

American Legion Program Update

Following are a few updates for several programs of The American Legion. The continued assistance of the Sons of The American Legion in support of these various programs is greatly appreciated!

September 11th Memorial Scholarship Fund: Total nationwide contributions to the Scholarship Fund to date are \$217,561.24.

Family Support Network: The Family Support Network continues to receive an increased number of requests for assistance due to activation and deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and the war in Iraq. Families and active duty personnel can contact the Family Support Network in one of three ways: the toll-free national hotline at (800) 504-4098; email at familysupport@legion.org; or through The American Legion website at <http://www.legion.org/attack/docs/family.html>. As of March 26, 2003, The American Legion has

responded to 228 requests for assistance nationwide.

National High School Oratorical Contest: All fifty-four Department winners have been certified to compete in the National Finals Contest on April 11th—13th. There are 36 seniors, 15 juniors, two sophomores and one freshman competing.

American Legion Child Welfare Foundation: Grant applications for the 2004 award year were just made available on April 1st. The deadline to return the completed application is July 15th. Now in its 48th year, The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation has awarded over \$6 million to youth-serving non-profit organizations. These grants have been awarded to support worthwhile projects and to disseminate information to the general public and specific target groups.

Temporary Financial Assistance: As of March 26, 2003 the

Temporary Financial Assistance Program has awarded \$89,839.41 in non-repayable grants to 99 families and 220 children throughout the United States. Through TFA, a local Post can call upon the National Organization in providing cash assistance to help meet the basic needs of veterans' children when it is established that all other available assistance resources have been exhausted. The Temporary Financial Assistance Program can be a valuable tool for the interim maintenance and health provisions of veterans' children who are in need.

All Squads are reminded to make note of their support of these and other programs by use of the Consolidated Report Form. Please return all forms to Department HQ by May 31st!

Thank you!

Robert J. Avery
Detachment Adjutant

Detachment Commander's Project

by Jerry Ketchum, Chairman

The 9-11 Memorial Scholarship Fund is doing well. I would like to personally THANK all of the Squadrons, Counties and Districts for their presentations of donations to Detachment Commander Bogart during his visitations. We have raised just under \$10,000 to date!!

Please continue to remember this wonderful project for the Children of our military service personnel lost during this time since the tragic day of September 11. The

donations compiled will dictate how many children we will be able to educate!

There are still some Commemorative T-shirts available if you haven't got yours yet. You can order them through me at (585) 229-4564. They will also be available at the Department Convention in July.

I have an update on the 9-11 Remembrance Flag designed by Steve and Joann Galvin. They

have chosen the 9-11 Memorial Scholarship Fund as a charity for the proceeds of the sale of the flag. They have made a substantial donation to the Fund.

National Americanism and Children & Youth Assistant Director Bob Caudell sent them a very nice Thank You letter, and words of encouragement, accompanied by a personal Certificate of Appreciation from National American Legion Commander Ron Conley. The Galvan's will continue to donate their proceeds for this worthy project.

You can meet them at the Department Convention in July.