



DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

TO: ALL POSTS AND DISTRICT HISTORIANS
FROM: LILLIAN MOSS, DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN 2017

SUBJECT: 2017 DEPARTMENT HISTORY CONTEST

The Time Has Come!

It's Convention time in RIVERSIDE, California and with it the final preparation of our Post or District Narrative History and/or Annual Yearbook.

To assist those interested in competing in the Post or District Narrative History and/or Annual Yearbook Contest, please refer to your **2016 Officers Guide (53rd) Edition, Pages 147-156**. Follow the guidelines as closely as possible.

It is imperative that you submit your entry(s) to the Convention Headquarters in FRESNO **NO LATER THAN 11:00 AM ON FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017**. No entries will be accepted after the deadline. **Judging will begin approximately 1:30 P.M. on June 23, 2017.**

Certificates of participation will be awarded to all entrants. First, Second and Third place Trophies will be awarded to the winners on the Convention floor. The First Place winner will compete for judging in the National competition later this year. In addition, there will be a District level contest. Judging for District Narrative History and/or Annual Yearbook Contest will follow the same rules which apply to Posts.

If you have any questions related to this year's competition, feel free to contact me at (619)741-4311 or limiss17@yahoo.com.

GOOD LUCK!

LILLIAN MOSS, DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN

Post histories

The American Legion strongly encourages the preparation of post histories. Such information on the post's activities will be of considerable value in years to come.

National Headquarters is aware that a professional historian does not fill the position of historian in most posts. This need not prevent a proper recording of the post's activities. The scope of the information included is the main consideration, keeping in mind, however, comprehensiveness, readability and arrangement, so as to make the history both an interesting account of the post and a reference source.

At the start of the new post year, the historian begin making a permanent record of the organization for the year ahead, from the installation of officers up to and including the installation of next year's officers. To help gather specific details concerning the post, ask the post adjutant for a copy of the most recent Consolidated Post Report. The statistical summary will indicate the type and amount of activity that can help you put together as complete a picture as possible. Make plans to compile a complete post history since its founding, but focus, for the moment, on a one-year history. Then go back to the files and gradually write up the back story.

The national historian will conduct an annual one-year narrative history and yearbook (pictorial) history contest at the post level. These ongoing national contests will give stability and continuity to the recording of post events for future generations of Legionnaires. The department historian will notify posts of any national contest changes that may occur.

Included in this guide are comprehensive outlines to compile a one-year narrative history or yearbook with their respective judging standards for competition in the national contests.

To be eligible for the national contests, an entry in either category must be a first-place winner in the department's contest and must be certified as such by the department historian and forwarded to the national historian to arrive in Indianapolis by Sept. 15. Department historians or adjutants need to contact the national historian or National Headquarters' Library and Museum director for exceptions.

Upon completion of the national contest, all entries will be returned to their respective posts unless otherwise instructed for different shipping arrangements.

The work of collecting, preserving and recording the activities of The American Legion is an important endeavor and demands much detail work; hopefully you will find it inspiring and rewarding. Contact the department historian for additional ideas and information regarding department contest qualifications.

Outline for a one-year post narrative history

This outline has been developed to be helpful to the historian. It would be advantageous to check any compilation against this outline so as to include as much of the material suggested here as possible.

Part I – Format

(1) Cover A standard three-ring binder, or similar type, to accommodate 8 ½ x 11 bond paper must be used with The American Legion emblem centered (left to right) on the cover with the name and number of the post. Binders with embossed American Legion emblems are available through Emblem Sales.

Each book is not to exceed three inches between the front and back cover. If you submit two or more binders, you must indicate on the cover and title page the wording "Volume 1," "Volume 2," etc.

(2) Name/address of compiler The full name and complete mailing address of the history author should appear on the inside front cover in the lower left corner. It will be neatly typed or computer generated and centered on a 3x5 index card.

(3) Title page This will be the first page facing the reader as the history book is opened. It should be centered on the page (left to right, top to bottom) and in a logical arrangement with double spacing or more and contain as a minimum the following:

History of
(Name of post) **Post No.** _____ (Number of post)
The American Legion
(city and state)
For 20 _____ **to 20** _____
By (person compiling history)

(4) Introduction Every history should include a forward or introduction setting forth the reasons for the organization and may include:

- Mention of the national organization's founding with a tie-in of the department and post. (See www.legion.org/history or "Capsule History of The American Legion," listed later, as a possible beginning, and see your department historian for a capsule history of the department.)
- Selection of the post name. If named for a departed comrade or comrades, include a short biographical sketch of their lives and include available photographs.
- If possible, a brief résumé of your community's history, especially the part played by that locality in furnishing men and women during wars and conflicts.
- A photograph of the post and street address, if your post has a post home.
- Acknowledgment of any assistance or contributions used in compiling the history.

(5) Table of contents This is a "must" for any good history, which will list the pages of the chapters and appendices and should be in the front of the history immediately following the introduction. If there is more than one volume, each volume should contain a complete table of contents.

(6) Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion Identifying the principal aims of The American Legion, the preamble is a fitting introduction and should follow the table of contents. It should be centered on the page and spaced in a neat and logical arrangement. Multicolored 8½ x 11 prints of the preamble may be purchased through Emblem Sales.

(7) Index The alphabetical index is a "must" for any good history. This comprehensive index of names, places and events mentioned in your history, with page references, shall be at the end of the history following the appendices. Be sure to include every person and activity in the history. If a person has a title, put that in with a cross-reference to the name. If there is more than one volume, each volume should have a complete index.

(8) Page numbering Do not forget to number the pages. Be consistent in placing page numbers, either at top or bottom of pages. Numbering will start with the title page.

Order of page numbering The above pages should appear in order with Arabic numerals or Roman numerals:

Title Page	1 or i
Introduction	2 or ii
Table of Contents	3 or iii
Preamble	4 or iv

List each page in consecutive order using Arabic numerals. If you use Arabic numerals, the next number will follow your last number (e.g. if the preamble is 4, the first page of the history is 5). If you use Roman numerals, then the first page of the history is 1 (e.g. if the Preamble is iv, then the first page of the history is 1).

Chapters

Following the preamble, the chapters may be sequenced in this suggested manner:

Chapter 1 – Roster of Post Officers Photographs of current post officers should be included in the history. If it is not possible to obtain photographs of every officer, make a special effort to include photographs of the commander and the adjutant.

Chapter 2 – Roster of Post Chairmen Include a roster of post chairs with photographs, if available.

Chapter 3 – One-Year Post History This should be a one-year post chronicle. The history is to cover one year, beginning with the installation of officers, up to and including the installation of the next year's officers. This timeframe may vary in some departments. This is the most important chapter in your history, and must be as complete as possible with a graphic account of the post and its activities. The historian should relate in narrative form, and in chronological order, all important events and programs conducted during the year by the post or events conducted jointly with the Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, or county, district, department and national levels. (Remember, this is the post's history, not the department or National Headquarters.)

Historians may use information from the minutes of meetings as a basis for information about the post's activities. Then contact members who were chairs of the committees for further details. Include anything that you deem a special attribute of the post, setting it apart from all others.

Do not use any photographs or newspaper articles in this chapter of your narrative history. However, photographs may be included in dedicated committee chapters and newspaper articles in the appendices.

Other chapters While many American Legion programs and post projects are of a continuing nature and may run through several administrations, such activities might be better covered in a separate chapter following those devoted to the individual administration.

The activities of all standing post committees should be given considerable coverage, particularly if one committee performs an outstanding service. You may want to include each committee in separate chapters: Americanism, Membership, Boys State, School Award Medals, Oratorical Contest, Junior Shooting Sports, Baseball, Children & Youth, Sons of The American Legion, patriotic observances, post parties, Boy Scout troops and other sponsored groups, to name a few. Collect and record for posterity all post activities.

Including photographs in the committee chapters adds to the attractiveness of the entry. Give attention to the arrangement of illustrations in relation to the text and use of captions (identification) under each photograph.

Appendices

Appendices are pages of statistical data that should be carried at the end of the history, following the chapters and before the index, and might include:

- Organization of the post with a list of charter members and dates of temporary and permanent charters.
- A roster of all past post commanders and adjutants since the charter date with their years served.
- If the post is not too large, add a roster of members listed in alphabetical order. This may include, after each member's name, the member's branch of service or the date he or she joined the post.
- A record of the post's citations and awards received, as well as awards presented by the post.
- A list of members who served as delegates to the national and department conventions, or national and department officers and commission and committee appointees, including the county and district.
- Complete records of annual elections showing all nominations and votes received by various nominees.
- The post's membership standings by year since the charter date; a list of new members for the current year; a list of life members and Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) members; "In Memoriam," also known as Taps or Post Everlasting, listings for the current year; the post's constitution and by-laws; the annual post budget; and any other important statistics.

Part II – Graphic Account / Readability

The emphasis should be on the narrative rather than the statistical style of presentation. Use your imagination, and be original in thought and presentation.

A high degree of literary style is not essential to success, but the method of presentation should be pleasing to the general reader. The reader must be able to follow the post's story without difficulty or confusion.

The most common error is in not writing in the third person. This means you should write as an observer, not as a participant. The history should be written as a chronological and detailed account of events arranged in order of time without any analysis or interpretation.

Statistics are of great value but should be included in the appendix rather than being placed indiscriminately throughout the book.

Part III – Illustrations

All photographs must be identified by occasion, individuals, date and place of event with the exception of individual photographs of post officers and chairs (name and title/committee only). Provide left-to-right subject identification, and if necessary, by row.

Be sure all photographs are clear, as blurry prints will not aid materially and will take away from rather than enhance your history. Proper arrangement with the text is a must to achieve an eye-catching history book. Avoid using pictures with alcohol or cigarettes in them.

Part IV – Judges Option / Originality

Under this category, judges will consider a number of qualities or items of content in the history that are not readily cataloged under the preceding headings. Some histories, for example, have a complete roster of members. In other words, judges will determine features that make a history especially attractive or useful, i.e. a spine label, etc. By the same token, if inaccuracies come to the judges' attention, they would have a negative scoring effect.

Page format suggestions

Use plain and unruled 8½ x 11 white and/or colored bond paper for your history binder filler.

The history should be typed or computer generated on one side of the paper using black ribbon or print. Single sheets of paper may be placed back-to-back using transparent plastic protective covers.

Margins are a must for neatness, readability and standardization. Use a 1-inch margin on all sides (except one inch from the perforation side of paper, if necessary).

Where feasible, provide double-spaced copy on pages with a three- to six-space indentation for new paragraphs and single-spaced lines for photograph identifications.

If you have any doubt of the spelling of a word, use a dictionary. Also double-check the spelling of all names.

Some entries would have a better chance in the contests as a yearbook, even though they were submitted as narratives. Consider your entry. Is it a narrative or a yearbook? There is a difference. Read the outlines for each category.

National judging standards

You will note that Part I, Part II, Part III and Part IV, as identified, coincide with the categories of the national judging standards. The "etc." listed after several of the scoring elements shows that there are additional requirements necessary to achieve total score points. It is suggested that you re-examine the outline, using the standards as a checklist, before submitting your contest entry.

PART I – FORMAT (40 POINTS)		
(1) COVER Standard three-ring binder for 8½ x 11 bond paper, emblem, etc.	(5)	
(2) NAME/ADDRESS OF COMPILER Inside front cover/lower left corner, etc.	(3)	
(3) TITLE PAGE Centered in logical arrangement/double spacing plus, etc.	(5)	
(4) INTRODUCTION Post background, tie-in with department and national, community, etc.	(5)	
(5) TABLE OF CONTENTS Page reference of chapters, appendices, etc.	(5)	
(6) PREAMBLE Includes Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion, etc.	(2)	
(7) INDEX Comprehensive alphabetical listing at end of history book, etc.	(10)	
(8) PAGE NUMBERING Table of contents, chapters, appendices and index, etc.	(5)	
Subtotal	(40)	
PART II – GRAPHIC ACCOUNT/READABILITY (30 POINTS)		
(1) NARRATIVE Rather than a statistical style of presentation	(10)	
(2) PRESENTATION Chronological order and in third person, not to detract from general readability	(10)	
(3) CLEAR/GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT Pleasing to the general reader	(10)	
Subtotal	(30)	
PART III – ILLUSTRATIONS (10 POINTS)		
(1) IDENTIFICATION All photographs must have names, occasions, sources, dates, etc. Provide proper left-to-right identifications.	(5)	
(2) CLEAR PHOTOGRAPHS Blurry or foggy prints detract from presentation, etc.	(5)	
Subtotal	(10)	
PART IV – JUDGES OPTION / ORIGINALITY (10 POINTS)		
(1) JUDGES WILL CONSIDER a number of qualities or items of content in the history not readily cataloged under the preceding headings.		
(2) JUDGES WILL DETERMINE features that make a history especially attractive or useful as a source of reference and historic value.	(10)	
TOTAL POINTS OF ENTRY	(90)	

Postscripts

- Consider making a copy of your entry in the event it should become a national contest winner. With your permission, it will be retained in the library archives of The American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis for visitors to view.
- In the event that your post records are missing and there is no history, the post historian may search the local newspaper files and interview past commanders, adjutants and older members. Many important post events can be found using these methods.
- Information about the post charter can be obtained by writing to the Charter Clerk, The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.
- Many departments have organized department historian associations, patterned after the National Association of Department Historians of The American Legion (NADHAL). These groups render assistance in carrying out a successful historian's program. Ask if your department has such an organization and join in its activities. If there is no such department organization, consult your department historian.
- The serious post historian will find informative and interesting any one of the following published histories about The American Legion: Michael J. Bennett's "When Dreams Come True: The GI Bill and the Making of Modern America" (Brassey's, 1996); Thomas A. Rumer's "The American Legion: An Official History" (M. Evans, 1990); Raymond Moley's "The American Legion Story," (Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1966); Richard Jones' "A History of The American Legion" (Bobbs-Merrill, 1946); and Marquis James' "A History of The American Legion" (William Green, 1923).
- Where possible, use digital voice recorders or video cameras to record oral histories and interviews of American Legion post founders and leaders to capture firsthand information about the post's history.

Capsule history of The American Legion

A group of 20 officers who served in the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France during World War I is credited with founding the Legion. AEF Headquarters asked the officers to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt Jr., proposed an organization of veterans. In February 1919, the group formed a temporary committee and selected several hundred officers who had the confidence and respect of the whole army.

About 1,000 officers and enlisted men attended the Paris Caucus in March 1919. They adopted a temporary constitution and the name The American Legion. The group also elected an executive committee to complete the organization's work. It considered each soldier of the AEF a member of the Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the United States.

In May 1919, the Legion held a second organizing caucus in St. Louis. It completed the constitution and made plans for a permanent organization, setting up a temporary headquarters in New York City and beginning its relief, employment and Americanism programs.

Congress granted the Legion a national charter in September 1919. The first national convention convened in Minneapolis on November 10-12, 1919, adopting a permanent constitution and electing officers to head the organization. Delegates also voted to locate the Legion's national headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Legion continues to support the four pillars of service and advocacy upon which it was founded: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

Outline for a one-year post yearbook

A post yearbook is a pictorial history of the post's annual activities. Remember, though, that this is a permanent record that will be seen by others for years to come, so the suggested outline should be followed as closely as possible. It would be advantageous to check any compilation against this outline so as to include as much of the material suggested here as possible.

Part I – Format

(1) Cover The size of the yearbook cover must not be smaller than a standard three-ring binder or larger than 12x15 inches, with The American Legion emblem centered (left to right) on the cover with the post's name and number. Each book is not to exceed three inches between the front and back cover.

If two or more binders are submitted, you must indicate on the cover and title page the wording "Volume 1," "Volume 2," etc. Acceptable yearbook binders and standard three-ring binders with the American Legion emblem embossed on the cover are available from Emblem Sales.

(2) Name/address of compiler The full name and complete mailing address of the yearbook author should appear on the inside front cover on the lower left corner. It will be neatly typed or computer generated and centered on a 3x5 index card.

(3) Title page This should be the first page facing the reader as the yearbook is opened. It should be centered on the page (left to right, top to bottom) and be in a logical arrangement with double spacing or more and contain as a minimum the following:

Yearbook of
(Name of post) **Post No.** _____ (Number of post)
The American Legion
(city and state)
For 20____ **- 20**____
By (person compiling yearbook)

(4) Introduction Every yearbook should have a forward or introduction, setting forth the reasons for the organization, and may include:

- Mention of the national organization's founding with a tie-in of the department and post. (See www.legion.org/history or "Capsule History of The American Legion," listed earlier, as a possible beginning, and see your department historian for a capsule history of the department.)
- Selection of the post name. If named for a departed comrade or comrades, include a short biographical sketch of their lives and include available photographs.
- If possible, a brief résumé of your community's history, especially the part played by that locality in furnishing men and women during wars and conflicts.
- A photograph of the post and street address, if your post has a post home.
- A biographical background of the current post commander and/or the author of the history with photographs included.
- Acknowledgment of any assistance or contributions used in compiling the history.

(5) Table of contents This is a "must" for any good history, which will list the pages of the chapters and appendices and should be in the front of the history immediately following the introduction. If there is more than one volume, each should contain a complete table of contents.

(6) Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion Identifying the principal aims of The American Legion, the preamble is a fitting introduction and should follow the table of contents. It should be centered on the page and spaced in a neat and logical arrangement. Multicolored 8½ x 11 prints of the preamble may be purchased through Emblem Sales.

(7) Index The alphabetical index is a "must" for any good history. This comprehensive index of names, places and events mentioned in your history, with page references, shall be at the end of the history following the appendices. Be sure to include every person and activity in the history. If there is more than one volume, each volume should contain a complete index.

(8) Page numbering Do not forget to number the pages. Be consistent in placing page numbers, either at top or bottom of pages. Numbering will start with the title page.

Order of page numbering The above pages should appear in order with Arabic or Roman numerals:

Title Page	1 or i
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Table of Contents	3 or iii
Preamble	4 or iv

The following units will list each page in consecutive order using Arabic numerals. If you use Arabic numerals, the next number will follow your last number (e.g. if the preamble is 4, the first page of the history is 5). If you use Roman numerals, then the first page of the history is 1 (e.g. if the Preamble is iv, then the first page of the history is 1).

Part II – Programs and Activities / Readability

The yearbook material for your post programs and activities will follow the preamble and precede the index.

The yearbook is to cover one year, from the installation of officers up to and including the installation of the next year's officers. This timeframe may vary in some departments.

Chapters

Following the preamble, the chapters may be sequenced in this suggested manner:

Chapter 1 – Roster of Post Officers Photographs of current post officers should be included in the history. If it is not possible to obtain photographs of every officer, make a special effort to include photographs of the commander and the adjutant.

Chapter 2 – Roster of Post Chairmen Include a roster of post chairs with photographs, if available.

Chapter 3 – One-Year Post History This should be a one-year post history.

A record as vitally important as the history itself is a complete and accurate yearbook containing all newspaper clippings, photographs, copies of programs, tickets, badges and other items pertaining to the post and its activities.

All material recorded in the yearbook must be in chronological order with a systematic and logical arrangement. The reader must be able to follow the meaning of the illustrations (news clippings, photographs, etc.) with little difficulty and confusion.

All newspaper clippings must include the name and date of the publication. Individuals in photographs must be identified by full proper names (nicknames in brackets), from left to right. Captions should also identify the occasion, dates and source. You may know who is in the photograph and why, but the reader may not.

Be sure all photographs are clear and sharp, as blurry or fuzzy prints will take away from rather than enhance your yearbook. Proper arrangement with captions is a "must" for an eye-catching yearbook. Avoid using pictures with alcohol or cigarettes in them.

Neatness and originality are even more important for the yearbook than the narrative history, since all the material in the yearbook must be properly identified to make it worthwhile.

If the compiler cannot type or print well, he or she should have an experienced person do the printing or type inserts.

Part III – Judges Option / Originality

Judges will consider a number of qualities or items of content in the yearbook that are not readily catalogued under the preceding headings. Some yearbooks have features that make them especially attractive, useful and of historic value.

By the same token, if inaccuracies should come to the attention of the judges, they will have a negative scoring effect on your entry.

National judging standards

You will note that Part I, Part II and Part III, as identified, coincide with the categories of the national judging standards. The "etc." listed after several of the scoring elements shows that there are additional requirements necessary to achieve total score points. It is suggested that you re-examine the outline, using the standards as a checklist, before submitting your contest entry.

PART I – FORMAT (40 POINTS)		
(1) COVER Size of 12x15 inches, emblem, etc.	(5)	
(2) NAME/ADDRESS OF COMPILER inside front cover and lower left corner, etc.	(3)	
(3) TITLE PAGE Centered in logical arrangement, double spacing plus, etc.	(5)	
(4) INTRODUCTION Post background, tie-in to department and national, community, etc.	(5)	
(5) TABLE OF CONTENTS Page references covering programs and events	(5)	
(6) PREAMBLE Includes Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion, etc.	(2)	
(7) INDEX Comprehensive alphabetical listing carried at end of yearbook	(10)	
(8) PAGE NUMBERING Carried on post memorabilia pages and index	(5)	
Subtotal	(40)	
PART II – PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES/READABILITY – 40 POINTS		
(1) ARRANGEMENT Systematic and logical arrangement, with material recorded in chronological order. Readers must be able to follow the illustrations (pictures, clippings, copies of programs, tickets, badges, etc.) with little difficulty or confusion.	(20)	
(2) IDENTIFICATION All clippings and/or photographs must have names, occasions, sources, dates, etc., listed to properly identify the subject matter. Provide proper left-to-right identifications.	(10)	
(3) CLEAR PHOTOGRAPHS Blurry or fuzzy prints will detract from presentation	(10)	
Subtotal	(40)	
PART III – JUDGES OPTION/ORIGINALITY – 10 POINTS		
JUDGES WILL CONSIDER a number of qualities or items of content in the yearbook not readily catalogued under the preceding headings. They may determine that some yearbooks include items and features that make them attractive and especially useful.	(10)	
TOTAL POINTS OF ENTRY	(90)	

Helpful hints for district/county historians

Some departments use the district and county structures, and historians at both levels must make a team effort to accomplish their respective responsibilities to posts in their jurisdiction. If you have been elected or appointed district/county historian, your primary duty is to coordinate the records of post activities within your district/county to ensure the preservation and accessibility of such records at all times.

Some departments conduct comprehensive spring and fall district meetings. If this is the case in your department, make every effort to be allotted time on the program. Travel to posts within your district with the district commander and his or her staff whenever possible, and speak at post meetings. Use the spring meetings as your vantage point for administering a final "morale booster" to the work-shy in your district. Emphasize the importance of adequate records and of giving all possible help and encouragement to post historians.

Many district historians have had no experience in this type of work. In addition, many posts have never tried to keep a history of any kind. You will have to begin by researching and compiling as much information as possible from past records, then focus on keeping your own records current.

Be sure that every post in your district has a post historian and that they are kept informed of the latest developments and material. It is your duty to give all possible aid to post historians within your district. If your department conducts an annual post narrative history or yearbook contest, encourage the historians to enter.

Outline for a one-year district/county narrative history or yearbook

Your department may conduct an annual district/county narrative history or yearbook contest in addition to those sponsored at the post level. Use the outlines for the one-year post narrative history and yearbook to compile district or county narrative histories or yearbooks. When using the post outlines as a guide, change the cover title, title page and text references to read "district" or "county." Naturally, some material suggested for the post entries would not be appropriate for district or county books.

Department narrative history and yearbook contests

The national historian will conduct annual one-year narrative history and yearbook history contests at the department level. These contests add continuity to the recording of department events for future generations. Comprehensive records are of significant historic value.

Department historians are encouraged to use the same format as posts for their one-year department narrative history and one-year department yearbook. Where the outlines say "post," insert "department," and determine if the suggested item fits the context for your narrative history or yearbook.

Judging of department entries for both the narrative and yearbook categories is based on the department's history covering one year, beginning with the installation of department officers up to and including the annual department convention and installation of the next year's officers.

To participate in the national contest, department histories must be "certified" by the department adjutant and forwarded to the national historian to arrive in Indianapolis by Sept. 15. Department adjutants need to contact the national historian or National Headquarters' Library and Museum director for exceptions.

The American Legion 100th Anniversary Celebration History

As part of The American Legion's upcoming 100th anniversary celebration, a special website has been created: www.legion.org/centennial. Each post is encouraged to add its history. Post pictures and histories are important to share with other posts, departments and the entire community. Ideally, every post will be listed on the centennial website.