

## ALR CALENDAR OF EVENTS



<http://www.kansasalr.com>

**NOTE: (\*) DENOTES ADDITIONS/CHANGES SINCE LAST CALENDAR**

**(1/01/12- Sunday)** ALR 136 invites area ALR and their families to our Post on New Year's Day for a soup fest beginning at 2PM. The Post AUX. will be providing all you can eat soups, chili and fixing's for \$5 per person. Come on down and bring in the New Year with good food, good folks, and good fun. There will be all kinds of indoor games such as checkers, LCR, and cards.

**(1/01/12—Sunday)** Please join ALR 408 (**Derby**) for our Annual "FROST BITE RIDE". Stage at Derby Quik Trip 71<sup>st</sup> and K-15, 11:15 AM, AIS at 11:30 for a ride to Post 408 for Black Eyed Pea lunch (The weather will determine the ride duration). Start the New Year right with Black Eyed Peas for good luck the whole year through. Serving starts at NOON. At the VFW 7253/American Legion 408 (101 S. Baltimore, Derby). Remember what you do on the first day of the year determines what you will do for the rest of the year!!! POC ALR 408

**(1/14/12-Saturday)** ALR 10 (**Winfield**) invites all to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual "Freeze your??? off" Poker Run. We will have a long and short route depending on the weather. First out at 11am, last out at Noon, Last in at 3:30pm. \$100 Best Hand and \$50 Worst Hand. There will also be a 50/50 drawing. \$25 gets your first hand as well as a T-shirt and all you can eat chili, hotdogs / hamburgers, chips, and coffee / hot chocolate are included with the first hand. Extra hands are available for \$5 but are not eligible for a T-shirt or feed afterwards.

**(2/03-05/12)** Leavenworth Post 23 will serve as host for the Mid-Winter Forum February 3-4-5, 2012. Registration for both the Legion and SAL will be at the Post Home beginning Friday evening. This year's Forum will include reports and updates from Department Chairmen or Committee members of each major Legion program. In Headquarters is in the process of arranging for at least one speaker from National Headquarters and the leading candidate for National Commander next year. A more detailed program will be published in the January issue of the Sunflower Legionnaire in the meantime you are encouraged to make your hotel reservations now (you can always cancel later if you can not attend). The Days Inn, 913-651-6000 and the Super 8, 913-682-0744, will serve as the Headquarters motels. Rates at the Days Inn are \$58 for 1 person and \$64 for 2 people. Super 8 rates are \$39.99 for 1 person and \$49.99 for 2 or more people. Rates are quoted without tax. Both motels have a cutoff date of January 27 at the above rates.

**(\*)(2/03-05/2012) MID – WINTER FORUM**  
**(The Importance of The Mid-Winter Forum)**

The Mid-Winter Forum offers every member, especially local Post leaders and chairmen, the opportunity to learn more about The American Legion, its programs in addition to how and why we function the way we do as an organization. This year's Forum is no exception.

We strive to schedule "hot button" topics whenever possible. For example: recently there has been an upsurge of concern over The American Legion's trademarked names and emblems. The plural tense is used because The American Legion owns more than just its name and emblem; the names and emblems of every program is owned by the National organization and National is very judicious in protecting each. Whether it's American Legion Baseball, the Sons of the American Legion, the American Legion Riders, or our scholarship book "Need A Lift?" National Headquarters guards their use in order to protect the sanctity and reputation of each. Why? Each is worth millions therefore National has an obligation to protect the organization's assets.

There is a simple procedure which must be followed in order to use the organization's trademarked names and emblems including use on websites, articles of clothing, signs, etc. Unfortunately there has been an increase of misunderstandings, miscommunication, outright false rumors and speculation circulating over the use of the Legion's trademarks. For that reason Department has arranged for National Judge Advocate Phillip B. Onderdonk, Jr. to attend the opening session of the Forum at 8 o'clock Saturday morning, February 4 at Leavenworth Post 23.

Judge Advocate Onderdonk will also address recent problems Posts have experienced with the IRS and the Post's tax exempt status. Other National Staff providing support during the Forum will be Assistant Membership Directors Sean Sparks and James Woodson whose topics will be how to revitalize your Post.

See page 8 of this issue for this year's complete Mid-Winter schedule. If you are a Post or District Officer, or Chairman, are thinking about getting more active in the organization, or simply just curious, plan to attend this year's Forum. You'll have the opportunity to meet some great Legion Family members like yourself and you'll leave informed and entertained.

**(5/12/12-Saturday) ALR 136 (Mulvane) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Poker Run. Details to follow.**

**(\*\*) Mid-Winter Forum – Feb. 3-5, 2012 – Leavenworth, Ks.**

**(\*\*) American Legion Dept. of Kansas Convention – May 18-20, 2012 - Great Bend, Ks.**

**(\*\*) National ALR Rally - (Hays, Kansas) June 15-17, 2012**