

PROGRAM

108th ANNUAL CONVENTION – SYRACUSE, NY 2026 -THE AMERICAN LEGION – DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

The order of the program is subject to change without notice; therefore, it is important that Delegates and Alternates always be present. It is VERY IMPORTANT that ALL Delegates and Alternates always be in their seats in order to do justice to the County which they represent AND as a mark of respect for the people who have come to address our Convention attendees. For your convenience and to allow for relaxation, sessions are limited to the morning hours only.

WEDNESDAY – July 15, 2026

10:00AM – 3:00PM – Registration of Delegates, Alternates, and Guests at **Marriott Syracuse Downtown**
(Thursday – Saturday registration begins at 8:00 AM.)

2:00 PM – Department Executive Committee Meeting

THURSDAY – July 16, 2026

9:00 AM	Convention Assembles	
	Call to Order	Department Commander John R. Miga
	Advancement of Colors	Department Color Guard
	Invocation	Department Chaplain Mattie McIntyre
	Pledge of Allegiance	Department Master-at-Arms Margaret Folk
	National Anthem	
	POW/MIA Remembrance	Thomas Schreck
	Call to Convention/Roll Call	Department Adjutant James W. Casey
	Greetings General Convention Chairman	Syracuse Convention Chairman William Galvin
	Welcoming Remarks	Syracuse Deputy Mayor Corey Dunham
	Memorial Service	Department Chaplain Mattie McIntyre
	Report	Department Commander John R. Miga
	Report	Department Treasurer Catherine Erwin
	Report	Credentials Chairman Richard K. Morris
	Report	NEC Frank J. Peters
	Report & Legionnaire of the Year Award	Chairwoman Victoria Ferris
	Report	American Legion College Dean Timothy Collmer
	Report	Resolutions Chairman Frank J. Peters
	Report & Law & Order Awards	Chairwoman Cynthia Nelson
	Report	Chairman National Security Peter Del-Debbio
	Report	Scouting Chairwoman Jean Williams
	Presentation	David Clearwater Eagle scout of the Year Award
	Report & Awards	Jr. Shooting Co-Chairman Zack Wallace
	Report & Americanism Awards	Chairman Keith Newton
	Presentation of Dept. Membership Awards	Chairman Joseph Patnode
	The American Legion Mountain Camp Trust	Jeffrey French

**DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BEFORE THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS EVERYDAY RECESS –
Followed by District Caucuses**

FRIDAY – July 17, 2026

9:00 AM	Convention Assembles	
	Call to Order	Department Commander John R. Miga
	Invocation	Department Chaplain Mattie McIntyre
	Pledge of Allegiance	Department Master-at-Arms Margaret Folk
	National Anthem	
	Roll Call	Department Adjutant James W. Casey
Greetings		A/L Auxiliary President Maureen Morgan
Welcoming Remarks		Assemblyman from the 129 th District William B. Magnarelli
Address, National Trailing Candidate		Matthew Shuman
Report & Awards		Department Historian Andrew Williams
Address		Legislative Committee Chairman Lee Hinkleman
Report		AL Boys' State Director David Cariddo
Remarks		2026 American Legion Boy's State Governor
Report and Introduction		Oratorical Co Chairman Jeffrey French
Report		Credentials Committee Chairman Richard K. Morris
Report		Resolutions Committee Chairman Frank J. Peters
Report		Public Relations Chairman Robert Stronach
Presentation		Lima Post 282 PR Award
Report		Veteran Services Committee Chairwoman Eilene Fisher
Presentation		Sampson SOOTY Award & Meritorious Award
Presentation		Employment Chairman William Haines
Presentation		Children & Youth Chairman Arthur Forman

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SATURDAY – July 18, 2026

9:00 AM	Convention Assembles	
	Call to Order	Department Commander John R. Miga
	Invocation	Department Chaplain Mattie McIntyre
	Pledge of Allegiance	Department Master-at-Arms Margaret Folk
	National Anthem	
	Roll Call	Department Adjutant James W. Casey
Greetings		Detachment Commander SAL Joseph Guidice
Final Report		Credentials Committee Chairman Richard K. Morris
Final Report		Resolutions Committee Chairman Frank J. Peters
Presentation – Scholarship Awards		Education Chairman Arthur Forman
Report		Bowling Chairman Ritchie Turck
Report		Legion Riders Patrick Neal

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Presentation of Colors to Retiring Department Commander
Nomination of Department Officers
Election of Department Officers &
Installation of Department Officers

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Raffle Drawing – Sweepstakes & 50/50	Department Commander John R. Miga
Benediction	Department Chaplain Mattie McIntyre
Retirement of Colors	Department Color Guard

ADJOURNMENT

2026-2027 Newly elected **Executive Committee Meeting & Luncheon**
immediately following close of convention
Empire Room – Marriott 10th Floor