



Catch the Spirit of Wisconsin!

Department Commander Bob Shappell has announced the creation of the “Spirit of Wisconsin” pin. This special, limited edition will be presented to Legionnaires, SAL, Auxiliary Members, and Riders to recognize special achievements in all aspects of the Legion and our many programs. Anyone can recommend someone for the award, but District, County, and Post Commanders should make every effort to identify deserving individuals for this recognition. Simply submit the deserving individuals name to Commander Bob. This special edition pin will only be presented to recognize the efforts as Legion Family members. It will not be randomly handed out and whenever possible, the Department Commander will personally present the pin.



The Sky's the Limit for 2014-15 Membership

Commander Bob Shappell wants you to “Get One” and win \$1,000 or \$500.

Department Commander Bob Shappell knows that there is strength in numbers and is focused on growth for 2015. Every post's first goal should be last year's total membership PLUS 1. Each post that achieves growth and becomes eligible for the National Post Excellence Award in 2015 will be recognized for their accomplishment in the official newspaper of the Department of Wisconsin, the *Badger Legionnaire*. Watch the *Badger Legionnaire* each month for a Membership Recruiting tip.

Individual Membership Awards

To grow at the local level, each post needs to rely on their members being active recruiters. For the individual Legionnaire, membership recruiting can lead to a big reward! Legion members can simply sign up a new member, or renew any former member who has not paid for 2 years (since 2012) and their name will be entered in a drawing. Those that qualify have a chance to win a First prize of \$1,000 or a Second prize of \$500 at the 2015 Midwinter Conference at the Ho-Chunk Hotel, Casino and Convention Center in the Wisconsin Dells. There is no limit to the number of times an individual can qualify – recruiters get one chance for every new member they recruit. Department will also award them the traditional “I Got 1” pin. Recruiters can show their pride by earning the new “I Got 1” pins are larger and more visible than ever before. Anyone who recruits a new member qualifies!

For Legionnaires who soar to great heights, they can earn new individual membership recruiting awards. Each award is named for the top Air Force pilot ace from the four major conflicts of the 20th Century. Match the number of newly recruited Legionnaires with the Aces total and earn the following;

5 – Captain Steve Ritchie Membership Award - Top pilot ace in Vietnam

- 5 victories earns a pin featuring the legendary F-4 Phantom

16 – Captain Joe McConnell Membership Award - Top ace in Korea

- 16 victories earns a cap featuring the classic F-86 Sabre

26 – Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Membership Award - Top ace in WWI

- 26 victories earns a Polo shirt featuring the “Hat in the Ring” Spad biplane

40 – Major Dick Bong Membership Award - Top ace in WWII

- 40 victories earns a custom fleece jacket featuring the twin tailed P-38 Lightning

These special recognition awards are offered in addition to the **Badger Big 10 pin**, which can be earned by signing up ten (10) new members to be a part of this exclusive group of Legionnaires. Badger Big 10 recruiters receive a pin and a patch to wear with pride.

The National American Legion is also encouraging recruitment with the **Silver Brigade** (25 new members) and **Gold Brigade** (50 new members) awards for Legionnaires who recruit 25 and 50 new members respectively.

ATTENTION: Post Commanders – Qualify to Win a custom Jacket, Baseball cap or cash prizes!

Reach 100% of your 2015 membership goal by Veterans Day on Tuesday, November 11th and you'll qualify for a drawing to determine the winner. A customized jacket with the winner's name and post along with a baseball cap featuring branch of service will be awarded.

Post Commanders who Grow their post or reach 100% of their 2015 Membership goal by **January 15th** will qualify for a drawing at Midwinter and a chance to win \$ 100.

All posts that grow in membership over their 2014 total by **March 10th** will be eligible to win \$ 100 in a drawing to be held at Department Headquarters

NEW – for County Commanders - Win cash or a custom American Legion Commander Shirt!

All County Commanders who achieve 100% of their 2015 goal or grow their membership over the 2014 total by **December 31st** will receive a custom County Commander Uniform Shirt embroidered with your name!

All County organizations achieve 100% of their 2015 Membership goal or grow in membership over their 2014 total by **March 10th** will be eligible to win \$ 1,000 first prize or \$ 500 second prize in a drawing to be held at Department Headquarters

ATTENTION: District Commanders – win a trip to the Lincoln Pilgrimage!

The 81st Annual National American Legion Pilgrimage to the Tomb of Abraham Lincoln will be held February 11th and 12th, 2015 in Springfield, IL. Commander Shappell is inviting all District Commanders to participate in the 81st Annual Pilgrimage to the tomb of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois. All **District Commanders who achieve 90% of their 2015 Membership Goal by January 17, 2015** will win a trip to visit Springfield, Illinois. The package includes accommodations on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 and a visit to President Abraham Lincoln's Tomb the following day with the Wisconsin Legion Delegation. The winner will receive a prize package that includes one night at the Springfield Hilton, a 81st Annual Lincoln Pilgrimage jacket and pin along with a tour of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Qualifying District Commanders may bring a guest of their choice and will join Commander Shappell at a formal breakfast and lunch on Thursday, February 12th prior in addition to visiting Lincoln's Tomb.

NEW - District Commanders can also win a New Legion Blazer!

Commander Bob Shappell will award a New Legion Blazer to all District Commanders who **achieve 100% of their 2015 Membership goal by 03/10/15.**

ATTENTION: Department Vice Commanders – win a Blazer and Cap!

Commander Shappell is offering a special incentive to Department Vice Commanders who can lead and help revitalize the Districts they have responsibility for. Department Vice Commanders will receive a New Legion Blazer if two of their Districts **achieve 100% of their 2015 Membership goal by 06/17/15.**

**COMMANDER BOB'S LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE
FOR ALL 100% POST, COUNTY & DISTRICT COMMANDERS**

Post Commanders that grow membership over 2014 totals **or** achieve 100% of the 2015 goal will qualify for a drawing to be held June 18, 2015. Winner will receive a free room and travel to the 97th Annual Department Convention in Appleton. Post Commanders must achieve a level higher than your 2014 total membership or 100% of your 2015 goal by June 17th, 2015 to qualify.

Enhance your chance to win by meeting program and reporting goals!

Membership exceeding 2014 needed to qualify and 100% for 2015 receives 3 entries *
Submit your Consolidated Post Report and qualify for an additional entry
Submit your Children & Youth Report and qualify for an additional entry
Submit your VA & R Report and qualify for an additional entry
Submit an "of the Year" nomination and qualify for an additional entry
Submit an application for a Post Excellence Award and qualify for an additional entry
Sponsor an Oratorical Scholarship contestant and qualify for an additional entry

100% County Commanders will qualify for a drawing to be held June 18, 2015. Winner will receive a free room and travel to the 97th Annual Department Convention in Appleton. County Commanders must achieve a level higher than your 2014 total membership or 100% of your 2015 goal by June 17th, 2015 to qualify.

Enhance your chance to win by meeting program and reporting goals!

Membership exceeding 2014 needed to qualify and 100% for 2015 receives 3 entries *
100% Consolidated Post Reporting by your posts qualifies for an additional entry
100% Children & Youth Reporting by your posts qualifies for an additional entry
100% VA & R Reporting by your posts qualifies for an additional entry
1 "of the Year" nomination qualifies for an additional entry
Oratorical contestant at Department competition qualifies for an additional entry

100% District Commanders will qualify for a drawing to be held June 18, 2015. Winner will receive a free room and travel to the 97th National Convention in Baltimore, Maryland. District Commanders must achieve 100% of your 2015 goal by June 17th, 2015 to qualify.

100% membership needed to qualify and receives 3 entries *
100% Consolidated Post Reporting qualifies for an additional entry
100% Children & Youth Reporting qualifies for an additional entry
100% VA & R Reporting qualifies for an additional entry
3 "of the Year" nominations qualifies for an additional entry
25% posts receiving Post Excellence Awards qualifies for an additional entry
Oratorical contestant at Department competition qualifies for an additional entry

*** Reach 100% by December 31, 2014 and receive 2 Bonus Entries!**

If you have any questions you can contact Chris Schmidt at chris@wilegion.org or call headquarters at 608-745-1090.



New Member _____

Recruiter _____ Post No. _____

New Member _____

Recruiter _____ Post No. _____

New Member _____

Recruiter _____ Post No. _____