THE DEPARTMENT OF TENNESSEE GENERAL BULLETIN
May 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 mailing address. Post Commanders & 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 21, 2026, so we can interview candidates Saturday, June 27, 2026 during Convention. Class November 15-20, 2026.

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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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POST AND SQUADRON OFFICER CERTIFICATIONS: We have sent 2026-2027 Officer Certification forms 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.

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

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. We only make recommendations; it's left up to the post whether to adopt our recommendations or not.

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LIT – Legion Care Benefits

UP TO $5,000.00 NO COST TO YOU; ACCIDENTAL DEATH INSURANCE PROTECTION:

As a member of the Legion Family, you're now eligible for Legion Care, up to $5,000.00 in NO COST to you accident coverage. This coverage is an important coverage extended to valued Members – compliments of Your Department of The American Legion.

Yes, Legion Care really is at NO COST To You. That's because coverage has been arranged and paid for on your behalf by the Legionnaire Insurance Trust.

You can't be turned down, no matter how dangerous your job or how often you travel. Plus, it pays benefits regardless of any other coverage you have. But it's not automatic – you have to activate it. Visit www.thelit.com for more information.

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TRAINING TUESDAY: The American Legion National Headquarters staff offers monthly training aimed at commanders and adjutants. You can watch them live or stream them later. Find them here.

MAY 2026 CALENDAR

1: 3rd District Convention, Post 257, Collegedale; 4950 Swinyar Dr, Collegedale 6 p.m. EDT – Meal: $15
2: SAL Spring Meetings
2: 1st District Convention, Post 61 Mountain City, 318 N. Church St. Mountain City, 6 p.m. EDT - Meal: $10
3-7: National Spring Meetings, Indianapolis
8: V-E Day
13: Membership Target Date 100%
14: Armed Forces Day
14: Department Recruiter of the Year due date
14: Post Retention Award
15: Consolidated Post Reports Due by close of business.
15-17: TN ALR Be The One Roundup. Putnam County Convention Center, 2121 Event Center Dr. Cookeville
15-17: National Oratorical Contest, Hillsdale College, Hillsdale MI – looking for additional volunteers
23: Department Awards Board meets
24-29: American Legion Boys State, campus of Tennessee Technological University
25: Memorial Day (HQ Offices Closed)

JUNE 2026 CALENDAR

14; Flag Day
14: U.S. Army's Birthday
19: Juneteenth
25-28: Department Convention Sheraton Music City, Nashville
29: Offices Closed

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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POST DATA REPORTS: Looking for Post Data Reports (as of this printing) from the following posts, by district: **First:** Posts 25 Erwin; 202 Gatlinburg; and 294 Rutledge. **Second**: Posts 50 Rockwood; 70 Lenoir City; 112 Oliver Springs; and 232 Harriman. **Third**: Posts 11 Etowah; 14 Chattanooga; 68 Athens; 81 Cleveland; 148 St. Elmo; 190 Dunlap; 203 Spring City; 257 Collegedale ; and 293 Signal Mtn. **Fourth:** Posts 4 Livingston; 15 Lebanon; 18 Celina; 46 Cookeville; 56 Hartsville; 57 Carthage; 66 Pikeville and 137 Jamestown. **Fifth:** Posts 91 Old Hickory; 156 Brentwood; 177 Murfreesboro; and 281 Mount Juliet **Sixth:** Post 102 Camden. **Seventh:** Posts 42 Fayetteville; 62 South Pittsburg; 74 Tracy City; 78 Manchester; 111 Flintville; 155 Petersburg; and 208 McMinnville. **Eighth:** Posts 128 Decaturville; 157 Henderson; 162 Selmer; 176 Linden; 198 Middleton; and 286 Parkers Crossroads. **Ninth:** Post 20 Union City **Tenth:** Posts 86 Ripley; 237 Covington; 252 Millington; 282 Brownsville; and 292 Somerville.

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FIRST OF EVERY MONTH IS "BE THE ONE DAY"

JULY 2026 CALENDAR

4: Independence Day – HQ Offices Closed (7/3)
9: Seventh District; Commander's Tour, Location to be determined
10: Sixth District; Commander's Tour, Location to be determined, 6 pm CDT
11: Department Officers' Orientation Department HQ, 9 am – 3 pm CDT
14-18: Junior Shooting Sports Championship
16: Fourth District Commander's Tour, Location to be determined, 6 pm CDT
17: Fifth District Commander's Tour, Location to be determined, 6 pm CDT
17-19 Nashville Superspeedway Mobile Media Event
18-25: Boys Nation
23: East Commander's Tour, District, & Time Location to be determined; 6 pm EDT
24: Last day to Register to attend National Convention
24: East Commander's Tour, District, Location, to be determined; 6 pm EDT
25: East Commander's Tour, District, Location, & Time to be determined
30: Eighth District Commander's Tour, Post 12, 165 Perry Switch Rd. Jackson, 6 pm CDT
31: Ninth District Commander's Tour, Post 55, 221 Central Ave. Martin, 6 p.m. CDT

AUGUST 2026 CALENDAR

1: Tenth District Commander's Tour, District, Location, & Time to be determined
6-9: National Membership Workshop
26-(9/3): National Convention