THE DEPARTMENT OF TENNESSEE GENERAL BULLETIN
April 2026
Veterans Offering Lifelong Service

National: www.legion.org State: www.tennesseelegion.org
Boys State: www.tnboysstate.org SAL: www.legion.org/sons

SHARE THIS BULLETIN WITH THE MEMBERS OF YOUR POST. We mail monthly bulletins to the post dues mailing address. Post Commanders and Adjutants will receive a copy via email. The Bulletin is also available on our website; www.tennesseelegion.org. Please share this information with your Post membership.

DEPARTMENT OF TENNESSEE CONVENTION: The 2026 Department Convention is at the Sheraton Music City, Nashville, June 26-28, 2026. We suggest reserving your room prior to June 1, 2026, to receive the discounted rate of $189, plus, tax, which includes: special room rates over convention dates. For reservations call 1-615-885-2200 and press 2 or use the link found on the Department website landing page.
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NATIONAL CONVENTION – August 27 - September 3, Louisville, KY. We will stay at the Spring Hill Suites Louisville Downtown. If you intend to become a Delegate, delegate election happens at the caucus on Sunday June 28, 2026, at Department Convention, Sheraton Music City. Recommend registering early as delegates get priority. We cannot take reservations after July 24th, 2026. All rooms must be reserved through the Department, rooms are $138 plus $24.37 tax and fees, for $162.37 per night. For those driving, self-parking is $19 per day. The registration fee is $40 per person. The registration form will be finalized soon and available on our website landing page.

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DEPARTMENT CONVENTION: RE: Department Constitution Article V, Section 2. "*At the Department Convention, each chartered Post of The American Legion in the state shall be entitled to five delegates and five alternates; provided the Post has in good standing the fifteen members required for Charter. One additional delegate and alternate is authorized for each additional fifteen members or major fraction thereof. Post membership will be calculated by adding the current paid Post members to those Post 2000 transfers completed during the current renewal year. No delegate shall be seated unless the annual dues have been received by the Department Adjutant prior to Post delegate selection.* ***Delegates shall be chosen at Post meetings not less than one week*** *before the Department Convention."*

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AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY: Posts can help celebrate through state commissions. The America250 Foundation, formed in support of the congressionally established U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, is looking for American Legion assistance in coordinating the national observance – on every level – of the United States' 250th birthday in 2026. For questions, contact Shawn McBurney, America250's senior manager of state outreach, at smcburney@america250.org, or Grace LeFevre, coordinator of state outreach, at glefevre@america250.org. For questions on veterans and/or military-related issues, contact David Hamon at dhamon@america250.org.

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CANDIDATE RESOLUTIONS: Can be found in the Tennessee Legionnaire on the Department website.

AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE: The time is now to start collecting donations so that you can send eligible young men to Boys State. The tuition remains $425 per student. ***Delegate registration has started***. Once again, Boys State will be on Tennessee Tech University campus starting **Sunday May 24, 2026, with May 29 inauguration**. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE: The link is available on the department website in the education and training tab. Applications due to the Department by Monday, June 22, 2026, so we can interview candidates Saturday, June 27, 2026, during Convention. Class dates are to be announced.

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2026 POST DATA REVIEW FORM - It is imperative that each post return the Post Data Review Form with responses to the 10 specific items as they relate to the post. Importantly, we need the first four items:

1) Post's physical address (***where the post meets; does not need to be post home***).
2) Post Mailing Address.
3) Dues Mailing Address.
4) Annual Post Dues***. Minimum Per Capita $38.***

The remaining items are important as well, so please follow the instructions on the form's reverse side and return -- even if there are no changes -- to Department Headquarters by **April 9, 2026.** These forms are individualized and **are not** available online.

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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION OF THE YEAR: Send nominations for SAL of the Year to Detachment by May 15, 2026.

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POST AND SQUADRON OFFICER CERTIFICATIONS: 2026-2027 Officer Certification forms have been sent for both the American Legion and the Sons of the American Legion. We realize some posts hold their officer elections well before the Legion's standard of April or May. Please send completed and signed officer certifications to the Department by **June 21, 2026**.

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CONSOLIDATED POST REPORTS: Posts should document their activity in their 2026 Consolidated Post Report using myLegion.org. The Department uses this information to track our activity and determine awards, and the National Commander uses it to document the work that the Legion is doing across the country.
You can fill your report out gradually as you hold events at your post. Just be sure that you choose the Save Draft option rather than the Submit Final option. Due by **May 15, 2026,** for Awards Board evaluation.

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JROTC AWARD MEDALS: Some of the JROTC scholastic and general awards were recently on back order. Advise that posts order these as soon as possible to avoid any disruptions. Catalog #717.100 for Military Excellence and #717.101 for Scholastic Excellence.

TENNESSEE LEGIONNAIRE AND INSTAGRAM: The Tennessee Legionnaire has a new design which lends itself to photos of the things happening around the department. The publication comes out in February, May, August, and November. Email your photos to shannon@tnlegion.org. Also, we have launched an Instagram account for the Department, and you can find it @theamericanlegiontn. Follow us there so we can follow you as well. Instagram is a great way to connect with young veterans, who often do not use Facebook.

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2026 MID-WINTER APPROVED RESOLUTIONS:

Legion Resolutions: (Constitutional Resolutions will be in the May Tennessee Legionnaire)

Resolution 2026-02; Rescinding the Department American Legion Riders (ALR) Constitution and Bylaws

Resolution 2026-03: Amend Article VII **Department of Tennessee Bylaws**.

Resolution 2026-04: Merger of Post 0059 to Post 0040.

Resolution 2026-05: Merger of American Legion Springfield Post 48, Springfield, TN into Greenbrier Post 45, Greenbrier, TN.

Resolution 2026-06: Nomination of Dennis M. Grifin for the Position of Department Adjutant / Finance Officer.

Resolution 2026-07: Dissolution of ALR 172 Charter.

Resolution 2026-01: A Resolution Recognizing Amateur Radio as an Official Program of the American Legion Department of Tennessee, was sent back to the Post for changes in format and content.

Resolution 2026-08: Replace Andrew Jackson "Old Hickory" with Alvin C. York "Sergeant York" on the Department of Tennessee Caps, was sent to the Finance Committee to ensure there was no financial burden placed on the Department for this change. It was tabled until further information could be received from Emblem Sales.

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POST CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS: Post Constitution and Bylaws approved prior to the "Legion Act" of July 30, 2019, no longer comply with National or Departmental Constitution, meaning they need to be reviewed and updated. Post officers: the Department will review your draft Constitution and Bylaws. Taking advantage of this service could save you time and potentially embarrassment as we review for National and Departmental compliance. Please forward drafts to mike@tnlegion.org.

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"BE THE ONE" TENNESSEE ALR MID-SOUTH ROUNDUP: The American Legion Riders Department of Tennessee are hosting an unprecedented gathering of Legion Family on May 15 thru 17th, 2026 at Putnam County Convention Center. Promoting the American Legion's National vision of addressing and helping to prevent the suicide of our Nations Veterans, and Youth suicide in our home state of Tennessee and across the country. This event will include all The Tennessee American Legion Posts, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion, also including the mid-south states TAL/AUX/SAL/ALR programs from Kentucky, Mississippi, and Alabama and any other state that would like to participate. Check the Department Website for further details.

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POST WEBSITES: The Department website hosts a page for all the district and post websites in Tennessee to help prospective members find you. If your post has a website that you would like to include on the page, email shannon@tnlegion.org with the link to your site and we will include it on our website.

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TENNESSEE AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE: **September 26 & 27, 2026**, held at Department Headquarters. Application is available on the Department website in the American Legion Training and Education tab.

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FREDRICK BOWLING JROTC CADET OF THE YEAR: Send recommendations for the Colonel Frederick B. Bowling JROTC Cadet of the Year to the Department by May 15, 2026. The cadet selected as the Colonel Frederick B. Bowling JROTC Cadet of the Year will receive a $3,000 educational scholarship. The recommendation must be signed and certified to be accurate by the senior JROTC Instructor.

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LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR: Send nominations for Legionnaire of the Year to Department by May 15, 2026.

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CHILDREN AND YOUTH MONTH: April 1st kicks off our Children and Youth Month. In the month of April, American Legion Family Members are encouraged to show local communities our dedication to our youth by hosting activities for the youth and by becoming involved in programs and organizations supporting young people.

FIRST OF EVERY MONTH IS "BE THE ONE DAY"

APRIL 2026 CALENDAR

3: Good Friday – Offices Closed
4: Department Oratorical Contest
8: Membership Target Date – 95%
9: Post Data Reports due to Dept HQ
10: 4th District Convention, Post 135, Cookeville, 4749 Ben Jared Rd, Cookeville 6 pm CDT – Meal: $15.
11: 5th District Convention, Post 17, Gallatin, 1140 S. Water Ave, Gallatin 11 am CDT – Meal: $15
13: 6th District Convention, Post 72 Dover, 235 Church St. Dover. 6 pm CDT – Meal: $12.
14: 7th District Convention, Post 146, Loretto, 2906 Hwy 43 S Loretto. – Meal $15
23: 8th District Convention, Post 243, Scotts Hill, 96 Hwy 114 South, Scotts Hill, 6 pm CDT – Meal: $15
24: 9th District Convention, Post *30, Dyersburg, 1200 Community Park Rd. Dyersburg, 6 pm CDT – Meal: $20*
25: 10th District Convention, Post 1,Memphis, International Harvester Center, 4523 Canada Road, Lakeland, 1 pm CDT – Meal: $15
30: 2nd District Convention, Post 13 Maryville, 224 Waters Rd. Maryville 6 p.m. EDT – Meal: $15

MAY 2026 CALENDAR

1: 3rd District Convention, Post 257 Collegedale, 4950 Swinyar Dr. Collegedale, 6 p.m. EDT - Meal: $15
2: 1st District Convention, Post 61 Mountain City, 12 p.m. EDT – Meal: $10
4-7: National Spring Meetings, Indianapolis
13: Membership Target Date 100%
15: Consolidated Post Report Due by close of business.
22: Department Awards Board meets
24-29: American Legion Boys State, campus of Tennessee Technological University