



THE
AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS



HUBMASTER REPORT

DECEMBER 2017

Purpose

The Hubmaster Report is published monthly to promote membership retention and member involvement through effective communication.

Department of Texas Website up and running

www.txlegion.org

The new and improved Department of Texas website has finally launched! We are excited to bring you this fresh new website design and hope that it can serve as a much more convenient and useful web resource for our members.

In the coming weeks we will continue to fine tune a number of pages, and develop new site features and interactivity that will add to the user experience here. We appreciate your patience with this ongoing process.

This new site was designed for scalability in both form and function. It should work well on most all browsers, devices, and platforms including desktops, laptops, tablets, smart phones, etc.

Enjoy!

99th Department of Texas Convention Time Capsule

As part of the American Legion Centennial Year, The Department of Texas will dedicate a monument placed at the Bexar County Justice Center in San Antonio Texas which will include a time capsule to be buried nearby. The time capsule 48" x 36" x 12' will be designed to be re-opened after 50 years and will include papers, newspaper articles, photographs, coins, insignia pins and clothing.

District Commanders are directed to contact their Posts to submit items for the 100th Anniversary Time Capsule by January 12, 2018 by mail to Department Headquarters or in person to the Mid-Winter DEC meeting January 26, 2018.

Items must be clearly marked with a description of what they are, identification of any people in photographs, and the name and address of the Post which submitted the item.

Questions can be directed to Susan Marty, Department Historian and Time Capsule
Sub-Committee Chair
714-309-2449
smarty632@hotmail.com

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)

Since its inception, The American Legion has maintained an ongoing concern and commitment to veterans and their families. The Legion was instrumental in the creation of the U.S. Veterans Bureau, now known as the Department of Veterans Affairs, and has continued to be a watchdog and an advocate for veteran's rights.

The American Legion's Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) program provides a comprehensive network of American Legion Department Service Officers (see below) at the Department level to help veterans, their dependents and survivors apply for any Federal or state benefit to which they may be entitled. These are the individuals who should be consulted when any question arises regarding veterans' benefits or claims for these benefits.

For more information, go to <https://txlegion.org/va/>

2017-2018 Membership Year

"The single easiest way to accomplish our membership goal is for each member to commit to recruiting just one new member this year. Please join with me in making that commitment."

The following chart reflects our membership as of November 30th...

Division Membership

| <u>Div</u> | <u>Commander</u> | <u>Current</u> | <u>Goal</u> | <u>Remaining</u> | <u>% of Goal</u> |
|------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Bobby R. Baker | 9406 | 16121 | -6715 | 58.35 |
| 2 | Milton R. Chatham | 9964 | 17361 | -7397 | 57.39 |
| 3 | Harlan A. Lucas | 12926 | 22278 | -9352 | 58.02 |
| 4 | Richard Britton Sr. | 5898 | 10457 | -4559 | 56.40 |

Remember, you can check your Division, District, and Post membership standings daily at https://txlegion.org/current_membership.html

Did You Know?

Online renewal. More than 245,800 American Legion members renewed their membership online in 2017, which was an increase of 33,263 from 2016. To date, 143,612 members have renewed online for the 2018 membership year. To easily and safely renew online, go to www.legion.org/renew.

Revitalization. In 2016, more than 2,500 American Legion posts were either started or revitalized through the efforts of district revitalization teams and National Headquarters staff. There are 21 district revitalizations planned through December. To learn more about post development and revitalization efforts, go to www.legion.org/membership/newposts.

VA volunteers. There are nearly 4,500 American Legion members participating in the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) program where they regularly volunteer their time in VA medical centers and clinics, Fisher Houses and state veterans homes across the nation. Since January 2017, these volunteers, along with part-time volunteers, have contributed 597,628 hours. This has resulted in savings to VA of more than \$14 million. The American Legion has supported and actively participated in the VAVS program since it began in 1946. To learn more about how you can volunteer, go to www.legion.org/volunteers.

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

December 16 – National Wreaths Across America Day, a movement to cover all Veterans grave markers with a wreath at over 800 cemeteries across the USA.

December 23 – January 2 – Department office closed for the holidays

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

Awards Deadlines To Remember

December 31 – Details are in the Post Administrative Manual. Post Cash Award - page 52, VA Volunteer Awards – page 6, Outstanding Post Adjutant Award – page 7.

Quote of the month – "Together, we make a difference!!"

- American Legion