



LARRY A. HOFF ePOST 2100



Issue #57 DECEMBER, 2017 *COMMUNICATION IS POWER*

TO OPT OUT OF OUR NEWSLETTERS, E-MAIL cgoetz@myemc.net

OUR NEXT MEETING

December 21st at 7:30 PM is slated for our next tele-meeting, by invitation, using GoToMeeting. E-mail me if you want an invite: commander@epost2100.org.

Our tele-meetings are provided for you to learn about and have input regarding your cyber Post. BTW, have you visited [Our Web site](#), lately?

OUR HELP DESK STANDS READY TO ASSIST US VETERANS WITH FREE COMPUTER-RELATED AID.
LES GREEN 770-596-5635
lagreen@netspaceads.com



MEMBERSHIP

As with many other organizations, there is a push to increase membership. Apart from derived benefits for members and a meager income flow, there is strength in numbers. When addressing Congress, our numbers may influence legislation for not only our members, but our nation. It may be difficult to express to potential members why they should shell out a few bucks and join our American Legion, so National has been publishing recruitment materials: <https://www.legion.org/membership/99511/why-you-should-belong>
Some of us are better than others in promoting membership, and that is understandable. Perhaps the above link will prove helpful recruiting new members and maybe reminding former members why they joined, in the first place.

OUR CYBER POST OFFICERS

- Post Commander..... [ROBERT GREEN](#) 770-786-8702
- Senior Vice Commander..... [LES GREEN](#) 770-596-5635
- Junior Vice Commander[PAUL AUST](#) 770-315-2189
- Junior Vice Commander..... [MARK FENLEY](#) 678-661-1031
- Finance Officer..... [CHUCK GOETZ](#) 706-219-4209
- Judge Advocate..... [TED RICHARDS](#) 404-754-0415
- Exec. Committee..... [RICK SCHIRMER](#) 678-687-7270
- Exec. Committee..... [ED MCMILLAN](#) 770-757-6136

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please contact me at 770-786-8702 or commander@epost2100.org.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

December is a very special month, but it has morphed from a month which held religious meaning to both Christians and Jews into a time for gift-giving and commercialization of the events.

There is nothing wrong with giving gifts, but it can become problematical in terms of what to give, whom to give and how much to give.



December can mean less grass to mow, but more leaves to rake for many of us.

As the last month of the Gregorian calendar year, it signals both an end and a beginning, the harbinger of New Years!

December can cause us to look back on what we have accomplished over the year and what we might want to accomplish in the forthcoming year.

As veterans, we tend to look on some events with a different view from the those who never wore the uniform and the same can be said for our families.

As members of Georgia's first and only American Legion cyber Post, we can each look at our different communities and consider what we might do, as an individual, to improve their conditions.

Maybe our efforts to help others are gifts that have more meaning and consequences than getting and giving what have been the traditional gifts, not all of which might have been fully appreciated.

I wish you and yours a meaningful month of December and yes, "thank you for your service".

Bob

770-786-8702

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Sign In or Register

You must be registered on the website to access the educational content.

Sign in with any American Legion website login, including your myLegion.org login.

[Sign In](#)

Register on this website and access any American Legion website with the same login credentials.

[Register](#)

Basic Training

The American Legion's official training program for officers, members, Legion College applicants and those who simply want to expand their knowledge of the nation's largest veterans service organization is now available online.

Already taken the old course? The American Legion Extension Institute has been re-written, updated, streamlined and enhanced with videos, digital photos, clickable links, a historical timeline and additional features. The program should take less than two hours to complete. It is divided into six sections, with a quiz at the end of each one, followed by a final exam.

<https://www.legion.org/alei>

Paul

REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM MILITARY.COM

Military retirees and those who receive disability checks and some other types of pay from the [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) will see a 2 percent pay raise in their monthly paychecks in 2018.

It is the biggest [cost of living](#) (COLA) increase since 2012, equaling as much as \$310 a month for those at the top of the [retirement pay](#) charts. Many Monthly Benefits Going Up Thanks to the increase, the average [military retirement](#) check for an E-7 with 20 years of service will go up by \$46 a month, while an O-5 with the same time in uniform will see an \$88 monthly increase.

Disabled veterans will also see a bump, with the average [VA disability check](#) going up about \$3 per month for those with a 10 percent rating, and \$58 for those rated at 100 percent. Other users, including [Survivor Benefit Plan](#) beneficiaries and those who draw [Dependency and Indemnity Compensation](#) (DIC), can also expect to benefit from the bump.

Almost all types of [Tricare](#) coverage will face sweeping changes, upgrades and reforms in 2018 resulting from legislation passed last year and a [contractor changeover](#). The only part of Tricare that won't be dramatically impacted is [Tricare for Life](#).

That's because Tricare for Life, used by military retirees over age 65, isn't like the Defense Health Agency's other plans. Rather than provide stand-alone comprehensive coverage, Tricare for Life pairs with Medicare Part B as wrap-around coverage.

| NOVEMBER | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

Christmas trees, lights, and garlands festoon the windows and balconies of the White House's iconic South Portico, added in 1824.
(Photograph by David Luria)

| JANUARY 2018 | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

DECEMBER 2017

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|
|  Henry Clay, as portrayed by Allyn Cox in the Senate Reception Room in 1958. <i>(Office of Senate Curator)</i> | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1817: Speaker Henry Clay questions neutrality laws against aiding South American rebels. | 1817: Charles Bulfinch is informed that the Capitol architect's proposed salary was \$2,500. | 1817: Senate bill is introduced for distributing copies of public documents to universities. | 1817: Sec. of State J.Q. Adams meets Sec. of War John C. Calhoun for the first time. | 1817: Rep. Francis Jones (TN) recommends Isaac Thomas as judge for the Alabama Territory. | 1817: Senate receives Treasury's finances report, estimating federal revenue for 1817 at \$33,000,000. | 1817: Constitutional amendment proposed in Senate for power to fund internal improvements. |
| 10 | 11 | Chanukah Begins at Sunset 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 1817: Mississippi is admitted as the 20th state in the union, with its capital in Natchez. | 1817: Senate makes appointments to each of its twelve standing committees. | 1817: House passes bill granting a half-pay pension for life to disabled Revolutionary War vets. | 1817: <i>Daily National Intelligencer</i> advertises Augustin de Milliere's "Museum of the Metropolis" in DC. | 1817: War Dept. is informed of Creek warriors' willingness to join US forces against the Seminoles. | 1817: Cherokee diplomats deny reports that Creek and Cherokee warriors were reinforcing hostile Seminoles. | 1817: Rep. Peter Wendover (NY) points out that govt. buildings were flying different versions of the US flag. |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | Chanukah Ends 20 | First Day of Winter 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 1817: House defeats motion to refer congressional pay to a "grand committee" of a member from each state. | 1817: B. Henry Latrobe blames poor quality of his final drawings on lack of access to his desk. | 1817: Sec. of State and the Speaker are among 200 guests of a ball hosted by the French minister. | 1817: US Consul in Livorno (Italy) writes Jefferson about proposed biography on Philip Mazzei. | 1817: Speaker Henry Clay advises a young lawyer to open a practice in Alabama because it is rich. | 1817: Pres. Monroe sends the House a War Dept. report on the inadequacy of US forts. | 1817: Pres. Monroe signs controversial act repealing "internal duties" on distilleries. |
| 24 | Christmas 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 1817: Senators predict Speaker Henry Clay will attempt to win recognition for South American revolts. | | | | | | |
| New Year's Eve 31 | 1817: <i>Daily National Intelligencer</i> announces there will be no issue for the next day. | 1817: J.Q. Adams instructed to continue practice of briefing Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairmen. | 1817: James Madison writes to President Monroe expressing support for the national bank. | 1817: Gen. Andrew Jackson is informed that he would have command of operation against the Seminoles. | 1817: House hears report on petition concerning lawsuit by the family of a minor killed in War of 1812. | 1817: J.Q. Adams complains about the "absurdity" of Congress's power to declare war. |

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 2018 Washington Conference Feb 25 - 28 Washington, DC 2018
- Department Spring Conference Mar 22 - 24 Duluth, GA & Legion College (Arrive 21 Mar) 2018
- National Commander's Georgia Visit Apr 19--22 2018 100th
- Annual Department Convention Jun 20- 24 Duluth, GA Arrive 19 Jun 2018
- 100th Annual National Convention Aug 24-30 Minneapolis, MN
- 2018 National Fall Meetings Oct 15 - 18 Indianapolis, IN 2018
- Department Fall Conference Oct 27- 28 Duluth, GA (Arrive 26 Oct)

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

- 2019 101st Annual National Convention, Indianapolis, IN Aug 23- 29 2020
- 102nd Annual National Convention, Louisville, KY Aug 28 - Sep 3
- 2021 103rd Annual National Convention, Phoenix, AZ Aug 27- Sep 2

OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM

BTW, 2017-2018 dues are due and payable, so if this applies to you, contact [TED RICHARDS](mailto:TED.RICHARDS@legion.org): 404-754-0415

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ETrr-XHBJE>

Sung as it should be sung.



OUR PREAMBLE

This preamble to the American Legion Constitution is recited before each Post's meeting:

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;
To maintain law and order;
To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars;
To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
To make right the master of might;
To promote peace and goodwill on earth;
To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Good points to remember.

Remember, you can **enlarge** and **copy/print items** found in our newsletters!

Below, are the eligibility dates for those veterans seeking membership in the American Legion:

WWI: 4/6/17 TO 11/11/18

WWII: 12/7/41 TO 12/31/46

KOREA: 6/25/50 TO 1/31/55

VIETNAM: 2/28/61 TO 5/7/75

LEBANON/GRENADA: 8/24/82 TO 7/31/84

PANAMA: 12/20/89 TO 1/31/90

GULF WAR /WAR ON TERRORISM: 8/2/90 TO THE PRESENT

If you have questions about eligibility, please contact Adjutant, [Ted Richards](#).

HOW WILL YOU SPEND CHRISTMAS?

Oddly enough, the Christmas season is both a time for joy and a time for sadness for others.

How will YOU spend the time allotted you?

This holiday season might be a good time to reflect upon the blessings we have received and to consider sharing some of our good fortune with the less-fortunate.

Caveat: this is also a time for scammers, so we should try and become more aware of to whom we choose to give.

2018 CATALOG

Yes, another year is passing and another Flag & Emblem catalog is out from our American Legion:

Emblem.legion.org

IT'S 150 PAGES ARE PACKED WITH ITEMS, SOME OF WHICH YOU MAY NOT BE AWARE AND SOME OF WHICH YOU MIGHT ACTUALLY WANT TO PURCHASE!

The prices expire November 15, 2018.

It does pay to advertise, and what you pridefully wear might cause some folks to ask, "What's the American Legion?"

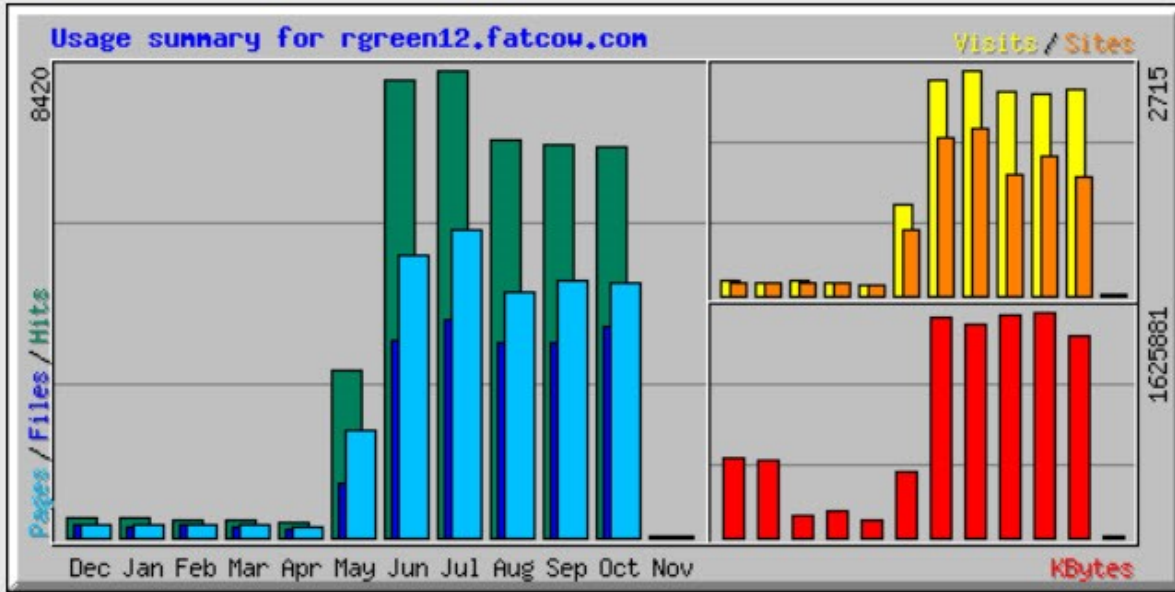
STRESS

Christmas time can be stressful for some (maybe for some of US).

Do you have ways of coping when stressed, if you ever are stressed? (smile)

As we look around us, we might see some who are feeling stressed and who need a reassuring and helpful hand. This is a good time to consider others and offer your assistance.

OUR WEB SITE STATISTICS



Summary by Month

| Month | Daily Avg | | | | | Monthly Totals | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|--------|-------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Hits | Files | Pages | Visits | Sites | KBytes | Visits | Pages | Files | Hits |
| Nov 2017 | 20 | 6 | 16 | 7 | 8 | 2158 | 7 | 16 | 6 | 20 |
| Oct 2017 | 226 | 123 | 147 | 79 | 1440 | 1456745 | 2477 | 4575 | 3815 | 7031 |
| Sep 2017 | 235 | 117 | 154 | 80 | 1678 | 1625881 | 2422 | 4640 | 3515 | 7054 |
| Aug 2017 | 230 | 113 | 142 | 79 | 1465 | 1605205 | 2459 | 4407 | 3521 | 7143 |
| Jul 2017 | 271 | 126 | 179 | 87 | 2006 | 1531210 | 2715 | 5555 | 3926 | 8420 |
| Jun 2017 | 274 | 117 | 169 | 86 | 1908 | 1579639 | 2603 | 5096 | 3539 | 8227 |
| May 2017 | 96 | 31 | 62 | 35 | 783 | 476054 | 1101 | 1948 | 980 | 3000 |
| Apr 2017 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 124 | 120725 | 119 | 191 | 134 | 262 |
| Mar 2017 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 154 | 184140 | 158 | 210 | 189 | 326 |
| Feb 2017 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 164 | 160172 | 183 | 227 | 228 | 328 |
| Jan 2017 | 11 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 140 | 558909 | 155 | 222 | 200 | 347 |
| Dec 2016 | 11 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 152 | 579645 | 170 | 227 | 231 | 350 |
| Totals | | | | | | 9880484 | 14569 | 27314 | 20284 | 42508 |



DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT'S

NEWSLETTER

November 2017

National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award and

National Firefighter of the Year Award

Each year, The American Legion gives its National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award and National Firefighter of the Year Award to a well-rounded law enforcement officer/firefighter who has exceeded the duty requirements expected of his or her position and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service coupled with professional achievement. The award, which especially takes into account heroic acts, is presented annually at The American Legion's National Convention.

Detail instructions and application form for the NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD can be located at legion.org. In the SEARCH area type "National Law Enforcement Officer." Go to the top of the article and download the application. The instruction and form are in PDF format, any computer can download and print.

Detail instructions and application form for the NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD can be located at legion.org. In the SEARCH area type "National Firefighter." Go to the top of the article and download the application. The instruction and form are in PDF format, any computer can download and print.

Applications must be received at Department Headquarters no later than January 15, 2018 for Department selection and submission to Nation Headquarters.

Eagle Scout of the Year Award

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). A Scout who attains this rank is called an *Eagle Scout* or *Eagle*. Since its introduction in 1911, the Eagle Scout rank has been earned by more than 2 million young men. The title of Eagle Scout is held for life, thus giving rise to the phrase "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle."

Requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges and demonstrating Scout Spirit through the Boy Scout Oath and Law, service, and leadership. This includes an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages. Eagle Scouts are presented with a medal and a badge that visibly recognizes the accomplishments of the Scout. Additional recognition can be awarded Eagle Scout of the Year Award at The American Legion's National Convention.

Detail instructions and application form for the EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR AWARD can be located at legion.org. In the SEARCH area type "Eagle Scout of the Year." Go to

the top of the article and download the application. The instructions and form are in PDF format, any computer can download and print.

Or call Department Headquarters for the Eagle Scout of the Year Award instructions and application. Applications due at Department Headquarters on March 1, 2018.

Bids for 2020 Department Convention

We are asking for bids for the 2020 Department Convention. If your Post or City would like to bid on the 2020 Department Convention, please contact the Department. Bids must be received prior to February 15, 2018.

MEMBERSHIP: **75%** Target Date, December 13, 2017 we need **4,050** for **75%**

On behalf of the Commander and Department Officers, we would like to thank each of you for exceeding the November Membership Target of 65%. The next renewal notice will be mailed out by National the first week in January 2018. Please have your Post Membership Team contact each Legionnaire who has not renewed for 2018 and encourage them to do so prior to December 31, 2017.

**Department Commander, Auxiliary President and Sons of The American Legion
Commander's Homecoming Banquet:**

The Department Commander, Auxiliary President, The Sons of The American Legion Commander and American Legion Riders Director will have their homecoming banquet on March 24, 2018 at Sonesta Gwinnett Place Atlanta, Duluth, GA 30096. Make plans to attend and thank these four (4) outstanding leaders for their dedication and service to our organization.

HOSPITAL VISITS

December 8 Norwood VA Medical Center (Downtown) Augusta 9:00 am
December 8 Norwood VA Medical Center (Uptown), Augusta 1:30 pm
December 9 Georgia War Veterans Home, Augusta 9:00 am

The dates are set for the hospital visit. If you are planning to attend and need housing; please contact Department Headquarters, 678-289-8883.


Events listed below you need to know about and attend. See you there.

Georgia American Legion College & Spring Conference: March 23 – 25, 2018

Department Convention: June 22 – 24, 2018 -- Sonesta Gwinnett Place Atlanta, Duluth, GA.

National Convention: August 24 – 30, 2018 -- Minneapolis, MN

For God and Country,


Charlie R. Knox
Department Adjutant

FROM GEORGIA REPRESENTATIVE DAVE BELTON

A few weeks ago I took my Georgia State House Military Affairs committee to Washington D.C. to speak to our Congressional Delegation. In all, we spoke to eleven Georgia Congressmen and both U.S. Senators about the need to protect our military. I then led my committee to the Pentagon where we spoke with Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force about how we can make Georgia the best state in the nation for our military.

Georgia has the 5th largest military population in America with an economic impact of over \$25.5B a year. Providing 150,000 jobs and indirectly employing a third of a million Georgians, the military is the Peach State's largest single employer. One in ten Georgians are associated with the military (including 750,000 veterans), and Georgia ranks 2nd highest in volunteers who serve in our armed forces, twice the national average. With so much at stake, Georgia must remain vigilant to protect our military installations.

All of Georgia's bases (except Dobbins ARB) are located deep in the heart of south Rural Georgia. These bases, according to the Georgia Chamber, are some of the only economic "bright spots" left in those areas. The loss of any of our bases would be catastrophic to these communities where poverty is already high.

The Georgia Congressional Delegation was unanimous in their support of our military. They appreciated the dozen laws we passed this year and cautioned our committee that BRAC is coming – sooner, rather than later.

The economic risks are very real, especially as our military-rich rival states (CA, TX, VA, NC, and FL, in that order) spend millions of dollars every year to protect their installations. In fact, half of all states budget over a million dollars annually on Commissions to protect their bases. This puts Georgia in a tight spot, as these rival states have much deeper pockets than we have. (The overall state budgets of NC and VA are twice that of Georgia, while TX and FL are 4 times our size. CA budget is 7 times larger.)

The most interesting part of our visit was the Pentagon. The Army and the Air Force were very pleased with my new School Choice for Military Children Law we passed last year. They were also very interested in the Governor's Move-On When Ready programs that allow students to get college and technical college credit while still in high school. They also praised our STEM and Charter School initiatives.

The Committee told the Pentagon about the recent 10-point improvement in Georgia's K12 Graduation rate: up from 70% to 80% in just 5 years. We also told them that Georgia has the 13th best college Advanced Placement scores in the nation, that our National Assessment of Educational Progress scores have the 10th best progress in the nation, that our ACT scores are now above the national average for 2 years in a row, and that most of our SAT scores are above the national average for the 1st time in decades. We also touted our Universities and Technical Schools: not only for being rated as "the best overall value" in America, but also that they've won more "military friendly" awards than other state.

The Secretaries surprised the Committee by asking Georgia to create Charter Schools on her military bases. They also proposed admitting civilians to military hospitals, an enterprise which could provide health care services in Rural areas. My committee will explore both these issues.

I appreciate the leadership of Speaker David Ralston to allow my committee to continue to do this work. I am more convinced than ever that Georgia must prepare now for the base closings that are coming.

Representative Dave Belton
Chairman, Georgia House Military Affairs
Major, United States Air Force (retired)

706-372-4114

AMERICAN LEGION EPOST2100 (CYBER POST) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

YES! I'll help my fellow veterans by becoming a member of The American Legion. I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty during the dates marked below and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

epost 2100 mailing address ----> **Chuck Goetz**
675 Washboard Road
Cleveland, GA 30528

Application may be made in any of the following methods:

1. Complete this application and mail it to Ted Richards, epost 2100 Adjutant along with a check in the amount of \$35.00 (payable to American Legion) and a copy of DD214
2. Simply call and make application telephonically (less than 5 minutes).
3. Visit our website at epost 2100.org and make application there

Please check applicable "Dates of Service" and "Branch of Service":

| DATES OF SERVICE | BRANCH OF SERVICE |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUG. 2, 1990 – OPEN | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. ARMY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEC. 20, 1989 – JAN. 31, 1990 | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. NAVY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUG. 24, 1982 – JUL. 31, 1984 | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. AIR FORCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FEB. 28, 1963 – MAY 7, 1975 | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. MARINES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE 25, 1950 – JAN. 31, 1955 | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. COAST GUARD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEC. 7, 1941 – DEC. 31, 1946 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APR. 6, 1917 – NOV. 11, 1918 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. MERCHANT MARINE — DEC. 7, 1941 – DEC. 31, 1946 | |

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

PHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

BIRTH DATE

SIGNATURE

Receipt of Dues
(Please Print)

From _____

\$ _____ for 20__ Post # _____

Recruiter's Name _____

Recruiter's Signature _____

Recruiter's Phone # _____

You can pay the annual dues of \$35.00 now or we will bill you later.

Make Checks payable to: "The American Legion ePost 2100"

If mailed send to:
Charles Goetz, Post Finance Officer
675 Washboard Rd
Cleveland, GA 30528

**TO JOIN
 THE AMERICAN LEGION,
 SUBMIT THE
 MEMBERSHIP
 APPLICATION,
 A COPY OF YOUR DD-214 ,
 AND A CHECK FOR \$35.00
 TO:
 Chuck Goetz
 675 Washboard Road
 Cleveland, GA 30528**