



Option 1

March with The American Legion Family of Iowa - Walk for Veterans

The American Legion Walk for Veterans will be during the Veterans Parade at the Iowa State Fair on Monday, August 17, 2026. The parade begins at 11:00 am and participants are asked to be in the staging area between 7:00 am and 10:30 am.

Participants must register (free registration) with The American Legion of Iowa **before July 31, 2026**. The cost of a Walk for Veterans shirt is \$20.00. All walk participants must wear The American Legion Walk for Veterans shirt and must pre-register. All parade participants will receive free entry into the Iowa State Fair after the parade. Parking is not included.

Information, instructions, and forms are available on our website.

[Learn More / Register](#)



Option 2 Register Your Own Unit with the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs

Interested participants can download the entry form directly at the event page on the Iowa Department of Veteran Affairs website.

[Learn More / Register](#)

 Department of Iowa

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www.PoweredbyVets.org



Honor Guard Reimbursement Forms Due July 31

Posts seeking reimbursement for military funeral honors conducted between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026, must complete and submit the reimbursement form before July 31, 2026.

Forms are available on the Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs website.

[Learn More](#)

Post Membership Materials

Incoming District Commanders received the 2027 Legion membership packets at the end of May for distribution. Below are the District Commanders for the upcoming membership year. If you need help contacting them, please call our office.

1st District	Kandice Miller
2nd District	Polly Graham
3rd District	Richard Echelberger
4th District	Jim Perry
5th District	Sam Blumer
6th District	Anthony Perdue
7th District	Mitch Brahms
8th District	Ruth Trecker
9th District	Larry Haitz



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2026 National Membership Standings July 13, 2026

38th Place	Iowa	94.08%
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2026 Actual Membership: 30,389
2026 Membership Goal: 32,300

[View National Membership Report](#)

2026 Department Membership Standings

1st Place	District 2	96.14%
2nd Place	District 4	94.52%
3rd Place	District 6	94.31%
4th Place	District 1	93.81%
5th Place	District 5	93.78%
6th Place	District 3	93.09%
7th Place	District 7	92.83%
8th Place	District 9	92.64%
9th Place	District 8	91.98%

[View Department Membership Report](#)

Department Calendar

Jul 14-18	Junior Shooting Sports National Championship - Hillsdale College
Jul 17-25	Boys Nation - Washington, DC
Jul 17-19	Department Convention
Aug 4	US Coast Guard Birthday
Aug 6-9	National Membership Workshop
<u>Aug 13-15</u>	American Legion World Series
Aug 23-27	American Legion Legacy Run
Aug 28-Sep 3	National Convention
Sep 7	Labor Day
Sep 7	Department Offices Closed
Sep 9	50% Membership Target
Sep 11	Patriot Day
Sep 15	Post Office Forms due
Sep 16	American Legion Day
Sep 18-20	Combined Americanism Conference
Sep 19	POW/MIA Recognition Day

[View Department Calendar](#)

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