

July 11, 2006

BICENTENNIAL POST 1976 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR LEGION YEAR
2006 – 2007

Overview: The following goals and objectives for American Legion Bicentennial Post 1976 were developed with a view towards providing a structure through which we can organize and more creatively and efficiently serve our Members and our Community, State, and Nation. It can be used as a “Roadmap” to help guide us through the year and accomplish our objectives with a consistent, orderly, and focused approach. Notwithstanding the above, this structure must also be flexible to deal with the realities of life and any given set of circumstances that may be encountered. Thus, the below should be viewed as a “working document” subject to change based on membership input and changing situations.

Overall Objectives: currently 6 overall objectives have been identified:

- Maintain and enhance our concept of the whole Legion family with involvement in Post activities and support for Post family functions.
- Maintain and increase 100% membership.
- Maintain and/or enhance all current programs and increase focus on VA&R and C&Y Activities
- Complete the building expansion project with little or no interruptions to Post operations.
- Establish, at a minimum, one new program.
- Increase visibility and support to American Legion and Community Programs/Holidays/Ceremonies

The “Roadmap”: (How to get there):

- **Concept of Whole Legion Family:**
 - Include all entities in all Post-sponsored meetings and functions for input and information.
 - Utilize the strength of the whole family concept to undertake projects, both internally and externally. Be mutually supportive across the board, such as we are with the annual crab feast.
 - Help one another with membership drives, i.e., Legionnaires can also be a member of our S.A.L Squadron.
 - Ensure visibility of the entire family in public releases, newsletters, public ceremonies, etc...

- **Membership:**
 - Already have great Membership Chairperson in place
 - Each member resolve to sign up one additional member
 - All elected members ensure new members are appropriately processed, introduced to the Post Home, and assigned a Post function to support, i.e., get new members involved.
 - Conduct membership drive(s) as deemed appropriate and necessary
 - Continue with Early Bird Party as well as other types of incentives to include the discount for early renewals.

- **Maintain and Enhance Current Programs:**
 - **Maintain Involvement:** Boys/Girls State, American Legion/Little League Baseball, & Boy/Girl Scouts

 - **Increase Involvement:** Increase number of schools and candidates to participate in our oratorical contest (already in progress) and “Flags for First Graders” Program (a commitment in terms of funding and manpower support)

 - **VA&R:** (Some input provided by Post Service Officer)
 - Initiate a program to buy \$1,000.00 worth of items needed by our wounded troops, i.e., socks, underwear, phone cards, etc., and personally deliver them to Walter Reed, Bethesda, and Andrews medical facilities. Select a different hospital each quarter.

 - Make quarterly visits to our Veterans in hospitals as well as assisted living quarters. Perhaps this will best work in conjunction with our Auxiliary Unit. Visits should include, whenever possible, representatives from our Legion, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. entities.

 - Develop a plan for a Veterans Recognition Day at the Post Home on a semi-annual basis, i.e., bring in 4-5 Veterans for an afternoon of Special Acknowledgement of our appreciation for them. Perhaps they could watch a football game or just enjoy the comradeship at the Post Home. Give them a chance to get out of the confines of their residency.

 - **Children & Youth (C&Y):** (Input provided by Legionnaire Danny and Auxiliary member Jen Griffith of the Post C&Y Committee)
 - Sponsor an American Legion Baseball Team luncheon at Fuddrucker’s between Jul-Sep (already in progress).

 - Have a Halloween Party at the Post Home incorporating Halloween Safety and Children Safety during second quarter (Oct – Dec)

- Working with First Vice Dick George, support and enhance the “Flags for First Graders” program with funding and manpower.
- Conduct an Easter Egg hunt at the Post Home in the Mar/Apr time frame.
- Conduct an appropriate activity to celebrate April as C&Y month.
- **Building Expansion:**
 - Accomplish with little or no interruption to Post operations.
 - Closely and frequently monitor all activities to ensure that the process continues to move forward
 - Line-up loan processing in advance
 - Establish an “In-Post” Committee to provide Post oversight
 - Insist on incremental building
 - Keep all members informed each step of the process
- **Establishment of New Program:**
 - First Vice Dick George is researching the requirements for our involvement in a JROTC
 - Another possibility is the Junior Law Cadet Program
 - Only establish one new program so we can get it done right and sustain the effort.
- **Increase Visibility and Support to American Legion Activities**
 - Maintain and enhance our support to the Annandale Chamber of Commerce
 - Adopt the Resolution regarding conducting appropriate ceremonies at all Patriotic Holidays.
 - Ensure participation by local politicians
 - Ensure appropriate visibility in local newspapers, pamphlets, etc.
 - Provide support, as available, to District and Department Functions.

The above recommended activities to support our goals and objectives for Legion Year 2006 – 2007 represents our “first cut” at getting something on the table to review. Your inputs, comments, suggestions, recommendations will help us tweak this proposed plan that will provide us a stated purpose and direction as well as provide additional support to our members, our veterans, and our children and youth. Please forward your thoughts, comments, etc., directly to Marv Rodney at e-mail: marvrodney@aol.com or in writing. Verbal inputs are not desired as they tend to lend themselves to misinterpretation.