

Submission for Historian Article
Legion News Summer Edition
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Department Historian Al Beyer [Photo on file]

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How's it?

Who could imagine that in these latter days we would be faced with a worldwide pandemic? However, as history has repeated itself in some instances and in books that help guide us through our daily lives, we need to make way for what's to come and be prepared to take action. As historians we are the ones to journal our history as it happens, even when we don't like it and things become chaotic. While we are surrounded by circumstances beyond our control, many American Legion events as we know them are making history such as the cancellation of state conventions, The American Legion National Convention 2020, Buckeye Boys State and Legion Baseball. So will these cancellations affect the Department's Annual Post History Contest? No. The American Legion National Historian, James "Jim" Mariner and NADHAL President R. Shingleton have informed us that our annual judging of the Post Historian Yearbooks will continue.

"NADHAL is a voluntary union of American Legion National and Department Historians and Past National and Department Historians desiring to give and gain mutual aid in collecting from year to year all records and data of value and interest to and for The American Legion, both National and Departmental; in the compilation during their respective term of office of complete histories of the year's activities; for the assistance of Post Historians so as to coordinate and unify their work; for the stimulation of interest in the preparation of the Department and Post Histories; and for the increase of appreciation of importance and responsibility of the office of Historian."

Our history – all that has occurred in post events and activities, installations, fundraisers, early bird breakfasts and fish fry dinners, fundraisers, district conferences, the continued promotion of the Four Pillars and the furthering of our mission to serve our Veterans, Community, Youth and Nation – must be collected and archived.

As your Department Historian having attended many post, district and department events, I have a lot to share as well. We've been blessed to be able to work with Commander Roger Friend as well as 1st and 2nd Vice Jean Wilson and Brad Theis. As you have been able to work with your commander and officers. Some of you have had to shut down your post's entirely, and some were able to do carry out meals. There are still The American Legion Family members serving in our communities – helping families who are struggling due to a reduction in finances, and those who need medicine and groceries delivered. WE ARE STILL SERVING

OTHERS! WE ARE STILL LIVING THE MISSION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION!

I encourage all Historians to participate in the annual contest for the One Year Post Narrative History or the One Year Post Yearbook. Your entries to be judged should be submitted to your District Historian, and then turned in by June 30th at Department Headquarters by mail or hand delivered. You may also mail your entry to me at 6013 Garber Rd Bellville OH 44813

As I directed you to, in our last OLN, the American Legion Officers Guide 2019 (<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/27IA0219-Officers-Guide.pdf>) pages 140-149 shows the exact instructions, requirements and judging system that should help each historian better their chances to submit a qualified entry.

Each submission will be entered into the Annual History incentive drawing – one historian will win an American Legion brand item – tie or tie tack from Emblem sales. Good luck to all.

I would like to thank my committee member and wife Dayna Beyer aka Tsi Sim Mar, who is the Auxiliary Department Historian, for her involvement in the Historian committee.

If you have any questions, or need tips or ideas on your yearbook, please feel free call me at 419-566-9523 or write me at albeyer49@gmail.com or fax me at 1-888-225-3180 and or snail mail to my address.

God bless all of you and be safe, for God and Country - In Your Service,

Al Beyer, Department Historian