



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS



HUBMASTER REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2017

Purpose

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

A Message from the Commander regarding Hurricane Harvey

"Posts from many parts of Texas are responding to disaster relief efforts. Additionally the Department has been contacted by Legionnaires from Illinois, Kentucky and California offering support.

Posts in and around Houston have set up evacuation centers and/or supply drop-off points. Crosby Post 658 has opened their facility as a shelter. South Houston Post 490 is preparing to open as a shelter, and Houston Post 560 is a drop-off point for supplies. Thanks to 8th District Commander Richard Voorhies for that information. 12th District Commander Bill Deal is working with Posts in the 12th to collect supplies for the evacuation center being established in Dallas. 13th District Commander Chris Holt has several Posts collecting relief supplies for victims of the weather. Many Posts have already reached out directly to leadership to offer assistance. Remember that the recovery will be long. Although we cannot get into effected areas right now, that will change. Are we ready to meet the needs of men, women, and children who have had their lives turned upside down? Let us start now and be ready."

**John Hince, Commander
American Legion Department of Texas**

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND AVAILABLE FOR TEXAS

National Emergency Fund are available for Legionnaires and Sons of The American Legion members (up to \$3,000) Legion Posts (up to \$10,000) at are victims of Hurricane Harvey. Legionnaires & SAL member must have been displaced from their primary residence due to a declared natural disaster and provide proof of out-of-pocket expenses. NEF funds are Not meant to replace or repair items, only to meet most

immediate needs (i.e., temporary housing, food, water, clothing, diapers, etc.) and do not cover insurance compensation or monetary losses from a business, structures on your property (barns, tool sheds, etc.) equipment or vehicles. Membership must be active at time of disaster and the time of application.

Application requirements

Application must be received within 90 days of the declared natural disaster

Applications can be download at https://www.legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/NEF_Application.pdf or by calling the Department Headquarters at (512) 472-4138. Supporting data (photos, receipts, repair estimates, etc.) should be included if at all possible or statements (testimony) from post/district/department officers attesting to damages.

Only one grant per household and Post grants must derive from a declared natural disaster and substantiating documentation must provide that The American Legion post will cease to perform the duties and activities in the community due to losses sustained.

99th National Convention – Highlights

The convention convened in Reno, Nevada on August 18 and adjourned on August 24. Denise Rohan, Verona, WI Post 385, was elected 2017-2018 National Commander. Her slogan during her term is “Family First”. Butch Sparks and Kenneth Mueller continue their terms as National Executive Committeeman and Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Full details of the convention are online at <http://www.legion.org/commander>.

Fall DEC

The Fall DEC has scheduled to meet on September 21 – 24th, 2017 at the Omni Austin South Park Hotel in Austin, TX. For the complete schedule and agenda, visit:

<https://txlegion.org/conventions/fall-dec/>

2017-2018 Membership Year

Our new membership year has begun! Yes! It's that time already. It is a fact that planning for a successful membership year is critical. Simply committing your planned actions to paper and then following your plan will almost assure you will meet your goals. Encourage members to renew online at legion.org/renew, plan your recruiting events, plan who will contact expired members and who will contact current members to thank them for their continued membership as well as their honorable military service.

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	4740	16121	-11381	29.40
2	Milton R. Chatham	5050	17361	-12311	29.09
3	Harlan A. Lucas	6177	22278	-16101	27.73
4	Richard Britton Sr.	2745	10457	-7712	26.25

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, 2017. District and Division contests will be held throughout January and the Department contest will be held in February 2018.

Did You Know?

CPR reporting - Submissions of Consolidated Post Reports increased for the 2016-2017 reporting year – 8,880 American Legion posts submitted a report that documented specific activities, volunteer hours, donations raised and much more during a 12-month (June 1 through May 31) period.

There were 13 departments that achieved 95 percent or higher reporting and they are Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Virginia and Wisconsin. The commanders from each department will be recognized on the national convention stage by National Commander Charles E. Schmidt on Aug. 23, in Reno, Nev.

Five departments achieved 75 percent or higher reporting; they will be mailed a certificate. They are Arkansas, Kentucky, Maryland, West Virginia and Wyoming. Start collecting information now on post activities in preparation for the 2017-2018 CPR, which will be available on www.mylegion.org this fall.

TFA - Since Jan. 1, The American Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance program (TFA) has assisted 497 minor children of 233 veterans throughout the United States to maintain shelter, utilities, food and clothing by providing more than \$386,600 in cash grants. TFA is National Commander Charles E. Schmidt's fundraising project with a goal of raising \$1 million. Make a TFA donation online at www.legion.org/donate/endowment_fund.

Memorial project - The American Legion's Veterans Memorial Identification Project database has passed the 1,000 mark and now stands at 1,024 submissions. www.legion.org/memorials

September Dates To Remember

September is National Disaster Preparedness Month. This [link](#) explains how your Post can be involved.

September 4, 2017 – Labor Day

September 11, 2017 - Patriot Day, Patriot Day is an annual observance on September 11 to remember those who were injured or died during the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001.

September 15, 2017 - POW/MIA Recognition Day, A time set aside to remember those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who are missing in action (MIA), as well as their families.

September 16, 2017 – American Legion Day – on this day in 1919 The American Legion was granted their federal charter by Congress. This is an excellent time to consider community awareness activity to help others recognize your post's service

September 18, 2017 - Air Force Birthday

September 21 – 24, 2017 - The Fall Department Executive Committee meetings will be held at the Omni Southpark Hotel, Austin, TX

September 24, 2017 - Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day, A day set aside to honor the families of our nation's fallen service members.

Quote of the month – “I gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which I must stop and look fear in the face. I say to myself, I've lived through this and can take the next thing that comes along.” - Eleanor Roosevelt