The Oregon Legionnaire

The Voice of Oregon's Veterans Since 1919

June 2020



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

Inside This Issue
Corona Virus, Convention, VE Day, WWII,
National Guard and Health Authority



Veterans look on as President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump participate in a wreath laying ceremony at the World War II Memorial to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, Friday, May 8, 2020, in Washington.

World War II veterans mark V-E Day in Washington with Trump

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE AND KEVIN FREKING | Associated Press | Published: May 8, 2020

Front Cover

WASHINGTON — They stormed French beaches on D-Day, helped liberate a concentration camp and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. And seven elderly World War II veterans weren't about to let the coronavirus pandemic keep them from marking the 75th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe.

Ranging in age from 96 to 100, the veterans held their salute as President Donald Trump joined them in a commemoration at the World War II Memorial on a blustery Friday morning.

Steven Melnikoff, now 100, was an infantryman whose Army unit was responsible for capturing more than 10,000 German soldiers.

"It was a tough battle," Melnikoff, who lives near Baltimore, said by telephone after Friday's ceremony. Speaking of his unit, he said: "I was with them constantly for 11 months, except the weeks and months that I spent in the hospital." He had been shot in the neck.

Melnikoff said he wasn't worried about traveling from Maryland during the pandemic to pay his respects to all who were lost in the war, "that greatest generation."

"We used proper protection," he said.

Trump kept his distance as he walked by the veterans, including one in a wheelchair, who had lined up to greet him. Melnikoff said he previously had met Trump at the White House.

"I just said, 'Nice to see you again,

Mr. President, and he acknowledged that," Melnikoff said.

The president and first lady Melania Trump participated in a wreath-laying ceremony and toured the memorial. They paused in front of a wall of stars with the phrase "Here we mark the price of freedom," before they returned to the White House.

Trump said the commemoration was "windy and beautiful."

White House officials had described the veterans as "choosing nation over self" by deciding to join Trump at the ceremony.

"These heroes are living testaments to the American spirit of perseverance and victory, especially in the midst of dark days," said White House spokesman Judd Deere.

Timothy Davis, director of the Greatest Generations Foundation, which helps veterans return to the countries where they fought, said the U.S. soldiers were originally scheduled to travel to Moscow for a commemoration event. But with international travel out of the question during the pandemic, Davis said they talked to him about trying to commemorate the day in Washington.

"Of course, we presented to them the risk we are facing," Davis said. "They said, 'It doesn't matter, Tim," and asked him to press ahead, saying they viewed the commemoration as "a blessing to all who fought, died and served in World War II."

Other veterans joining Trump were Gregory Melikian, 97, of Phoenix,

who sent the coded message to the world that the Germans had unconditionally surrendered.

Donald Halverson, 97, of Minnesota, saw some of the war's fiercest fighting in Italy. John Coates, 96, of Maryland, fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Jack Myers, 97, of Hagerstown, Maryland, was part of a unit that liberated the Dachau concentration camp.

Melnikoff; Guy Whidden, 97, of Braddock Heights, Maryland; and Harold Angle, 97, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, participated in the D-Day invasion that turned the tide in the war.

Melnikoff described himself as striving toward new goals, including golf.

"My mission now that I'm 100 years old is to make sure many young people know the story of what happened 75 years ago," he said. "I want the people to remember so this would never happen again."

He was also looking ahead to a golf game on Saturday. Melnikoff plays three times a week and, according to background provided by the White House, is scheduled to set a world record in the summer as the oldest golfer to play on a course in Scotland.

"Golf is the greatest game, and you can play it till you're 100 years old,"

Melnikoff said.

Cont. on Page 3

The revelers hold a copy of the May 8, 1945, London edition of The Stars and Stripes during a Victory in Europe day



ARS AND STRIPES





Germany announced yesterday that it had surrendered unconditionally, to the Western Allies and to Soviet Russia.

There was no official announcement of the surrender from the Allied governments or from Supreme Headquarters of the Allied or Russian Armies, but the British Ministry of Information issued a statement last night declaring that today would be treated as "Victory in Europe Day" in Britain.

Prime Minister Churchill will make "an official announcement at 3 PM today," the ministry said Simultaneous announcements in Washington and Moscow and at Supreme Headquarters are expected.

In Washington, President Truman said he had agreed with the governments in Washington and Moscow and the Supreme Headquarters are expected.

Prayer, Tears, Laughter Truman said he had agreed with the governments in Washington and Moscow to make the surrender and t



Col. Gen. Paul Stumpff signs the surrender terms for the Luftwaffe, Germany's air force, early May 9, 1945, in Berlin. The combined chiefs of the German army, navy and air force signed the formal ratification of the Third Reich's unconditional surrender in Berlin before Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, representing Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander of all Allied forces, and Marshal Georgi Konstantinovich Zhukov, deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Forces. The event took place two days after a document was signed by German officials in Reims, France, and announced the following day, May 8. U.S. SIGNAL CORPS



Four military policemen take a break along a German road to read in The Stars and Stripes newspaper about the Nazi surrender, ending World War II in Europe. U.S. ARMY



Used as Russian headquarters, this

Great Hall of the German Military Engineering, Berlin, was the site of the signing of the surrender agreement in the German capital, May 9, 1945. U.S. SIGNAL CORPS



Col. Gen. Gustaf Jodl, German chief of staff to Adm. Karl Doenitz, reads the document of unconditional surrender of Germany to the Allies, which he is about to sign at 2:42 a.m. May 7, 1945, in the war room at Forward Headquarters of Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces at Reims, France. Under the instrument of surrender all German armed forces were bound to lay down their arms on all fronts. On Jodl's left is Adm. Hans-Georg von Friedeburg of the German navy, and on his right is Maj. Wilhelm Oxenius of the German general staff. Standing behind von Friedeburg is British Maj. Gen. K.W.D. Strong of the staff of Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force. At the far left is Col. Ivan Zenkovitch, aide to Major General of Artillery Ican Susloparoff, who signed the document of surrender on behalf of the Soviet High Command. U.S. SIGNAL CORPS



Washington DC WWII Memorial (Night photo) by PATRICK SEMANSKYAP



LARRY WITTMAYER
DEPT 2ND-VICE COMMANDER
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Good day fellow legionnaires, I hope your confinement going Please well. consider the following events from **June** our 2020 calendar. D' Day comes

on Saturday, June 6, Flag day, and the Army's birthday on June 24. Father's Day on June 21, and the beginning of the Korean war on June 25, emphasizing the importance of buddy checks again, especially knowing a majority of our members fit into the senior citizen category. They may need your help; please be there for them.

By now, all post commanders and adjutants have received the letter from Department Commander Steve Adams with its attachments. Long-awaited guidance on how the posts might conduct regular operation and business during the pandemic. Please read it. We should know the outcome of the decision on 5/30 concerning the state convention. I hope all have

searched their conscience and helped make the decision that best suits our 14,470 members. Speaking of the number of members, we have only 2004 to reach our 100% goal by June 17. Let us get our heads up and look at the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Nibbling away at this bit by bit will get us there. We are present #35 in the nation and are at 88.27% of the goal. On the bright side of this, see the following:

Department of Oregon Membership hall of fame As of 5/1/2020

Post 180	Milwaukie	117.66%
Post 50	Williams	114.71%
Post 89	Mt. Angel	112.50%
Post 55	Mosier	111.76%
Post 37	Hermiston	107.77%
Post 106	Prairie	104.00%
Post 100	Philomath	103.85%
Post 10	Albany	102.55%
Post 86	Sisters	102.42%
Post 157	Joseph	100.00%
Post 152	Oakland	100.00%

District Commanders, please have your posts review the zip code list and send me corrections if some zips are included in error or excluded. Please keep up the hard work; we will get there.

We continue to work from home, I am one of the fortunate that is able to work from home and perform most of my respon-



sibilities. Those PDC, Bob Huff that have not Department Finance filed your Post Tax's, if your Tax Year is January 1st to December 31st, IRS has moved out 990 reporting to July 15th, the same as 1040 reporting. For all other 990 reporting periods, the organization have 5 months after the end of their reporting period to file their Form 990, 990-EZ, 990-PF, 990-N (e-Postcard). Under a new ruling, the IRS was to send a new warning letter to those 501 organizations starting the first year, late or failed to report and not wait for 3 years. With the current situation, stay and working from home, the IRS has a lot of new activity it is supporting and falling behind. If your Post receives an IRS Letter revoking your Post EIN because of failure to file tax's in the past three years, there is a new simplified process to reinstate your EIN if you file it within 15 months after receiving your IRS revocation letter. There is also a process for reinstating your EIN if your Post waited and it is longer than 15 months. Remember, there are no exceptions, all Posts must file.

Our Proposed Budget for our Department Budget for 2020-2021 and our Proposed two-month Budget to cover the period August and September 2020 to support our new Tax Reporting Year change are published in this Legionnaire and will be presented to the Delegates at the Department Convention for discussion and acceptance.

Calendar of Events

June

06 District 9 Caucus

14-20 Boys State Canceled

14-20 Girsl State Canceled

24-28 State Convention

Canceled

July

03 Dept Closed

04 Independence Day

06 National Closed

August

10 District 4 Meeting

28 National Conv. Canceled



The establishment of an employment bureau was by

A. Multnomah Post 1

B. Willamette Post 5

C. Sherwood Post 58

D. Forest Grove Post 2

Cont. from page 4

In these difficult times we are being creative in the way we are holding Post and District elections and communicating with our members. Our Posts will either stay in place or have elections. As you hold your Post Elections, remember to vote for your Post Delegates. Post Delegates Forms must be completed and sent to Department with \$15. For each Post Delegate authorized. Even if you do not have enough Post Delegates you are required to send in the \$15. For each Delegate authorized for your Post. Posts that do not pay their delegate fees are "not in good standing"; there members cannot enter the Convention Floor without a Delegate badge and have no vote. The Department Adjutant has sent out the required Post Delegates for each Post by Post population. All Delegates attending the Department Convention must have their Post Delegate Forms with their Adjutant certification sent to Department 45 days before the Department Convention.



CORY BROCKMANN
DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER

I offer this is the first time in recorded history that humanity has attempted to quarantine whole societies. Like, nearly all of them. At the same time. We have al-

ways quarantined the sick. And, we have protected the most vulnerable, but never this.

Dealing with financial, emotional, and even physical challenges have become a common occurrence for many more people. As a community of veterans, we will continue to work and get through this together.

There may always be a debate about whether quarantine was necessary and accomplished what it intended, or that it was unnecessary, and the threat was not what we thought it was. Like many of you, I don't particularly like gray areas. I like facts. And I am reasonably certain the only facts that will come out of this pandemic is what happened – as in after the fact – and not what might have happened.

Despite the upheaval to our routines and change around us, we are persevering. Veterans are resilient. And I thank you for your patience and leadership, and for the continued caring, you undertake for others. Working together, we are getting through this together.

District 1 Annual Meeting – There was an excellent turnout for the annual meeting, which was conducted by video-teleconferencing on Saturday, 2-May as social distancing directives remained in place. It was an outstanding opportunity to be adaptive and flexible in using technology to run our meeting, and it went well.

National Vice Commander Robert Liebenow, Hillsboro #6, was in attendance and addressed the district membership on the West Region and Department of Oregon's status concerning membership and year-end consolidated post reporting. While District 1 has work to do on both items, as I pen this article, achieving 100% on both is quite attainable, and I expect us to be at 100% on consolidated post reports (CPR) by early June.

Elections were completed for district officer positions, and we congratulate Commander-elect Lou Neubecker, Seaside #99, and Vice Commander-elect John Staub, Aloha #104, and extend to each of them our congratulations and warm wishes for success in the coming year. Please continue the same outstanding support to them as you provided our 2019-2020 district officers.

Department Commander Steve Ad-

ams addressed the membership and provided an update on the governor's plan for a three-phase reopening of the State's government, businesses, and economy. The matter remains quite dynamic and warrants monitoring on a daily and weekly basis, and he will continue to keep membership current as issues unfold.

Also addressing our membership were three 2020-2021 department officer candidates – Department 1st Vice Don Weber, for the High Office of Department Commander; Department 2nd Vice Larry Wittmayer, for the High Office of Department 1st Vice; and, District Commander Cory Brockmann, for the High Office of Department 2nd Vice Commander.

Membership – The membership year is now nearly over; the 100% target date extended to 17-Jun due to the pandemic. As of early May, we had eight posts - over half the district with 14 or fewer members away from being goal posts. Thank you to Past Department Commander Tom Harris, Tigard #158, district membership committee chair, and District Vice Commander John Staub, for their leadership efforts in supporting membership this year. A big thank you to each of you - our Posts - for your efforts in membership and the continued caring of our veterans.

Undoubtedly, the pandemic created a disruption and distraction to our efforts, but you continue to move forward. I am so very proud of each of you for the work you do.

Recognition – As the 2019-2020 year concludes, please extend your appreciation and gratitude to the district officers who gave so much time during the year to support you – our District 1. It takes a team to be successful in all the endeavors and programs we support, and I appreciate what each contributed during the year for your benefit. My warm thanks to John Staub, vice commander, Aloha #104; David

Cont. on page 6

Cont. from page 5

Bogner, adjutant, Hillsboro #6; Jim Craigg, finance officer, Washington #2; Dick Rye, chaplain, John Kalmbach #90; Michael Graves, sergeant at arms, Aloha #104; Bill Bennett, sergeant at arms, Aloha #104; and, Tim Flynn, sergeant at arms, Seaside #99.

Veterans do strengthen America! I am thankful for each of you and your continued service to veterans and your community.

#StillServing

Department Officers

Commander Imed. Past Cmdr 1st Vice Cmdr 2nd Vice Cmdr Adjutant **NECman** Alt NECman Finance Officer Chaplain Historian Judge Advocate Service Officer Veterans Service Officer Jody Marsh Sgt-At-Arms Asst Sgt-At-Arms Asst Sgt-At-Arms Asst Sgt-At-Arms Aide to Cmdr Aide to Cmdr

Steve Adams Tom Harris Don Weber Larry Wittmayer S. Flynn Phillips Andy Millar Jim Willis **Bob Huff** Floyd Bacon Judith Johnston **Gerald Shorey** Ed Van Dyke Phyllis York Mike Morris Ward Allen Steven Mays Larry Williams William "Bud" Stutheit

Coca-Cola was Originally green.

YIKES



Deadline

for the July issue of the Oregon Legionnaire is June 5th, 2020

Editors Notes

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

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PDC, ROB LIEBENOW WESTERN DIVISION National Vice Commander

Membership Conference call with the National Vice Commander West Rob Liebenow, He called for a poster that depicted the membership

During our

drive as an "It's a Marathon, Not a Race." Jesse Horton, the Washington State Department Adjutant, submitted drawing below. I had already created one and had it printed for Rob when she sent this, but it's too good to pass up. So, she gets an outstanding submission credit for our Magazine. Way to go, Jesse. She has some serious talent.

"It's a Marathon, Not a Race" by Jesse Horton



by Flynn Phillips





The State with the Highest percentage of people who walk to work! Yep! It's True



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

PDC, Bob Huff lessness. We VEEH CHAIRPERSON have cancelled all our upcoming events until new direction is given on meeting in large groups.

Our immediate concern is with our Oregon National Guard deployed we are continuing to participate with several Vet-Nets and Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and Oregon National Guard focal by phone, email and Zoom and Go To Meetings with any issues or support for families. Although we are operating in uncertain times, there are still immediate requirements and needs.

We have published the scheduled meeting dates for our Family Yellow Ribbons and Returning Soldiers 30- and 60-day Yellow Ribbons with the dates which were set for each event and city location. Current meetings have been cancelled and will be revisited with the existing stay at home and distancing orders. As changes affect this schedule, we will communicate by email as we are in a moving schedule situation.

The 2020 Oregon Women Veterans Conference which is held every 2 years and was scheduled to be held on May 30-31, 2020 at the Riverside Convention Center in Bend, has been cancelled and is being rescheduled for May 22 and 23, 2021 at the same location, we sponsor, and support and we will be there.



It is impossible to lick Your elbow.

(Unless your a Contortionist of course)



Auxiliary News



COVID-19 BIRTHDAY

Past Department, Auxiliary President Linda Liebenow, celebrates her 1st birthday amid this Covid-19 shutdown.

It was difficult and next to impossible to blow the candle out with a facemask on. Whether you're reaching for the hand sanitizer, a mask, or the fire extinguisher, Linda always gets the job done.

She had been checked out by the Gate staff yesterday at the Roseburg VA and found to be acceptable to pass through the gate, and we always find Linda exceptionally acceptable to pass through our Volunteers doors.

It's our Volunteers that make the Legion Go -round.

She is always there, ready to lend a hand to the department, and she is very much appreciated.

So wish her a Happy Birthday. Send her a card too.

submitted by S. Flynn Phillips

Veterans
Affairs Volunteer Service (VAVS)
Representative. As the stay order has kept most at home and changed our



way of life, there are still American

Legion volunteer positions that have been listed as essential positions being required at VA Hospitals and Rehabilitation Facilities. The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary members are supporting the need at the White City VA SORCC (Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center and Clinics), business as usual. We were given the option to stay at home but realized an urgent need is still there with the addition of several new patients from other VA's requiring beds, including the already present Veteran In-Patients being in a total lock-down. We are wearing face masks and gloves and must go through checkpoints for temperature and health questions before being granted access each day we come in to support our mission of supporting Veteran patients. Our mission and needs have grown with the limited amount of Veterans Organizations and volunteers supporting our veterans and their needs. Our world is changing, although The American Legion Family still has our mission to support our Veterans; our office is open for business, we are here to serve.





OUR WWII STORY

World War II ended 75 years ago when General McArthur accepted Japan's sur-

render PNC, PDC, CHARLIE SHCMIDT Sep-PR CHAIR tember 2, 1945, on board the USS Missouri in Toyko Bay. More than 16 million Americans served in the Allied military effort to end Axis tyranny and pave a path to a future of freedom, strength, and prosperity for the United States. The American Legion's role during the fighting – from local war bond campaigns to the GI Bill – was essential on the home front. Veterans of World War II then came home to strengthen their communities through American Legion service and membership. Future generations would be inspired for decades to come, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice continue to be honored today.

The American Legion National Executive Committee passed Resolution

6 in October 2019, calling on the organization's Departments and Posts to coordinate with state and local government officials, as well as military elements, to help commemorate the 75th anniversary of the war's end. Events and ceremonies are planned through December 31, 2021, according to the resolution, to educate "the American public on the war and the participation of the military, the engagement of the home front and significant contributions to the country generated from the World War II period.

National Marketing and National Media and Communications Commissions have prepared and an excellent guide to assist Departments and Posts that are available at https:// www.legion.org/documents/legion/ pdf/Our WWII Story Media Kit. pdf. The guide offers suggestions to collect, curate, honor, and share information paying tribute to the Greatest Generation. You can also find press release samples, playlists of American Legion videos, a chronology of American Legion WWII moments, print posters, and social media graphics. Our National Headquarters has provided us with tools to honor the 75th



anniversary of victory and honor those who gave us some of the freedoms we enjoy today.



Need to Know Dates

Boys State – Canceled 2020

Girls State - Canceled 2020

State Convention Canceled 2020



Scouting goes digital Our virtual reality

Good day to all Oregon legion members, Especially those involved and supporting Scouting. This department strives to increase our post participation in scouting units. If your post is interested in Scouting, please call Larry Wittmayer 503-970-4944.

Since the first of the year, Scouting as most know it is morphing. Because of the pandemic Scouting is moving into the digital world. on May 2nd national hosted a virtual campout nationwide calling it the "national camp in." Most councils and especially our Cascade Pacific

Council, attended this event. Most council offices have been closed, and operations have moved off-site. Scouting continues via go to meetings and other digital venues. Den, troop, and other youth meetings are going digital as well as adult and youth training. This year brought the consolidation of three councils affecting our state. Ore-Ida council and snake river council are now called Mountain West Council.

As most are aware of the curtailment of physical meetings, it has been difficult to kickoff and conduct the annual financial campaigns. These campaigns are essential for the operation of our councils in support of the youth. Please go to your local council website and donate to keep scouting alive in your local area.





American Legion Department Past Commander, Finance Officer BOB Huff Guest Speaker \Photos by Jim Flint.



by Jim Flint for the Mail Tribune

Veterans were honored Memorial Day at Eagle Point National Cemetery in ceremonies that were strikingly reflective of COVID-19 times as speakers spoke of loss and isolation.

It was a picture-perfect sunny day at the stunningly beautiful hilltop cemetery, administered by the National Park Service.

Because of pandemic physical distancing guidelines, there was no audience. However, Rhonda Haney, public affairs officer for the Veterans Affairs Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center & Clinics, streamed the ceremonies via Facebook. The program is now posted and can be viewed on the SORCC Facebook page.

Wayne Goddard, acting director of the Eagle Point Cemetery, served as emcee. He said this year's ceremony was a little different, noting that CO-VID-19 had taken many older veterans in the past several months.

"And because of that, we also want to honor Veterans Affairs health workers for their service on the front line," he

Bob Huff, a past commander of the American Legion and a member of

MEMORIAL DAY **CELEBRATION 2020**

Memorial Day, May 25, 2020. For the last thirteen years, we have been organizing and supporting the Memorial Day Ceremony at Eagle Point National Cemetery. As we have been looking at ways to plan some virtual activity to honor Memorial Day this year with stay and no groups of more than ten orders in effect; but still celebrate Memorial Day. The Director of the Eagle Point National Cemetery notified me on



PDC, Bob Huff

Monday that all VA Cemeteries need to hold a Memorial Day Ceremony, not open to the public with no more than ten people for the program.

We would live stream the event on the VA SORCC Facebook page and do a Facebook stream out. Our regular attendance on Memorial Day for the past few years has been 2,500 to 2,700 people at Eagle Point. We also have a large group of attendees during the day paying respect to their Loved Ones on Memorial Day. The event needed to be between 20 and 30 minutes and would have to be held at 8 am before visitors started coming into the National Cemetery as we could have no more than ten people. We put a program together, which requires a Master of Ceremonies, National Anthem singer, VA Chaplain for Invocation and Benediction, Speaker and Oregon National Guard Rifle Salute and Taps, and a flyover and some of the participants doubling up on assignments. Eagle Point National Cemetery also is responsible for the Roseburg National Cemetery. After coordinating with Larry Hill in Roseburg, Carol Hunt coordinates with the Roseburg National Cemetery for events; put an agenda together; the PA for the VA SORCC. I had a telephone coordination meeting with the Director of the Eagle Point National Cemetery Tuesday to finalize the plan, which was sent to their leadership. All the players for these two National Cemeteries and PA are all American Legion Family. Speakers and Master of Ceremonies will be The American Legion Family. As we hold events during these trying times, you can always depend on The American Legion Family.



the Jackson County Veterans' Advisory Committee, was the guest speaker.

"Memorial Day isn't just about sales and the start of summer," he said. "It's a time to pay tribute to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect their country."

He shared stories about heroes in action, urging listeners to honor them and to reflect on their service. Following Huff's remarks, a wreath was placed near a group of flags representing the branches of military service by cemetery foreman David Barnes and John Martin. Cont. on Page 11



Roseburg VA



Left to right: Liza Simmons, Voluntary Service Assistant, Rob Liebenow National Vice Commander West, Linda Liebenow Past Auxiliary President, Barb Galbraith, ADPCS, Traci Palmer, Chief Voluntary Service, Shawn Tyson, EA to the Associate Director and S. Flynn Phillips Dept Adjutant

The Department Van took a trip to Roseburg VA and dropped off a load of personal items for our Veterans. It was warmly received, and Linda and Rob had a chance to meet Traci Palmer, Chief of Voluntary Services, and their staff. They got a tour of their new organized space where they keep all the items. They also had a chance to discuss this year's Auxiliary Christmas Gift Shop opening event.

Oh yeah, and we got our temperature taken at the gate and a pass that we were dully inspected for symptoms before entering.

The drop in petrol price during the lockdown is like a bald man winning a hairbrush

*I've Got a Vet on the Phone*By Dr. Jerry Bockoven

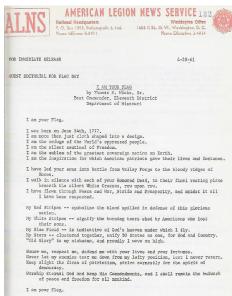
(Jerry Bockoven is a clinical psychologist in Lincoln, NE. Who specializes in clinical psychology.)

Corona's so contagious who knows who'll get it next? I watch the news to stay informed but find myself more vexed. The homeless and the jobless rates are increasing by the score and businesses once successful aren't successful anymore.

And I've got a vet on the phone.

I'm worried for my family
I'm worried for my friends
I'm worried 'bout just when or if
this thing will ever end.
Will the food chains start collapsing?
Nobody can be sure.
Will I contract the virus
before they come up with a cure?





And I've got a vet on the phone.

My retirement investments they just keep going down and now there is murder hornets that might buzz right into town. And cabin fever boredom doesn't feel so very nice. Last weekend I watched Tiger King not once my friend, but twice.

And I've got a vet on the phone.

Just coming to the VA isn't safe as I would wish it stressful when the place you work feels like a petri dish.
And VVC technology might work or give me sorrow and procedures set in place today are apt to change tomorrow.

And I've got a vet on the phone.

The uncertainty surrounds me and I want to run and hide so I close my eyes and focus on a place that's deep inside. That place where my compassion Is stronger than my fear and from that place I slowly raise the receiver to my ear.

And I've got a vet on the phone.

It occurs to me that veterans know that compassionate place so well cause they chose their love of country over fears of combats hell.

So quiet down Corona and you fears that circle now I choose the place of service to the ones who showed us how.

Interesting things to make



you say Hmmm....

Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.

Cont. from Page 9

Memorial Day Celebration

by Jim Flint for the Mail Tribune

SPC Gabrielle Luna and Sgt. Chase Myers of the 186th Infantry Regiment, Honors Unit, presented the colors. Craig Bryant of the Oregon National Guard played "Taps" during the ceremony to honor the fallen.

Victoria Olson, SORCC chaplain, provided the invocation and benediction.

During the ceremony and throughout the day, families and friends visited graves, placing flowers, balloons, and flags in remembrance.

Just before 11 a.m., the Kingsley Field 173rd Fighter Wing from Klamath Falls did a flyover at the VA SORCC to recognize fallen soldiers and to thank employees there for their service during the pandemic.

Jim Flint is a writer living in Ashland. Reach him at jimflint.ashland@yahoo.

All those grandparents who are missing their grand kids right now. Once this is over you can have them for a month. Sincerely, a tired mom.

Post 63 Memorial Day Weekend

Charles E. Schmidt, Adjutant Harney County Post #63 The American Legion

Legion and Auxiliary members of Harney County #63 prepare to place American flags on graves of veterans resting in Burns Cemetery on May 21st. Veterans resting at Saddle Butte Cemetery, Fort Harney Cemetery, Drewsey Cemetery, and Paiute Reservation Cemeteries were also honored and remembered.



Harney County Post #63 displayed flags along Highway 20 on the fences of Burns Cemetery and Hines City Park over Memorial Day weekend (May 22-26, 2020).









OHA Releases Weekly Report on COVID-19 in Oregon

Today, OHA released its <u>COV-ID-19</u> Weekly Report, showing the data trends for the pandemic in our state. New this week is a table (figure 3) that shows the distribution of the number of days it takes a person with COVID-19 to report recovery from their illness. Also, OHA is adding the cumulative presumptive cases to the weekly report and will stop reporting out the new presumptive cases daily.

Next week, we will distribute the Weekly Report on Wednesday because of the Memorial Day holiday on Monday.

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!

Mark C. Treanor 1190 South River Landing Rd Edgewater, MD 21037 marktreanor@mctreanor.com

May 9, 2020

Dear Commander,

Re: A Quiet Cadence

I am a Legionnaire, Annapolis grad, and Marine Corps Vietnam veteran. On June 15, the Naval Institute Press will publish my novel, A Quiet Cadence, about a veteran who served as a young Marine in Vietnam and then struggled to make sense of his war and the sacrifices of his friends in the following years. Though about Vietnam and its aftermath, the story's themes of courage, honor, resilience and love apply to all our veterans and their families as well.

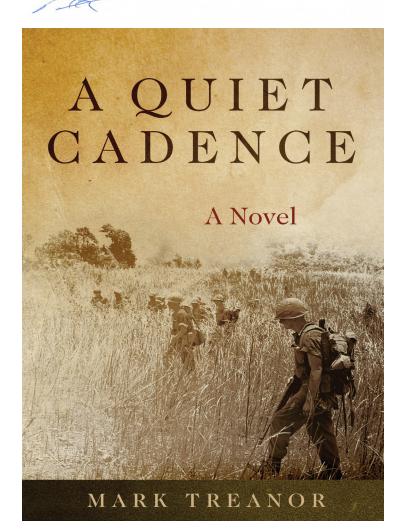
General Jim Mattis says the novel "sets the standard for an authentic description of combat and what our infantry veterans carry with them when they return home. Savage yet compassionate." General David Petraeus describes A Quiet Cadence as "vivid, haunting, and moving...eloquent, captivating...searing...a masterful, evocative book." Admiral Mike Mullen calls the novel "extraordinary...compelling...unique." Admiral James Stavridis praised the story as "extraordinary, honest, and powerful." Lt. General Frances Wilson says the novel "is as relevant to veterans today as it was in the 60's."

I believe the book would be of significant interest to many of your Legionnaires and those who care about them. As you can see from the enclosed press release, I have been humbled to have received enthusiastic reviews from some remarkable leaders and writers. If you would like to have a copy of the press release in an easily emailable format to send to anyone you think might be interested, I would be very happy to send you one.

A Quiet Cadence is available for ordering now from the Naval Institute Press, Barnes & Noble and Amazon for delivery around June 15. I think you'd agree that date is fitting, falling about half way between Memorial Day and the 4th of July.

Thanks for all you do for our fellow veterans.

Semper Fi,

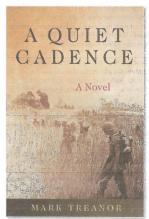




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jacqline Barnes, (410) 295-1028, jbarnes@usni.org

A Quiet Cadence A Novel By Mark Treanor



Sometimes it takes years for a combat vet to understand what the war did to him when he was nineteen, and even longer to explain to the people he loves the cadence he has marched to since then.

Family and friends know Marty McClure as a kind, peaceful man. They aren't aware that when he was young, he plumbed the depths of terror, hatred, and despair with no assurance he'd ever surface again. Decades later, he needs to reveal what happened in Vietnam. With the help of his wife Patti, disabled vet Corrie Corrigan, and corpsman-turned-trauma-surgeon Doe Matheson, Marty must make peace with the ghosts that have visited his dreams all these years.

A Naval Academy graduate, Mark Treanor was a Marine rifle platoon leader in Vietnam, an artillery battery commander, and leadership instructor and later served on the boards of the National Defense University and the Naval Academy. A lawyer, corporate executive, and leadership coach, he has participated in national security fact-finding missions in Iraq, Yemen, Africa, and the Caucasus. He lives in Maryland and Vermont.

"A must-read book for any American who wants to understand war and its impact on those we send into close combat. Mark Treanor sets the standard for an authentic description of combat and what our infantry veterans carry with them when they return home. Savage yet compassionate, A Quiet Cadence will take its place as one of our most telling narratives of war and its aftermath."—Jim Mattis, General, U.S. Marines (Ret.)

"Mark Treanor has written an extraordinary story about the Vietnam War in 1969 on a par with Matterhorn and Fields of Fire. The narrative follows PFC Marty McClure, USMC during the war in fierce and brutal ground combat, which is compelling. What is then unique is Mark's telling of life after combat and the Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) that accrues to every single individual who has ever been in a firefight. We are far behind in addressing PTS issues for our combat veterans. Mark's incisive writing does a great deal to illuminate its reality and the urgent need to address it. Please read this book. You won't be able to put it down."—Adm. Mike Mullen, USN (Ret.), 17th Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff

"Stark and honest, A Quiet Cadence masterfully captures it all ... from the individual courage, sacrifice and dedication, through the black humor, dread of combat, and fear of failure, to that special unbreakable human bond that stands the test of time. Powerful, it brought back many names and memories for me." —General Mike Hagee, USMC, 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps, A 1/1 Vietnam

"Vivid, haunting, and moving. Mark Treanor's eloquent, captivating novel provides a searing account of the experiences of and relationships between those who serve together in intense ground combat —and it conveys powerfully the difficult, wrenching adjustment to life back in 'the world' after being part of the 'brotherhood of the close fight' and surviving to make it home. A Quiet Cadence is a masterful, evocative book." —Gen. David Petraeus, USA (Ret.), former Commander, CENTCOM

"This is an extraordinary, honest, and powerful novel. I was immediately captivated by it's tone and pace, which carries the reader from the dark heart of the Vietnam combat experience to the harrowing challenges of returning home. On par with classic Vietnam era novels by James Webb and Karl Marlantes in its grit and truthfulness. Highly recommend!"—Adm. James Stavridis, USN (Ret.), Dean, The Fletcher School, Tufts University and Former NATO Supreme Allied Commander

"A Quiet Cadence is a riveting account of a young Marine's combat experiences in Vietnam and the indelible effects in its aftermath. Mark Treanor brilliantly captures the physical and emotional trauma of close combat while masterfully weaving in timeless lessons about leadership, courage and camaraderie. Simply put, this is as relevant to veterans today as it was in the 60's."—F. C. Wilson, Lt. Gen. USMC (Ret.) 12th President, National Defense University

"A riveting look at what soldiers have experienced from Vietnam to Afghanistan. In A Quiet Cadence, they live through intense combat then return to civilian life to struggle with memories of dead or horribly wounded friends while successfully pursuing careers ranging from shopkeeper to surgeon. A story of resilience and recovery, this book brilliantly describes characters who struggle but nonetheless get on with their lives—like most veterans do."—Jan C. Scruggs, Esq. Founder of Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Chairman National Selective Service Review Board, Army rifleman in Vietnam

"A compelling story, told with brutal realism but also deep compassion, of a young man's war in Vietnam and his years-long struggle after coming home to make peace with troubled memories and his grief for lost friends." —Arnold R. Isaacs, journalist and author of Without Honor: Defeat in Vietnam and Cambodia

"A great read. Few books move me to tears. This one did. For every combat veteran who has dealt with coming home, A Quiet Cadence makes it clear that you are not alone." —Karl Marlantes, author of Matterhorn; What It Is Like To Go To War; and Deep River

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Naval Institute Press ★ 291 Wood Road ★ Annapolis, MD 21402 ★ jbarnes@usni.org

S. FLYNN PHILLIPS

Legionnaires; Learn our History become better Le-DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT gionnaires, become better recruiters for those new mem-



bers you are trying to recruit.

Those that complete the On-Line Basic Training Course @ https://www.legion.org/alei will receive the pin below if you send Department a copy of your completion certificate, Cell phone copy works as well.

The American Legion's official training program for officers, members, Legion College applicants and those who simply want to expand their knowledge of the nation's largest veterans service organization is now available online.

Already taken the old course. The American Legion Extension Institute has been rewritten, updated, streamlined, and enhanced with videos, digital photos, clickable links, a historical timeline and additional features. The program should take less than two hours to complete. It is divided into six sections, with a quiz at the end of each one, followed by a final exam.

The Course is arranged into 5 major topic areas and 1 concluding section. Each section will present information about the topic via text, images, and video.

At the end of each topic area there is a quiz that will help gauge your understanding of the material. When you have completed each section quiz, you will be able to take the final exam. The exam will take roughly ~30 minutes to complete.

A one-dollar bill met a twenty-dollar bill and said, "Hey, where have you been? I haven't seen you around here much."

The twenty answered, "I've been hanging out at the casinos, went on a cruise and did the rounds on the ship, back to the United States for a while, went to a couple of baseball games, to the mall, that kind of stuff. How about you?"

The one-dollar bill said, "You know, same old stuff - church, church,"





American Legion Education Institute Tack

(BASIC TRAINING GRADUATE)



Item Number: 715.95 Price: \$4.95 Quantity:

Add to Baske



My name is Joshua Carper and I am a response coordinator for the 2020 census. The census is currently being taken in the U.S.A. And we are trying to get the word out and encourage people to fill out their forms. I was hoping you would put a notice in your newsletter encouraging your members to do this and let them know that they can fill out their forms online or wait for the form to arrive in the mail. the form can be found at 2020census. gov

I can be reached either via email at Joshua.l.carper@2020census.gov by phone at 541-905-4135, I look forward to hearing from you

Sincerely, Joshua Carper

P.S. We are still hiring census takers and veterans receive preference when it comes to selections. They can apply at 2020census.gov/jobs to apply, or if they simply want to fill out their forms then they can do that at 2020census.gov



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

5 things to know about hosting a Red Cross blood drive

The American Legion

American Legion Family members have completed at least 26 blood donation drives with the Red Cross since the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted lives in the United States. At those drives, at least 881 units of blood have been collected, as of April 24, according to the American Red Cross.

Right now, there are 27 American Legion-American Red Cross drives scheduled. The Red Cross is encouraging American Legion posts to work with local Red Cross volunteers to schedule one in their area.

Here are five things American Legion posts should know about working with a local Red Cross chapter on coordinating a blood drive.

- 1. The American Legion has a long history of supporting the Red Cross. In 1942, The American Legion launched its Blood Donor program that encourages individual blood donations and post blood drives.
- 2. During the current coronavirus pandemic, there is an urgent need for blood donations.
- 3. The Red Cross has enhanced safety precautions to keep donors, volunteers and others safe in this era of social distancing. For example, donors are kept at a distance in waiting areas. Additionally, Red Cross volunteers sanitize chairs, tables, equipment and other items between donors.
- 4. Safety measures also include blood drives being appointment-only now. Donors are greeted at the door and tested for a fever.
- 5. Interested in convening a blood drive in your community? The Red Cross recommends <u>visiting this link</u> to learn more and start the process.

American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford is a strong proponent of blood donations. In fact, Oxford has donated eight gallons of blood in his lifetime.

"Please consider a blood donation to support these efforts," Oxford said in a recent video message from his home in North Carolina. "Additionally, I would encourage American Legion posts to consider working with your local Red Cross to promote — or even host — a blood drive."

Coronavirus prompts urgent call for blood donors

The American Legion

The American Legion has supported The American Red Cross throughout the history of our organizations. In fact, the <u>American Legion Blood Donor Program</u> has existed officially since 1942 to encourage donations.

Once again there is a critical need for healthy blood donors to step forward.

"As our nation faces the coronavirus emergency, the Red Cross is experiencing a severe blood shortage," said American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford, who to date has donated more than 8 gallons. "The coronavirus pandemic could affect millions of Americans, meaning fewer people are eligible to donate. At the same time, the Red Cross is noticing an uptick in the number of cancellations of blood drives. There is an urgent need for blood now."

As the coronavirus pandemic has grown here in the United States, the number of blood drive cancellations has escalated. As of March 18, more than 4,500 Red Cross blood drives have been cancelled across the country due to coronavirus concerns, resulting in about 150,000 fewer blood donations.

The Red Cross is looking for other organizations to host community blood drives throughout this crisis so they can continue with this essential and vital community service. The Red Cross advises American Legion members that donating blood remains a safe process and donations will help keep the blood supply stable.

"You served your country admirably," said American Red Cross National Partnerships Director Donna M. Morrissey. "We need your help again during this crisis."

Right now many states are issuing travel bans to all but essential travel. Like grocery shopping, medical appointments and pharmacy pickups, blood drives are essential to ensure the health of the community. The Red Cross will continue to hold blood drives.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Food and Drug Administration have issued statements encouraging blood donation for those who are well. Recently, U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams said, "You can still go out and give blood. We're worried about potential blood shortages in the future. Social distancing does not have to mean social disengagement."

Remember that only healthy people can donate blood. Many donors complete the questionnaire portion of their donation at home and would be deferred before arrival if they were sick. At each blood drive, the Red Cross has implemented pre-screening protocols to check the temperature of donors before they enter the blood drive. Social

distancing is used to space donors and meet local regulations. Red Cross employees also follow thorough safety protocols including wearing gloves, wiping down donortouched areas after every collection, using sterile collection sets for every donation, and arm scrubbing. These mitigation measures help ensure the safety of all.

In addition, please note that there are no data or evidence to show that this coronavirus can be transmissible by blood transfusion, and there have been no reported cases of transmissions for any respiratory virus including this coronavirus. Nonetheless, the Red Cross has implemented new blood donation deferrals out of an abundance of caution, asking individuals to postpone their donation for 28 days if they meet certain risk criteria like travel to highly effected areas.

If you are able to host a blood drive, please reply online

at https://rcblood.org/americanlegion. A representative from the local office will then get back to you shortly.

To schedule an appointment to donate, please

visit https://sleevesup.redcrossblood.org/campaign/sleevesup-with-the-american...



74

Post 180 Milwaukie Blood Drive

Post 180 Commander "Mick" Wilson answers our National Commander Bill Oxford's Call for Blood drives during this Pandemic.

Legion.org. "As our nation faces the coronavirus emergency, the Red Cross is experiencing a severe blood shortage," said American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford, who to date has donated more than 8 gallons. "The coronavirus pandemic could affect millions of Americans, meaning fewer people are eligible to donate. At the same time, the Red Cross is noticing an uptick in the number of cancellations of blood drives.



S. FLYNN PHILLIPS

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT There is an urgent need for blood now." American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford is a strong proponent of blood donations. Bill Oxford has donated eight gallons of blood in his lifetime. "Please consider a blood donation to support these efforts," Oxford said in a recent video message (https://youtu.be/KeXcyLicTPw) from his home in North Carolina. "Additionally, I would encourage American Legion posts to consider working with your local Red Cross to promote — or even host — a blood drive."

Milwaukie Post 180 usually holds a couple of American Red Cross Blood drives each year, but this time he thought outside the box. In addition to who he usually notifies, he notified all the churches in the area, and the Red Cross received 50 scheduled appointments for the day at the Post. By the end of the day, the Red Cross had collected 45 units of blood. A great accomplishment considering the COVID-19 Pandemic. Also, KATU Channel 2 news came out and interviewed Mick and ask about his preparation for the event and the importance of the Blood Drive.

Legion.org. Here are five things American Legion posts should know about working with a local Red Cross chapter on coordinating a blood drive.

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- 4. Safety measures also include blood drives being appointment-only now. Donors are greeted at the door and tested for a fever.
- 5. Interested in convening a blood drive in your community? The Red Cross recommends <u>visiting this link</u> to learn more and start the process.



Brendon Stewart preparing to draw blood from John Parker with Mick Wilson in the background. Note he wasn't allowed to beany closer.





First Vice Commander Don Weber headed the call as well. Don is a long time blood donor with many gallons on his punch card.

(To the Right) All the tables are up to distancing guidelines. Hats off to these volunteers who were willing to come out and donate blood.





Oregon Health Authority

Coronavirus Update

healthoregon.org/coronavirus

Rent relief available

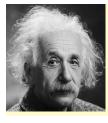
If you are lacking resources due to loss of income and are at risk of homelessness, Oregon Housing and Community Services' COVID-19 Rent Relief Program may be able to help.

OHCS has allocated \$8.5 million through a needs-based formula to <u>regional Community Action Agencies</u> (<u>CAAs</u>). The formula weighed severe rent burden data, poverty data, homelessness data and unemployment claims.

CAAs will begin taking applications in the coming days. Oregonians in need should contact their local CAA directly. Tenant income loss documentation and other materials are required to access this program. Rent payments will be made directly to the landlord on behalf of the tenant.

The \$8.5 million was allocated by the Oregon Legislature through the Joint Emergency Board. OHCS anticipates additional resources from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act will be made available in the weeks ahead.

The funds were allocated statewide to local communities. See the <u>Governor's blog</u> for the full list and contact information



Intelligent people Have more zinc and copper in their hair..... Oregon reports 33 new confirmed COVID-19 cases, 8 new presumptive cases, 2 new deaths

COVID-19 has claimed two more lives in Oregon, raising the state's death toll to 140, the Oregon Health Authority reported at 8 a.m. today.

Oregon Health Authority reported 33 new confirmed cases and 8 new presumptive cases of COVID-19 as of 8 a.m. today, bringing the state total to 3,726. The new confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases reported today are in the following counties: Curry (1), Deschutes (6), Jackson (1), Marion (12), Multnomah (9), Umatilla (3), Washington (6), Yamhill (3).

Oregon's 139th COVID-19 death is a 70-year-old woman in Umatilla County, who tested positive on May 4 and died on May 16 at Good Shepard Health Care System. She had underlying medical conditions.

Oregon's 140th COVID-19 death is a 69-year-old man in Linn County, who tested positive on April 7 and died on May 17 at his residence. He had underlying medical conditions.

Notes:

- Due to data reconciliation, two cases originally reported in Clackamas County were determined not to be cases. They were subtracted from Monday's state total.
- Due to data reconciliation, one case originally reported in the 80 and over age group was determined not to be a case.

To see more case and county level data, please visit the Oregon Health Authority website, which OHA updates once a day: www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus.

Legion Research Guides Past Members or Relatives

I am with the Library Division at The American Legion National Headquarters. Prior to 1968, all member records were managed at the post level, so National Headquarters does not have any information related to individual membership prior to that year. You might try searching our Digital Archive (https://archive.legion.org/) for his name or post to see if there is any information in our national publications about him or his post's activities.

The following are useful online tools for researching a WWII veteran's military service:

- 1. Request his military discharge record (DD-214) from the National Archives: https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records
- 2. National Archives Personnel Records Center (veterans records information): https://www.archives.gov/veterans
- 3. National Archives Access to Archival Databases: https://aad.archives.gov/aad/
- 4. National WWII Museum's guide to researching veterans: https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/re-search-veteran
- 5. WWII Draft Registration Cards (a free resource, but I believe you are asked to create an account): https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1861144

Two things of note regarding the National Archives: 1) there was a fire in 1973 that unfortunately destroyed 80% of the military service records, and 2) they receive thousands of requests daily, so it will take some time to hear back. If you do not have enough information about your relative to fill out the request for his military records (1) from the National Archives, I recommend searching for

Cont. on Page 17

Cont. from Page 16

his draft registration card (5) or the Access to Archival Databases (3) first and using that information to help complete the request. It will not answer all the questions, but it may help with things like serial number, etc.\

Debra Brookhart Curator/Archivist, Library Division



QTSD

How many L e g i o n - naires besides me, are suf-

Jack LaBox fering QTSD LEGISTLATIVE CHAIR (QUARANTINE TRAUMATIC SYNDROME)?

Several Legionnaires, including Dept. Commander Steve Adams, 2nd. Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer, Jim Willis, and I listened to Gov. Brown's teleconference presented by ODVA Director Kelley Fitzpatrick.

The presentation was about the timeline for reopening Oregon. A few topics covered, opening America again guidelines. Framework Overview: Gating Criteria:3 components, symptoms, declining numbers, cases, declining numbers, hospital capacity, regular procedures, and adequate testing. Phased lifting of restrictions, 3 components, Phase1, phase 2 and phase 3.

If anyone wants copies of the framework, several legionnaires were participating, including

some department officers contact one of us with your email,s and you will get a copy.

Stay safe.

For God and Country

Post 70 Memorial Day

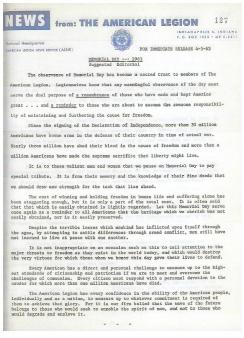
American Legion Post 70 Cave Junction: Memorial Day is that special day that we remember all those Americans who give up their life's in defense of our nation. Nothing or no one will infringe on our right to honor them for their sacrifice.











PNC Charlie Schmidt snatched a 1963 Memorial Day press release from the Archives above and was shared to all.

As we approach Memorial Day to honor and remember those who gave their all for our nation, the attached April 5, 1963 American Legion news release (suggested editorial) reminders to us of the cost of freedom and our responsibility as citizens to preserve freedom. Excellent message whether we are confronting communism, the global war on terrorism, or a world-wide pandemic.

For God and Country



Day, and the National Cemeteries are to Scouts

S. FLYNN PHILLIPS DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

rifice.

on our Veterans graves. Many of our

Comrades, whether they are in the,

American Legion, MCL, VFW, etc.

are choosing to highlight the rural

cemeteries that so many of them each

year go out and plant the flags in re-

membrance and respect for their sac-

I was invited by the American Le-

gion Department Commander Steve

Adams to accompany him to the Har-

land Oregon Community Cemetery, which is not too far from the coast

and way out in the boondocks. Steve

introduced me to Chip Cooper, a

Hospital Corpsman Vietnam era who

takes care of the Cemetery.

Post 74 ed Memorial Day flags at several cemeteries in the Estacada, Clackamas Monday is Memorial

closed

Boy

and

the

Volunteers plac-

ing the flags

county area. Especially noteworthy is the grave of Post 74 Namesake Carl Douglas.

Terry and Jim Moriarty are both on the County Cemetery Board. Terry has been on the Board for many years and James Moriarty in a new member. They planted flags at the Gibson, Philip Foster, George Pioneer, and Viola Cemeteries.



Steve over Jack Grant's grave, a WWII Veteran.



Jim Moriarty and Post 74 Commander Terry Brown over Carl Douglas Grave



Pictured are Chip and Steve putting a new Flag up at the Cemetery

Terry Brown, Commander, Carl Douglas Post 74, along with James Beltramo Post historian and James Moriarty 1st Vice Commander plant



Iames Beltramo Post 74 Historian above

The **American** Legion High School **Awards** and Support



PDC, Bob Huff For the past

five years, starting in the 2014-15 school year, Medford American Legion Post 15 and White City American Legion Post 192 have been teaming and working together to provide support for the schools in the Rogue Valley. And they are conducting The American Legion High School Awards Program.

We initially started this program in 2008 at South Medford High School, where we introduced The American Legion High School Awards Program. Each year at the High School Graduation at participating High Schools, the two Legion Posts present the awards to a deserving student(s) as recommended by the School staff for their accomplishments and community service.

Logos Public Charter School has been continually active with our American Legion Posts since 2013. This year with no gatherings with over twenty-five people allowed, the faculty of Logos Public Charter School addressed new challenges to hold a graduation ceremony and recognize exceptional students.

The graduation will start by filming on Thursday, May 28, in the late afternoon recognizing five graduates at a time, and it will continue until the graduating class is filmed through Friday. We will be there to present and recognize the winners for this school year and present their American Legion Medallion and Folder. As the students and their parents do not know who will be receiving the award,

Cont. on page 19

Cont. from page 18 and there were several outstanding students this year to choose



from, we will present to the top winners as they are filmed.

The event will be on the School website and Facebook page. The students will pick-up their diplomas on June 5 at this School. Pictured is the plaque in a Logos display case as you enter the School with The American Legion High School Medallion at the top and the students' name and the year, they won the award.

The American Legion Family is incredibly involved with this High School and our programs. We were called upon by the School to judge the 11th Grade class of students making their assigned speech of their plan for college or occupation after receiving their High School diploma earlier this school year. This partnership has been equally rewarding for the Students, the School, and The American Legion Family.





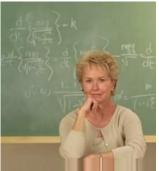
S. FLYNN PHILLIPS
DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

A Lesson in Freedom: Veterans Return Students' Desks

A teacher imparted a lesson in the value of freedom by having veterans return her students' desks.

BARBARA MIKKELSON PUBLISHED 3 SEPTEM-BER 2008

In September of 2005, on the



first day of school, Martha Cothren, a History teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal, and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks in her classroom. When the first-period kids entered the room, they discovered that there were no desks. 'Ms. Cothren, where are our desks?'

She replied, 'You can't have a desk until you tell me how you earn the right to sit at a desk.'

They thought, 'Well, maybe it's our grades.' 'No,' she said.

'Maybe it's our behavior.' She told them, 'No, it's not even your behavior.'

And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom. Kids called their parents to tell them what was happening and by early afternoon television news crews had started gathering at the school to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came, and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk-less classroom. Martha Cothren said, 'Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he or she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.'

At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it. Twenty-seven (27) U.S. Veterans, all in uniform, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids had started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. They went halfway around the world, giving up their education and interrupting their careers and families so you could have the freedom you have. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it.'

By the way, this is a true story. And this teacher was awarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year for the State of Arkansas in 2006. She is the daughter of a WWII POW.

https://youtu.be/5zcdfERGqIU Facebook posting |verified by Snopes

Milwaukie Police "The Corporal Diffie Veterans Fund"

A recent success story



I am a 60-year-old U.S. Marine Corps Veteran honorably discharged in January 1983. During my time in the Marines, I was a CH-53 helicopter mechanic/crew chief and have always been proud of my service to our country. After my time in the Marines, I followed a career path in the Aerospace industry as an X-ray Inspector and have worked for a company in the Portland area in that field for many years.

Recently, on December 19, 2019, I lost my job, which was very unexpected, and just days before Christmas. This job loss hit me very hard, and



I began having feelings of worry, anxiety, fear, and low self-esteem, which led to severe depression and my contemplation of life as my thoughts and emotions become overwhelming.

Because of the persistence and follow-up contacts made by a Milwaukie Police Department Veteran Resource Officer and Milwaukie American Legion Veteran Service Officers, I was guided to admitting myself into the V.A. Hospital on January 6.

As V.A. doctors worked to find the correct medicines that would help me control my emotions and thoughts, The Veteran Outreach Team remained in constant contact with me, either by phone or visits at the hospital. While in the hospital I learned that funds provided by the "Corporal Diffie Veterans Fund" were being approved to temporarily assist me with essential bills until I could receive Unemployment Benefits, be enrolled in veteran services with the V.A. or Clackamas County, and as I worked towards finding new employment to support myself again.

The Veteran Outreach Team was instrumental in helping me secure all the benefits I was qualified for through the V.A. and Clackamas County. Their assistance to ensure those benefits, along with the help received through the Corporal Diffie Veterans Fund for essential bills to avoid becoming homeless or hungry, gave me the needed support to recover from my situation. Because of their help and aid provided by the fund, I am now finally able to move forward, focused on new employment opportunities without worries of becoming homeless.

I will be forever grateful for the help the "Corporal Diffie Veterans Fund" provided me and the support I received through the Milwaukie Police Department and Milwaukie American Legion Veterans Outreach Team.

Thank You!!!

P.S. It just shows that it is not a one time visit or effort to help our brothers and sisters in need. Thanks to Brad, Jim Rolison, and Jerry Craig. It worked for him--godspeed. Jerry Craig and Jim Rolison did an outstanding job getting this Veteran to admit into the hospital, and Jim did a significant amount of follow up with the Veteran until they were able to get him back on his feet. Outstanding Job! Gentlemen.

For more information on the "Corporal Diffie Veterans Fund" here is a link and a Q.R. Code that will; take you right there: https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/corporal-diffie-veterans-fund

Read more about this important fund and consider donating. Use your phone camera to scan the Q.R. code and follow the link below.





Maintain Your Interval! U.S. Marines: Social Distancing Since 1775



Log In

Welcome to myLegion!

Questions on myLegion: Answered

Password Confusion

Members have always had the ability to change their passwords via the mylegion site. To do so the member would need to enter their email address at the login and click "Forgot Password". Reenter their email on the next screen and "submit" – see the attached instructions. They will then be sent a link to reset their password.

The reset feature works best when using either Google Chrome or Internet Explorer. Other browsers, at this time; do tend to have some compatibility issues with the reset feature.

If a member has any problems or needs assistance, they can always call our toll-free number below to speak with a mylegion representative for help. We are available M-F from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm EST.

Respectfully,

Pam Johnson The American Legion National HQ Operations Support Analyst, IT Division Toll Free: 1.833.253.9995 Fax: 317.860.3131

pjohnson@legion.org

Are you moving?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please Update My Address in mylegion.org New Address:

City/State/Zip: _____

Effective Date:_____

Name: _

PhoneNumber:_____

Email Address: __

Please Email to: Office@orlegion.org Or Mail to: The Department of Oregon

> Attn: Adjutant P.O. Box 1730

Wilsonville, OR 97070-1730

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The American Legion to Washington:

'Extend the National Guard!'

(INDIANAPOLIS-May 20, 2020) -The head of the nation's largest veterans organization called on the White House to extend federal orders to thousands of members of the National Guard whose current deployment in coronavirus relief efforts falls one-day short of the 90-day period required to obtain many benefits including home loans, education and retirement.

"Highly unfair and disturbing," is how American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford described the plan to award those deployed credit for 89 days of federal service. "I served many years in the North Carolina National Guard. I know the caliber of these outstanding men and women who leave their homes and literally risk their lives so communities across America can be safe during national emergencies," Oxford said. "The coronavirus pandemic has been devastating for many people. We would be far worse off if we did not have the National Guard setting up field hospitals, cleaning nursing homes and delivering emergency supplies. An 89-day deployment strongly suggests a decision based on accounting rather than what's needed to truly respond to this emergency. The American Legion is calling for the president to fix this."

The American Legion, www.legion. org, is the nation's largest veterans service organization and was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national defense, the care and wellbeing of U.S. military veterans, patriotic youth programs and Americanism.

Media contacts: Indianapolis: John Raughter (317) 630-1350, jraughter@ legion.org; Washington: Paul Harris (202) 263-2991, pharris@legion.org

The American Legion welcomes Trump tweet on National Guard extension

(INDIANAPOLIS—May 28, 2020) – The head of the nation's largest veterans organization praised a tweet by President Trump today indicating that federal orders for members of the National Guard would be extended through the middle of August.

The tweet comes just eight days after The American Legion called for an extension, which would entitle certain National Guard members to additional home loan, education and retirement benefits since their federal orders would now exceed 90 days.

"We know that the coronavirus emergency will not suddenly end at 89 days," American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford said. "Yet thousands of outstanding men and women of the National Guard left their homes and risked their lives in response to this emergency. From cleaning nursing homes to delivering supplies, the National Guard has been a national treasure. The American Legion welcomes the president's tweet indicating his plans to extend the Title 32 orders, which would enable these heroes to accumulate benefits that they have certainly earned."

The president's tweet stated "The men and women of the National Guard have been doing a great job fighting the Coronavirus. This week, I will extend their Title 32 orders through mid-August, so they can continue to help States succeed in their response and recovery efforts."

The American Legion, www.legion.org, is the nation's largest veterans service organization and was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national defense, the care and wellbeing of U.S. military veterans, patriotic youth programs and Americanism.

Media contacts: Indianapolis: John Raughter (317) 630-1350, <u>jraughter@legion.org;</u> Washington: Paul Harris (202) 263-2991, <u>pharris@legion.org</u>

The American Legion Department of Oregon

Proposed 2020-21 Budget and Supplemental Budget

	AUG/SEPI			2020-2021	
	PROPOSED		P	PROPOSED	
ACCOUNT NAME	BUDGET		BUDGET		
Membership Budget Based On:				15,000	
Actual Membership					
Dues @ \$13.50 (per member)	\$	43,060.81	\$	202,500.00	
Interest & Dividend Income					
Department Convention Income			\$	10,743.85	
SAL Detachment Funds (1400 x \$13.	\$	3,000.00	\$	18,000.00	
SAL Dues (1400 x \$2.00)	\$	1,000.00	\$	6,000.00	
SAL Charitable Donations & Pins	\$	1,508.33	\$	9,050.00	
ALA Postage Reimbursement	\$	125.00	\$	750.00	
ALA Copier/Phone Reimbursement	\$	1,000.00	\$	6,000.00	
Charitable Income					
Emblem Sales Royalty			\$	1,500.00	
OALF Dispursement to VA&R/VE&E	\$	23,250.62	\$	145,564.00	
Boys State Income			\$	61,750.00	
AL Baseball Income			\$	11,500.00	
Law Enforcement Career Camp	\$	1,434.16	\$	8,605.00	
Revenue Enhancement Program	\$	2,500.00	\$	15,000.00	
AGIA Insurance	\$	9,166.66	\$	55,000.00	
USAA Insurance	\$	1,500.00	\$	9,000.00	
Other Income/Pass Throughs					
TOTAL INCOME	\$	87,545.58	\$	560,962.85	
Dedicated VA&R Income					
AGIA Insurance (Dedicated VA&R)			\$	2,000.00	
ODVA Rehabilitation Grant	\$	20,000.00	\$	80,000.00	
Donations			\$	1,000.00	
Total Dedicated VA&R Income	\$	20,000.00	\$	83,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$	107,545.58	\$	643,962.85	
	AUG/SEPI			2020-2021	
	PROPOSED		PROPOSED		
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TOTAL INCOME	V 101,040.00	\$ 010,00E.00	
	AUG/SEPI	2020-2021	
	PROPOSED	PROPOSED	
ACCOUNT NAME	BUDGET	BUDGET	
Officer & Conv Expenses - B-2	\$ 27,766.64	\$ 90,300.00	
Other Activities Expenses - B-3	\$ 2,039.31	\$ 67,583.86	
Rehabilitation Expenses - B-4	\$ 23,250.62	\$ 145,564.00	
Publication Expenses - B-5	\$ 224.99	\$ 1,350.00	
SAL Expenses- B-6	\$ 3,278.32	\$ 33,050.00	
Other/Conv Expenses/Pass Throughs			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 107,545.58	\$ 643,962.85	

	AUG/SEPI	2020-2021	
	PROPOSED	PROPOSED	
ACCOUNT NAME	BUDGET	BUDGET	
Dedicated VA&R Income			
AGIA Insurance (Dedicated VA&R)		\$ 2,000.00	
ODVA Rehabilitation Grant	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	
Donations		\$ 1,000.00	
Total Dedicated VA&R Income	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 83,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 107,545.58	\$ 643,962.85	
Boys State Expenses	\$ 10,291.66	\$ 61,750.00	
Law Enforcement Career Camp	\$ 1,434.16	\$ 8,605.00	
AL Baseball Expenses	\$ 1,966.66	\$ 11,500.00	
Admin. Expenses - B-1	\$ 37,293.22	\$ 224,260.00	



We need to change who is in charge of this crisis.
Three phone calls, Radar could've had masks,
gloves, ventilators, PPE, 12yr old Scotch, Rocky
Road ice cream and grape flavored Nehi soda





TIPS & TIRICKS

To download your perfect PR Guide Please go to website below:

⊕ legion.org/talma



THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

				\$ 1.87% J\$		
Name	(First)	(Initial)	(Last)		(Date of Birth)	THE GIOTHE
Mailing Address	(Street)	(City)		(State)	(ZIP)	DUES RECEIPT
	(Guosi)	(Only)	□ Male □	Female	(211)	(Please Print)
(P	Phone)	(Email)	(Gen		Post #) (Dues)	
☐ I certify that I serv	ved at least one day of active milit	ary duty since December 7, 1941 a	nd was honorably discharged	d or am still serving honorab	ly.	Date
Please check ap Global War on Ter		d branch of service below:				Received From
☐ Gulf War☐ Panama	U.S. Navy U.S. Air Force					\$ for 20 Dues
☐ Lebanon/Grenada ☐ Vietnam						5l0l20bues
☐ Korea ☐ WWII	☐ Merchant Marines (WWII only)		•		Recruiter's Name
Other Conflicts						
Signature of Applicant		Date	Nam	ne of Recruiter		Recruiter's Signature
Mail completed applicate contact for amount due.	tion to The American Legio . For current department/sta	n National Headquarters, Att te address, go to www.legion	n: Internal Affairs. Anno .org.	ual dues must accomp	any completed application. Ask local	Hecruiter's Phone #
						and the same
SON	S OF THE AN	MERICAN LE	GION – MI	EMBERSHI	P APPLICATION	ST 60 NS ON I
William Co.						
Date						
Detachment of		Squadron No		Birth Date		
Name			Recruited by			DUEC DECEIDT
(F	First) (Initial)	(Last)	norance by	(Initial)	(Last)	DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)
Address	(Street)	(City)	(State)	(ZIP)	(Phone)	
					×	Date
						Received From
		om		_ to	,	
(c) Relationship of Applicant			Wh	oro?		\$for 20 Dues
		ican Legion, apply for membership,				Squadron No.
				for	20 annual membership dues	
Signed By Applicant (or Pare			Eligibility certified by			Department of
		n Legion department/state he o to The American Legion de			npleted application. Ask local contact	
for amount due. For cur	rent detacriment address, g	o to The American Legion de	oartmeni/state neadqua	rters, or visit www.legic	ALA 12/2013	
and Dive				**********		
AME	PICANIEC	ION ALIVILI	ADV - MEN	AREDCHII	APPLICATION	Annilling.
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	APPLICANT INFORMATI	ON		ELIGIBILITY INF	ORMATION	
						THE STATE OF THE S
Full Name				e of Veteran (Female Vetera	ns: List Your Own Name)	- Million
Address			If Living: American Leg	ion Member ID #	Post # City State	DUES RECEIPT
City	State	ZIP		n is deceased, contact ALA	unit about the necessary military records.)	(Please Print)
Home Phone	Cell Phone		Veteran Served: WWI (4/6/1917-11/1			
Email Address	Unit #	and Location (if known)	☐ Global War o			Date
1 1	☐ Birth - 17	☐ 18 and over	☐ Gulf War ☐ Panama	☐ Vietnam ☐ Korea	☐ Other Conflicts	Received From
Date of Birth (Red	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR			onship to the Veteran Female Spouse	Mother	\$
	eviously? 🖵 Yes 🖵 No (If ye		☐ Grandmother		Self	
Previous Unit City/State:		ALA ID#:			on Post Adjutant/Officer	Recruiter's Name
Signature of Appli	icant (or legal guardian if under 18	P) Date	I certify that the above n		ast one day of active duty during the dates	Recruiter's Signature
Submit this applicat	ition to the ALA unit you wish to nal Headquarters at (317) 569-4	o join. If unit is unknown,		,	1 1	•
	npany completed application. Ask		Post Adjutant/Officer Me	embership Verification	Date	Recruiter's Phone #

Membership pending approval of application.