

# The Oregon Legionnaire

*The Voice of Oregon's Veterans Since 1919 February 2020*

**Inside This Issue**  
Iwo Jima pg 12

**Notes from Commanders,  
Commission Reports,  
Trivia and so much more...**



Storming the Beach Landing  
on Iwo Jima  
February 19, 1945



Waiting for all hell to break  
loose on Iwo Jima Beach  
February 19, 1945



Flag Raising on  
Iwo Jima  
February 23, 1945

Original Marines who raised  
the Flag on Iwo Jima  
February 23, 1945



PREPARING TO MOVE A WOUNDED MARINE ON IWO JIMA.

MARINE CORPS PHOTO 15-14

Marines helping fellow  
wounded Marine



The wreckage of a battle that  
lasted 5 weeks on Iwo Jima 1945



LARRY WITTMAYER  
DEPT 2ND-VICE COMMANDER  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

During the month of december, i visited the OVH in The Dalles for the annual give shop opening. Awe-some ex-perience to meet these veterans es-

pecially a shipmate from the USS Forrestal (CV-59).

I attended the Post 65 Christmas dessert buffet party and met some new members.

I attended the District 8 Christmas party at Post 150 and met some great veterans and their families.

Post 65 is a Secret Santa delivery for two families from names provided by the National Guard.

The 1/5 weekly membership report indicates that District 8 leads the department at 83.87 %

The Department is in 35th place in the nation at 76.09% And we need 644 to hit the 80%.



JEFF L HENDRICKS  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR,  
AMERICANISM DIVISION  
NATIONAL LIAISON TO  
THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
THE AMERICAN LEGION,  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
Post 2 is now moving to charter a previous LDS unit.

We need to push the Eagle Scout of the Year program now; the applications should be on the National web-site.

The following is the follow up email from the Scouting Conference held in August in Indianapolis.

“Scouter Legionnaires,

I want to thank those again who attended the Scouting Conference here in Indianapolis and thank those who attempted to join us via zoom teleconference. I have enclosed the Scouting Chairman Conference Report that will be read into the record this week during Fall Meetings. Key take away includes:

- Changes to the Eagle Scout of the Year application, which should be available online on/after 1 Nov.
- Those who have earned the Square Knot thru the legion are authorized to wear a 3/8” Legion Pin in the center of that award, starting 1 Jan. (See the attachment 3)
- Continue to work with LDS churches to subsume the role of chartering organization as those youths will be left out in the cold

The Scout-  
ing Commit-  
tee continues  
to work to-  
wards having  
Posts Charter  
Scouting  
Units  
especially the  
boys and  
girls left  
out when  
the  
LDS  
Church left  
Scouting.

after 31 Dec.

- Continue to establish female Scouts BSA troops, this is an easy recruiting effort.
- Provide to National Headquarters any innovative ways to outside of these efforts that will drive youths to join. I will forward best practices to the group.
- All of these efforts should also increase the membership of the Legion family. Many parents of Scouts are now Legion, SAL, or ALA eligible due to the expanded eligibility in all of these groups.
- I have included a copy of the Frank N. Belgrano Award from the TAC Manual. Your department’s written narrative should illuminate ‘how’ your department maintains a strong Scouting Program. This may include recent recruiting improvement efforts, additional department level events or local awards programs, and indicate quantifiable results of these efforts. (For example: Conducted a marketing blitz surrounding Legion Scouting efforts in the department of \_\_ at the state fair; resulting in an increase in membership of \_\_ Scouts & \_\_ Scouters – or increase of \_\_% this year – all of whom attributed their signing-up to this directed advertisement.)
- We would like to develop a continued quarterly conversation about National Jamboree 2021; by establish an ad-hoc steering committee:
- If you want to be a part of this discussion, please contact me for details.

## Department Officers

Commander	Steve Adams
Imed. Past Cmdr	Tom Harris
1st Vice Cmdr	Don Weber
2nd Vice Cmdr	Larry Wittmayer
Adjutant	S. Flynn Phillips
NECman	Andy Millar
Alt NECman	Jim Willis
Finance Officer	Bob Huff
Chaplain	Floyd Bacon
Historian	Judith Johnston
Judge Advocate	Gerald Shorey
Service Officer	Ed Van Dyke
Veterans Service Officer	Jody Marsh
Sgt-At-Arms	Phyllis York
Asst Sgt-At-Arms	Mike Morris
Asst Sgt-At-Arms	Ward Allen
Asst Sgt-At-Arms	Steven Mays
Aide to Cmdr	Larry Williams
Aide to Cmdr	William “Bud” Stutheit

Continued on Page 6





**RENEE OHLER**  
**DISTRICT 2 COMMANDER**

We have completed two District 2 meetings since our last book of reports. We wish to thank our special guests for their attendance and their continued support of our district. A common need as addressed from our Department officers is the need for posts to step up with membership, participation in programs, and the continual request for posts to submit the required reports. Remember your responsibly to the veterans in your posts. Your leadership role within your post is relied on by your post membership. Are you doing what is expected of you from your veterans? You were elected by your membership body to preform the tasks of your position as out lined in the officer's manual. It is time to evaluate your performance as a leader in your post to ensure you are meeting your veteran's expectations. Ask yourself the following questions:

1. Have we completed and submitted to Department the following reports?
  - a. Confidential Report
  - b. Installation of Post Officers
  - c. Post Chairman of Post Committee's Report
  - d. Post Data Report (dues)
2. Have we submitted candidates for Boys State, Oratorical, Girls State, and given Special Recognition of Community Leaders and Post Members?
3. Are we focusing on our Posts membership and reaching our monthly goals as out lined by Department and National?

All of the above make for a successful post that is taking care of their veterans. Don't be the leader that is letting your veterans down. Step up!

As veterans in the largest veteran organization in the country we must remember that our actions on and off the field must be respectful and honorable. The American Legion is not a platform for your personal self-fufilling prophecy. Our image and perception to all veterans and the public establish support to our posts and the state. A strong team determines how successful we can be if all veterans pull together for the better of the American Legion and our home posts.

*For God and Country*

*God Bless*

## Deadline

for the March issue  
of the  
Oregon Legionnaire  
is February 5th, 2020



In February 1920, which post was named after Roy Kruse, who was killed in France?

- A. Post 7
- B. Post 32
- C. Post 72
- D. Post 82



**P Det C, Marc Chaney**  
**Squadron 180 Commander**

14th.

We will be serving Chicken Fried Steak Dinner with all the trimmings for \$10. The special guest speaker will be Past National Commander Charlie Schmidt.

We would like to invite everyone to come celebrate The American Legion Birthday.

You may purchase your Dinner Ticket at Post 180 OR you can RSVP by E-Mailing Chaney.marc@gmail.com

**See page 6**

## Calendar of Events

### February

- 01 District 10 Mtg
- 02 District 2 Mtg
- 17 National Closed
- 17 Presidents Day (Closed)
- 18 District 8 Mtg

### March

- 08-11 Washington Conf.
- 11-13 Dept Service Officer School Wash. DC
- 28 District 7 Mtg

### April

- 10 Good Friday
- 11 District 6 Mtg
- 12 Easter Sunday
- 12 District 2 Caucus Mtg
- 18 District 9 Mtg
- 18 District 4 Caucus Mtg
- 21 District 8 Mtg

Squadron 180 is proud to host the American Legion 101st Birthday Dinner that is a District 8 Fundraiser at Milwaukie Post 180 on March



PDC, BOB HUFF  
DEPARTMENT FINANCE

Eight Years as your Department Finance Officer and eleven years as doing your Department of Oregon American Legion and Oregon American Legion Foundation Taxes. Support many of our Posts with Tax concerns have given me insight and considerable knowledge as to the issues that our Posts and Department have faced and face today in the financial area. I am going to take this opportunity in this article to discuss lessons learned, pitfalls some of our Posts have experienced; successes and planning for the future some of our Posts are experiencing. I have always believed that you are either part of the problem or part of the solution, I have always believed in being part of the solution; about finding ways to correct issues so that the Posts are a success and always going forward, being positive and doing what we are here to do and our forefathers did before us. I believe that you do not criticize someone unless you have walked in their shoes and then you offer support and help them or offer help to resolve the issue. I have a side of me that does not like gossip, drama, or just negative input with no solution and have a tendency to turn off those conversations and work on the positive; life is too short, and that is not why I am in the Legion; that is not who we are, saying that.

I will take this opportunity to discuss "real phone calls" asking for help, advise and what if's and tie in "musts". I must first remind all that we have provided training on most of these subjects, training that we have offered at the district level so that it is flowed down to the Post level and we continue to have Posts with issues that have

been covered in our training. First, Tax Time, yes if your Post has a Tax Filing Period of January 1 through December 31, it is time to put your financial records together to file taxes which are due for a 990, 990EZ or 990N by May 15, 2020. There are no exceptions. Yes if you look up your EIN on Melissa and your income is under \$50,000 a year and you file a 990N it will indicate that you do not need to file. You do not need to file a 990 or 990EZ Tax Form, you need to file, you need to report that you did not have income over \$50,000 and that you are still active, you have not terminated your EIN and closed. Remember NO EXCEPTIONS. When you do not file on time you receive a letter from IRS informing you that you have not filed. The IRS sends warning/reminder letters to those who have not filed. NOW, do not ignore or throw the letter away. If you are a 990N filer and you receive a warning letter, file late, there is no fine. If you continue and do not file for three years then you receive a letter from the IRS canceling your EIN number and with some other instructions. All the IRS letters are not the same, you must read them, follow the instructions. Some pitfalls, some Posts believe because they have a book keeper that it is being taken care of, some Posts know they have a finance officer and they are taking care of it, some Posts know someone, someone that has always taken care of it and ignore the IRS letter. Since our last Department Executive Meeting (DEC) in Lebanon in October we have had several Posts receiving IRS letters, some warning, some very serious. Interesting, your District Commander during their visitation to your Post checks your current Tax filing as part of their visit; if there is an issue with filing they can get you help. We have had nice reminders that the IRS has not received your 990 and they have been taken care of, those that we were notified of. We have had a Post

EIN revoked because of not filing a 990 in the past three years. Interesting, as we prepared an appeal, the Post had the 990's for the past three years and only when they filed the 2018 Tax was it rejected by the IRS because their EIN was revoked. The Post used a bookkeeper that they had been using. The bookkeeper prepared the 990 and sent it back to the Post. The Post Commander filed the 990 as it was believed to be a file copy. The bookkeeper did not file the 990 and believed the Post was filing the copy they were sent. The Post discontinued using the bookkeeper and made out the 2018 990 themselves and it was rejected with a revoked EIN. The IRS letter indicated that after repeated warning letters and reminders and no activity in three years their EIN was revoked. It also directed that the Post must file the past three years taxes as a C19 and file 2018 taxes as a non-profit and then reapply for their EIN number, not a new EIN, their existing EIN number. I asked the Post what happened to the IRS warning letters, the reminders and the response we never saw them. Someone else picks up the mail, changes in officers. Do not throw away IRS letters, if you have a question, ask. We currently have two Posts that have paid employees that have not filed their employees' tax or employers' payments or paperwork. They are both being fined and warnings.

**REMEMBER:** Every Post is a separate corporation, it is a business, you operate under Corporate Laws of Oregon, your Post Executive Committee has fiduciary responsibility for the funds of your Post. Operate it like a business. As a Post member you need to ask to see your 990, if a 990N the Post can print a copy of the "acceptance" from the IRS 990N reporting screen. It is public information; all 990, 990EZ forms and 990N are public information. Your Finance Officer

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Continued from page 4

Officer which could be Finance Officer/Adjutant or Commander/Adjutant/Finance Officer, whoever is in charge of your Posts Finances has responsibilities for your Post Funds and fiduciary responsibility for those funds. Read your Posts Constitution and By-Laws and what the responsibilities are and as a member, ask the questions if you do not understand. Remember, we offer training, tell your District Commander what type of training you would like and they will let the Training and Development Committee know so training can be set-up. Remember, all our training is open to the whole Legion Family, no cost. During the last month and a half, questions of Posts wanting to open their Lounges to the Public, Unrelated Business Income Tax, Schedule T, Paid Employees issues, all current issues some of our Posts are having indicates we need more training at the Post and District level. Do not wait until you receive an IRS Warning letter before you ask questions if you do not understand. Ask questions and training is available. We have filed our IRS 990 Tax Form and supporting Schedules for the Department of Oregon and our 990EZ Tax Form and Supporting Schedules for the Oregon American Legion Foundation. We have a new approved Tax Reporting Year which has been changed from August 1 to July 31 to October 1 to September 30 each year. We will now generate a "Short Year" tax document for August 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019 for The Department of Oregon and The Oregon American Legion Foundation which will count as one tax reporting document of ten required for each to support the change in Tax Reporting Year.

**Legionnaire Insurance  
Trust**



**BETTY FISH-FERGUSON**  
PERMANENT FINANCE  
COMMISSION MEMBER

The Permanent Finance Commission met on Friday evening of the recent Winter Department Executive Meeting in Springfield, Oregon. Commission Chair Kevin Owens oversaw the agenda at hand. The meeting started with a guest speaker. Financial Advisor William Scott Anderson from Ameriprise Financials gave us an update on our many accounts, and we are pleased to see continued growth from a market that is holding strong. We can weather any volatility that this election year might produce.

He stayed in the lobby for questions after the meeting.

We reviewed the budget process. Most budgets were not submitted on time and required multiple reminders. Kevin has decided to share the wealth and he split the different budgets up among Committee members to review in preparation for the annual Permanent Finance Commission workday on February 29, following the Department Oratorical competition at the Linn-Benton Fairgrounds in Albany. These budgets comprise the working Budget for the entire Department and they must be produced, or you are in jeopardy of not having funds to run your position.

Additional items discussed were the Department taxes, which were late this year. A recommendation was made for some additional training by office staff to make the work more efficient.

All things completed; We adjourned.

Thank you

Money, Money, Money

The Permanent Finance Commission met on Friday evening of the recent Winter Department Executive Meeting in Springfield, Oregon. Commission Chair Kevin Owens oversaw the agenda at hand. The meeting started with a guest speaker. Financial Advisor William Scott Anderson from Ameriprise Financials gave us an update on our many accounts, and we are pleased to see continued growth from a market that is holding strong. We can weather any volatility that this election year might produce.

## Editors Notes

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**Since 1919**  
*The Voices of Oregon Veterans*  
**The Oregon Legionnaire**

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The Oregon Legionnaire assumes no responsibility for material submitted and reserves the right to edit submissions

### *The Oregon Legionnaire Committee*

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	David Applegate
	Mick Wilson

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Continued from Page 2

- Develop concepts that the Americanism Staff and National Headquarters can pitch to leadership to justify any expenses:
1. American Legion Scouting Patch (quantity, quality, etc.)
  2. exhibit booth displays (hands-on item that will interest the scouts)
  3. additional persons in attendance (e.g. Girls State/Nation Program Director, ALA)
  4. Materials needed (e.g. application forms)
  5. etc.
- Keep in mind that National will NOT provide a call-in to attend this event and budgets will be extremely tight so we need to keep cost to a minimum.
  - Send to me your Scouting highlights and we will do our best to get them highlighted at the national level: e.g. social media, print, or even the National Commander's weekly report.
  - We are currently working with the BSA on a location for next year's Department Scouting Chairmen's Conference. We are leaning toward the Summit Bechtel Reserve or the Scouting U Westlake Campus. Once we have more, we will let you know.

respectfully,



PNC,PDC CHARLIE SCHMIDT  
PR CHAIRMAN

many centennial American Legion Posts in our Department.

These historic celebrations gave Posts, Districts, Department and our national organization opportunities to use Public Relations tools and media resources to showcase our commitment and support to The American Legion's Four Pillars and cardinal principles set forth by our founding fathers in Paris.

More opportunities will exist in 2020 for Post leadership to share with the public what Legionnaires are doing for our veterans and uniformed military members, their families, and our great nation through media resources.

Every Post should be proud of what they do in their community. The Post Newsletter is an excellent tool for Post leadership to stay connected with their membership as many members

The year 2019 was a major milestone in The American Legion's history. Not only did our National organization observed its 100th anniversary but so did

can't attend/participate in Post meetings/activities.

Whether you publish a month or quarterly newsletter, Post members will appreciate it. We have found that out in Harney County Post 63.

Department has distributed the 2019-2020 Trophy & Awards Questionnaires for program awards at our 2020 Department Convention. Questionnaire Number 10, with a submission deadline of May 15, 2020, gives Posts the opportunity to compete for Department recognition for their Public Relations program.

Questionnaire Number 24, with a submission deadline of June 1, 2020, gives Posts the opportunity to compete for Department recognition for the Post Newsletter. Fill out these questionnaires by giving detailed information, along with any attachments, that will give judges a clear understanding of these programs in your Post during the 2019-2020 American Legion year.

Your Department Public Relations Committee strongly urges each Post in 2020 to have an active Public Relations program. Posts do many wonderful activities/events to support American Legion programs. Be proud of what you do and share your stories with the public. It's going to be a great 2020!

## Legionnaire HospitalHELP Insurance Plan



Endorsed By  
Your American Legion  
Department

**LEARN MORE**

Money to help pay YOUR  
portion of hospital bills or  
you can use your cash  
benefits however you see fit!



# Veteran Job Fair

## Thursday, March 5

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Portland  
1000 NE Multnomah St.

Veterans with non-competitive hiring eligibilities, such as 30% or more disable veteran or Veteran Recruitment Appointment (VRA), are encouraged to attend:

- Visit [fedshirevets.gov](http://fedshirevets.gov) for more information on non-competitive veteran hiring authorities
- Bring a current resume, DD-214 member 4 copy and disability rating letter (if applicable)
- Be prepared to meet with hiring managers
- Positions available include: Management Associates, IT Specialists, Public Utilities Specialists, Management and Program Analysts, and many more

Sponsored by:



## District 8 Fundraising Dinner

Join us to celebrate  
**The American Legion 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday**  
With Guest Speaker  
Past National Commander  
**Charlie Schmidt!**

**Saturday**  
**March 14th**  
**5:30PM**

**\$10**

CHICKEN FRIED STEAK,  
MASHED POTATOES, VEGETABLES,  
SALAD, DESSERT



2146 SE MONROE ST  
MILWAUKIE OR 97222

## ESTACADA COMMUNITY CENTER

200 CLUBHOUSE DRIVE -- ON THE RIVER, ACROSS 224



## VETERANS

*A rep from Fort Kennedy will be at ECC*

**Wed Jan 8 and Wed Jan 22**

**8:30 am – 11 am**

*to provide information about resources for Veterans  
-- housing, clothing, lawyer information.*

***FortKennedy.org***

***Call ECC at 503-630-7454***



## 2020 RAFFLE



***Proudly Celebrating and Supporting Oregon's  
Veterans, Military, Families and Communities!***

### ***Limited Edition***

A framed and matted  
print of  
The American Legion's  
'Legacy & Vision'  
Centennial print with  
the Centennial  
Commemorative silver  
dollar coin!

*Certificate of Authenticity  
is included!*

All proceeds support  
veterans and youth  
programs.



(Not to scale – approx. 10"x 13")

**Tickets: \$5 each or 5 for \$20**

Contacts: District Commanders and Department Adjutant

**The Oregon American Legion Foundation**

# IN MEMORIAM

## Colonel (Ret) Harley W. Ray

July 30, 1938 - December 31, 2019



Harley W. Ray, after a short illness, passed away peacefully at home in Boise, Idaho. He had lived with his daughter Tanya since 2014. Harley was born on July 30, 1938 to Charles and Edna (Aiken) Ray and attended schools in the Longview-Kelso area graduating from Kelso High School in 1956.

He fulfilled his dream of being in the military by joining the Washington National Guard and

was sent to Officer's Candidate School where he earned his Lieutenant's Bar. Harley transferred to the U.S. Army and served in Viet Nam with the 1st

Cavalry Regiment 2nd Armor Division. Completing his active duty service he joined the US Army Reserve where holding the rank of Colonel he completed 43 years of service to his country.

Harley was a member of the American Legion for 47 years and served on many State and National Committees that worked to pass legislation to help veterans. He served as Department of Oregon Commander in 1999-2000 and National Vice Commander of American Legion in 2008.

Harley loved to collect carvings of the American Eagle, travel, play golf, sing and socialize all to the maximum. He married his high school sweetheart and they had three children. Sharon and Harley later divorced but remained good friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and granddaughter. He is survived by his three children Tanya (Bob) Bigness of Boise, Idaho, Robert Ray of Kelso, Washington, Jana (Jeff) Dahlman of Castle Rock, Washington, 6 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren, his brother Terry Ray of Boise, Idaho, his wife Margie Ray of Springfield Oregon and Sharon Ray.

The family would like to express their appreciation to the Boise VA Medical Center, Cascadia of Boise and Horizon Hospice for their excellent care and support during Harley's final illness.

Graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on March 26 at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery in Boise, Idaho. A celebration of his life will be held after the service.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, or Veterans of Foreign Wars, all of which Harley was a life member.

Office/Commission	Beginning	Ending
DEPT COMMANDER @	06/26/1999	06/24/2000
DEPT LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN	06/26/2004	06/26/2010
DEPT M & PA CHAIRMAN	06/29/1996	06/28/1997
DEPT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	06/29/1996	06/28/1997
DEPT PAST CMDR CLUB	08/06/1999	01/12/2006
DEPT SGT-AT-ARMS	06/28/1997	06/27/1998
DEPT SGT-AT-ARMS	06/20/2002	06/28/2003
DISTRICT COMMANDER	06/24/1995	06/29/1996
DEPT VICE COMMANDER	06/27/1998	06/26/1999
COUNTER-SUBVERSIVE ACT CMTE *	10/20/1994	10/19/2006
VETS EMPLOYMENT & EDUC COMM *	10/19/2006	10/16/2008
NATIONAL OFFICER @	08/28/2008	08/27/2009
NATL CONV RESOL ASSIGNMENT *	10/13/2011	05/23/2014
NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER @	08/28/2008	08/27/2009
POST COMMANDER	05/27/1992	05/11/1993
POST COMMANDER	05/31/2001	09/10/2002

## New Unit #57 Newberg



Left-Gea Clausier, Pam Frost, Angela Franklin, Sherrie Frost, Dana Speer, Lori Vallery, Dana Reeser, Ashley Sands, Saira McCollum, Mike Speer, Suzan Wright, Debra Godwin, Jenn Vallery. Not pictured: Heidi Manning, Ian Gerstel, Rhea Sands, Connie Vanhorn-right  
(See Story on page 9)



## 2020 OREGON WOMEN VETERANS CONFERENCE *Stronger Together*

MAY 30-31, 2020  
RIVERHOUSE ON THE DESCHUTES | BEND, OREGON

**FREE AND OPEN TO ALL WOMEN VETERANS**  
REGISTER NOW - [WWW.WVC.OREGONDVA.COM](http://WWW.WVC.OREGONDVA.COM)





DANA SPEER

PRESIDENT

AUXILIARY UNIT 57

NEWBERG, OREGON

Sept 6th, a group of ladies met over coffee and lunch to find out if there was an interest in forming an Auxiliary. There seemed to be.

Our next meeting 2 weeks later was the beginning of our planning sessions. The ladies wanted to grow our unit and to do that, we needed weekly meetings. That's right, Weekly! Like any group, you had ladies who came regularly and others not so regularly. 6-10 seemed the consistent number, but we needed 10 to charter.

November, we took the plunge to see if those 10 would show up! The late Faith Gerstel's goal was to have an Auxiliary unit to grow our "family", with the Legion's support. The support of our husbands (Ian in Faith's memory and Michael, my husband) unit 57 was chartered. We the Auxiliary have the support of our family members on the Legion side and our extended family the legionnaires encouraging us, supporting us. Thank you. Department of Oregon and District 2 have been welcoming, encouraging and supportive. Most of all, the members of Unit 57. How lucky I am to have these driven, motivated folks eager and willing to work for our veterans, our families and our community. We don't meet weekly any more. We are official. We received our charter January 3, 2020.

Unit pre-charter activities (2019):

- Fall Stand-down at Post 21 and planning for the Spring Stand-down in Newberg
- Post Pancake Breakfast fundraiser
- Attended the ceremony for the unclaimed vets at Willamette National Cemetery
- Organized Thanksgiving and Christmas food and toy baskets
- Hosted the Post's First Annual Christmas dinner (the second one is already scheduled)



PDC, BOB HUFF

VEEH CHAIRPERSON

lessness. Today, we have multiple Veterans Stand Downs in Oregon, the communities and Posts have become active; some are also Veterans Employment and Benefits events. We are holding our next Stand down, Veterans Employment and Benefits event at Josephine County Fair-Grounds on Friday March 20, 2020. Our Posts, our Legion Family have been supporting as community events. This is important; with our Oregon National Guard deployed, our biggest deployment, our Posts need to participate with their local National Guard units and their families during this deployment. There are several Vet-Nets established in our communities to assist our deployed Guard families, some of our Posts are participating, all our Posts need to participate. We have programs that can support this deployment and the families of our Guard. This is an opportunity for our Legion Family to be in the community and show our National Guard units and families our programs and the good work we do.

The 2020 Oregon Women Veterans Conference is held every 2 years and is being held on May 30-31, 2020 at the Riverside Convention Center in Bend, which we sponsor, and support and we will be there. Registration is now open at [www.wvc.oregondva.com](http://www.wvc.oregondva.com). This is an excellent event, well attended. Please get the word out to all Women Veterans.

Reminder, again, again, we are have

The Veterans Employment and Education Commission is tasked with Veterans Employment, Education and Home-

lessness. Today,

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active; some are also Veterans Em-

ployment and Benefits events. We are

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ing our largest deployment in Oregon which started in October. There will be Yellow Ribbon events for the families during the deployment and then when our Soldiers return. This is a great opportunity for our Posts and Districts to meet the soldiers and their families during deployment and on their return from deployment and show our programs and the positive impact we have on Veterans issues and our communities and supporting their families. We are working with local units for the return of our soldiers and holding Employment, Benefits and Education Event as part of a Yellow Ribbon, those talks have been positive.

Reminder, again, Point in Time (PIT) Count, when your County conducts their PIT of Homeless Veterans, it is important that this count be taken, any assistance our Posts can give to assure an accurate count is taken is necessary for funding to support the Homeless Veterans population in those communities. The PIT is being organized now in several of our Counties. Remember our most successful events are those with local Post participation.

*February 14, 2020*



## 22 SIGNS OF BOARD MEETINGS GONE BAD PDC, GENE HELICKSON

1. 15 minutes in, a stranger has no idea who is running the meeting.
2. Or the stranger presumes the E.D. is running the board meeting (news alert: the board meeting should be run by the board chair).
3. The meeting seems to go beautifully - staff presentations are clear and there are no questions. Actually, the board does not ask a single question (with the possible exception of, "I'm sorry - what time are we scheduled to end the meeting? I may need to leave early.")
4. You can tell there is a group text going on among board members - and there is enough mirth to suggest that it is not board-related business.
5. Your board meeting is a conference call and there's no video.
6. The agenda is identical to the last meeting; in fact, so identical that someone forgot to change the date.
7. Board members leave feeling that absolutely nothing is a challenge.
8. Board members leave feeling that absolutely EVERYTHING is a challenge.
9. No one pays attention and you run out of time before getting through your agenda.
10. There is no reference to any productive activity of a committee.
11. The word "committee" is never uttered.
12. Someone speaks for longer than 2 minutes and is not asked to wrap up.
13. Someone else speaks for longer than 2 minutes is not asked to wrap it up, and repeats everything in the prior 2+ minute monologue.
14. A board member who never attends actually shows up but the only evidence of his attendance is his empty bowl of M and M's.
15. The words, "I would love to hear your thoughts" are never uttered by the B.D.
16. The voting process is so awkward that people start laughing. The board chair joins in the merriment and says, "I'm sure there are some rules we should be following. A cell phone rings more than once.
17. A board member leaves the room because of a call and does not apologize. She simply says "Oh, I really have to take this."
18. There is a conversation about the upcoming gala and the word "centerpiece" is uttered at least once.
19. At least one board member falls asleep.
20. Staff in attendance are relegated to a corner of the room and are not seated (like partners) at the conference table. Your meeting really sucks if the staff have their own kids' table.
21. Not a single story is told about a life your organization has touched recently.

## SO, DO YOUR BOARD MEETINGS SUCK?

How many of these signs felt familiar? If you checked a lot of these boxes:

- You have work to do.
- You are not treating board members with respect.
- You simply cannot expect them to be effective ambassadors for your organization, inviting people to know and do more.



PDC, KEVIN OWENS  
OREGON AMERICAN  
LEGION FOUNDATION  
PRESIDENT

You might ask what the American Legion can do for my Post? Great question but the answer is simple, to have an avenue to solicit

donations for use on American Legion programs by companies or folks that require a 501(c3) to give money.

With the decline in participation in Boy's State, Oratorical, and other Legion programs, I can only assume it could be for the cost of the program. I can not think that anyone would not want to better the life of a child with the wonderful programs we offer, to see the joy it brings and confidence it builds is heartwarming.

At our recent Department Executive Committee Meeting, we witness that very point. In the American Legion, it starts with the Post acting and fulfilling the promise we all took when we joined and that is to promote and support the Four Pillars of the American Legion.

From personal experience, it does take work to go to the schools, interview the boys, find the funding, but in the end, look at what we produce, the future of America.

I hope we all look at ourselves and see where we stand and are we a doer or a complainer? Let The Oregon American Legion Foundation help you be the doer; we are here to support all your efforts 100%. It just takes someone to step up and run with the ball.







**STEVE ADAMS**  
**DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**

At the Fall Conference in Indianapolis Department leadership held meetings in the NEC meeting room at National Headquarters. Department leadership occupied the same desks that our NEC and Alternate NEC set at during NEC meetings.

These NEC meetings give the leadership a first-hand experience of what it is like to sit in this room and make decisions at the National level Concerning Legion Policy. It was a great honor to be able to sit in the NEC meeting room at the desk designated for the Department of Oregon during the days of these meetings.

Our meetings covered a wide range of topics, from a presentation by National Commander Bill Oxford to National Vice Commanders, including Oregon's own Rob Liebenow Western Region Vice Commander. Also, Rev. Daniel Seehafer Chairman of the VE&E Commission, Auxiliary National President Nicole Clapp, SAL National Commander Clint Bolt, National Adjutant Daniel Wheeler, and National Judge Advocate Kevin Bartlett, to name a few.

These were very intense meetings with much information over several days but it was time well spent.

**Charles E. Schmidt, Chairman**  
**Public Relations Committee**  
**The American Legion**  
**Department of Oregon**

There are some great stories from the "In Your Own Words" category at [www.legion.org/media](http://www.legion.org/media). This particular article has a great message. Enjoy.

**For God and Country,**

**Moments Missed**

*Submitted by Kylan Harrington*

My father was a Vietnam veteran, but I only knew him as a superhero. He spent 14 months running fuel convoys through some of the worst enemy territories of Da Nang, but I only learned this after years of research following his death. You see, after Vietnam, my father came home and wanted nothing to do with the Army or the military at all. He threw his uniforms and boots away, buried his DD 214 at the bottom of a box, and I've yet to find one resume where he lists "veteran" as one of his many superhero powers. Growing up, we always knew, but we were told not to ask.

In 2010, I was on my third 12-month deployment to Iraq. I thought I was invincible at that point: a female officer who was running convoys with an infantry unit. I returned from one such convoy to a Red Cross message waiting for me. It was about my dad. He had been waging war with liver cancer for years and doctors had just delivered the final blow. I dissolved into a mess of tears as I read the message 6-9 months. Terminal.

I remembered looking at myself in all my gear and realized I was still just a scared little girl who needed her dad. A few months before my dad died, he received a letter from the VA. In the pages of convoluted medical and military terminology was the statement, "Your cancer diagnosis has been attributed to your exposure to Agent Orange and you have been awarded 100% disability." It was the first time I had ever seen a VIETNAM VETERAN following my dad's name.

In the 28 years of being his daughter, I didn't know him at all. He died before he received \$1 of that claim. My father never stepped foot in an American Legion. He never joined any veteran club that I know of, and none of his friends had ever served. It was as if Vietnam had never happened in our home. I like to think had my dad found a Legion, maybe he would have taken more pride in his uniform and held on to it.

Maybe he would realize he had friends at the bar instead of drinking alone at night. Maybe one of those friends would have pushed him to the VA a little sooner to get checked for symptoms of Agent Orange. As a combat veteran, I failed my father. As a Legionnaire, I'll never make that mistake again.

Our lives have been defined and shaped by our service to our country. We **HAVE** to talk about it. We have to surround ourselves with brothers and sisters who experienced it. We **have to know** we are not alone. The greatest asset of the Legion is the people who carry the torch and ensure **no one is forgotten again**.

**About the author:** CW3 Kaylan Harrington is a Military Intelligence Officer serving with the Maryland Army National Guard. She has completed six combat tours to Iraq and Afghanistan and was named the National American Legion Auxiliary Service Woman of the Year for the United States Army in 2019. She is a Legionnaire and Legion Rider at Post 18 in Centerville, Maryland.



**PNC, Charles Schmidt**

### *Need to Know Dates*

Boys State – June 14-20, 2020

Girls State – June 14-20, 2020

State Convention  
June 24-28, 2020



Answer:

C. Post 72

Named Roy Kruse in 1920

## *Are you moving?*

*We hate to have you miss the next Legionnaire Newsletter!*

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM**

*Please Update My Address in [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PhoneNumber: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Email to: [Office@orlegion.org](mailto:Office@orlegion.org)**

**Or Mail to: The Department of Oregon**

**Attn: Adjutant**

**P.O. Box 1730**

**Wilsonville, OR 97070-1730**

## The Battle for Iwo Jima

**Location:** Volcanic island 660 miles south of Tokyo **Size:** 2 miles wide by 4 miles long (8 sm)

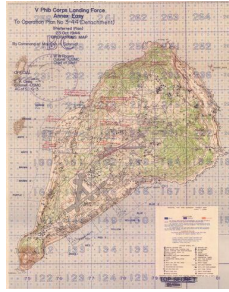
### Background: Summer/Fall 1944

Even before ground operations to secure the Mariana Islands of Guam, Saipan, and Tinian ended, U.S. Naval construction battalions were already clearing land for air bases suitable for the new B-29 "Superfortresses." These huge bombers had a range capable of reaching the Japanese Home Islands. The first B-29 bombing runs began in October 1944. But there was a problem—Japanese fighters taking off from tiny Iwo Jima were intercepting B-29s, as well as attacking the Mariana airfields. The U.S. determined that Iwo Jima must be captured.

### The Battle:

U.S. Marines invaded Iwo Jima on February 19, 1945, after months of naval and air bombardment. The Japanese defenders of the island were dug into bunkers deep within the volcanic rocks. Approximately 70,000 U.S. Marines and 18,000 Japanese soldiers took part in the battle. In thirty-six days of fighting on the island, nearly 7,000 U.S. Marines were killed. Another 20,000 were wounded. Marines captured 216 Japanese soldiers; the rest were killed in action. The island was finally declared secured on March 16, 1945. It had been one of the bloodiest battles in Marine Corps history.

After the battle, Iwo Jima served as an emergency landing site for more than 2,200 B-29 bombers, saving the lives of 24,000 U.S. airmen. Securing Iwo Jima prepared the way for the last and largest battle in the Pacific: the invasion of Okinawa.



### The Flag Raising:

The flag-raising atop Mt. Suribachi took place on February 23, 1945; five days after the battle began. Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal took the famous photograph of five Marines and one Navy corpsman raising the flag. The flag raisers were Cpl. Harlon Block, Navy Pharmacist's Mate John Bradley, Cpl. Rene Gagnon, PFC Franklin Sousley, Sgt. Michael Strank, and Cpl. Ira Hayes. Three of these men—Strank, Sousley, and Block—were killed before the battle for Iwo Jima was over.

The photograph was quickly wired around the world and reproduced in newspapers across the United States. The image was used as a model for the Marine Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery.

### Awards:

Twenty-seven Medals of Honor (our country's highest military award for bravery) were awarded for action on Iwo Jima—more than any other battle in U.S. history.

*"Among the men who fought on Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was a common virtue"*  
—Admiral Chester W. Nimitz

The National WWII Museum • 945 Magazine St. • New Orleans, LA 70130 • [www.nationalww2museum.org](http://www.nationalww2museum.org)



Plymouth Wagon all decked out in USMC inside Museum



Past Post 74 Commander Doug Jamieson talking with WWII Veteran, Bill Call

**Come to Canby Iwo Jima February 22, 2020**  
**"You might get a chance to shake Bill's hand"**

## Iwo Jima 75<sup>th</sup> Commemoration

### Flag Raising Ceremony

**Saturday, February 22, 2020**

**10:00 am**

**Ackerman Middle School**

**13<sup>th</sup> & S Ivy Canby, OR**

**The Canby-Aurora VFW Post/Auxiliary 6057**

**Cordially invite you to our**

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Iwo Jima Flag Raising Ceremony**

**held at Ackerman Gymnasium**

**ALL Veterans and Families are encouraged to attend**

**Veterans Groups and Service Organizations are welcome to participate in the Massing of the Colors**

**Participant Staging is at 9:00 am**

**Please RSVP if you will be Participating**

**Contact Martin Lackner via call or text at 503-849-8390**

**Or email: [Commander6057@gmail.com](mailto:Commander6057@gmail.com)**

**Refreshments will be provided & drawing for '68 Cadillac**



"A Marine of the 1st Marine Division draws a bead on a Japanese sniper with his tommy-gun as his companion ducks for cover. The division is working to take Wana Ridge before the town of Shuri." S.Sgt. Walter F. Kleine, Okinawa, 1945. 127-N-123170. National Archives Identifier: 532559





**LOU NEUBECKER**  
**MEDIA CHAIRPERSON**  
**LEGIONNAIRE**

copy of the Legionnaire for the people who do not have computers. We would have to charge them a small fee (\$20 or \$25) for the year.

**For GOD and Country**

Due to my recent illness, we did not meet at the Winter DEC.

What I would like to talk about is getting back to a newspaper type



**LOU NEUBECKER**  
**INTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
**CHAIRPERSON**

ter.

Winter time is a down time for IA. I am looking to start reviewing all District and Post folder at Department for updated Constitution and By-Laws.

Please review your C&BL's and get a copy into Department at both District and Post Levels.

**For GOD and Country**

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers and get well wishes during my recent illness. I not out of the woods yet, but getting better.



President Gea Clausier, Viola Govenor, Cindy and Sue Guerin of the Warm Springs Unit # 48, brings MRS Govenor to visit the headquarters for the first time.

Flynn never lets a photo opportunity go by.

Viola Govenor is Unit 48's Chaplain and us the eldest member (in her 80's). She is our most active member - always willing to show up.

She is the sister of Chesley Yahtin. one of the "Chosen Few" in the Korean War & Gilbert Yahtin who was killed in action at Vietnam.

Viola sings in church and is an adamant prayer warrior.

Submitted by: Susan Guerin, President  
American Legion Auxiliary - Unit 48



**GREG MARVIN**  
**NATIONAL SECURITY**

The National Security Commission and the Law and Order/Homeland Security Committee members met at the Mid-winter DEC meeting in Springfield, Oregon, to select the Department of Oregon Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the year. This year we had six nominations from Posts around the state, three Law Enforcement Officers, and three Firefighters. All the nominees were excellent candidates, but unfortunately, we are only able to select one of each category.

This year's Law Enforcement Officer winner is Officer Bradley Walther, a 12-year veteran of the Marine Corps and nine years' service with Milwaukie Police Department, Milwaukie, Oregon. Officer Walther's dedication to the Milwaukie community and service to veterans in dire need has been an inspiration to the City of Milwaukie and its citizens. Officer Walther was nominated by Milwaukie Post 180 and is a member of that Post.

The Firefighter award winner is Julie Kemper of Banks Fire District #13, Banks, Oregon. Firefighter Kemper has given nearly 14 years of dedicated service to her community by serving as a volunteer firefighter/engineer. In addition to serving her community, she deployed on four wildfire conflagrations in 2018, one of which was the Camp Fire in California. She again volunteered this year to deploy to California in support of the Kinkade Fire. American Legion Post #90, Banks, Oregon nominated Kemper for the Firefighter Award.

Department forwarded the names of these Officers to the Western Region contest and hopefully will progress to National for consideration as Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the Year awards.

# George A. White

## Part 1

SUBMITTED BY:  
PDC, GENE HELICKSON



GEORGE A. White, of Oregon will tell in this and succeeding articles the history of the Legion's formation, was one of the group which launched the movement and called the Paris caucus. His associates in this task say the Paris caucus would have been considerable of a dud but for his efforts. Once when unjustified suspicion threatened the budding movement, he went AWOL in order to visit a number of divisions which were not going to join it because they were convinced it was formed to work the will of an Army or political clique – or both. All of these outfits came in when they learned from Mr. White the real purpose of the movement. Mr. White was elected first secretary of the Legion in France by the Executive Committee of One Hundred at the Paris caucus. Thereafter the infant Legion abroad literally grew up in his quarters. Mr. White is now a member of Portland Post No. 1, Department of Oregon.

**WHO** started The American Legion? Why? What motive actuated the little group of A.E.F. men who called the Paris caucus at which the name of the soldiers' organization was chosen, and the movement formally launched? What are the real inside facts of the origin of The American Legion?

These questions have been asked many times, and the answers given have always been more academic than satisfying-which is usually the case when questions tinged with suspicion are put. There are still those, no doubt, who believe that the original purpose of the Legion was to promote Army legislation or to play some coy political game, and that this fell design was prevented by the interest and activity of the great mass of men coming into the Legion.

At the outset I want to say that The American Legion has developed exactly along the lines of the original vision of a small group of men who met and planned the Paris caucus. What they planned has been wrought. Their dream of a great soldiers' organization moved by an impulse for continued service to America and held together by the ties of comradeship in the world's greatest adventure, has come true.

For them The American Legion has sprung no surprises. Nor has it profited one of them one iota. Each

has done his allotted part, always under the urge of necessity and the importunities of his associates and then got from under "by first available transportation." Of the original group of twenty men who founded The American Legion in France only one continued to carry the burden during the past year. That one was Franklin D'Olier. I recall how Franklin D'Olier announced his retirement from National Headquarters in September of 1919. He had planned a wonderful vacation with Mrs. D'Olier and their three children, after which he was going to take up the threads of business life.

Everyone at National Headquarters protested. He had already done his share, but they simply made him stay, for as director of organization his services could not be spared. His family and business were quite a secondary matter in the minds of Mr. D'Olier's once-a-week associates, who seemed to ignore the fact that they were back in their own offices. And it was by the same method that he was given the burden of National Commander to carry for the first trying year following the Minneapolis convention. There are few men who could have done the big job Franklin D'Olier has done and there are fewer who would have done it. But getting back to those mysterious first-toddling steps of the Legion in France, which is the subject

the editor of the Legion's magazine has asked light upon. Who started the Legion, anyway? As is commonly supposed, the individual who must be set down in history as the father of The American Legion is Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. He summoned the original group of twenty founders to meet in Paris and who called them to order once they had assembled for dinner at a French military club.

**THIS** was on the night of February 15, 1919. It was at this meeting that the Paris caucus was decided upon, a policy of organization adopted and the work of getting the great movement started parceled out among those present. Of that twenty, eleven functioned. The others enjoyed the repast and were not seen again.

The principal decision to be made was whether the organization-it had no name until the Paris caucus should be initiated in France or should wait until we were all home and out of the Army. I had discussed this problem with Roosevelt a month before the February 15 meeting and, admitting the great difficulty of doing anything while in the service, bound as all were by military rules and regulations, brought his attention to a horde of budding societies for veterans that were undertaking to bloom in America. I had the record of one started in my own State, Oregon, and in which

Continued on Page 15



one of the moving spirits was on the payroll for a neat sum which had to be collected in the form of dues from returning doughboys. This enterprising chap, although of military age and appearance, enjoyed a semi military status but had refrained from entering the Army.

So, it was to get the jump on the dues grafters and to interest especially people who were undertaking to exploit the returning soldiers that immediate action was determined upon that, and to establish the tradition of having the organization formed in France, the scene of America's bitter tragedies and glorious victories.

Just how to get enough representative men into Paris for conference was something of a problem, and one which Mr. Roosevelt worked out admirably. At that time there was a tremendous revulsion of feeling on the part of civilian soldiers officers and men alike-against general conditions in the A. E. F. If not universal, this feeling was at least widespread. Morale had gone to pot with the let-down of the Armistice, and everyone was raring to go home.

The proposal that twenty representative civilian soldiers be brought together to discuss and analyze that situation was one that appealed to the powers that were in France. Few if any of the twenty knew why they were going to Paris when they got orders to report on February 15 to a designated headquarters in the capital.

**THROUGHOUT** that day and the next we discussed the weighty problem at hand, ending our work by drawing up a commendation to the Commander in Chief for betterment of the welfare of enlisted men in the American Expeditionary Forces. We urged fewer restrictions, advised sending the men home in the order in which they reached France, and under took to remove a number of thorns in the side of an army which craved just one thing-to watch the Statue of Lib-

erty growing into the foreground.

Toward the end of the first day Theodore Roosevelt told each one of us that he wanted us to dine with him and talk over the formation of a soldier's organization-talk over forming the G. A. R. of the World War, as someone put it. Accordingly, we met at seven o'clock that evening. Ten combat divisions, H. Q. and several S. O. S. sections were represented by the twenty present, all of them citizen soldiers.

Dinner over, Roosevelt explained briefly the desirability of launching the inevitable after-the-war organization. He said he was not certain whether those present felt they were sufficiently representative to undertake such a work.

"It is a nervy thing for us, as a self-appointed committee, to set about such a thing, but someone has got to do it and it ought to be done as soon as possible for the good of the men and for the good of the country," he said in conclusion.

Here, before the babe had been born, the first conflict occurred. One of those present he ranked all the rest of us demanded to know right off the bat where everyone there stood on the question of universal training and a bigger army. He thought the fundamental purpose of such an organization as we were discussing should be to work for universal service, and unless he was assured on that point, "I don't want to have anything to do with the movement," he announced. He concluded with a request that the meeting be polled.

Several of us protested in unison. William (Wild Bill) Donovan of the Rainbow Division said it was presumptuous enough for us even to issue a call for a soldiers' organization, and that it would be unthinkable for us to try to wish any pre-thought-out policies on the unborn babe. After a heated argument, in which the colonel was all alone in his contentions, it

was decided that after the child had been duly born and reared it could decide for itself whether it wanted mush or hot cakes for break fast and also what variety of military policy it preferred.

At that meeting, which lasted until, nearly midnight, there was formulated a policy which held together until the mass of the members took over the temporary organization at the Minneapolis convention a year ago this month. It was that the founders were to concern themselves with the details of organization only. What we set out to do was to establish an organization of returning soldiers for their benefit, to be conducted by them as soon as the details of organization had been worked out and the organization was large enough and representative enough to reflect the common opinion of the majority of those who had served in the war.

When that meeting adjourned, the G. A. R. of the World War consisted of. a date for a general caucus at Paris, the promise of every man present that he would do everything possible to get the word out over the A. E. F. and a working force consisting of Eric Fisher Wood of Pennsylvania, Ralph Cole of Ohio, and myself. Wood and Cole were to send written notifications to all divisions and S. O. S. sections and supply information to the European and American press, while I was to work the field by personal visits to the various combat divisions. Cole dropped out after the meeting that night, while Wood, by his untiring energy and initiative, did a really big piece of work in getting the Paris caucus together.

**{Part 2 next month}**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**40th National Veterans  
Wheelchair Games**  
*July 3-8, 2020  
Oregon Convention Center*

For Information: [www.wheelchairgames.org](http://www.wheelchairgames.org)

To Volunteer, email [NVWG2020Volunteer@va.gov](mailto:NVWG2020Volunteer@va.gov)



# THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Name \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date of Birth) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (ZIP) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone) \_\_\_\_\_ (Email) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Male ☐ Female (Gender) \_\_\_\_\_ (Post #) \_\_\_\_\_ (Dues)

☐ I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

**Please check appropriate eligibility era and branch of service below:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War             | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Panama               | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada      | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam              | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Korea                | <input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WWII                 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts      |   |

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Recruiter \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed application to The American Legion National Headquarters, Attn: Internal Affairs. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. For current department/state address, go to [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).**

ALA 08/2019

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Received From \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Dues  
Recruiter's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_



# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Date \_\_\_\_\_

Detachment of \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (ZIP) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone) \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran through whom eligibility is established \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. \_\_\_\_\_ Department of \_\_\_\_\_

OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran \_\_\_\_\_

Has Applicant previously been a member of the SAL? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Transmit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ annual membership dues

Signed By Applicant (or Parent) \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility certified by \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed application to Sons of The American Legion department/state headquarters. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. For current detachment address, go to The American Legion department/state headquarters, or visit [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).**

ALA 12/2013

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Received From \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Dues  
Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of \_\_\_\_\_



# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



## APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Unit # and Location (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth (Required) ☐ Birth - 17 ☐ 18 and over

Have you been a member previously? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If yes, fill in below, if known.)

Previous Unit City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ ALA ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit this application to the ALA unit you wish to join. If unit is unknown, contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance.**

**Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. Membership pending approval of application.**

## ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible Through—Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name) \_\_\_\_\_

If Living: American Legion Member ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Deceased (If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records.)

**Veteran Served:**

☐ WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)

☐ Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror | <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada | <input type="checkbox"/> WWII            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War             | <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Panama               | <input type="checkbox"/> Korea           |  |

**Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:**

- |                                      |  |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male Spouse | <input type="checkbox"/> Female Spouse | <input type="checkbox"/> Mother |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grandmother | <input type="checkbox"/> Sister        | <input type="checkbox"/> Self   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daughter    | <input type="checkbox"/> Granddaughter |                                 |

**To Be Completed By The American Legion Post Adjutant/Officer**

I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.

Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ALA 09/2019

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Received From \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Dues  
Recruiter's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Recruiter's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_