



# NADHAL NEWSLETTER

National Association of Department Historians of the American Legion

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Editor Charemon Dunham

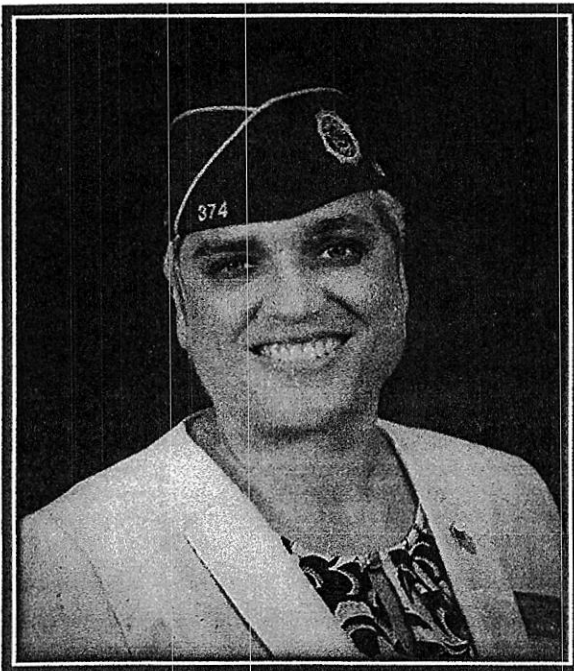
## Calendar of Events

**August 1, 2025** – Department history books (digital) must be submitted for judging.

**August 8, 2025**—Post submissions (digital and hardcopy) must be submitted for the national showcase.

**August 23, 2025**, History Book with NADHAL meeting to follow at National Convention in Tampa, Florida. Times to be determined.

## From National Historian Jennifer Laux



Season's Greetings.

Over the past year, there have been many changes to the American Legion History

contest – changes that are outlined in Resolution Number 20, Authorization for Conducting Department History Contest and Post History Showcase (<https://archive.legion.org/node/15154>).

Moving forward in 2025, departments will be able to submit:

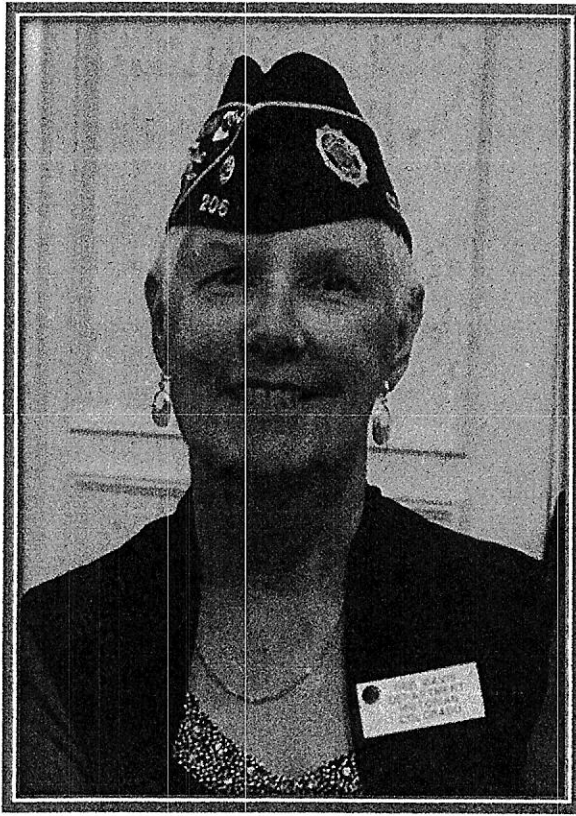
- 1 one-year digital Department history for contest (these entries will be judged and showcased on the online exhibit)
- 1 one-year hard-copy Post history for showcase (these entries will be showcased at National Convention)
- 1 one-year digital Post history for showcase (these entries will be showcased on the online exhibit)

The complete guidelines for the 2025 contest can be found at: <https://legionhistoryshowcase.omeka.net/exhibits/show/2025entries/2025-contest-and-showcase-info>.

As leaders and members of NADHAL, I would encourage you to become familiar with these guidelines and help mentor other historians throughout The American Legion, particularly those who are just starting out in the role. Although we would like all departments to submit their work to the contest, the most important goal is for them to start recording their histories for the benefit of future generations. I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication to the organization, and I want to wish you all a happy holiday season and a positive new year!

Jennifer Laux, The American Legion  
National Historian 2024-2025

## From NADHAL President Debra Davis



*Deb Davis*

Dear NADHAL members,  
Hopefully by now you have seen the 2025 Historian's Guide  
<https://legionhistoryshowcase.omeka.net/>.  
Those of us who were at the 2024 History Book judging and NADHAL Meeting on October 7 and 8 this year became aware of changes to the way we will be judging history books in the future.

As an organization we have been meeting at the national convention after the National Historian luncheon. This was always a brief meeting to update everyone on what was going on and coming in the future. Then we would meet in October during the Fall NEC Meeting to judge history books, and the winners were announced by the National Historian to the NEC. We held our annual meeting and voted on new officers for NADHAL. This was the time we made changes to our organization (C&B, resolutions, etc.). And this was the time we gathered and caught up on each other's lives.

With the changes coming in 2025, the National Historian luncheon will not be happening. So, there will not be a short NADHAL meeting. And since all judging will be done digitally, there will not be an in-person NADHAL meeting during the National NEC Fall meetings.

I have requested a time and place for a meeting during the 2025 National Convention. I have been offered a time of 4:00 pm after the History Book Showcase. This has not been confirmed so don't put it on your calendar yet.

I'm asking for a 3-hour time block in order to conduct our usual business of elections and officer reports. Also, during this time, I believe we need to look at our Constitution and Bylaws to bring them in line with the changes for 2025. During this time, we can have meaningful discussions on the changes coming and decide our future. I'll be asking the C&B team (James Fratolillo, Steve DeFoe, Tom Wiley and Charemon Dunham) and the Judge Advocate to review the current C&B and be prepared to present changes in August 2025.

Deb Davis

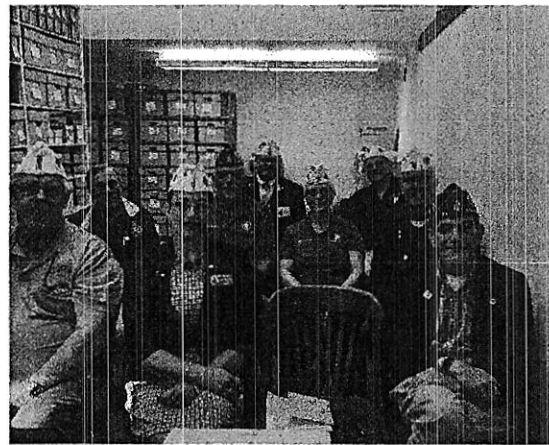
NADHAL President 2024-2025

## Season's Greetings From the following NADHAL members

Terry Abdelnour, Illinois; Al Beyer, Ohio; Deborah Davis, PNH, Colorado; Steve DeFeo, Indiana; Charemon Dunham, PNH, South Dakota; James Fratolillo, PNH, Massachusetts; Tommy Hatton, Georgia; Ruth Higgins, Maryland; James Higuera, PNH, California; Charles Jay, Maryland; Mitchell Keil, Massachusetts; Jennifer Kritzer, Arizona; Jennifer Laux, NH, Nebraska; Cliff Morlan, Indiana; Shirley Platt, Texas; Bill Richards, North Carolina; Denise Rohan, PNC, Wisconsin; Lynne Rollins, Georgia; Everett Shephard, Connecticut; J.R. Stillwell, Illinois; Dan Watrous, Ohio; Tom Wiley, New Hampshire; and Charles Zelinsky, PNH, Illinois.

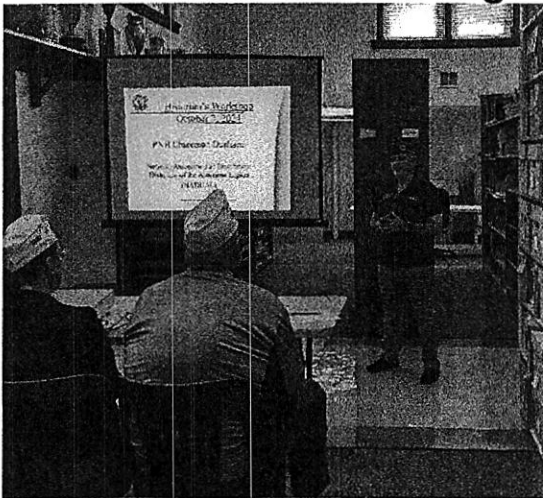
## Honorary NADHAL Life Members

2007 \*PNH Delfo Barabani and  
\*PNH Roy Mahoney  
2008 Past National Librarian Joseph Hovish  
2009 \*PNH Barbara Stuvengen  
2010 \*Helen Jacobs  
2011 No nominations  
2012 No nominations  
2013 \*PNH Carl Wipperman  
2014 JoEllen Gazvoda  
2015 PNC Denise Rohan  
2016 PNC Brett Reistad  
2017 \*Martha Arling  
2018 Lynda Lydick  
2019 No nominations  
2020 No nomination, no meeting  
2021 No nomination  
2022 PNH Fae Casper  
2023 PNH James Fratolillo  
2024 J R. Stillwell  
\*Deceased member



Those sitting in on the training were (front row left to right) Al Beyer of Ohio, Jennifer Kritzer of Arizona, Charles Jay of Maryland, (second row left to right) Bill Richard of North Carolina, Texas guest, Shirley Platt of Texas, Tom Wiley of New Hampshire (back row left to right) Clifton Morlen of Indiana, and Mitchell Keil of Massachusetts at the National American Legion Library on Monday, October 7, 2024. *Photo by Charemon Dunham*

## 2024 NADHAL Training



National Historian Jennifer Laux addressed the class being trained for 2024 at the National American Legion Library on Monday, October 7, 2024. *Photo by Charemon Dunham*

## NADHAL Meeting



NADHAL meeting at the National American Legion Library on Tuesday, October 8, 2024. *Photo by Charemon Dunham*



NADHAL meeting at the National American Legion Library on Tuesday, October 8, 2024. *Photo by Charemon Dunham*



NADHAL members at the NADHAL meeting at the National American Legion Library on Tuesday, October 8, 2024. National Historian Jennifer Laux is sitting in her desk with everyone else surrounding her.

Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year