

## A PROUD PAST...

**Nov. 10-12, 1919** - The American Legion passed its first resolution supporting the Boy Scouts of America. Today, the Legion is the chartering agency for more than 2,700 Scouting units that involve 73,000 youths.

**June 15, 1923** - The first "Flag Code" was drafted during a conference called by The American Legion. It was eventually adopted by Congress in 1942.

**July 17, 1925** - The American Legion Baseball program was created. Today, more than 52 percent of professional baseball players are graduates of The American Legion Baseball program.

**June 23, 1935** - The first American Legion Boys State was convened to help youths gain an understanding of the structure and operation of American government.

**Dec. 15, 1943** - Harry W. Colmery, Past National Commander of The American Legion, wrote the first draft of what later became the "GI Bill of Rights," the Legion's greatest single legislative achievement.

**Sept. 1, 1966** - The American Legion voiced great concern over the fate of POWs in Vietnam. Today, the Legion continues to press for a full accounting of our POW/MIAs and is one of the leading advocates among the nation's major veterans organizations to push for action.

**July 21, 1983** - "The American Legion-Columbia University Study on the Effects of Agent Orange on Vietnam-era Veterans," was launched. Results were presented to Congress in 1989.

**Aug. 2, 1990** - The American Legion filed suit against the federal government for failure to conduct a study mandated by Congress of the effects of Agent Orange on the health of Vietnam veterans.

**Oct. 1, 1995** - The Persian Gulf Task Force was formed to enhance service to America's newest generation of wartime veterans, thousands of whom suffer from illnesses linked to their service in the gulf region.

**November 2002** - The American Legion launched a national "I Am Not A Number" campaign to identify and document the delays veterans faced in obtaining earned medical care benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

...A PROMISING FUTURE

## PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

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.



*Four Pillars of Service*

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

*since 1919*

For more information:  
[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)



THE AMERICAN LEGION

**SERVING AMERICA**



Military photos: Department of Defense

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*"It's not just what we do...  
It's who we are"*

## IF YOU SUPPORT...

### A STRONG NATIONAL SECURITY

- Major incentives for military service and the recruiting and retention of a quality and fully manned force
- Maintaining the National Guard and Reserves at a high state of readiness
- The US Government honoring its obligations to all service members, veterans, military retirees and their families

### TAKING CARE OF VETERANS

- Mandatory funding to assure quality VA medical care
- Medicare reimbursement for VA medical services
- Modernizing the Montgomery GI Bill to support a changing military
- Ensure a seamless transition from DoD healthcare to VA

### PROMOTING PATRIOTISM & HONOR

- Upholding and defending the U.S. Constitution
- Encouraging an appreciation for the nation and for the Flag of the United States
- The right of all human beings to publicly express their faith without fear of reprisal

### MENTORING YOUTH

- The right of every child to attend a school that is safe, secure and conducive to learning
- Encouraging children to achieve their highest potential by living a drug free lifestyle
- Appropriate legislation aimed at the prevention and prosecution of child exploitation and victimization
- Programs for youth that promote education, encourage an understanding of fair play, and provide instruction in civic responsibilities

...IF YOU PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES, OR ARE CURRENTLY SERVING, YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN

### THE AMERICAN LEGION

The nation's largest wartime veterans service organization founded on the values, contributions and sacrifices of those who answered the country's call to arms.

Your annual membership dues are used to:

- Advocate for a strong national security
- Respond to "quality of life" needs of all veterans and their families
- Perpetuate a "Square Deal" for every child
- Prepare each generation to fulfill the obligations of citizenship



**SERVING AMERICA**

## INFORMATION REQUEST CARD

### ELIGIBILITY DATES

- Active Duty  
 Aug. 2, 1990 – Present  
 Dec. 20, 1989 – Jan. 31, 1990  
 Aug. 24, 1982 – Jul. 31, 1985  
 Feb. 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975  
 Jun. 25 1950 – Jan. 31, 1955  
 Dec. 7, 1941 – Dec. 31, 1946  
 Apr. 6, 1917 – Nov. 11, 1918

### BRANCH OF SERVICE

- U.S. Army  
 U.S. Navy  
 U.S. Air Force  
 U.S. Marines  
 U.S. Coast Guard  
 U.S. Merchant Marine (12/7/41 – 8/31/46)

### TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION

YES! I'll help my fellow veterans. Please send me my FREE information packet on how I may become a member of The American Legion.

NAME  DATE

ADDRESS

CITY  STATE  ZIP

PHONE (  )  DATE OF BIRTH

EMAIL

Mail to:  
 The American Legion  
 National Headquarters  
 P.O. Box 1055  
 Indianapolis, IN 46206-1055

FAX request to:  
 (317) 630-1413  
 Telephone:  
 (317) 630-1321

To join online go to  
[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) and click on  
 "JOIN US TODAY"

**D84PIL**