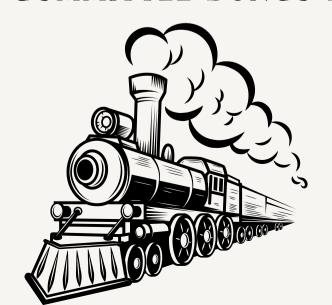
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
PO BOX 1629, LITTLE ELM, TX 75068-1629

# DEPARTMENT CONVENTION BULLETIN PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED:

OFFICIAL CALL
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
HOTEL INFORMATION
CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES (SENIORS)
ADVANCED REGISTRATION
JUNIOR OFFICIAL CALL
CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES (JUNIORS)
RESOLUTIONS TO BE VOTED ON
EDUCATION COMMITTEE BUNCO FUNDRAISER



# Official Call For The 105th Annual Convention American Legion Auxiliary Department Of Texas

Austin, Texas –July 11- 14, 2024

In accordance with the Department Constitution and Bylaws, I, Holly Heatly, hereby call the ninety-ninth Annual Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Texas, to meet in Rio Grande A, of the Renaissance Hotel Arboretum, Austin, Texas.

#### **PURPOSE**

The Purpose of the Convention shall be to accept annual reports of the Department Officers and Committees; to elect Department Officers for the coming year, which includes a Department President, Department Vice President, Department Chaplain, Department Historian and Department Sgt.-at-Arms; to confirm the elected Division Presidents, the Presidents and Vice Presidents of the odd numbered Districts; to elect delegates and alternates to the National Convention and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Convention.

#### **DELEGATES**

Unit representation shall be two delegates for the first ten (10) members and one additional delegate for each twenty-five members or major fraction thereof, whose current dues have been received in Department Headquarters two weeks prior to the convening of said Convention, and to one alternate for each delegate. The delegates and alternates shall be elected at a Unit meeting duly called for this purpose not less than four weeks prior to the Department Convention. These names shall be mailed and be received at Department Headquarters no later than June 30, 2024.

A Unit registration fee of Ten (\$10.00) dollars shall accompany the list of delegates.

Members of the Department Executive Committee present, and Past Department Presidents in good standing in their local Units shall be delegates-at-large to the Department Convention with vote to be exercised with their Units.

Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the registered and certified Unit delegates present at the Department Convention.

Twenty-five percent of the duly elected and accredited delegates to the Convention shall constitute a quorum. (Department Constitution, Article VI, sections 1 through 9.)

Holly Heatly Department President

#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY 2024 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(Tentative)

ande A
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4:00 PM Page Rehearsal – Rio Grande A

Friday, July 12, 2024

8:00 AM
Exhibit Room Opens – San Saba
Line Up of Processional Participants
9:00 AM
Convention Business Session Opening – Rio Grande A
Juniors meet with Seniors

1:00 PM Business session reconvenes

6:30 PM Department Commander's & President's Reception – Glass Oaks

Saturday, July 13, 2024

8:00 AM Exhibit Room Opens – San Saba
9:00 AM Convention Business Session Opening – Rio Grande A
1:00 PM Credentials Closes
1:00 PM General Session Continues Juniors and Seniors

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Candidates Reception – TBD

**Sunday, July 16, 2023** 

8:00 AM Memorial Service – Grand Ballroom A/B 9:00 AM General Session Reconvenes - Junior – Pecos

General Session Reconvenes - Senior - Rio Grande A

**Election of Department Officers** 

Installation

Post DEC Meeting

### **Hotel Information**

Renaissance Hotel – Arboretum 9721 Arboretum Blvd (512) 343-2626

#### Rate \$117

Reservation cutoff date: June 18, 2024

Here is the web link to book your room (Also found on Department Website: Book your group rate for American Legion 2023 State Convention

ASK FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION When you call to make your reservations, please be sure to obtain a confirmation number.

Note: Hotel requires 72 hrs. notice of cancellation prior to your scheduled arrival date, or a 1-night room and tax will be billed to the credit card on file.



#### 2024 Department Convention Advanced Registration Renaissance Hotel, Austin, Tx July 11-14, 2024

	Senior R	Registrations @ \$30 each Total			
	Junior I	Registrations @ \$5 each Total			
This year there will be a charge to offset the cost of printing the book of reports.  There will only be a few extra books ordered. To guarantee a book of reports you must pre-register by June 15 <sup>th</sup> .  Book of Reports @ \$5 each Total					
NAME					
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NAME					
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UNIT #	LOCATIO	N	_Sr	Jr	
NAME					
UNIT #	LOCATIO	N	_Sr	Jr	
		30.00 must be <b>received</b> in Department Headquarte istration received after this date will be returned t			
_	tration in Austin FTER JUNE 30,	will be \$40.00 for Seniors and \$8.00 for Juniors., 2024.	NO		
Mail to:		American Legion Auxiliary Attn: Dept Convention Registration PO BOX 1629 Little Elm, Tx 75068-1629			

# CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES 104th ANNUAL CONVENTION AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS

Unit Location	Unit	District	Division
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THATassembled at		Unit	in regular meeting
Texas, on members of the American Legion Auxiliary in g of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department	good standing, to	represent the Unit	
A Senior Unit registration <u>fee of \$10 shall accordance</u> be received at Department Headquarters ten wo in payment of the following mandates: Christma Section VI, Paragraph 2 & 3). <u>A registration for Department Convention.</u>	rking days prior to as Assessment and	o the Department of d Bonding Fee (De	convention; and must be current epartment Standing Rules,
Each delegate and alternate have been notified registering for the Department Convention.	l that she may be	asked to show her	r 2024 membership card when
<u>DELGATES</u>		ALTERNAT	<u>res</u>
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Signed:(Unit Secretary)	Sign		resident)

#### IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT

In order that your Unit, be accredited with the correct number of votes, it is necessary that the following instructions be observed:

- 1. **WHITE COPY** of this form is to be filled in and mailed, together with the \$10 Unit Registration fee to Department Headquarters by June 30, 2024.
- 2. <u>1 COPY</u> is to be presented to the Credentials Committee by the Unit Delegation Chairman immediately upon arrival in Austin, Texas. The Credentials desk will be located in the lower lobby foyer area of the Renaissance Hotel, Austin, Texas.
- 3. <u>1 COPY</u> is to be held by the Unit Delegation Chairman.

Credentials will **NOT** be accepted by the Credentials Committee after 1:00 PM, Saturday, July 13, 2023.

The books in Department Headquarters will be closed at 5:00 P.M., June 30, 2024. The Voting strength of the Units will be based on the Membership in the Department Headquarters at that time and will be computed on the following basis:

10 members - 2 votes	173 members - 9 votes	348 members - 16 votes
23 members - 3 votes	198 members - 10 votes	373 members - 17 votes
48 members - 4 votes	223 members - 11 votes	398 members - 18 votes
73 members - 5 votes	248 members - 12 votes	423 members - 19 votes
98 members - 6 votes	273 members - 13 votes	448 members - 20 votes
123 members - 7 votes	298 members - 14 votes	473 members - 21 votes
148 members - 8 votes	323 members - 15 votes	498 members - 22 votes

\*\*\*Members of the Department Executive Committee present, and Past Department Presidents in good standing in their local Units shall be delegates-at-large to the Department Convention with vote to be exercised with their Units. There is no need for delegates-at-large to be voted as delegates for their unit to be able to vote.

Mail to:

**Tiffany Troxclair ALA Department Secretary** 

**Attn: Delegate Forms** 

PO Box 1629

Little Elm, Tx 75068-1629

## Official Call Annual Junior Meeting American Legion Auxiliary Department Of Texas

Austin, Texas –July 11- 14, 2024

In accordance with the Department Constitution and Bylaws, I, Holly Heatly, hereby call the Annual Junior Meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Texas, to meet in the Pecos Room of the Renaissance Hotel, Austin, Texas, July 11 -14, 2024.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Meeting shall be to accept annual reports of the Junior Department officers and committees; to elect Department Junior Officers for the coming year, which includes a Department Junior President, Department Junior Vice President, Department Junior Secretary, Department Junior Treasurer, Department Junior Chaplain, Department Junior Historian, Department Junior Sgt.-at-Arms; to confirm elected District Junior Presidents and District Junior Vice Presidents and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Convention.

#### <u>DELEGATES</u>

Junior Unit representation shall be:

#### 1. UNORGANIZED AND UNCERTIFIED JUNIORS

- a) One (1) delegate and alternate allowed any Unit who has 1-9 members present and registered at the meeting, provided that the Unit pays the registration fee.
- b) When a Unit has more than one Junior present and registered, the Juniors present and registered from that Unit shall elect by a majority vote one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate from among their group to represent them.

#### 2. ORGANIZED AND CERTIFIED JUNIORS

- a) Two (2) delegates for the first ten (10) members and one additional delegate for each twenty-five members or major fraction thereof, and one alternate for each delegate.
- b) The delegates and alternates shall be elected at a Junior Unit Meeting duly called for this purpose not less than four weeks prior to the Department Meeting. These names shall be mailed to Department Headquarters, to be received no later than June 25, 2021.

All Junior delegates and alternates must have current dues paid, and dues must have been received in Department Headquarters two weeks prior to the convening of said Meeting.

A Junior Unit registration fee of \$5 shall accompany the list of delegates to the Department Headquarters.

Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the registered and certified Unit delegates present at the Department Junior Meeting.

Twenty-five percent of the duly elected and accredited delegates to the Meeting shall constitute a guorum.

Holly Heatly Brealey Nieto

Holly Heatly Brealey Nieto

Department President Department Honorary Junior President

# CERTIFICATION OF JUNIOR DELEGATES & ALTERNATES ANNUAL JUNIOR MEETING AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS

JUNIOR UNIT LOCATION	UNIT NODISTRICT NO
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT	UNIT NO in regular meeting.
standing, to represent the Junior Unit at the American Legion Auxiliary, Departme	elected the following ers of the American Legion Junior Auxiliary in good he Thirty-eighth Annual Junior Department meeting of nt of Texas, Austin, Texas, July 11 - 14, 2024. A accompany the list of delegates mailed to
Each delegate and alternate are hereby membership when registering for the L	y notified that she MUST show her 2024 Department Junior Meeting.
<u>DELIGATES</u>	ALTERNATES
Signed:(Junior Unit Secretary)	Signed(Junior Unit President)

JUNIOR UNIT OFFICERS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR ARE TO BE ELECTED AT THE SAME MEETING IN WHICH DELEGATES TO THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION ARE ELECTED.

THIS ELECTION SHOULD BE HELD AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION. CERTIFICATION FORMS FOR THE NEXT YEAR'S OFFICERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AT THE SAME TIME THE BLUE COPY OF THE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES ARE SENT IN. THESE CERTIFICATION FORMS ARE VERY IMPORTANT. DO NOT DELAY.

#### **IMPORTANT**

In order that your Junior Unit may be accredited with the correct number of votes, it is necessary that the following instructions are observed.

- 1. **THE WHITE COPY** of this form is to be filled in and mailed, together with the Junior Unit Convention Registration fee of \$5.00 for each Unit, to Department Headquarters by June 30, 2024.
- 2. **1 COPY** is to be presented to the Credentials Committee by the Junior Delegation Chairman immediately upon arrival in Austin, Texas. The Committee desk will be located in the Lower lobby foyer of the Renaissance hotel, Austin, Texas.
- 3. **1 COPY** is to be held by the Junior Unit Delegation Chairman.

The Credentials Committee will not accept credentials after 1:00 P.M. Saturday, July 13, 2024. This is in accordance with Department Constitution Article VI, Section 8.

The books in Department Headquarters will be closed at 5:00 P.M., June 30, 2024. The voting strength of the Junior Units will be based on the membership in Department Headquarters at that time and will be computed on the following basis:

1 to 9 members 1 vote 123 members- 7 votes 248 members-12 votes 10 members - 2 votes 148 members- 8 votes 273 members-13 votes 28 members - 3 votes 173 members- 9 votes 298 members-14 votes 323 members-15 votes 38 members - 5 votes 223 members-11 votes 348 members-16 votes 98 members - 6 votes



## Department of Texas Resolution

**WHEREAS:** the Bylaws of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Texas, Article VII. – Finance Section 1. states,

The revenue of the American Legion Auxiliary shall be derived from annual membership dues in a per capita amount established by the Department Convention delegates, and from such other sources as may be approved by the Department Executive Committee. Modifications to the per capita dues for membership shall require a two-thirds vote in the affirmative by the Department Convention delegates. Dues shall be payable in amounts as provided in the Standing Rules. A member's status is dependent upon timely payment of dues as provided in the Standing Rules, and;

**WHEREAS:** the Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Texas Section V. MEMBERSHIP DUES, #2. states,

2. For Senior members, Units shall remit to Department Headquarters the annual Department per capita dues of twelve dollars (\$12.00) plus the annual National per capita dues of eighteen dollars (18.00), a total of \$30.00. 3. For Junior members, Units shall remit to Department Headquarters the annual Department per capita dues of two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) plus the annual National per capita dues of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50), a total of four dollars and seventy-five cents (\$4.75). 4. From the twelve dollars transmitted to the Department, eighty cents (\$.80) shall be transferred to the Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Fund. A minimum of ten cents (\$.10) of every paid Senior membership shall be transferred into the Department of Texas Future National Officer Leadership Development Fund to help finance the candidacy of a Texas member seeking a National Office. 5. The membership dues for Senior members who join the Department Headquarters Unit shall be thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per member, and dues for Junior members shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per member. Both shall be paid annually. 6. Any amendments regarding dues shall be by action of the Department Convention delegates, and;

**WHEREAS:** membership in the American Legion Auxiliary has been on a steady decline for years which directly affects the annual budget for the Department of Texas, and;

**WHEREAS:** the cost of conventions, conferences, leadership classes, Presidents' school and all other such ALA events continue to rise, therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the annual per capita dues paid to the Department of Texas, increase by \$1.00 for seniors and .25 per junior, and; therefore

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:** that the dues for membership in the Department Headquarters Unit 345, increase by \$10.00 for both seniors and juniors.

**RATIONALE:** In order for the ALA Department of Texas to continue to meet its annual budget requirements, there must be an increase in income. This proposed increase in per capita dues, would stay in the Department of Texas and would help offset the ever-increasing cost of ALA functions for Texas members, including per diems and mileage allowances. The proposed increase in the dues for Headquarters Unit 345 is twofold. First, any additional income will benefit the Department of Texas and second, such a drastic increase in dues, will hopefully encourage Unit 345 members to transfer into local Units. Unit 345 is not active and other than dues, it does not participate in or contribute to the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary, therefore the Department of Texas would be better served if Unit 345 members belonged in local Texas units, increasing both their membership and budgets.

If this resolution passes, the following changes will be made to the Department Standing Rules immediately following the close of the 2024 Department Convention but **will NOT affect the 2025 membership dues. The increase will go into effect for the 2026 membership dues,** giving all Units a year to inform their members and update their Constitutions, Bylaws, and standing Rules.

### Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Texas Section V. MEMBERSHIP DUES, #2. Currently reads:

2. For Senior members, Units shall remit to Department Headquarters the annual Department per capita dues of twelve dollars (\$12.00) plus the annual National per capita dues of eighteen dollars (18.00), a total of \$30.00. 3. For Junior members, Units shall remit to Department Headquarters the annual Department per capita dues of two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) plus the annual National per capita dues of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50), a total of four dollars and seventy-five cents (\$4.75). Note: The National per capita dues increase takes effect with the 2019 ALA membership year. 4. From the twelve dollars transmitted to the Department, eighty cents (\$.80) shall be transferred to the Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Fund. A minimum of ten cents (\$.10) of every paid Senior membership shall be transferred into the Department of Texas Future National Officer Leadership Development Fund to help finance the candidacy of a Texas member seeking a National Office. 5. The membership dues for Senior members who join the Department Headquarters Unit shall be thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per member, and dues for Junior members shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per member. Both shall be paid annually. 6. Any amendments regarding dues shall be by action of the Department Convention delegates.

#### Will be changed to:

2. For Senior members, Units shall remit to Department Headquarters the annual Department per capita dues of *thirteen dollars* (\$13.00) plus the annual National per capita dues of eighteen dollars (18.00), a total of \$31.00. 3. For Junior members, Units shall remit to Department Headquarters the annual Department per capita dues of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) plus the annual National per capita dues of two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50), a total of *five dollars*. 4. From the *thirteen* dollars transmitted to the Department, eighty cents (\$.80) shall be transferred to the Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Fund. A minimum of ten cents (\$.10) of every paid Senior membership shall be transferred into the Department of Texas Future National Officer Leadership Development Fund to help finance the candidacy of a Texas member seeking a National Office. 5. The membership dues for Senior members who join the Department Headquarters Unit shall be *forty-five dollars* (\$45.00) per member, and dues for Junior members shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per member. Both shall

be paid annually. 6. Any amendments regarding dues shall be by action of the Department Convention delegates

Endorsed by the American Legin Auxiliary Department of Texas Finance Committee on this day May 07, 2024.

Christine Trahan
Shay Kuehner
Vicki Pollard
Teresa S. Copeland
Robin Alva
Finance Chairman
Committee Member
Committee Member
Member-at-Large



### American Legion Auxiliary Department of Texas Resolution

WHEREAS: The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Texas Standing Rules, Article XIII Department Committees section 4f. states: The Department Finance Committee shall be comprised of five members. The Department President shall appoint one member from each of the four Divisions and the elected Department Treasurer will automatically be appointed as a member-at-large. This does not pertain to an elected Department Secretary/Treasurer, only the elected Department Treasurer. If the President cannot find a willing and/or qualified member to serve on the Department Finance committee from each of the four divisions, they may fill the vacancy with a member of their choosing, regardless of Division affiliation. This option should only be implemented as a last resort to prevent vacancies. Each committee member shall serve a single term, not to exceed the term of the Department President that appointed them. There shall be a limit of six years of service on the Finance Committee for all appointees. The Finance Committee Chair, who must have one year of experience on the Finance Committee, shall be appointed annually and cannot be the Elected Department Treasurer, and;

**WHEREAS;** Divisional affiliation should not be a consideration for appointment on the Department Finance committee since the committee works diligently on behalf of the entire State of Texas, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Department Finance Chair in particular, should be knowledgeable in the most current procedures being implemented by the Department Finance Committee and must work very closely with the bookkeeper, Department Treasurer and Department Secretary to ensure that Department funds are recorded properly, including restricted funds and the previous year's funds, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Department Finance Chair plays an instrumental role in a smooth transition from one appointed Finance Committee to another and has the responsibility of ensuring that other members of the committee are prepared to assume the position of chair, when necessary, therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the following sentences or partial sentences be removed from Standing Rules Article XIII section 4.f:

- 1. "The Department President shall appoint one member from each of the four Divisions and,"
- 2."If the President cannot find a willing and/or qualified member to serve on the Department Finance committee from each of the four divisions, they may fill the vacancy with a member of their choosing, regardless of Division affiliation. This option should only be implemented as a last resort to prevent vacancies."
- 3."shall be appointed annually and," and therefore;

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:** That the words "with the exception of the Department Finance Chair" be added after the words "Each committee member shall serve a single term, not to exceed the term of the Department President that appointed them," the words "one year" be changed to "two consecutive years" and the words "The only exception is if the Finance Chair becomes incapacitated, and no one on the Finance Committee meets the Chairman requirements, (two consecutive years of experience) in this instance, the President must do their due diligence to fill this position with a qualified member, excluding the elected Treasurer." be added.

**RATIONALE:** The rationale for these changes is to ensure that the incoming Department President is able to appoint qualified members to the finance committee based on their qualifications and not their Division affiliation. Also, requiring the Finance Committee Chair to have two years of consecutive service on the committee, will help ensure that they are familiar with the day-to-day procedures of the Department of Texas. This is important as procedures can change rapidly depending on advances in technology including program updates or changes, mature dates on cds and money markets, interest rate changes, etc. It also enables the Finance Committee Chair extra time to use their prior experience as chair to mentor and prepare other committee members to assume the role of chair when the time comes. And finally, it ensures that the current Finance Committee chair will be able to help oversee a smooth transition between two potentially different appointed finance committees, including the annual audit.

**Note\*** This does not affect the limitation of six years of service by ALL appointees, that rule will remain in place.

If this resolution passes, the following changes will be made to the Department Standing Rules immediately following the close of the 2024 Department Convention.

#### Standing Rules Section XIII Department Committees, paragraph 4f. currently reads:

The Department Finance Committee shall be comprised of five members. The Department President shall appoint one member from each of the four Divisions and the elected Department Treasurer will automatically be appointed as a member-at-large. This does not pertain to an elected Department Secretary/Treasurer, only the elected Department Treasurer. If the President cannot find a willing and/or qualified member to serve on the Department Finance committee from each of the four divisions, they may fill the vacancy with a member of their choosing, regardless of Division affiliation. This option should only be implemented as a last resort to prevent vacancies. Each committee member shall serve a single term, not to exceed the term of the Department President that appointed them. There shall be a limit of six years of service on the Finance Committee for all appointees. The Finance Committee Chair, who must have one year of experience on the Finance Committee, shall be appointed annually and cannot be the Elected Department Treasurer.

#### Will be changed to:

The Department Finance Committee shall be comprised of five members. The elected Department Treasurer will automatically be appointed as a member-at-large. This does not pertain to an elected Department Secretary/Treasurer, only the elected Department Treasurer. Each committee member shall serve a single term, not to exceed the term of the Department President that appointed them, with the exception of the Department Finance Chair. There shall be a limit of six years of service on the Finance Committee for all appointees. The Finance Committee Chair must have two consecutive years of experience on the Finance Committee and cannot be the Elected Department Treasurer. The only exception is if the Finance Chair becomes incapacitated, and no one on the Finance Committee meets the Chairman requirements, (two consecutive years experience) in this instance, the President must do their due diligence to fill this position with a qualified member, excluding the elected Treasurer.

Endorsed by the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Texas Finance Committee on this day April 30, 2024.

Christine Trahan
Shay Kuehner
Vicki Pollard
Teresa S. Copeland
Robin Alva
Finance Chairman
Committee Member
Committee Member
Member-at-Large



## Department Fundraiser for Education

July 12, 2024

6 p.m. - 11p.m.

**Post 447** 

**\$25** buy in

**Drinks available** 

**Shuttle from Hotel to Post 447**