



American Legion Auxiliary

*A Community of Volunteers Serving Veterans,
Military, and their Families*

TO: National Executive Committee Members, National Officers, National Chairmen, Past National Presidents

CC: Department Presidents; Department Secretaries, NHQ Staff

From: Kelly Circle, Executive Director

Re: **Weekly Briefing 8-21-2020**

FYI regarding the upcoming NEC Meeting – Saturday, August 29

The materials for the upcoming NEC meeting will be sent to participants and Department Secretaries later this afternoon for your review before the meeting. The NEC meeting will be recorded for others to view after the meeting. If you would like to request a link to the recording, please email the Events Team at meetings@alaforveterans.org.

NVCAF Update

The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF) which had been scheduled for November 28 – December 5, in St. Petersburg, Florida will be changing formats from an in-person to a virtual, at-home event to be held the week of November 30. We had a call with the VA Director of the Creative Arts Festival and I'm very impressed with the thought and planning they have already done to make this virtual event an engaging and rewarding event for our veterans!

Boys State Documentary

I promise I'll stop going on and on about this film but just this week, two different reviewers have mentioned "Oscar contender" when reviewing it. If it does become an Academy Award nominee, that will boost availability for viewings which can only help promote our programs! Here's the seven day free trial link if you want to watch it: <https://www.apple.com/apple-tv-plus/>

A Found Treasure

While going through a donated collection, Cathi found the following poem. The poet was Charles Franklin Benvegar.

Builder or Wrecker?

I watched them tearing a building down—
A gang of men in a busy town;
With a "Ho, heave, ho," and a lusty yell
They swung a beam and the side wall fell;
I asked the foreman, "Are these men skilled?
And the kind you would hire if you were to build?"
He laughed and said, "Why, no indeed,



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Just common laborers is all I need;
They can easily wreck in a day or two
That which has taken builders years to do.”
So I said to myself, as I went on my way,
“What part in the game of life do I play?
Am I shaping my deeds to a well-made plan,
Carefully measuring with a rule and square,
Patiently doing the very best I can,
Or am I a wrecker – who walks the town,
Content with the labor of tearing down?”