

The Oregon Legionnaire

The Voice of Oregon's Veterans Since 1919

October 2020

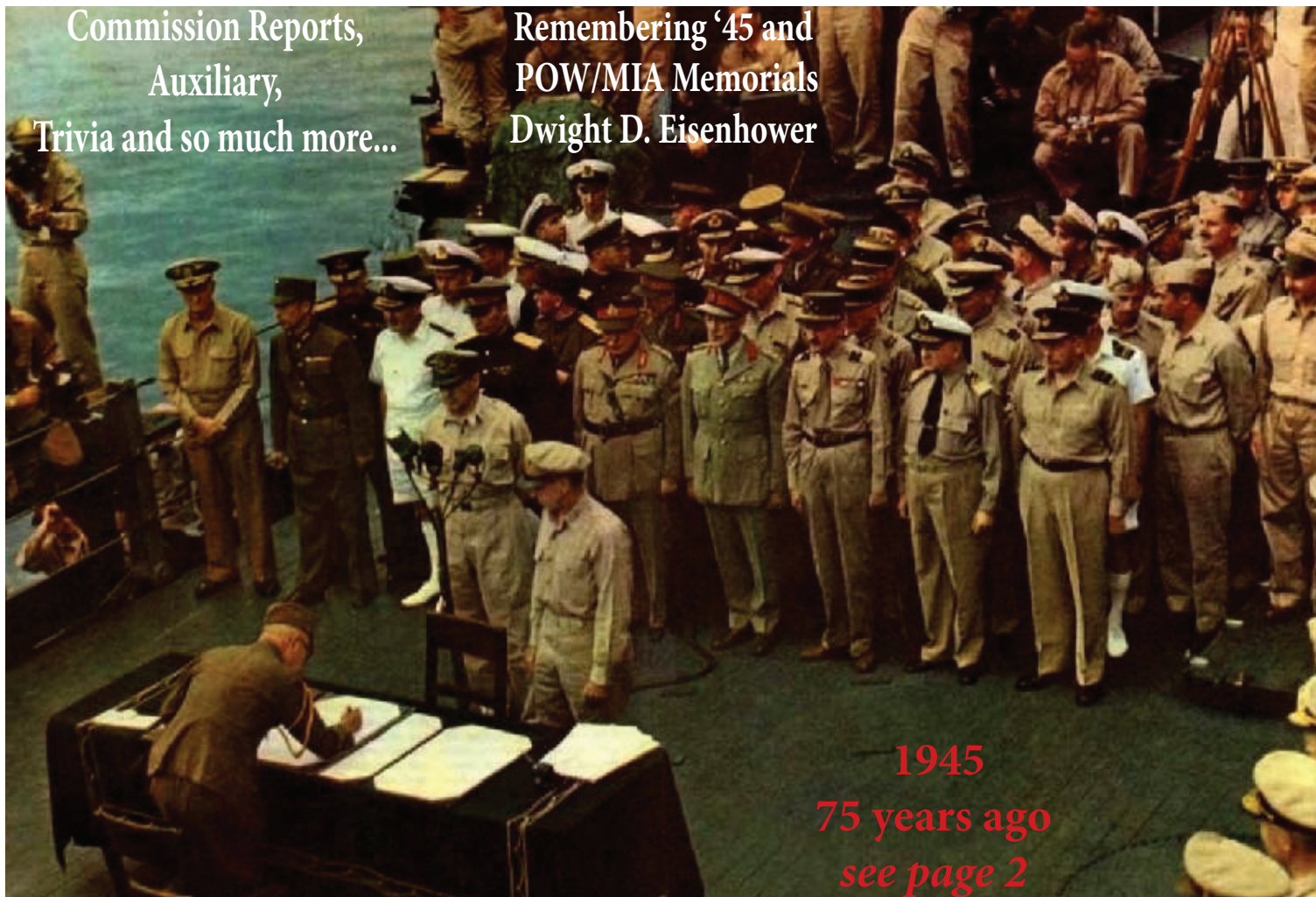


Notes from Commanders,

Commission Reports,
Auxiliary,
Trivia and so much more...

Inside This Issue

Remembering '45 and
POW/MIA Memorials
Dwight D. Eisenhower



1945
75 years ago
see page 2



2020
75 Years later
the Spirit of
'45 is ALIVE!



September 2, 1945

WWII Surrender on USS Missouri

75 years ago today, aboard the USS Missouri, the Surrender of the Empire of Japan was formalized through written agreement, marking the end of hostilities in World War II.

75th year National WWII Memorial (Cover)

On **Wednesday, September 2nd**, at **1030 EDT**, the National WWII Memorial will begin its **daylong online coverage** of the 75th anniversary, Allied Forces Victory in the Pacific and the end of WWII.



At **1100 EDT**, live online from the National WWII Memorial in Washington, DC, a brief, private, and socially distant wreath presentation will be held at the “Freedom Wall,” a field of 4,048 sculpted gold stars each representing 100 American military deaths during WWII.

Beginning at **Noon EDT**, and each 20 minutes thereafter, videos will be posted of WWII veterans reflecting V-J Day 75 years later. These tributes honor and preserve the WWII national memory and create the next “Greatest Generation” of tomorrow.

Oregon Spirit of '45 Legacy (Cover) They will ... NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

Oregon's Spirit of '45 legacy will be KEPT ALIVE by Lebanon Army JrROTC Cadets, OUR YOUTH. The Command plans to launch their 2021 Learning Service Project with OR WWII Spirit of '45 data. As they marched in this past decade (shown below), they will continue for years to come, march 100s of posters on Veterans Day in Albany, the largest parade west of the Mississippi.

National Spirit of '45 Legacy

National's Spirit of '45 legacy will be KEPT ALIVE by the USS Midway Museum. This Navy arm will continue to build the National Wall of Honor, that began in 2010 when Spirit Day was Congressionally endorsed. **Submit your WWII hero**, past or present, or simply type in a message of thanks to the brave men and women who served in WWII.

Oregon WWII Memorial

On **Sunday, August 9th**, Spirit of '45 Day, Oregon **paid special tribute** to the Greatest Generation and our decade-long Spirit journey. We commemorated the victory of the most destructive conflict in world history. Thanks to millions of Americans who served: Europe to Pacific, Battlefield to Homefront and Generation to Generation.

2635 NE 44th Ave. Portland, OR 97213
501(c)3 non profit EIN # 37-178196



OregonSprititof45



info@ORspiritof45.org



ORspiritof45.org

My fellow legionnaires, we are two months into the 20-21 year. Department officers have been busy reviewing and making additions and changes to the Department Policies and 5yr Strategic plan after input from several other people. These documents are ready to be ratified at the Fall DEC. They have been distributed to the DEC and PDC's for review and discussion at the Fall DEC. There are also several Commission and Committee positions to be ratified, and we are working hard to find members to fill some other Committee positions.

This year's goals have been sent to District Commanders, and all of the Posts goals have been submitted to the Department. The goals for this year are very attainable, but we have to work at it. We cannot sit back and do nothing and hope membership comes in. We need to contact members with the emphasis on retention to keep the members we already have and not let them fall through the cracks. If we retain 90 to 95% of our members, we can achieve our goals and be a 100% Department easily.



STEVE ADAMS
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

September is POW/MIA month, and all Posts are encouraged to have or attend the POW/MIA ceremonies. The POW/MIA flag was created by the National League of Families in 1972 and officially recognized by Congress in 1990. In 1998 Congress proclaimed the third Friday in September as POW/MIA day. Highway 26 in Oregon is declared a POW/MIA highway. There are six ceremonies planned across Oregon on September 18, 2020, to recognize Highway 26 as a POW/MIA highway.

They are at Vale at 10 am, where Charlie Schmidt will be the guest speaker, John Day at 4 pm, Prineville at 2 pm, Madres at 10 am, Boring at 2 pm, and Seaside at noon. All Posts are encouraged to attend any of these ceremonies. We will never forget our POW/MIA's and will always work hard to return all of our comrades.



LARRY WITTMAYER
DEPT 2ND-VICE COMMANDER
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

***PLEASE REMEMBER, EVERY LEGIONNAIRE IS A RECRUITER
CARRY A BLANK APPLICATION IN YOUR WALLET AND WHEN YOU SEE THAT VET
WEARING HIS COLORS, STRIKE UP A CONVERSATION - I AM SURE YOU WILL HAVE
SOMETHING IN COMMON TO TALK DISCUSS.***

This Department Campaign started a little slow none in 7/1 but has rapidly come up to speed.

We are presently at 48.983%, with 165 to go and 152 in processing. Only 13 to hit 50%. WE CAN DO IT. The Top Districts in August are D1 - 50.06%, D4 - 54.95%, D5 - 50.03%, D9 53.77% and D10 53.29%. By publication, we will be at 50% -

CONGRATULATIONS to the whole Department who have worked so hard - the hard work must continue. Our next goal is 55% on 10/15, which is just 35 days from 9/10, and we need an additional 798 members. **Based on previous performance, you can do it.** They are out there in the form of renewals; look back to the past 2018 or more. Also, start using the DMS/114 lists, and if you need new ones, call Larry, not Flynn.

New Department Incentives are being announced for District **Commanders** to earn: The first District to reach 65%, 75%, and 85%, the District Commander will receive a White Legion embroidered Polo. The first District to achieve 100%, the District Commander will receive a Blue Legion embroidered Voyage Jacket. The District will receive a perpetual plaque so engraved.

The Membership Chair will be visiting the following District Meetings and possibly revitalizations:

D1 3/13, D2 2/21, D3 11/14, D4 10/10 Zoom, D5 TBA,

D6 10/17, D7 4/17, D8 3/16. D9 9/26, D10 8/14

All of the 2020-2021 Department Incentives are achieved:

The first Post to reach 50% of goal - Post 2

The first Post to reach 55,65,75,80,85 and 90% of goal - Post 129

The first Post to reach 100% of goal - Post 50

Congratulations to those Posts for working so hard.

These are unusual times, without a Department Convention this year; for our members' safety, we have had to develop new ways to support our Constitution and By-Laws to continue our great work. As I write this, we are in our two-month Supplemental Budget, August and September 2020. This two-month period will be our short reporting year, first of ten, August, and September 2020. When you receive this edition of the Legionnaire, we will be in our new 2020-2021 Budget Year, full-year, October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021. We are still working on our Financial Reporting Systems to support all our new changes.



PDC, BOB HUFF
DEPARTMENT FINANCE

If you were not able to attend/virtual Membership Workshop and not using mylegion.org, the information is available on the National Web-site at membership@legion.org. If you need help and training to use the system, we are here to help. Posts should be processing all renewals and new members in the mylegion.org system. You can save money for your Post on Postage, and you immediately receive credit from National HQ and Department for your renewals, all positive. It is less work using the mylegion.org system than sending the cards to Department and postage, and you receive immediate credit for your submittal.

As we continue to work from home, attend virtual meetings, learning new ways to do our business, honoring social distancing, and driving new ways of being creative to support our programs, several virtually. Not how we learned and challenging our comfort zone, which is healthy.

We must be more creative to support our programs, our Veterans community, and the mission. Our American Legion commitment and mission continue.



On August 18, 1920, women won the right to do what?

- A. Work
- B. Drive
- C. Vote
- D. Divorce

Interesting things to make you say Hmmm.....



Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle, of their ceramic cups.

When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service.

'Wet your whistle' is the phrase inspired by this practice.



Deadline

for the November issue
of the
Oregon Legionnaire
is October 5th, 2020

Calendar of Events

October

03-04 Fall DEC
10 District 4 Zoom Mtg
10 District 7 Meeting
31 Happy Halloween

November

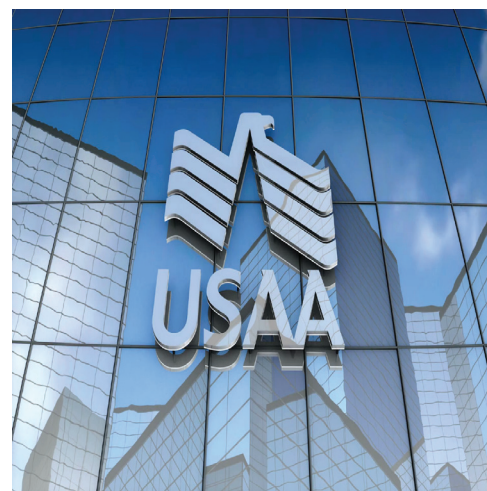
11 Veterans Day (Closed)
14 District 3 Meeting
14 District 10 Meeting
26-27 Thanksgiving (Closed)

December

12 District 1 Meeting
23-25 Christmas Day (Closed)
31 New Years Eve (Closed)

January

01 New Years Day (Closed)





PDC, TOM HARRIS
IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER

Hello American Legion Family,

I know communications have been limited during this 2020-2021 year for many reasons, but I hope this message finds everyone doing well and in good spirits.

Moving forward through 2020 and into the 2021 year, we will work together to build new relationships with Veterans and their families that are just getting to know the American Legion and existing members in our Districts that we have not communicated with since the beginning of the year.

I am confident that our upcoming Department District and Post officers are ready and able to take on Membership and Program tasks required of them, and with our support, they will do well.

One of the most important things we can do this year is to support American Legion "Programs." Like the American Legion Baseball, High School Oratorical, Junior Shooting Sports, Boys State, and our own Law Enforcement Career Camp, to name a few. Volunteering to support American Legion programs is easy and fun... So if you are interested, please contact your District Commander and or the Department of Oregon for more information.

During the last year serving as your Immediate Past Department Commander, I have had the opportunity to work with local Posts and District Commanders on many occasions. I am proud to say, "Again," we have some of the best Post and District Officer Teams I have ever seen. With a great Department Adjutant and staff to support us with technical information and anything, we need to better our Districts and Posts.

We have a great opportunity again this year to continue to be the best we can be through supporting Veterans and our Communities through the most incredible organization on the planet... The American Legion.

I am looking forward to supporting you again this year, and here are a few basics that every Post should take into consideration while building membership and supporting Veterans in our local communities for 2021...

1. Keep it simple, and focus on the Four Pillars to support Veterans, Americanism, Children and Youth, and National Security programs.
3. Work together to make your Post clean, inviting, and respectable where Veterans and their families can volunteer and call home.
4. Lead by example, and hold each other accountable. It is up to all of us to keep the good name of The American Legion alive and in good standing!
5. And Post members should take care of each other like a family should help each other to be successful as volunteers.

I thank you all for your continued support in providing care for our Veterans and their families that do need our support, and for what you do every year to support our American Legion Family. God bless you all, and let's have a strong year in 2021...

"Believe and Achieve"

For God and Country

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IF ...**



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For more information log on to www.TheLIT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus or call toll-free **1-888-293-4008** today to speak with a representative.

*This is only an outline of the plans services. Please review your Member Guide carefully. EA+ is not insurance. © 2018 Worldwide Rescue & Security 43262 From Your American Legion Department




Legionnaire Benefits
As a Member of the Legion Family, You Know How Important It Is to Help Protect Those in Need ...

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- Hospital HELP Plan
- Cancer Care
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- On-The-Move Travel Accident
- Emergency Assistance Plus

- Medicare Supplement Insurance
- Health Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Long-Term Care
- Lifeline Medical Alert Service

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DEPARTMENT

- **Hospital HELP Plan** — Provides benefits for hospital stays including intensive care, cardiac care, care for cancer, rehabilitative facilities, and V.A. hospitals.*
- **Cancer Care** — Provides important protection and a daily benefit if you are hospitalized due to cancer.*
- **Accidental Death** — Helps provide financial protection for you and your family. Up to \$5,000.00 LegionCare AD coverage at no cost to Legionnaires is available. (activation required).* You can also purchase additional Accident coverage up to \$100,000.00.
- **On-The-Move Travel Accident** — Provides up to \$200,000.00 coverage when fatally injured in a covered accident while traveling, plus \$500.00 per day if a covered accident lands you in the hospital.*
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www.TheLIT.com
For Questions Call 1-800-235-6943

*The Accidental Death, Cancer Care, Hospital Help Plan, and On-The-Move Accident Insurance Plans are underwritten by Southern Life Insurance Company, St. Paul, MN. Plans may not be available in all states. These policies contain limitations and exclusions. Please visit www.TheLIT.com to review plan details.

Editors Notes

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The Oregon Legionnaire

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

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WOW, here we are in October, and nothing has changed. We are still in the mist of the pandemic. I and our SGT-AT-ARMS attempted to visit Hillsboro Post 6 last month for a visit had to turn around because the smoke was too bad.

As most of you know we held our District meeting via the computer/tablet/phone on September 12th. There was a mix up about the time. Remember when we use *GOTOMEETING*, the meetings are at 10AM. If we get to meet in person at a Post those meeting will start at 1 PM.



LOU NEUBECKER
DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER

As announced at the meeting, September 18th was National POW/MIA Day. But, did you know that the State of Oregon has dedicated Highway 26 as the POW/MIA Memorial Highway. There were 5 ceremonies held that day, thought-out the State. The one in Seaside was very fortunate to have both the TAL and VFW State Commanders. As far as anyone can remember that has never happened before. We also had NVC Liebenow. We had approximately 70 in attendance. It was a joint venture between the TAL and VFW. We also had the nephews of a civilian POW from WWII on Wake Island. Their Uncle was held for 44 months. Your Vice-Commander played TAPS for us and what a job he did. **THANKS JOHN**

Your District officers pray that you are staying Safe and healthy.

Semper Fi



At least 75%
of people who
read this will
try to lick their
elbow!

I seen you try it. LOL

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	Steve Shollenberg
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

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The QOVF Mission

JERRY PATTON
DISTRICT 3 COMMANDER

The Quilt of Valor® Foundation appreciates the service and sacrifice of those who are serving or have served in the Armed Forces and protect our freedoms. In 2003, Catherine Roberts, the QOVF Founder, created the concepts that underpin the QOVF mission statement:

To cover Service Members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.



During District 3's Meeting at the VFW Hall in Sweet Home on the 13th, Three ladies from the Willamette Valley Oregon QOVF GROUP (16028) of Brownsville, OR. Presented beautiful quilts to Commander Steve Adams, Alternate NECMAN Jim Willis, District 3 Commander Jerry Patton and Dept Adjutant Flynn Phillips. Second from the right is Judy Clay, Dalene Craike from Estacada, far left is Donna Lee from Brownsville her husband John Lee put numerous hours into the quilt that was presented to Jim Willis.

What do Bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser Printers have in common?



All were invented by women



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[True Compass Designs](#) is a digital development company that has been in business for more than 17 years. Certified in 11 different Adobe programs, Mick Bird of Camas, Wash., builds websites for clients while working from the comfort of his home. Mick is The American Legion Department's Web Designer.

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PDC, KEVIN OWENS
DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER

As I write this article, we can be proud that the District reached the 50% goal and are working hard for the next. As

Commander, I will have visited seven

out of nine Posts and working on the last two. So far, I am personally proud of the things being done, working on renewals, the 114 & 99 lists, but as a District, I'm pleased to say that every Post in the District is on MyLegion and are processing dues online. Processing dues online does two things, the first being it saves time and money for the Post, and the second gets the membership recorded at Department and National instantly.

We are starting to move into the Oratorical season and hope to have a good showing within the District. The hope is that we can get back to some normal way of life where Posts can do what we do best, and that is caring for the Veterans and youth in our communities. During this challenging time, life has slowed some of the things we do but has not slowed that American Legion Spirit. We are up to any challenges, and as Legionnaires, we find a way to get it done.



Happy Halloween



DAN BURKS

DISTRICT 10 COMMANDER

District 10 is waking up and is beginning to find its rhythm. We were able to swear in a new Commander for Post 79 Nyssa. Jarod Edmondson has agreed to take the reigns there in Nyssa. In a small ceremony attended by some Nyssa members, Past National Commander Charles Schmidt, Past Department Commander Michael Jones, District 10 officers, I swore into office Jarod and Dave Witty as the adjutant as well. Jarod is eager to learn and stays in contact with me regularly. We also, via phone conference, were able to swear in a new Commander for Dayville Post 115.

Katee Hoffman accepted the role as Commander of the Post and via phone conference attended by Department Commander, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, the Department Adjutant, PNC Charles Schmidt, PDC Michael Jones, District 10 Officers, I swore her into office. These two accomplishments are particularly remarkable to us in District 10 because these two posts have been unmanned for several years now. We take pride in never giving up on our Posts and working

together as a team.

8/15 District 10 held its District Meeting in Prairie City. Special guests were Department Commander, 2nd Vice Cmdr, and adjutant. Awards given on this day were recognition to John Recla for his role as adjutant of Post 96 for 43 years. Also, Given were two awards for reaching 100% of the goal, awarded to Burns 63 and Prairie City 106. A perpetual plaque was awarded to Prairie 106 for achieving 106% of its membership goal.

Prairie 106 received the Post of the year award. While achieving membership goals, these men and women persisted in aiding Posts all over District 10 as far as 4 hours away from their homes to ensure that we were represented in true Legion fashion. These men and women of Post 106 went above and beyond, and their dedication reflects greatly upon the success in District 10.

Following the District meeting, several District and Department Officers went to John Day Post to help with membership, which consisted of phone calls and good ole fashion knocking on doors. The day became a success based on everyone's efforts. Prairie City Post 106 has played it safe during the commotion and not held much for meetings, but that hasn't stopped them from performing duties such as rendering honors at funerals, raising funds for a widow in need, and hosting a 4th of July Parade.

I attended this Parade along with Isaac Burks, Squadron 67 Commander, for the SAL. We both participated, and the Sheriff led the Parade. Vale post 96 has had Bingo on and off. They held a Flag raising ceremony at the senior center there in Vale. Vale Post 96 also rendered honors for eight fallen comrades.

District 10 Cmdr visited 8/29 and made house calls to members of the Vale post. Found a couple in need who were referred to the County VSO as well as the Department Legion Service Officers and one who lost their 7-year-old son earlier in August. Ontario Post 67 has stayed relatively quiet; they did participate in a flag ceremony at the Elks Lodge in Ontario. I participated and spoke at this event as well.

Ontario held a 9/11 ceremony where I was the Guest Speaker. 9/12 Burns Post 63 had a parade in Burns during the Fair. I attended this event, as well as visits to members of Post 63. 9/18 Ontario, as well as Burns Post 63, assisted the Bend Heros Foundation with the HWY 26 POW/ MIA Dedication ceremony.

Attending guest speakers were PNC Schmidt, PDC Jones, D10 Cmdr Burks. Honor Guard was provided by Vale Post 96. On the same day, PNC Schmidt, D10 Cmdr Burks as well as members from Post 63 attended and assisted in the same dedication in John Day. On 9/26, a revitalization for Ontario Post 67 took place including, visiting Post members at their homes.

Happy Halloween

October

31st





PDC, ANDY MILLAR
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN
AL FOUNDATION MEMBER

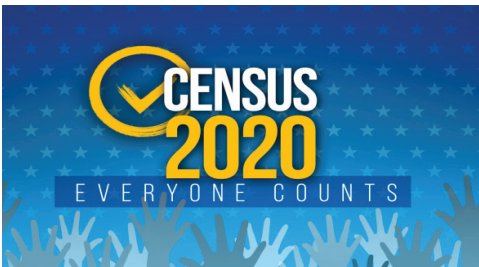
We have been blessed with estate giving with the foundation as the beneficiary. Sizable amounts of over \$250,000 have been bequeathed to the Oregon American Legion Foundation to be used for the department service office. You don't need to request in your will to leave that large sum to benefit a program of your choice.



You can leave a percentage of the "rest and residue" of your estate after your specific bequests. Or you can make a specified amount of a cash bequest to the Oregon American Legion Foundation.

The process is very simple. In the bequest section of your will, "I give \$_____ to the Oregon American Legion Foundation, PO Box 1730, Wilsonville, OR. 97070 for Americanism. Programs " or "I give _____% of all the rest and residue of my estate to the American Legion Foundation, PO Box 1730, Wilsonville, OR 97070."

The Oregon American Legion Foundation is **your** foundation. Not one cent goes to any overhead or administrator! 100% will go to the program of your choice.



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 or 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

The Oratorical Committee has been proactively working on getting the foundation laid for the 2021 National High School Oratorical Scholarship Program. Over the past month, the committee members completed a review of the oratorical program code of procedures and updated it for approval by the Department Executive Committee. While most updates were minimal, an essential addition is to accommodate a potential virtual contest further should the need arise.



One of our foundational efforts continues to be building CORY BROCKMANN the framework of Post and District Oratorical Committees. ORATORICAL CHAIR District Commanders and District Oratorical Chairs can further strengthen this foundation by helping identify individuals that can serve as chair and committee members at those levels, respectively, as well as also identify volunteers that can help contact schools and conduct the local contest.

I completed a review of the oratorical program webpage on the Department's website. From that review, recommendations were submitted to the Department Adjutant for further review and handling with the web manager. Those recommendations include webpage layout changes, as well as, provide access to the 2021 Oratorical Program information and contest details. Until the updates are made, oratorical program information is readily available and may be accessed by navigating online to <https://www.legion.org/oratorical>.

Your Department Oratorical Committee members are Steve Bergadine, Richard Ramey, and PNC Charles Schmidt. A vacancy on the Department Oratorical Committee still exists. If you, or someone you know, are interested in serving in this capacity, please reach out to any of the Oratorical Committee Members or myself with any questions you may have.

Thank you for your continued support of our youth and this outstanding youth program!

Scouting



LARRY WITTMAYER
SCOUTING CHAIR

This committee continues to encourage our Posts to charter (sponsor) Scouting units. We have had a history with Scouting and the Legion since 1919.

The Pandemic has curtailed a lot of person to person Scouting. Units and Councils have found ways to keep the program alive via virtual sessions.

At present, the Department is participating in an Eagle Scout Project. The Life Scout is planning and lending leadership to a project to install a lawn sprinkler system in the lawn area to the West of our building.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



BETTY FISH-FERGUSON
TRAINING & LEADERSHIP CHAIR

Hello Legionnaires,

I am assuming the role of Chairman for the Training and Development Committee. The previous Chairman, John Lee, stepped down. I have been a member of the Committee for three years. I will be attempting to provide meaningful, useful training at each DEC meeting with an emphasis on the new District Commanders and their new role.

The amount of time given is at the discretion of the Department Commander. At the Fall DEC, we will have 2 hours of training in the morning and 3

hours in the afternoon.

Topics to include:

- Goal Setting
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Forms
- How to Run a District meeting
- Resolution Writing
- Proper Dress

I will present other topics in the future DEC's. Over the course of a year, my goal would be to provide the majority of the content that would occur at a Department Legion College if it had not been canceled. Each training event will be critiqued to greater improve your time contribution.

I look forward to this new challenge and hope to see you in Lebanon.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is hiring in Portland and Vancouver!

We are filling full time, permanent, full benefit positions as Medical Support Assistants.

Please go to <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/580187600> for more information.

Ron Blecker

Human Resources Specialist R&P
Ronald.Blecker@va.gov



Answer:

C. Vote

So, get out there and do what the ladies in 1920 faught for and VOTE



Need to Know Dates

Portland VA
Gift Shop Opening
Sat. Nov. 28th @ 10 am

Oregon Veterans Home
Gift Shop Opening
Canceled for 2020

Lebanon Veterans Home
Gift Shop

Roseburg VA
Gift Shop Opening
Sun. Nov. 29th

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND HOMELESSNESS COMMISSION

Our Commissions mission and goals remain in a holding pattern with current social distancing and no large group rules for our members, family, and participants' safety. The Veterans Employment and Education Commission task with Veterans Employment, Education, and Homelessness is focusing on alternative methods to assist our Veterans community. We have had to cancel all our upcoming events until there is a new direction on meeting in large groups.

The safety of our members, veterans, and participants remain our focus. Our area in Southern Oregon, where we host multiple events, has now gone back on the Governor's watch list. We see some light as all our local meetings with our community and partners have been reactivated, holding ZOOM meetings. We are brainstorming ways to host events or ZOOM events to support our Veteran and family population and programs.

We have activated our strategy meetings supporting our Deployed National Guard Soldiers return through zoom meetings, and some in person as we have troops returning. We have some success with Veterans' unemployment and homelessness with our partners. We have so much more to do. Learning new ways to support our programs and mission has been a challenge; of course, we have always liked challenges.

We have an active dialog with our DVOPS from Oregon Employment and other community groups on what-ifs for Virtual Employment Events. There have been some successes in areas in the East. We were looking at best practices and opened a dialog for application in our Department. We are working with one group in Douglas County on providing housing for homeless veterans currently. Coordinating with VA and agencies when most are working from home is one of our biggest challenges with Veterans Homelessness. Just another opportunity to overcome. We cannot lock in dates or locations with the uncertainty and changes that are taking place daily. We have been faced with many different challenges in the past and have overcome them. This uncertainty is another new challenge we face.



PDC, BOB HUFF
VE&E CHAIRPERSON

YVONNE DRURY
UNIT 4 PRESIDENT

Auxiliary at Work

Youth Hero Awards were given Sept. 11, 2020, as a part of the 9/11 remembrance ceremony at the Bend Heroes Memorial in Bend, Oregon.



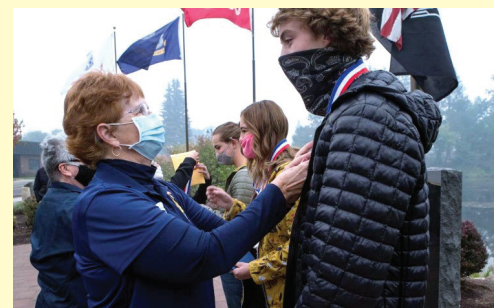
Unit #4 President Yvonne Drury, Secretary Karen Banks, and Chaplain Bonnie Wilkins presented the certificates and medals to three teens who were instrumental in rescuing an injured hiker in the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness Area on July 12, 2020.

Shiloh Binder, 15, his sister Marah, 17, of Prineville, Oregon, and friend Caden Bolic, 17, of Terrebonne, Oregon, were into a one week hike on the Pacific Crest Trail. They happened upon the hiker's partner, who was hiking out to get help after leaving the injured man alone.

The three experienced hikers, students at Redmond Proficiency Academy, and all trained as Wilderness First Responders went into action, hiking to the injured man in very rough terrain. They gave him first aid, and Marah and Caden stayed with him overnight. Simultaneously, Shiloh, using his satellite phone, ran and walked 17 miles to contact and meet up with Linn County, Oregon Search, and Rescue and coordinate a helicopter extraction.



Shiloh Binder, 15, his sister Marah, 17, of Prineville, Oregon, and friend Caden Bolic, 17 with Unit 4 President Yvonne Drury



PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE



PNC, PDC, CHARLIE SCHMIDT
PR CHAIR

The month of September brings several Public Relations opportunities for Posts to be proactive and visible through services in their respective community.

September is National Disaster Preparedness Month. As the hurricane, tornado, and wild-fire seasons are still in full swing, The American Legion Family assists those in need, during a catastrophic event, and in the aftermath. The key is being prepared. September 11 is Patriots Day. May we never forget that day in 2001 of the hundreds of Americans lost that day and the hundreds saved by First Responders. September 16 is American Legion Day. That is a great opportunity for Legionnaires to commemorate Congress chartering the American Legion in 1919. What better way to observed Constitution Day on September 17 than to start promoting The American Legion Oratorical program? Also, on September 17 is Citizenship Day. Providing assistance and instruction to those following the legal path to citizenship has been a longstanding and proud American Legion tradition almost since the organization's founding by Posts, Districts, and Department. Approximately 81,000 wartime US service members are still unaccounted for. September 18 is National POW/MIA Day, which is an opportunity for Posts to lead community ceremonies reminding us never to forget those who have yet to come home or are fully accounted for. Several ceremonies across Oregon on September 18 will dedicate Oregon's US Highway 26, 471 miles from Seaside to Nyssa, as POW/MIA Memorial Highway. September 18 is the birthday of the United States Air Force that became a separate military service with the implementation of the National Security Act of 1947. The last Sunday in September each year is Gold Star Mothers Day. This year Gold Star Mother's Day falls on September 27 when we will honor the mothers who lost sons and daughters in the line of duty of the US Armed Force.

As you can see, the month of September offers many opportunities for The American Legion to serve America's communities. It is also an opportunity for Posts to connect with their publics through local media resources available to share information of a Post's contributions within the local community. In Public Relations terms, publics' can be a Post's membership, organizations in the community, veterans, businesses, churches, and schools, to name a few. On a final note, **CONGRATULATIONS** to all 116 American Legion Posts in Oregon for helping Department achieve a 100% participation rate for Post Consolidated Report (CPR) reporting to National. Great job by all.



MICK WILSON
POST 180 COMMANDER

Legion Leadership and Management ~ a Viewpoint

As we navigate through these challenging times, we must reflect on what keeps organizations viable during adversity.

Based on my experience with non-profit operations: programs, pillars, and mission statements are essential, but the primary responsibilities of the leadership and management of non-profit organizations boil down to two vital areas: **fiscal sustainability** and **membership growth**. Without good management and leadership in these two essential areas, the organization will cease to exist.

How is your Post leadership and management team doing in these two vital areas? What are you doing to assist your elected and appointed Legion Officers to keep your Post viable?

**YOU ARE INVITED
TO DONATE BLOOD**

Milwaukie American Legion
2146 SE Monroe St.

Saturday, 10 October 2020
8:00 AM — 1:30 PM

Reservations Required: **1-800-733-2767**

1-800-733-2767

American Legion Post 180 in Milwaukie will host a Red Cross blood donation event on Saturday, 10 October 2020 at the Legion's facility located at 2146 SE Monroe St., Milwaukie, OR. **Reservations are required** to maintain social distancing. Reserve a donation spot by calling 1-800-733-2767.

Donations will be collected 8 AM to 1:30 PM in a safe coronavirus free environment. ***Please assist and do something to help the Red Cross and our communities in this pandemic and wild fire calamity. Your help is needed!***

Michael Wilson
503-659-1300
Commander,
Milwaukie Post 180
American Legion

Gladstone <----- **McLoughlin Blvd.** -----> Portland

Dogwood Park	St.	St.	St.	Harrison St.
Main St.	Washington St.	Jefferson St.	Main St.	Main St.
				City Hall

21st Ave. 21st Ave.

Eisenhower Memorial honors president, WWII Allied commander-in-chief

Jared Morgan
Military Times

In this June 5, 1944, file photo, U.S. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, left, gives the order of the day to paratroopers in England prior to boarding their planes to participate in the first assault of the Normandy invasion. (U.S. Army Signal Corps via AP)



President Dwight D. “Ike” Eisenhower is among the most accomplished presidents in American history. He balanced the federal budget several times, created America’s interstate highway system and brought about the Civil Rights Act of 1957. And that all came after Eisenhower, promoted to five-star general of the Army during WWII, led a multinational coalition to victory over Nazi Germany and its Axis Alliance.

The 34th president will be honored on Thursday at the long-awaited opening ceremony of the Eisenhower Memorial in Washington D.C.

“I am proud to honor Kansas’ favorite son with the unveiling of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial,” said Sen. Pat Roberts, chairman of the Eisenhower Memorial Commission, in a statement. “This memorial pays tribute to Ike’s historic leadership.”

For safety during the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of attendees will be limited onsite and the event will be livestreamed on Facebook beginning at 7 p.m. Eastern. The memorial was scheduled to open to the public in May, but that event was delayed due to the pandemic. Commissioned by Congress in 1999, the memorial didn’t break ground until November 2017.

According to the Eisenhower Memorial Commission, the project cost a total of \$145 million. Some \$15 million of that was raised through private donors and the rest was appropriated from Congress, which is typical for federal memorial projects.

The memorial is located at 540 Independence Ave., just south of the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum. It sits on four acres and takes up more than half the city block it shares with the U.S. Department of Education building.



Framing the new Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial, lit at night, is a stainless-steel woven tapestry depicting the Normandy coastline in peacetime. (PRNewsfoto/Eisenhower Memorial Commission)

Two bench-lined paths zigzag south from the six-lane road, amid trees and other greenery, to reveal a large, semi-transparent metal tapestry depicting the Normandy coast, where Allied Forces landed on D-Day. Two large stone blocks etched with quotations cap the dioramas at opposite flanks. Several bronze statues show Eisenhower as a powerful military leader and a thoughtful president with his military subordinates and political cabinet members looking on. The memorial also includes a statue of Eisenhower as a boy, which represents his humble and strong upbringing in Abilene, Kansas, said Frank Gehry, who designed the landmark.

In the early 1950s, Gehry served with Third Army, which was also Gen. Eisenhower’s unit. He went on to join the Special Services Division, where he designed day rooms and service clubs.

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Gehry told Military Times he felt connected to Eisenhower.

“I remember him, of course,” Gehry said. “I always liked him. I thought he was a decent human being, as he came across.”

When Gehry began working on the memorial, he dove into Eisenhower’s past, even visiting his hometown of Abilene.

“I did my homework and came away in awe, I must say,” Gehry said. “He was a superb human being.”

Historic career

From his West Point attendance beginning in 1911 to his post-war service in 1953, on through his two-term presidency, Eisenhower was always moving forward.

On his role in the Normandy invasion during WWII: “That’s quite enough for one lifetime, I think,” Gehry said. “And he did much more than that as president.”

Eisenhower’s involvement in WWII began 1942, when the major general took command of American forces in Britain. Though he had no battlefield experience, he led successful Allied invasions of Northern Africa with Operation Torch and the Tunisia campaign before being tasked with leading the invasion of Western Europe the following year. Operation Overlord was launched on June 6, 1944 on the shores of Normandy. The D-Day invasion tested Eisenhower’s strategic prowess and confirmed his place among military greats.



Statues at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial in Washington D.C. depict the general visiting troops a day before the Normandy invasion in 1944. (Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial)

The cost of war

But for all the military accolades, Eisenhower knew the cost of war and it humbled him. In a June 12, 1945 radio address at Guildhall in London, just days after the Normandy invasion, the supreme commander accepted the Freedom of London Award from the city. He offered his thanks for the distinction and expressed regret over the need for the appointment of an Allied commander in chief and the cost of war.

“Humility must always be the portion of any man who receives acclaim earned in blood of his followers and sacrifices of his friends,” Eisenhower said.

What made Eisenhower a great leader, both in the military and political arenas, were his skills in diplomacy and people management. said [Susan Eisenhower](#), a foreign policy strategist and granddaughter of President Eisenhower, whose new book “How Ike Led” looks at the principles that drove some of the important decisions the president faced.

“He managed in an extreme way to keep a factious alliance together,” Susan Eisenhower told Military Times. “Which was sometimes easier and sometimes difficult, but he understood that unity of purpose was what was required to win in the European theater.”

It was unprecedented to have an American military commander lead an international effort such as the one brought about by the Second World War.

“His subordinates were fully integrated,” Susan Eisenhower said. “By the time D-Day comes around he is given the au-

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thority over the Army, the Air Force and the Navy and that integrated control makes him one of the greatest advocates for an integrated command in the form of the Joint Chiefs and other things as the post war period comes.”

Eisenhower's growing popularity

Though President Eisenhower is revered today as a military leader and as a president, there were critics of his time who claimed he wasn't doing enough or didn't come off very polished during some interviews, wrote Chester J. Pach, Jr., an associate professor of history at Ohio University.

In a 2017 C-SPAN Presidential Historians Survey, Eisenhower ranked fifth among all presidents up to the Barack Obama administration, set below presidents Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Theodore Roosevelt. According to the survey, Eisenhower had ranked ninth seven years prior.

Pach attributes Eisenhower's rising score to the release of more records and papers throughout the years giving historians more material to cover.



About Jared Morgan Jared is a freelance journalist and a veterans advocate living in Los Angeles. He's also a **Marine Corps veteran** who remained in Kuwait with support elements of HMLA-169 to support the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq and later deployed to Al Asad and Al Qa'im, Iraq in 2004 with the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing and 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. jared.morgan@military-times.com

The American Legion



★ NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS ★ PO BOX 1055 ★ INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46206-1055
(317) 630-1200 ★ FAX (317) 630-1223 ★ WEBSITE www.legion.org

Sept. 19, 2020

My fellow Legionnaires,

American Legion response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been truly remarkable and effective, but that's just one example of the many ways our organization has strengthened communities, states and the nation in 2019 and 2020, as illustrated in this year's annual report, presented here.

The Buddy Check program proved to be tailor-made for the situation. Legionnaires across the land reached out to assist and support veterans who were self-isolating and at risk for infection. Moreover, a national American Legion survey showed that contact with "friends and family" was most important to the emotional well-being of veterans during this time, and we helped deliver that contact, safely.

The American Legion meanwhile helped thousands with their VA claims, employment opportunities, business pursuits, college scholarships and health-care needs during the year. And resolution-driven priorities were advanced on Capitol Hill in support of legislation to recognize the effects of toxic exposure from burn pits, protect the Post 9/11 GI Bill, improve care for women veterans and help veterans at risk of suicide.

The annual report also records the expansion of defined wartime service to respect all who served honorably since Dec. 7, 1941. The LEGION Act – Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service – opened American Legion membership eligibility to veterans who served outside previously declared periods of war. The act expands eligibility in Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, which in 2019 extended eligibility to all spouses of veterans and servicemembers.

The annual report also includes audited financial statements for the organization, along with much more.

Digital versions of the 2020 American Legion Annual Report may be downloaded or viewed online by visiting legion.org and clicking the ABOUT tab on the upper left side of the landing page.

Thank you all so much for all you do, especially the ways in which you have adapted and overcome in this complicated year. The 2020 report clearly demonstrates that The American Legion mission only grows more important in challenging times.

For God and Country,

James W. "Bill" Oxford
American Legion National Commander

OREGON AMERICAN LEGION GRESHAM POST 30 ELECTS NEW COMMANDER



Picture above L /R Legionnaire Vance Brieze, Adjutant Grant McAllister, Commander George Sims, New Commander Ron Kamys, Sgt-at-Arms Michael "Whitey" Martin, and 1st Vice Commander Frank West.

American Legion Gresham Post 30 has elected a new Commander Ron Kamys. George Sims is moving to Woodburn. He will be staying close to Post 30 to lend support during the transition. This group of Veterans were instrumental in reviving the Post. Most are dual members including the local Gresham VFW Post 180. You will see them quite frequently at the Gresham Farmers Market recruit-

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Continued from page 15
ing new members for both organiza-
tions.

They will be looking for Oratorical
Candidates, Law Enforcement Car-
reer Camp and Boys State Candidates
this year. Please ask them for more
information about these fine youth
programs the Legion Sponsors. More
information at: [https://orlegion.org/
programs/](https://orlegion.org/programs/) and [https://www.legion.
org/programs](https://www.legion.org/programs)

Contact: Grant McAllister. [Chap-
mac22@frontier.com](mailto:Chapmac22@frontier.com) 503-888-1372

*The American Legion is the largest
wartime veterans service organization
with nearly 2 million members and
more than 12,000 posts in communi-
ties throughout America. The Ameri-
can Legion, established by an act of
Congress in 1919, was instrumental
in getting the original GI Bill through
Congress and the creation of the
department of Veterans Affairs.*



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the American Legion was chartered by Congress on September 16th, 1919, as a wartime veteran's organization based on the four pillars of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion has become a preeminent community service organization with more than 2.5 million members in over 14,000 posts worldwide supporting a variety of programs to benefit our nation's veterans, its service members, their families, the youth of America and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Legionnaires uphold the ideals of freedom and democracy while working to make a difference in the lives of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the City of Milwaukie enjoys a strong partnership with American Legion Post 180 and its affiliated units and organizations; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 observance of American Legion Day provides an opportunity to recognize Legionnaires in our community for their many civic contributions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Gamba, Mayor of the City of Milwaukie, a municipal corporation in the County of Clackamas, in the State of Oregon, do hereby proclaim **SEPTEMBER 16, 2020**, as **AMERICAN LEGION DAY** in the City of Milwaukie, and do hereby commend its observance to all citizens of "The Dogwood City of the West".

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, and with the consent of the City Council of the City of Milwaukie, I have hereunto set my hand on this 1st day of **September 2020**.

Mark Gamba, Mayor

ATTEST:

Scott Stauffer, City Recorder

**American
Legion
Day**



Milwaukie, Oregon

Are you moving?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please Update My Address in mylegion.org

Name: _____

New Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Effective Date: _____

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

**"When the peace treaty is signed,
the war isn't over for the veterans
or the family. It's just starting." —
Karl Marlantes**

*Googled the author, I found that
he was born in Astoria and grew up
in Seaside. A decorated Vietnam
vet (USMC) and as a writer, has
several articles/publications to his
credit.*

*Submitted by PNC, PDC, Charlie
Schmidt*

Oregon dedicates nation's longest POW/MIA Memorial Highway

By [Ken Olsen](#)
SEP 22, 2020

Oregon veterans dedicated the nation's first border-to-border POW/MIA Memorial Highway in a series of ceremonies across the state on Sept. 18, National POW/MIA Recognition Day. The designation of U.S. Highway 26 honors 920 Oregon prisoners of war, including 135 civilians, 999 Oregon military veterans and one civilian listed as missing in action, said Dick Tobiason, chairman of the Bend Heroes Foundation, which spearheaded the highway dedication.



Legionnaires, including Past National Commander Charles Schmidt, organized four of the six ceremonies and raised money to help pay for 10 signs that are being posted along U.S. Highway 26 between Seaside and Vale. "The American Legion remains steadfast in supporting our nation's goal of achieving the fullest possible accounting for all U.S. military personnel and designated civilian personnel missing and unaccounted for from our nation's past conflicts and current and present wars," Schmidt said at ceremonies in Vale and John Day. "This means returning living POWs, repatriating remains of those killed in action or who died in captivity or providing convincing evidence why neither of these is possible. The American Legion will not rest until that mission is fulfilled."

Schmidt led an American Legion contingent to the Far East during his time as national commander from 2016 to 2017, meeting with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Team in Hanoi, Vietnam, and military leaders in Seoul, South Korea, regarding the recovery of missing U.S. servicemembers' remains. Schmidt also visited the Hoa Lo Prison – infamously known as the Hanoi Hilton – where several U.S. servicemembers were held during the Vietnam War. "Leaving the prison, my respect for our U.S. servicemembers was amplified for their courage, perseverance, loyalty to their country and their faith that they would not be forgotten," Schmidt said.

He also recounted the story of Air Force Col. George "Bud" Day, a World War II, Korea and Vietnam War veteran who broke his arm in three places and sprained his left knee while ejecting from his F-100 over North Vietnam in August 1967. Day was taken prisoner, interrogated and tortured before he escaped. He was wounded and recaptured by a Viet Cong patrol after surviving in the jungle for nearly two weeks. Day received the Medal of Honor in 1976.

"This highway is for heroes like Col. Day," Schmidt said. "This highway is for the heroes from Oregon ... It is for the nearly 82,000 Americans still unaccounted for. And it is for the families still waiting for the return of their loved ones."

Tobiason was emcee at the ceremonies in Madras and Prineville where the names of Oregon's nearly 2,000 POWs and MIAs were on display. Lou Neubecker, adjutant of American Legion Post 99, organized the dedication ceremony in Seaside. Raleigh Swearingen, commander of American Legion Post 125, worked with the city of Madras and other veterans groups on that community's dedication. The Prineville ceremony was organized by American Legion Post 29 Commander Alan Alderman in conjunction with local government officials and other veterans groups. American Legion Department of Oregon Commander Steve Adams and other department officers attended ceremonies in Seaside, Boring, Madras and Prineville.

Tobiason and The Bend Heroes Foundation led efforts to persuade the Oregon Legislature to designate the POW/MIA Memorial during its 2019 session. Tobiason is a member of Stevens Chute American Legion Post 4 in Bend and was the 2013-14 Oregon Legionnaire of the Year.

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Oregon dedicates nation's longest POW/MIA Memorial Highway

Continued from page 17

Seven other states have dedicated POW/MIA memorial highways, including Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Montana, New York, Washington and Wisconsin. None extends border-to-border, Tobiason said. Idaho plans to designate the 401 miles of Highway 26 within its borders as a POW/MIA Memorial Highway next legislative session, he added.

Tobiason and the late Bob Maxwell put Oregon veterans on the map in 2018 with the dedication of the state's Medal of Honor Highway – the longest in the United States. Because of their efforts, the Oregon Legislature designated the 451-mile stretch of U.S. Highway 20 from Newport, Ore., east to the Idaho border as a tribute to the state's current and future Medal of Honor recipients. The ultimate aim is for other states to follow their lead until Highway 20 is America's Medal of Honor Highway from coast to coast.

The POW/MIA Memorial Highway is the eighth Oregon highway honoring former service members as a result of the Bend Heroes Foundation's efforts. This includes the World War II Veterans Historic Highway, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway, roads honoring World War I and Korean War veterans, the Persian Gulf/Afghanistan and Iraq War Veterans Memorial Highway and The Purple Heart Trail.

Friday's dedication of the POW/MIA Highway comes as the family of Korean War veteran Norvin D. Brockett anticipates the return of his remains. Members of his family attended the highway dedication ceremony in Redmond. Brockett, who was from the Bend area, was reported missing in action after his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir on Dec. 6, 1950. DoD confirmed the location and identification of his remains in August 2019.

POW/MIA Memorial

Highway 26 salutes prisoners of war and service members missing in action

By [Steven Mitchell](#)
Blue Mountain Eagle

Roughly 50 people came out to honor prisoners of war and service members missing in action Friday at the John Day Elks Lodge parking lot as John Day and five other cities dedicated Highway 26 a POW/MIA Memorial Highway.

John Day resident and Vietnam veteran Robert Van Voorhis said the purpose of the POW/MIA Memorial Highway is to honor Oregon's nearly 1,000 POWs, of whom 200 died in captivity.

He said Highway 26 is the eighth highway in Oregon dedicated to POWs/MIAs. The new POW/MIA Memorial Highway came about because of a request to the Legislature by the Bend Heroes Foundation in 2019.

John Day resident and Vietnam veteran George Wright, who served from 1971 to 1973, said the ceremony honors veterans like him who, when returning home from Vietnam, were looked down upon.

"People didn't talk to you back then," he said. "In the airports, they'd yell all sorts of insults and spit on you."

Prairie City resident and Korean War POW Melvin Rookstool was honored Friday. Rookstool joined the Army at 16 and was taken prisoner with approximately 400 others. Out of those 400 prisoners, Rookstool was one of 21 who were liberated.

Rookstool was awarded the Purple Heart, Oak Leaf Cluster, Prisoner of War Medal, Army of Occupation, President's Citation, Korean Service Medal and Combat Infantry Badge.

Another Grant County resident, Oscar "Whitey" Lent, a POW, was honored as well. Lent, who was on Wake Island

Continued on page 19



Robert Hornbeck, left, honor guard of the American Legion, visits with Vivian Rookstool ahead of Friday's dedication of Highway 26 as a POW/MIA Memorial Highway. Her late husband, Prairie City resident and Korean War POW Melvin Rookstool, was honored at the event.

The Eagle/Steven Mitchell



John Day resident and Vietnam veteran Neale Ledgerwood takes in Friday's ceremony when Highway 26 was designated as a POW/MIA Memorial Highway.

The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Continued from page 18

building roads for the military when the Japanese attacked, was taken prisoner for four years. His daughter, Leslie Traylor, was there to accept the honor on behalf of Lent, who passed away in 1982.

"I think my dad would have been very honored," she said. "He was our dad, but we know before he was our dad that he went through a lot of bad things during the war, and it just brought a lot of that back and I was very, very proud of my dad."

American Legion Past National Commander Charles Schmidt, who emceed the ceremony, said a few years earlier he visited the Hoa Lo Prison in Hanoi, Vietnam, which American POWs nicknamed the "Hanoi Hilton." The North Vietnamese used the prison to torture and interrogate servicemen.

"My respect for those POWs was amplified by the courage they showed in such harsh conditions," he said.

According to a Congressional Research Service report, 80,000 soldiers have not been accounted for since World War II, and 60,000 of them never will be because they were lost at sea.



The Rookstool family attends the dedication of Highway 26 as a POW/MIA Memorial Highway Friday. Prairie City resident and Korean War POW Melvin Rookstool was honored at the event.

The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

Veterans bow their heads in prayer Friday ahead of the POW/MIA sign dedication at the Elks Lodge parking lot.

The Eagle/Steven Mitchell



PNC, Charles Schmidt, American Legion, addresses the crowd Friday at the POW/MIA sign dedication at the Elks Lodge parking lot.

The Eagle/Steven Mitchell

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SOCIETY OF THE HONOR GUARD, TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

P.O. Box 1111, Hermitage, PA 16148

www.tombguard.org

www.facebook.com/societyofthehonorguard

<https://twitter.com/shgtus>

September 1, 2020

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3d U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard)

Commander of the Guard
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Platoon

LEGAL COUNSEL

Marla Diaz

CHAPLAIN

Charles Shacochis
1965-1967

RE: National Salute 2020

The Society of the Honor Guard Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (SHGTUS) Centennial Committee is proud to announce the continuation of one of the key projects of the Centennial (TUS100) as we approach the 100th Anniversary of the burial of an Unknown American Soldier who fought and died in World War I, and is buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (TUS) in Arlington National Cemetery, in 2021. We are just over a year away!

The National Salute, re-instituted in 2015, is a means to show our deep respect for our Unknown Soldiers buried in the plaza of the Memorial Amphitheater in Arlington National Cemetery and all veterans. We are asking you to ***be the leader*** in your community and create a local and unique National Salute ceremony on the 11th Hour, of the 11th Day, of the 11th Month.

A simple commemoration provides the opportunity to express individually and collectively, your sense of service and national unity; and give thanks for what this country has done for you and your family. This powerful concept and belief are witnessed every day at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, where, as Congressman Hamilton Fish intended, it is a place to serve as a focal point, where all of America can come together.

The second page gives examples on how to create your National Salute ceremony in your hometown. Please join us again this year and express your respect to our veterans.

For more information on how you can help project please contact the Public Affairs Director at publicaffairs@tombguard.org. We look forward to sharing pictures and the story behind the National Salute you created in your home town.

v/r
SGM (Ret) Gavin McIlvenna
Society President
Centennial Committee Chairman
president@tombguard.org

"Soldiers never die until they are forgotten, Tomb Guards never forget."

**The America People's National Salute consists
of three parts:**

OPENING: 21 Count Honors (five second interval between counts) -- by all available means -- gun salute (land and sea), church bells, rifle salute, police and fire dept. sirens, etc. This calling to "Attention" of the freedom loving people of the World for purposes of rendering the highest honors to those American's who have paid the ultimate price for freedom. All military installations on land, at sea and in the air will use what every means they have to celebrate and honor those who have given their life for this country. Likewise, other organizations are invited to pay respects to the honored dead. Religious organizations, patriotic organizations, scouting organizations, schools, communities, libraries, industrial and business entity of all sizes, unions, communications media, social media, transportation services and individuals across the land are invited to participate in these highest honors. The idea is for the American people to pause, show their gratitude and render their highest honors to the people's unsung valor.

RECOGNITION: Great Silence – for two minutes, the first minute for those who have already sacrificed and the second minute for those who will sacrifice in the future with their lives for the American way of life. This two-minute silence ceremony is a reenactment of the respect shown by our nation during the establishment of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on the 11th hour, 11th day, 11th month, 1921. It is a universal feeling for those who gave their all and for whom we can never fully repay. It is a grateful nation pausing to honor our Nation's promise to never ever forget or to forsake America's glorious and immortal dead and missing. It is a centennial commemoration due those who "gave their tomorrow for our today."

ENDING: Taps – The sounding of Taps across the nation and around the free world for one minute. This easily recognized emotive and powerful twenty-four notes bugle call is the international melody for "lights out" -- final resting for deceased soldiers. This synchronized playing of Taps around the free world by individuals and organizations is a solemn calling for the defense of free peoples worldwide.

What you can do if you don't have bells or the ability to play Taps: Gathering with veterans in your community to pause, reflect, and honor. Talk about the importance of the Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, and how this binds all Americans together regardless of race or economical background. Pause and listen to the bells ringing throughout your community.

You can help by reaching out into your community. ***We keep track of every organization that has been approached, and every organization that is willing to participate.***

Please provide the Centennial Committee with the name of the organization, address, and the point of contact including email address and a phone number of any organization you reach out to.

You can send this information to: publicaffairs@tombguard.org Attn: National Salute



"Soldiers never die until they are forgotten, Tomb Guards never forget."

OUR WWII STORY: The namesake of Oregon's Camp White

By Jeff Stoffer

Maj. Gen. George A. White did not live to see the United States enter World War II. His leadership, however, had a major influence over it, and his legacy will not soon be forgotten in Oregon.

White had served in the Spanish-American War, the Mexican Border War and World War I, rising from a musician in the Utah National Guard to sergeant to first lieutenant to captain to lieutenant colonel in World War I when he served on the staff of Gen. John Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces. White, a former Portland Oregonian newspaper editor and Oregon National Guard adjutant general, was assistant adjutant general for the 41st Division when he stood at Pershing's side for the armistice signing that ended the Great War on Nov. 11, 1918.



American Legion co-founder trained troops until his death shortly before the Pearl Harbor attack.

Two months later, he was one of four officers still stationed in Europe who met and planted the seeds in Paris of what would become The American Legion. He would be named the first editor of The American Legion Magazine and was a prominent leader in the organization's earliest years. His life as a soldier, however, was far from over.

In 1920, he returned to the Oregon National Guard and began its postwar reorganization. He continued to train himself, learn, write – he was the author of four books – and in 1930, he was promoted to brigadier general in command of the 41st. The division largely consisted of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming National Guard soldiers. Both prior to World War I and prior to World War II, the division was deemed one of the most combat-ready in the U.S. military.

Training intensified in 1940 and 1941, and the 41st was federalized as conscripted soldiers came to train. Maj. Gen. White's 41st Division and Maj. Gen. Joseph Stilwell's 40th Division and 7th Infantry conducted large-scale training operations off the Washington coast as entry in the Second World War grew ever more likely. Maj. Gen. White was training troops in California when he fell ill in the fall of 1941 and died on Nov. 23 that year, just two weeks before the attack on Pearl Harbor that sent America and his soldiers into World War II.

"The doctor told him, 'You are going to die if you don't get bed rest,'" Pamela Pearson-Craig, White's great-granddaughter, told The American Legion Magazine in 2019 during the organization's centennial celebration in Albany, Ore. White refused to rest, believing readying the troops was more important given the situation overseas. "He died doing what he felt was most important for our nation." He was 61.

In January 1942, an urgent \$27 million construction project transformed a rugged section of the Agate Desert near Medford, Ore., into a major military training installation that had 40,000 stationed there at its peak. On Sept. 15, 1942, the new facility was named Camp White. It served as a POW camp among other purposes, which included training ar-

Continued on page 23

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tillery, medical and engineering units until 1945. More than 110,000 troops passed through Camp White during World War II.

After the war, the camp was largely salvaged, its remaining footprint becoming a VA medical facility. Some of Camp White's 1,300 buildings were shipped to the University of Oregon campus, and the place in the Agate Desert was later renamed White City.

The American Legion co-founder's name rose to prominence again in September 2018 when the Oregon Military Department formally dedicated the new Maj. Gen. George A. White Headquarters in Salem, Ore. There, Maj. Gen. Michael Stencel, adjutant general of the Oregon National Guard, paid tribute to his 20th century predecessor.

"Maj. Gen. White had a robust and exemplary military career in the Oregon National Guard," Maj. Gen. Stencel said at the dedication ceremony. "He was attributed with the rebuild of the Oregon National Guard after the world wars, which eventually led the 41st Infantry Division being named National Guard's best-trained division."

HERMISTON VETERANS SALUTE LOCAL LAW ENFORCERS



Hermiston Post 37
Post and Auxiliary

Cathy Stolz / Robert Daniel

The City of Umatilla, Oregon's Police Department personnel, welcomed a dozen members of Hermiston's American Legion Post 37 and American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 37, to their training session Monday afternoon, Sept. 14, 2020. The two Veteran organizations recently celebrated 100 years of supporting America's Veterans and jointly presented each UPD staff member with a Certificate of Appreciation plus a cash gift to uniformed officers. Presiding at the ceremony, Aaron Wetterling, the Post's Chaplain, told the UPD staff members, "Since we cannot be on the front lines with you, we wanted to express our desire to **DEFEND** the Police, not to **DEFUND** the Police."

Auxiliary President, Cathy Stolz, shared, "These Veterans risked their lives to purchase our freedoms that you officers are enforcing. All of you are my Heroes." She also explained that the UPD's Chief of Police, Darla Huxel, is a member of this local unit of the American Legion Auxiliary. Chaplain Wetterling said, "Chief Darla continues to impress us all with her quiet determination and deep resolve to keep moving forward during what is considered the most rotten year of her life." This alluded to Huxel's victorious battle with cancer amid recent events taking place in our society.

HERMISTON AMERICAN LEGION SHOWS SUPPORT FOR UMATILLA POLICE

A recent ceremony was held by Hermiston American Legion Post 37 honoring the Umatilla Police Department for the work they do.

During the ceremony, Post Chaplain Aaron Wetterling explained the reason for the ceremony: "Due to recent events taking place in our society, we felt it necessary to meet with you and display our support."

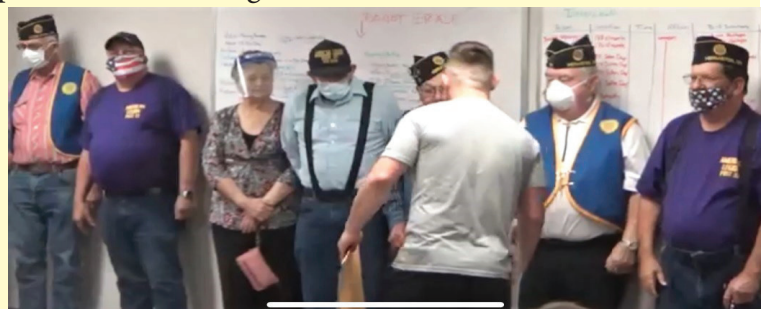
Each officer was presented with a certificate of appreciation and a small monetary gift to be shared with their families.

After receiving their envelopes each officer was greeted with a warm handshake and a personal "thank you" from the American Legion members. In closing, Legion members surrounded the officers and Chaplain Wetterling offered a prayer for their protection.

Robert F. Daniel, Historian
Hermiston Post 37
robertfdaniel@hotmail.com

After each staff member received their Certificate of Appreciation, they also received a warm handshake from the Veterans and Auxiliary members. Then on request, they gathered in the center of the room where the Veterans and Auxiliary members encircled them for a short prayer of protection for them.

This gathering was an extension of a similar ceremony, which the American Legion members held at the Hermiston Police Department in late August.





THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

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.

ALA 08/2019

Date

Received From
\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues

Recruiter's Name

Recruiter's Signature

Recruiter's Phone #



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

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.

ALA 12/2013

Date

Received From
\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues

Squadron No.

Department of



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY 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.

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

Date

Received From
\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues

Recruiter's Name

Recruiter's Signature

Recruiter's Phone #