

DIRECT RENEWAL SCHEDULE

CUT-OFF DATES	RENEWAL DATES
May 03, 2010	July 01, 2010
*September 09, 2010	October 01, 2010
*December 08, 2010	January 03, 2011
*February 09, 2011	March 01, 2011
*April 13, 2011	May 02, 2011

***This cutoff date is also a membership target date. Transmittals received after this date will not prevent a subsequent notice from being delivered at or around the renewal date.**

DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

Post and District 2009 - 2010 Membership Goal Dates

Target Date		Required %
September 01, 2010	Early Bird Kickoff	55%
October 06, 2010		65%
November 03, 2010	Mid – Winter	75%*
December 01, 2010	Pearl Harbor Day	80%
January 05, 2011		85%*
February 02, 2011	Presidents’ Day	90%
March 02, 2011	Legion Birthday	95%*
April 06, 2011	Children and Youth	100%*
May 04, 2011	Armed Forces Day	100%+1 Mbr*

*See pages 38 - 39

NATIONAL AWARDS

Post Honor Ribbons

Honor Ribbons will be awarded to all Posts whose membership for the current membership year (as of December 31), achieves an advance membership (for the year about to begin) equal to or greater than the final membership for the year just ending. These posts will be certified by department and will be submitted to National by the last day of January.

Certificate of Meritorious Service *All-Time - High Award

This **certificate** will be awarded to all Posts that have, by December 31, enrolled an advance membership for the membership year equaling or surpassing the Post's **previous All-Time High membership**.

Five or More Consecutive Year All-Time High Post Award

This citation will be awarded to all Posts that have maintained an advance membership surpassing the Post's **previous All-Time High membership** for five or more consecutive years. After a post has won the award for five consecutive years of all-time membership highs, it may continue to win the award each year thereafter as long as each year's membership set a new all-time high.

Post Revitalization Recognition Letter

Individuals who assist in revitalizing a Post will receive a recognition letter from the National Commander for their hard work. The revitalized Post will receive a letter from the National Commander welcoming them back into The American Legion. The certification form is on page 49 and must be signed by a Post Officer.

New Post Development Pin

The New Post Development Pin is available to members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion who assist with the initial start-up of a new Post. These volunteers can be nominated for this pin at anytime during the year. The certification form is on page 50 and must be signed by a Post Officer.

District Commander's New Post Achievement Award and Pin

District Commanders who achieve the goal of creating new American Legion Posts in their respective Districts and have the new Post Temporary Charter Application on file at National Headquarters by May 11, 2011 will qualify for a framed certificate to show their accomplishments.

District Commander's Achievement Award and District Honor Ribbon

All District Commanders whose membership by May 11, 2011 **exceeds** the previous year's membership by **at least the number of Posts in the District** will be awarded the District Commander's Achievement Framed Certificate Award. In addition the District will receive an Honor Ribbon for its District Colors.

District Commanders “Race to the Top” Competition (Cut-off date is March 31)

Competition will be divided into five categories based on the membership of the District without regard to geographic locations. District Commanders will compete in each of the following categories based on the final membership year totals and a top District Commander for the National Award will be selected from each of the five categories. Post Ribbons will be given to each top District Commander for all American Legion Posts in those districts.

Second and Third place awards will also be presented in each category. The District Commanders will be awarded checks in the amount of \$500.00 for second place or \$375 for third place, but no additional ribbons will be awarded for the Posts in these districts. **Must be 100% to qualify.**

<i>Category I</i>	<i>15 - 1499 members</i>
<i>Category II</i>	<i>1500 - 2999 members</i>
<i>Category III</i>	<i>3000 - 4999 members</i>
<i>Category IV</i>	<i>5000 - 7499 members</i>
<i>Category V</i>	<i>7500 + members</i>

First Place Award – Trip to National Convention in Minneapolis, MN will be presented to the top District Commander and guest in each category whose District membership on March 31 represents the greatest percentage **over** the final previous year membership of that District. **Cannot be less than 100% to qualify.** The First Place award entitles winner and guest to an all expense paid trip to attend the National Convention as a distinguished guest of the National Commander, including round-trip airfare, tickets to the National Commander’s Banquet, and hotel accommodations for 5days/4nights. These District Commanders will also be awarded Legion cap that signifies they are a “Race-To-The-Top” winner that will be awarded on stage at the National Convention. Plus “Race-To-The-Top” ribbons for each of the district’s Posts.

Second Place Awards will be presented to the District Commander in each category whose District membership on March 31 represents the second highest percentage over final previous year membership of that District. **The Commanders’ district cannot be less 100% to qualify.** Winners will receive a **\$500 Check.**

Third Place Awards will be presented to the District Commander in each category whose District membership on March 31 represents the third highest percentage over the final previous year membership of that District. **The Commanders district cannot be less than 100% to qualify.** Winners will receive a **\$375 Check.**

100% District Commander Pin

This special pin may be worn only by those Legionnaires who as district commanders accomplished at least 100% of their assigned district membership goals.

SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Department “Recruiter of the Year

Each American Legion Post will have the opportunity to submit the name of the Recruiter from their Post who has signed up the highest number of new members for the 2010 – 2011 membership year by May 4, 2011. (Use form on page 40)

The Top New Recruiter, properly certified from each Post, will be awarded a certificate with his/her accomplishment inscribed thereon.

The Recruiter who has signed up the highest number of new members will be submitted to National to be entered in the National “Recruiter Of the year” contest.

MAIL IN TIME TO REACH DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS ON OR BEFORE: MAY 11, 2011

National “Recruiter of The Year

The individual certified with the highest number of **NEW Members** recruited from among all the Departments will be declared “**National Membership Recruiter of the Year**”. The award will consist of an expense paid trip to the National convention. The trip includes, for the Legionnaire and guest, round-trip air transportation, hotel accommodations for 6 days/5nights, and reserved seating tickets to the National Commander’s Banquet for Distinguished Guests.

Awards for the National “Recruiter of the year” will be presented to the next highest 26 individuals:

- 1 - \$1000 Award Certificate for Emblem Sales
- 10 - \$150 Award Certificates for Emblem Sales
- 15 - \$100 Award Certificates for Emblem Sales

THE GOLD BRIGADE

*A Legionnaire who recruits 50 or more NEW members into The American Legion by **May 04, 2011**, will qualify for enrollment in the elite **GOLD BRIGADE** of The American Legion. These very special Legionnaires will be awarded unique gifts that designate affiliation with the Gold Brigade of The American Legion. Also, special recognition will be given to those Legionnaires enrolled in the Gold Brigade through special publication announcements in The Dispatch and in special articles in other publications. Members of the Gold Brigade will be recognized by the National Commander during the National Convention. The gifts awarded to a Gold Brigader will depend on the number of times he/she has qualified for this award.*
(Use form on page 41)

FIRST time Gold Brigader will receive:

- Gold Brigade Patch
- Special Gold Brigade Cap Pin
- Gold Brigade Certificate

- Choice of:
- Designer Jacket
 - Polo Shirt
 - Sweater

Each will be embroidered with the Gold Brigade Logo

SECOND time (or more) Gold Brigader will receive:

- Gold Brigade Patch
- Gold Brigade Certificate
- "Hash mark" for jacket sleeve

- Choice of:
- Designer Jacket
 - Polo Shirt
 - Designer Jacket

Each will be embroidered with the Gold Brigade Logo

FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR AWARD

A Gold Brigader who has won the Gold Brigade Award for 5 consecutive years (to include the current membership year) is eligible for a distinctive Gold Brigade Blazer. A Legionnaire may only qualify for this award once every 5 years. (Use form on page 42)

SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR OR MORE AWARD

A Gold Brigader who has earned the Gold Brigade Award for at least 6 consecutive years or more (including the current year) is eligible for a \$150 Check and a "Master Recruiter" Legion cap. (Use form on page 43)

THE SILVER BRIGADE

A Legionnaire who recruits 25 to 49 NEW members into The American Legion by May 4, 2011 will qualify for this award. A silver pin and certificate will be awarded. (Use form on page 44) *Note: A recruiter cannot be awarded both Silver and Gold Brigade awards during the same membership year*

POST REVITALIZATION RECOGNITION LETTER

Individuals who assist in revitalizing a Post will receive a recognition letter from the National Commander for their hard work. The revitalized Post will receive a letter from the National Commander welcoming them back into the American Legion. The certification form is on page 49.

NEW POST DEVELOPMENT PIN

The new Post Development Pin is available to members of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and the sons of the American Legion who assist with the initial start-up of a new Post. These volunteers can be nominated for this pin at anytime during the year. The certification form is on page 50.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AWARDS

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S PIN

A Department Commander's Pin will be awarded to Legionnaires who sign up twenty-five (25) new or thirty-five (35) renewals. (see page 45 for form)

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S PIN

A Membership Chairman's Pin will be awarded to Legionnaires who sign up five (5) new or fifteen (15) renewals. (see page 46 for form)

MEMBERSHIP STAR PIN

A Membership Star Pin will be awarded to the Legionnaires who sign up fifteen (15) new or twenty (20) renewals. (see page 47 for form)

DEPARTMENT'S TOP TEN MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Every Legionnaire, in good standing, who has signed up Ten (10) New Members from July 1, 2010 through May 4, 2011 is eligible to receive a special Recruiter polo shirt. They must be a NEW MEMBER. **Members who have let their dues lapse do not qualify as new.** A Top Ten Certification form must be completed and submitted along with a list of the members recruited. The shirts will be shipped shortly after receipt of the certification form. (see page 48 for form)

POST COMMANDERS AWARDS

75% Goal ~ Commanders of Posts reaching their 75% goal by **November 19th, 2010** will receive a special gift from the Department Commander.

Cash Grab ~ There will be a Cash Grab at Mid-Winter Conference in each of the size categories. The Post Commander with the highest percentage of membership in each of the seven size categories by Wednesday, **November 03, 2010**, will have an opportunity for a "Cash Grab" during Mid-Winter Conference.

POST MEMBERSHIP

Category I	15 - 50
Category II	51 - 125
Category III	126 - 200
Category IV	201 - 400
Category V	401 - 750
Category VI	751 - 1,000
Category VII	1,001 - over

75% Goal ~ Commanders of Posts reaching their 75% goal by **November 03, 2010** will receive a special award from the Department Commander.

85% Goal ~ Commanders of Posts reaching their 80% goal by **January 05 2011** will receive a special award from the Department Commander.

95% Goal ~ Commanders of Posts reaching their 90% goal by **March 02, 2011** will receive a special award from the Department Commander.

100% Goal ~ Each Post reaching 100% by **April 06, 2011** will receive a 100% Banner Ribbon, Department 100% pins and National 100% pins.

100% + 1 member Goal ~ Commanders of Post reaching 100% + 1 member by **May 4, 2011** will receive a special award from the Department Commander.

DISTRICT/AREA AWARDS

District Commanders turning in a New Post Charter by Delegate Cut-off will receive a check for \$200 and each New Post will receive a check for \$300 to help get their post started.

75% GOAL~ Each District and Area Commander with the highest percentage of membership by **November 3, 2010**, in each size category will received reimbursement for 2 nights stay at Fall Conference. **Must have at least 75% membership to qualify.**

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP

Category I	15 - 5,000
Category II	5,001 - 7,000
Category III	7,001 - over

85% GOAL ~ Each District and Area Commander who reach the 85% goal by January 5, 2011 will receive a special award from the Department Commander.

95% GOAL ~Each District and Area Commander who reaches their 95% goal by **March 2, 2011**, will receive a special award from the Department Commander.

100% plus 1 Member GOAL ~ The District and Area Commanders achieving the highest percentage of membership in each of the size categories by May 4, 2011, will receive a special gift from the Department Commander. **Must have at least 100% + 1 Member to qualify.**

TOP RECRUITER AWARDS POST/ DEPARTMENT/ NATIONAL

Mail to: Department Headquarters, PO Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854-7859

The TOP NEW MEMBER RECRUITER of membership enrolled for 2010-2011 as of May 04, 2011, and transmitted to *Department of Florida Headquarters* is: (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT)

KEEP COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

NAME _____ POST # _____ MEMBER ID# _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP+4 _____

NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS ENROLLED _____ PHONE # _____

Attach list of names and I.D. numbers of new members

Next highest new member Recruiter (Make additional copies if needed)

NAME/POST # _____ MEMBER ID # _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP+4 _____

NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS ENROLLED _____ PHONE # _____

Attach list of names and I.D. numbers of new members

Post Adjutant Signature Date

Department Adjutant Signature Date

**MAIL IN TIME TO REACH DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
ON OR BEFORE *MAY 11, 2011***

CERTIFICATION FORM “GOLD BRIGADE” NEW MEMBER RECRUITER AWARD

RETAIN A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

MAIL TO ARRIVE AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY MAY 11, 2011

The following member of the Department of Florida qualifies for the “Gold Brigade” Award for enrolling 50 or more **NEW MEMBERS** into The American Legion by **May 04, 2011**.

ATTACH A LIST OF NEW MEMBERS FOR EACH NOMINATION FORM

First time qualifiers for the “Gold Brigade” receive:

A “Gold Brigade” cap pin, certificate, “Gold Brigade” patch, and choice of a jacket, sweater, or polo shirt with the “Gold Brigade” logo.

Second time qualifiers for the award receive:

A “Gold Brigade” certificate, patch, a “hash mark” for the sleeve, and the choice of either another “Gold Brigade” jacket, sweater, or polo shirt with the Gold Brigade” logo.

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):

This “Gold Brigade” award will be my:

A. () First “Gold Brigade” Award

B. () Other (Specify 2nd or 3rd time qualified):

IF you checked box “A” or “B” do you want: () Jacket () Sweater () Polo Shirt

Circle size: (S M L XL XXL XXXL)

Name/ID #: _____ Post # _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip+4 _____

Phone (_____) _____ Number of New Members enrolled (minimum50) _____

Post Adjutant Signature: _____ Date: _____
(Can not be after May 11,2011)

Address: _____

Department Adjutant: _____ Date: _____

CERTIFICATION FORM

GOLD BRIGADE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR AWARD

The following member of the Department of Florida qualifies for the prestigious fifth consecutive year "Gold Brigade" Award for enrolling fifty or more new members into The American Legion by May 4, 2011 for the last five years. This award is a distinctive Blazer for the "Gold Brigader".

A Legionnaire may only qualify for this award once every five years

Attach a list of new members

Circle one:

Men's Blazer(Cut) Short, Regular, Portly (Stout), Long, X-Long, XX-Long

Even Sizes (34-54) _____ Size

Ladies Blazer(Cut) Short, Regular, Long, X-Long, XX-Long

Even Sizes (4-20) _____ Size

Please type or print legibly

Name _____ Post # _____ Member ID# _____

Phone#(_____) _____

Years of being a Gold Brigader: _____ thru _____

Post Adjutant _____ Date _____

Department Adjutant: _____ Date _____

MAIL TO ARRIVE AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY MAY 11, 2011

**CERTIFICATE FORM
GOLD BRIGADE
SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR OR MORE AWARD**

The following member of the Department of Florida qualifies for the prestigious sixth consecutive year or more “Gold Brigade” Award for enrolling fifty or more new members into The American Legion by May 4, 2011.

This award is a \$150 check and a “Master Recruiter” Legion cap, along with a Gold Brigade plaque, cap pin, and hash mark. .

Attach a list of new members

Please type or print legibly; Make sure all information below is complete to help avoid processing delays.

Name _____ Member ID# _____

Phone# (_____) _____ Post # _____ Post City _____

Years qualifying for Gold Brigade: _____

of NEW MEMBERS enrolled (minimum 50) _____

Please specify crown type (Regular, Fort Knox, Women’s Crown): _____

Please specify (Lined or Unlined): _____ Cap size: _____

Mandatory Insignia (Y/N): _____ If yes, please list: _____

Certified:

Department Adjutant (signature)

Date

MAIL TO ARRIVE AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY MAY 11, 2011

CERTIFICATION FORM
“SILVER BRIGADE” NEW MEMBER RECRUITER AWARD

ATTACH A LIST OF NEW MEMBERS
RETAIN A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

MUST BE RECEIVED AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY AY 11, 2011.

The following member of the Department of Florida qualifies for the “Silver Brigade” Award for enrolling 25-49 NEW MEMBERS into Department Headquarters by May 4, 2011

Silver Brigaders will receive a Silver Pin and A Silver Certificate.

Name: _____ Post # _____

Address: _____

City State Zip+4 _____

Phone (_____) _____

Number of New Members enrolled (25 to 49) _____

Post Adjutant signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Department Adjutant: _____ Date: _____

MAIL TO ARRIVE AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY MAY 11, 2011

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S PIN

Date _____

MAILTO: Membership Awards, The American Legion
 PO Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854-7859

This is to certify that the listed members have signed up twenty-five new members or thirty-five renewals in Post # _____.

KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.

 Adjutant Signature

 Street address

 City/ ST/ Zip+4

1.	11.
2.	12.
3.	13.
4.	14.
5.	15.
6.	16.
7.	17.
8.	18.
9.	19.
10.	20.

This form can be used repeatedly throughout the year as people qualify. Pins will be mailed starting in March, 2011 Mail in any time, but not later than Department Convention.

Do not write below line

 For Department's use only

Date Received _____

Date shipped _____

DUPLICATE AS NECESSARY

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S PIN

Date _____

MAILTO: Membership Awards, The American Legion
 PO Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854-7859

This is to certify that the listed members have signed up five new members or fifteen renewals in Post # _____.

KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.

 Adjutant Signature

 Street address

 City/ ST/ Zip+4

1.	11.
2.	12.
3.	13.
4.	14.
5.	15.
6.	16.
7.	17.
8.	18.
9.	19.
10.	20.

This form can be used repeatedly throughout the year as people qualify. Pins will be mailed starting in March, 2011. Mail in any time, but not later than Department Convention.

Do not write below line

 For Department's use only

Date Received _____ Date shipped _____

DUPLICATE AS NECESSARY

MEMBERSHIP STAR PIN

Date _____

MAILTO: Membership Awards, The American Legion
 PO Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854-7859

This is to certify that the listed members have signed up fifteen new members or twenty - five renewals in Post # _____.

KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS.

 Adjutant Signature

 Street address

 City/ ST/ Zip+4

1.	11.
2.	12.
3.	13.
4.	14.
5.	15.
6.	16.
7.	17.
8.	18.
9.	19.
10.	20.

This form can be used repeatedly throughout the year as people qualify. Pins will be mailed, starting in March, 2011. Mail in any time, before Department Convention.

Do not write below line

For Department's use only

Date Received _____

Date shipped _____

DUPLICATE AS NECESSARY

TOP TEN MEMBERSHIP AWARD Certification Form

Post Officer: KEEP COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

**SEND TO: Department Headquarters
ATTN: Membership
PO Box 547859
Orlando FL 32854-7859**

I certify that the following Legionnaire of Post _____, qualifies for a “Special Recruiter” polo shirt for signing up Ten (10) New Members between July 1, 2010 and May 4, 2011.

Attach a list of the ten (10) or more New Members. They must be a NEW MEMBERS. **Members who have let their dues lapse and then rejoin, do not qualify as new.** The shirts will be shipped shortly after receipt of this certification form.

Legionnaire _____, ID# _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone #(_____) _____ Circle size: (S M L XL XXL XXXL)

Number of New Members enrolled (10 or more) _____

Recruiting Member (signature)

Post Officer’s Signature

Date

Date

Do not write below line

For Department’s use only

Date Received _____

Date shipped _____

Duplicate as Needed

Certification Form Post Revitalization Recognition Letter

These letters are awarded to the revitalized post and those individuals who assisted in the revitalization effort.

Send to: Department Headquarters
Attn: Membership
PO Box 547859
Orlando FL 32854-7859

Date_____

The Department of Florida requests a "Welcome Back" letter for Post_____.

Name of individuals(s) who assisted in the revitalization of this post.

Department Adjutant

Post or District Officer (signature)

Department

Date

Title

Duplicate as Necessary

Certification Form New Post Development Pin

This recognition, in the form of a specially designed cap/lapel pin, is for any individual who assists in starting a new post.

These individuals may be nominated at any time once the temporary charter has been submitted

Send to: Department Headquarters
Attn: Membership
PO Box 547859
Orlando FL 32854-7859

Date_____

The Department of Florida requests New Post Development Pins” for the following individual(s) for assisting in the development of Post_____.

Name of individuals(s) who assisted in starting this new post.

Department Adjutant

Post or District Officer (signature)

Department

Date

Title

Duplicate as Necessary