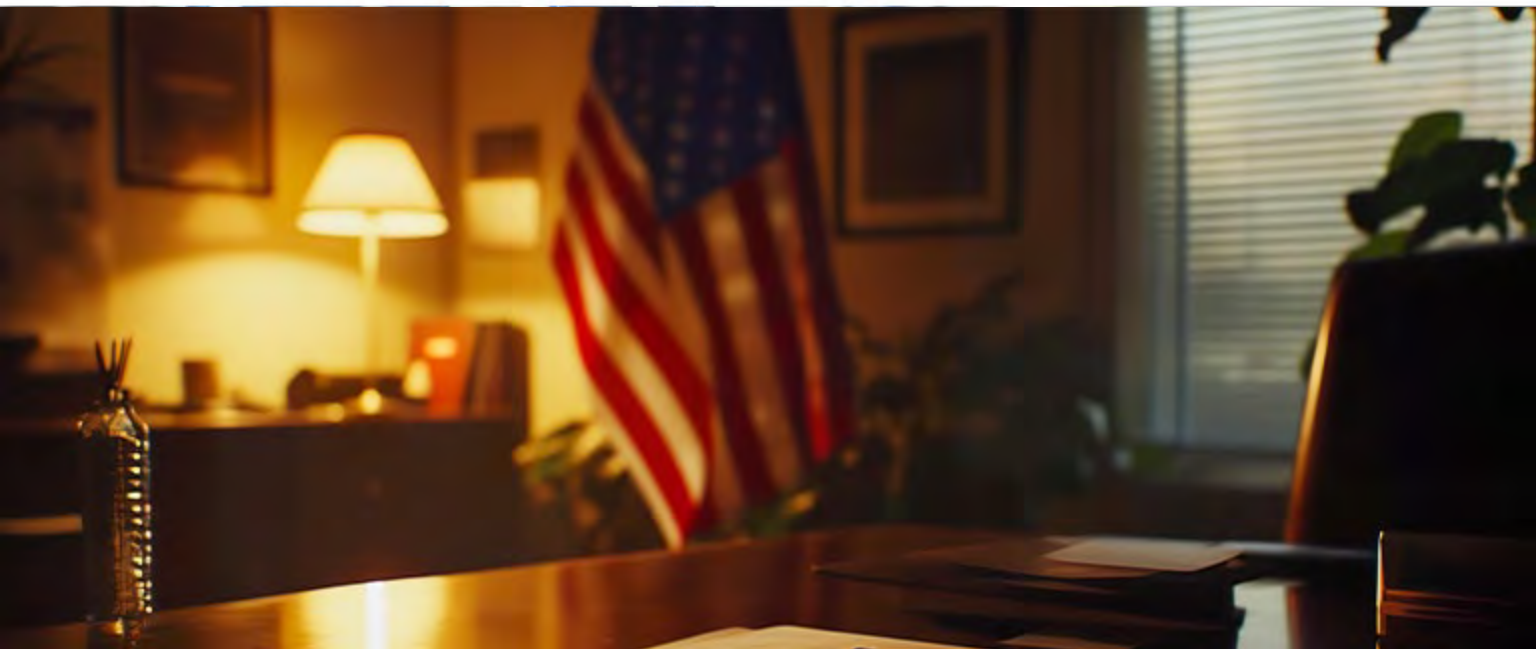




Department
of Florida



Post Commanders' Training

Instructor: Miguel Garcia

2025 DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

FALL CONFERENCE

Myths and Reality

Myths and Reality

Who runs your American Legion Post?

Myths and Reality

- **Membership runs your Post.**
- Most decisions must be made by your members
- The Executive Board brings forward motions, membership has final approval

Myths and Reality

- Why does the Post need you?
- What are your duties and responsibilities?



Myths and Reality

- Your primary responsibility is to oversee Post Programs.
- The second responsibility is to organize and direct the daily operations of the post business/canteen.

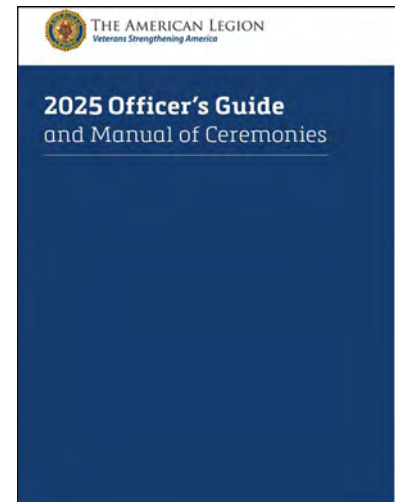
So, how do you organize the Post, Programs, and Operations?

Commanding Through Teamwork

- Post membership has empowered you with a leadership team of Officers.
- Commander, you cannot do this alone.

Learn Your Constitution and By-Laws Don't read them / Learn them

Study your *Officer's Guide and
Manual of Ceremonies*



Constitution and By-Laws

- Can be inconvenient, but that's no excuse for violating them.
- They reflect members' wishes and can only be changed by membership.
- Once approved by membership, must submit to Department for review and final approval.

Resources Available

- Constitution and Bylaws
- Officer's Guide & Manual of Ceremonies
- District Commanders Guide
- Department Administrative Manual
- Attend classes during Convention & Fall Conference



Know Your Mission. Lead Your Team.

- Inform yourself and your Post Officers about their responsibilities and the American Legion.
- Never assume your officers fully understand their roles.
- Commander, leadership starts with you—take the lead.

What are the steps to developing effective leadership skills?



Look for a Mentor

- Someone you can confide in and rely on for honest feedback.
- Ideally, another Commander.
- District Leadership.

Effective Leadership

- Stay impartial when problems arise.
- Your responsibility is to guide the situation toward a constructive resolution.

Effective Leadership

- Commander, you volunteered for the job.
- Don't complain to members.
- Your job is to find solutions.

Effective Leadership

- Discuss and debate issues with your officers in private.
- Present the issues to members once you have positive options to offer.

Conflict Resolution

- Post issues should be handled at the post level.
- If it's a Post issue, look to your Constitution and By-Laws.
- If it's a Canteen issue, look to your House Rules.



Meet. Plan. Progress.

- I recommend you hold weekly or biweekly strategy meetings with your Post team.
- Take this time to organize the progress of upcoming events and programs.

In Conclusion

- Membership is relying on you to advance the post programs.
- Collaborate as a team with all post families, including the Legion, SAL, Auxiliary, and Riders. United, success is assured.



Questions?



Please leave feedback.