

# The Oregon Legionnaire

The Voice of Oregon's Veterans Since 1919      December 2020

THE  
AMERICAN  
LEGION **FAMILY**



## Notes from Commanders,

Commission Reports,

Auxiliary, SAL

Trivia and so much more...

## Inside This Issue

Veterans Day Celebrations

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One of The Greatest Generations

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Mr. Hood

Photo by S. Flynn Phillips

*“Lest we forget those who came before us,  
those who left before us and those left behind.”*







Flynn Phillips Adjt Don Weber 1st Vice Steve Adams Cdr Carl Pawlik Det Cdr Larry Wittmayer 2nd Vice

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
from The American Legion Department of Oregon



I hope everyone had a good thanksgiving. And as we turn our thoughts to the coming holidays and being with our families, we also need to remember veterans and veterans' families.

We do not know what Covid is going to do or what restrictions will be in place. So, we need to be thinking about how we can help our members affected by Covid and the wildfires. We also need to consider how we can help out our homeless veterans and families.

These are very trying times most of the year, and we have learned how to adjust and overcome obstacles that were in our way. We have learned to think outside the box and achieve our goals and need to continue to do so. We need to work in our communities to make sure veterans and their families are cared for. We also need to keep a positive attitude and make sure our programs are successful; again. We will have to think outside the box.

There is not anything we can't do if we keep a positive attitude and work together **BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT WE TO DO.**



STEVE ADAMS  
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER





## Congratulations on hitting the 55% goal

We are progressing towards our ultimate goal with slowing progress. We need to kick it up a notch. Recently we sit at 62.80%. We have made some progress in DMS/114 transfers where the membership bounty money will be paid. We have as of this date 6 days to hit the 65% goal.

Copies of the 2nd quarter operations plan "Operation Recall" will be sent out asap to each district commander for forwarding to each post asap. By now, all posts should have been working on the DMS/114 Lists and are awaiting the results.

**LARRY WITTMAYER**  
**DEPT 2ND-VICE COMMANDER**  
**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

The department hall of fame this month is in a different summary format. Check your latest Weekly membership report for details. Our top post is Post 50 at 127.27% runner up is post 137 at 115.09% the following Posts are at 90% or better: 50, 137, 129, 106, and 86; the top district is district ten at 74.41 runner up is district 4 at 66.69% and then-District nine

at 65.63%.

Keep up the excellent work, and congratulations.

This past month I have attended the fall DEC in Lebanon, where District Commander training was presented. I participated in a zoom District Four meetings. Also, I participated in a regional membership zoom meeting chaired by National Vice Commander Liebenow. I attended the Dept. Officers meeting and District Eight Meeting.

The next department membership team go to is 11/28 at 11 am.



**PDC, BOB HUFF**  
**DEPARTMENT FINANCE OFFICER**

We are putting our financials together now for preparing our 990 and 990EZ for our new 2019 Tax Reporting Year for our Department of Oregon and Oregon American Legion Foundation: our new Tax Year, October 1, 2019, to September 30, 2020. We are still working on our Financial Reporting Systems to support all our recent changes. COVID 19 issues and the wildfires in Oregon and South West Oregon and COVID 19 have changed some priorities.

REPEAT: Post Adjutants, if not reporting your Post membership, renewals, and new on mylegion.org, please start. We have training available and would be glad to walk you through this process and assist you in any way. 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. It is not hard; we are here to help. And remember, ask your Post if they have filed their taxes. Every Post is a separate corporation and must file a 990, 990EZ, or 990-n each year; there are no exceptions. If you need help or have questions, please ask; we are here to help.

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



Believe it or not, you can read it.

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid Aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uninervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the first and last ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it wouthit a porbelm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig huh?



PDC, GENE HELLICKSON  
DEPT JUDGE ADVOCATE

## Some tips to remember that will make meetings run smoother

### Motions at meetings.

1. A member of the DEC makes the motion.
2. A long or complicated motion should be prepared in advance of the meeting, if possible, and should be put in writing and sent to the Department Adjutant for placement on the agenda.
3. When possible, motions presented from the floor should be written and presented to the Department Adjutant.
4. Motions from the floor, the Department Adjutant should write out the submitted motion when presented, and give it to the Department Commander, so the Commander can correctly read the motion back to the DEC members according to Roberts Rules of Order.
5. Another member of the DEC seconds the motion.
6. Neither the making nor the seconding of a motion places it before the assembly; only the Commander can do that by stating the question. When the Commander has stated the question, the motion is pending, that is, "on the floor." It is then open to debate.
7. There will be no "calling" out of "question" during the discussion. The member desiring that the vote be taken must be recognized by the Commander, and then will state their name and that they are calling for the "question."



PDC, KEVIN OWENS  
PRESIDENT OALF

We are in the Holiday Season, and it will be changed in a way we would never have imagined. It is time we remember Pearl Harbor Day, celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas, and then the New Year, which is the time we reflect on the past year and make those New Year's Resolutions we often never follow through. My wish is that you would consider donating to The American Legion Foundation. All the money received is 100% tax-deductible, and no money is used for any administration costs. The money helps support all American Legion Programs. There is no better gift than to give to others in support of Children & Youth and the Veterans that may not be as fortunate as us. As we continue to see

fires, hurricanes, and flooding in our Nation, it has become more evident from our own State's recent forest fires. You stepped up when needed, and the Foundation Board Members are honored to be among Legion members who care about each other. You answered the call when the need arose. If you would like to donate, make checks out to The American Legion Foundation and send donation checks to the Department. I wish everyone Happy Holidays as we move into a new year that may be better than the last.



## Calendar of Events

### December

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

### January

01 New Years Day (Closed)  
09 District 3 Meeting  
16-17 Mid Winter DEC  
18 MLK Day (Closed)  
23 District 4 Meeting  
23 District 7 Meeting

### February

15 Presidents Day (Closed)  
20 District 10 Meeting



WOW, It's *CHRISTMAS* time, and we are still in the pandemic. Stay *SAFE* and *HOME*.

Just because we are closed doesn't mean we do not keep working on membership; please keep submitting your membership. Call your expired membership and the ones that haven't renewed yet, wish them a Happy holiday, and ask them if they are going to renew because our National Commander needs their numbers when he goes in front of Congress. I know that a lot of members will renew after the first of the year.

With that being said, I made the decision that our District Meeting slated for December 12th be moved to a "GO TO MEETING" the Computer, Table, or your phone at 10 AM. I will send Information out as I get it.

I do not know if I will be able to visit any Post before the New Year begins.

Remember to send your death notices to our Chaplain Dick Rey at the following email; [rrey@gmail.com](mailto:rrey@gmail.com).

On behalf of all your District officers we pray that you are staying safe and healthy.

*HAPPY HANUKKAH*

*MERRY CHRISTMAS*

*HAPPY NEW YEAR*

*Semper Fi*



LOU NEUBECKER  
DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER



PDC, KEVIN OWENS  
DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER

District 9 wishes everyone in our Department a Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Like other Districts, we continue to struggle with COVID-19, getting folks out, and being active with our Youth Programs along with helping Veterans. The Posts within the District are working hard on making those target dates set by National, but as everyone knows, the farther we get into the year, the membership seems to slow down. I have made contact with the Posts who have struggled a little and offered the District Officers' help. This District will not be counted out in achieving our yearly goal; we have great Posts with great Leaders who do what is needed to make the American Legion strong. We in the District always have and continue to support each other to what is required to be successful. We win as a District and will fail as District.

We will be having a District Meeting on December 19th with lunch at noon following the meeting at 1:00 pm at Roseburg Post 16. We hope to have some training from 10-11 am for Post Leadership.



African-American culture experienced a surge during the 20s. Literature, song, and music gave the African-American a chance to create their own images and express their unique experiences. In what neighborhood did this renaissance take place?

- A. Brooklyn
- B. Harlem
- C. Manhattan
- D. Queens



# 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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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



PDC, GENE HELICKSON  
IT COMMITTEE CHAIR

Currently, the I.T. has gotten approval for upgrading our microphone system, and work is in progress on getting the equipment.

The Department's network router is in the process of being upgraded by replacement. Our contractor for our web services had recommended that it be upgraded because of its age. The router was so old that it was not upgradeable to allow the necessary security provisions to be installed.

Have you made sure your computer, modem/router, is up to date security-wise? It's always best to ensure your system has all the latest updates installed and properly configured. Losing your data can be a very trying situation to find yourself in, especially if you don't do backups periodically.

## Deadline

for the January issue  
of the  
Oregon Legionnaire  
is December 5th, 2020

## Legionnaire Benefits

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

### Now We Can Help

#### The LIT Plans can help with

- Hospital HELP Plan
- Cancer Care
- Accidental Death Protection
- On-The-Move Travel Accident
- Emergency Assistance Plus
- Medicare Supplement Insurance
- Health Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Long-Term Care
- Lifeline Medical Alert Service



- **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.\*
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- **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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\*The Accidental Death, Cancer Care, Hospital Help Plan, and On-The-Move Accident Insurance Plans are underwritten by General Life Insurance Company, St. Paul, MN. Plans may not be available in all states. Please review plan documents and exclusions. Please visit [www.TheLIT.com](http://www.TheLIT.com) to review plan details.

## Need to Know Dates

Portland VA  
Gift Shop Opening  
Canceled for 2020

Oregon Veterans Home  
Gift Shop Opening  
Canceled for 2020

Lebanon Veterans Home  
Gift Shop Opening  
Canceled for 2020

Roseburg VA  
Gift Shop Opening  
Sun. Nov. 29th





**PDC, KEVIN OWENS**  
**DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER**

It is the end of the year and a good time to do a Post financial health check and clean up your records. Have you purged unnecessary records that are not needed, old bills, bank records? Are your signature cards up to date at your financial institution? All the good things that should be done at the end of the year. We often hold on to items that we don't need and have no historical value to your Post.

I would suggest you visit any place you do banking or saving business and make sure the people you want to sign checks are correct and old names removed. I had had the wonderful experience of going to the bank recently when we had fraud on an account, and with the new banking laws, it has become a real nightmare to fix the problems when demanding someone to come in and sign off on an account when they are dead.

Like any program, we should take care of the Post's assets, including the Post Building and its contents. A good way is to video the Post outside and inside to document what you have; this will allow an Insurance agent to understand better if you incur some loss. I would encourage everyone to follow that simple basic rule and review your Post Financial Records and Post Insurance. It is only good business.



**LARRY WITTMAYER**  
**SCOUTING CHAIR**

As always, the Scouting committee encourages posts to sponsor Scouting units. The COVID-19 Pandemic has brought a new wrinkle to how scouting is accomplished. Many councils have devised ways to keep the program moving forward and complete the re-chartering event.

Below is an example of the innovative methods and events being used:

**Cascade Pacific Council:**

- rebuild butte creek ranch from fire damage
- plug and play scouting programs
- digital advancement helps
- webinars on various subjects

**Blue Mountain Council:**

- on line winter camp seminar
- new advancement updates on line

on line family fun fest was held

**Crater Lake Council:**

- the cubs and scouts have been active in helping with the wildfire families

**Mountain West Council:**

- participating in scouting for food
- conducting summercamp promotions
- participating in the victory over hunger
- victory garden program
- planning for summer cub day camp

**Oregon Trail Council:**

- participating in scouting for food
- virtual conference on national outdoor ethics
- lists of den meeting videos

That is all for now; remember, there is a youth out there whose unit needs a sponsor.







## New myLegion coming in December

Reporting from National website: In mid-December, a new mylegion.org will be released for American Legion members and officers. This release involves change to access and security.

Current administrative officers for myLegion include:

**S. FLYNN PHILLIPS**

**DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT** - Post and Squadron Adjutants

- County Commanders

- District Commanders

MyLegion users are probably familiar with the current architecture where one online profile exists for access to your personal member information, as well as another one for access to your post membership and electronic roster, and being able to process membership, print lists/labels, etc.

The new myLegion will be driven by one account profile associated with the email address on the administrative officer's personal membership record. Once logged into the new myLegion, administrative officers will see options to update their personal membership record and work with online post membership tools. Those select officers will also be able to grant authority to others that need access to online rosters and reports.

An email address will be required on the administrative officer's membership record to access the new myLegion, and all existing accounts will need to be registered. The registration process will send a one-time password (OTP) code to your email address. The OTP code will be required to complete the registration process.

To make sure the most up-to-date email address is on file for your personal membership record, visit [mylegion.org](https://www.mylegion.org) and choose "Members Click Here." You can also call American Legion customer service at (833) 253-9995 to update your information, or email us at [mylegion@legion.org](mailto:mylegion@legion.org).

For more details about the new myLegion site, visit [legion.org/training](https://www.legion.org/training) and click on the "Training Tuesdays" tab. Once on the Training Tuesdays page you will see "myLegion 2021" with video presentation/Q&A below. Watch the video session that provides instruction to post adjutants on how to set up login credentials and display a preview of the new officer's dashboard and membership tools.

Please continue to visit [legion.org/training](https://www.legion.org/training) as more training videos will be uploaded for the new myLegion.

<https://www.legion.org/sitesearch?s=new+mylegion>

Is your American Legion Post located IN the community, or is it **PART** of the Community? I hope the answer is



that it is **PART** PDC, JIM WILLIS of the Com- PR COMMITTEE MEMBER munity. That means that the people living there know and understand the importance of having an American Legion Post in their community.

It stands to reason that being a **PART** of the community does not just happen. It takes hard work and a continuing commitment to what is essential to the people in your community. For example, many Oregon communities have local annual events or celebrations that are attended by the community members in all age groups. I hope your American Legion post is seen as part of these community events regularly.

If, for some reason, your community does not have an annual event, consider starting one with the help of the Chamber of Commerce, the City Council, and other service organizations. Your celebration may relate to a historic event important to your community or concern an influential citizen who made a lasting contribution to the community.

The simple fact is that the American Legion will be viewed in a positive way for starting such a celebration or for its continuing support for one that is already established. Either way, the Legion will be seen as **PART** of the community. This will go a long way to the continued support of your Post and its program. **Remember, there is never a bad time to begin to do a good thing.** Get started today!



## YOU KNOW YOU ARE LIVING IN 2020 when...

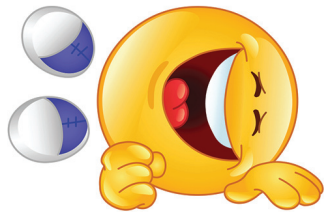
1. You accidentally enter your PIN on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television has a website at the bottom of the screen
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't even have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. : )
12. You realize it is normal to go to a bank with a mask on.
13. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
14. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to share this message with.
15. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.
16. You actually looked back up to check that there wasn't a #9 on this list.



~~~~~AND FINALLY~~~~~

NOW U R LAUGHING at yourself especially because you know what U R means.

## GOODBYE to 2020



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IF ...**

**THIS  
WERE  
YOU?**

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\*This is only an outline of the plans services. Please review your Member Guide carefully. EA+ is not insurance.

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From Your  
American Legion  
Department

**TRUE COMPASS DESIGNS**

*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.*

**TRUE COMPASS DESIGNS**

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<https://www.godaddy.com/garage/true-compass-designs-navigating-web-design-by-honoring-his-true-north/>



Our Commissions mission and goals remain the same but are in a holding pattern with current social distancing and the new rules for six of our Counties. As of this article's writing, another six counties are being added to the new restrictions, safety of our members, veterans, and participants remain our focus.



**PDC, BOB HUFF**  
**VE&E CHAIRPERSON**

This is a repeat, and we continue to meet with our partners on ZOOM virtual meetings. We are meeting on supporting our National Guard in our Vet-Net meetings. Currently, de-mobs and Yellow Ribbons are virtual, a lot of challenges. This has not been business as usual. We are having many discussions in-person and ZOOM meetings on Veterans Stand-Downs and Employment events and how to support our veterans in the current environment. Learning and implementing new ways to support our programs and mission has been a challenge, and of course, we have always liked new challenges. We are still discussing with our partners and have an active dialog with our DVOPS from Oregon Employment and other community groups on what-ifs for Virtual Employment Events. It remains that we cannot lock in dates or locations with the uncertainty and changes that are taking place "daily." We have been faced with many different past challenges and have overcome them or readjusted our plan; this is just another new challenge.



**CARL PAWLIK**  
**SAL DETACHMENT COMMANDER**

We have survived our 1st DEC meeting since January. I would have liked to see more Squadrons in attendance, but we will work on that. Possibly a contest. We will discuss it later. If you remember the picnic for SAL members and their families held this summer, it was an idea that has grown. I wrote a pair of resolutions addressing funding for the picnic and a selection process for Squadrons to host it. Both passed and will be voted on

again at the next DEC. The purpose is to provide funds from our Detachment Budget to the Squadron hosting the annual SAL Picnic to help defray the cost. Any Squadron wanting to host the picnic will need to apply for the funds before our Convention. Because all Squadrons are required to provide yearly reports, the application for the picnic funds must be included, and Detachment Officers will determine the selection of the host Squadron, the winner will be announced at Convention.

I know our members have had a rough time, covid virus, closures, job loss, fires to name a few, but at the same time, members have held events, volunteered, and helped where and when they could. We all must think outside the box, do things safely and smartly. The grab-and-go idea has worked, and some have seen an increase in sales. Our communities want to help; we want to help. It is the best time to showcase our value to the community. With all the bad we have encountered, we can show our communities that we are a part, we help, be it money or time.

Membership. We are doing good, but I think a contest will help. If we get 100% membership for the SAL Detachment of Oregon, some lucky Squadron that wins the contest will get to remove my 50-year-old mustache at Convention. Complete contest rules will be emailed to all Squadrons. The contest rules include ways to earn extra chances to win.



Answer:

B. Harlem

The Harlem Renaissance gave America the musical talents of Bessie Smith and Louis Armstrong, the poetry of Langston Hughes, and the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Harlem is located in New York City.

## Are you moving?

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Or Mail to: The Department of Oregon

Attn: Adjutant

P.O. Box 1730

Wilsonville, OR 97070-1730



# AUXILIARY NEWS



**KATHI KARNOWSKI**  
**DEPT PRESIDENT**

Just when we thought COVID was calming down, bam! We want to let all members and units know how much your efforts are appreciated and needed by our veterans. Your safety comes first and if you can do a project safely, continue with it. If your members don't feel safe or you can't do it per the guidelines, it can wait. It is impressive to hear how Posts and Units are improvising to get meetings, general work, and fundraising. We can't say enough about ZOOM meetings or even a teleconference. Thank you for the Spirit in which you are handling these times.



It has been busy on all fronts this past month. The Legion has included the Auxiliary and Sons for a Joint Meeting once a month. The meetings will help us have better communication as to what the other group is doing and work together on some events. Like a family planning a trip, we are looking at what might work and what might not. Thank you to all who donated to the Disaster Relief Fund run by The Legion for the wildfires and any disasters to come. Auxiliary members qualify to apply for Disaster Relief Fund money so if you are in need, let someone know. This week we had one Auxiliary member who was approved for an American Legion Auxiliary Emergency Fund grant. You must have been a member for three straight years and in good standing to apply. Contact your Unit President or Secretary for the form, and they must approve and send it to National. We are here to help each other in times of need.

Fundraising and community service is something every unit does and can always use ideas. Newberg 57 and Washington 2 gave out apples for Halloween, and Mount Angel 89 has started making plant sales. For Christmas, they are making a Poinsettias sale. It seems that a lot of Units are doing food drives to give to their local food bank, which is such a good community service and so needed right now. Hillsboro 6 tried a photo booth for Halloween and plan to do it again next year as they see potential with it (plus it was fun). Your best resource for activities comes from talking with other people or seeing what goes on in your community. You don't want to create your different versions. By reporting to your District President, they in turn, report at the Department Executive Committee meeting, which other units read or hear about. Your District President, Department, or the National website, has volunteer forms. Track and report your Hours, Mileage, and Dollars and who it was for as it helps the ALA keep its nonprofit status. Most of us are modest and don't want to share what we do, but this is different for the organization.

I have tried to get in as many unit visitations as possible to beat the weather, so I will be back out there revisiting units when the winter is over. If I don't request a visit, I will still be asking your unit if they are meeting and asking to attend. The Units I visited have been so gracious, and it has been a pleasure to meet all of them. The common bond I see in all our units and members is the Love of our Veterans and willingness to go the extra mile for them. You inspire me to work harder and try to be a better person, and I see that inspires others around you. I wish you a Blessed Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas!

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**CATHY STOLZ**  
**ALA UNIT 37**

Hello all,

While I was pondering the wonderful-ness that happened Wednesday at our 'Illegal' Veteran's Day Car Parade, I started connecting the dots. This is an account of some significant coincidences that played a part in the success of our rebellious Veteran's Day Car Parade on 11/11/2020. It all started with a Ham.

See the hand of our Lord at work.

**HOW A HAM SAVED THE "COVID-CANCELLED" VETERAN'S DAY CAR PARADE!**

*Continued on Page 12*



# AUXILIARY NEWS

Continued from Page 11

## HOW A HAM SAVED THE “COVID-CANCELLED” VETERAN’S DAY CAR PARADE!

### January 2020

The New Year was still young, and there were New Year sales everywhere. Wanting to help Veterans in need, a thrifty member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) purchased at least one 11-pound Ham on sale. It went into the freezer.

### November 2020

Fast forward to November’s first Monday, 11/2/20, at the American Legion Auxiliary’s (ALA) meeting. Before the meeting, a frustrated member of the American Legion (AL) and VFW came into the kitchen, where the women’s group meets. The member-Veteran had rummaged through a freezer, finally placing a big, frozen Ham on the women’s table. “Ladies, I need this Ham gone!” he had spouted. “It needs to help a Veteran, but I no longer have room for it!” He left.

When the women discussed the fate of the excellent Ham, Darla Huxel, an Auxiliary member and the Chief of Police at Umatilla, Oregon, suggested it could be a Raffle Prize at a Saturday’s fishing event for Veterans. Having never heard of such an event, ALA President Cathy Stolz asked her to explain.

Darla said a professional fishing guide coordinates a day of fishing on the Columbia River FREE for any Veterans who attend. The City of Umatilla and its Chamber of Commerce helps sponsor the event held at the Umatilla Marina the Saturday before Veterans Day... five days away. It’s called “Fish’n The Brave” and ends with raffle prizes for every Veteran. Our Members agreed the Ham should go there. Mission accomplished.

### November 7, 2020, Saturday

The day of the “Fish’n The Brave” event! At 3:30 pm, Cathy delivered the frozen, 11-lb Ham just as nearly 50 Veterans returned to the marina in boats guided by 25 professional outdoor Outfitters from throughout the Pacific NW. These outdoorsmen donated their time, expertise, boats, fuel, fishing equipment, rods, reels, tackle, raffle prize items, and much more to honor Vets. Many of them had served in the armed forces themselves.

After the fishermen’s BBQ dinner was patriotic music, trumpet player Donald Dugan, Music Director of Umatilla’s High School, expertly performed a solo medley of tunes familiar to everyone. Impressed, Cathy asked if he would play on board the American Legion’s Float during Wednesday’s Veterans Day Car Parade in Hermiston. He wholeheartedly and enthusiastically said yes!

Cathy contacted AL Chaplain Aaron Wetterling, who knows a little bit about everything to do with the Hermiston Post. She asked him about having a trumpet player aboard the Float. He thought that would definitely work!

### November 9, Monday

Unfortunately, today news funneled down that Governor Brown’s covid restrictions had forced Hermiston’s Chamber of Commerce to cancel the Veterans Day Car Parade. When Aaron called to notify Cathy of the sad turn of events, he lamented that he had just finished ironing all the large flags which fly on the Legion’s Float.

Cathy, begrudging the cancellation, called to notify trumpeter Dugan that his music wouldn’t be needed. He reacted strongly and echoed Cathy’s disgust and asked why our veterans had to be ignored instead of honored. He also forecasted that if we caved in now, soon the government would be telling us when we could and couldn’t use the toilet! He said he was ready to play his trumpet anytime and anyplace!

Rejuvenated, Cathy texted Aaron, “Donald Dugan is ready, willing, and able to play his horn on the Float Wednesday

*Continued on page 13*



# AUXILIARY NEWS

*Continued from page 12*

morning up and down Main Street and Highway 395 and out to the cemetery - anywhere! ... Could our AL float still be a 'go'?"

Soon he texted her back, "Yessss! I'll be at the school Tuesday at noon to decorate the trailer. See you there."

## November 10, 2020, Tuesday

The bare white trailer arrived at the school parking lot — the staging area for tomorrow's canceled Veteran's Day Car Parade. A small group of Legion members quietly prepared it to be transformed the next morning into the Post's Parade Float. They had done this many times in the past. There would be one flag for each branch of our Nation's armed forces, including one for the Coast Guard and one for our missing POWs. Like always, the center stage would be the US Flag, Old Glory, the Stars, and Stripes.

## November 11, 2020, Wednesday, Veteran's Day

In the crisp early hours of Veteran's Day, a small army of renegade citizens drove to the school parking lot and lined up their decorated vehicles behind the flagship American Legion Float. It wasn't hard to find the location in the lot. The Fire Department's huge ladder truck had hoisted a giant US Flag 75 feet into the air. As the 'non-parade' began, Old Glory fluttered in the breeze and "blessed" each vehicle that passed beneath it. An estimated 45-55 rigs wound their way through sleepy neighborhoods, which were unaware that a "Protest" was happening in Hermiston's streets.

Decked out in US Flags, patriotic signs, and red, white, and blue everything, the band of rebels made their way past HPD traffic-control officers standing next to their lit-up cruisers. Aaron had sought legal permissions and was happy when HPD backed the effort solidly. Off-duty officers volunteered their time to make sure this 'protest' came off safely and that Veterans were given the honor due them. As she drove by each traffic checkpoint, Cathy called out, "Thanks for helping us rebel!"

The officers answered back across the blacktop, "You bet!" "My pleasure!" "Honored to help!" "Anytime!" "Glad to help!" She went through several tissues during that drive, dabbing away tears of gratitude for our Veterans. Their many sacrifices won and continue to protect the freedom and liberty we all enjoy.

People along the way stopped and waved. Downtown, the merchants and shoppers turned out with signs, flags, waves, and shouts of "Thank you, Veterans!" "God bless America. " Children laughed and waved as the impromptu band of brothers and sisters drove by lightly tapping their horns, emergency lights flashing. Then, as quickly as the 'non-parade' had formed, it was over. Everyone went their separate ways. All that remained was that deep-down 'knowing' that you had accomplished something important. You had played a small part in something pretty big. Americanism.

Later that evening, Cathy thanked Aaron for his leadership and built a small fire under the Legionnaires to take the risk. She knew he hadn't had to work hard at all to convince his fellow veterans to tackle the venture. Then he mentioned the bugle boy. "I have to give credit to Donnie Dugan. He says to me, 'Are we going to buckle down?'"

So we applaud our valiant Veterans, plucky townsfolk, and our outspoken Bugle Boy. Their determination helped complete a series of events that had started nearly a year earlier at a grocery store. For...

if that VFW member hadn't bought that Ham;

if Dennis hadn't donated it to the American Legion Auxiliary;

if Chief Huxel hadn't mentioned the "Fish'n The Brave" Veteran's event;

if Cathy hadn't needed to deliver the frozen Ham to the Event;

if trumpet player Dugan hadn't been so impressive, causing Cathy to ask him to play music on the American Legion's Float;

*Continued on page 14*

Continued from page 13

if our bugle boy hadn't been so adamant about resisting the shut-down and holding the parade regardless; And if the Legion members hadn't responded with the grit for which they're known, there might not have been a Veteran's Day Car Parade in Hermiston, Oregon this year.

## AND THAT IS HOW A HAM SAVED THE "COVID-CANCELLED" VETERAN'S DAY CAR PARADE!

PS A very grateful young Veteran won the Ham. He thanked the VFW and the ALA



BETTY FISH-FERGUSON  
TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

Pioneer Post 149 members attended the open house of the new Tanner House in Salem on November 11th, Veteran's Day. Tanner House is a transitional housing facility for homeless Veterans, with a priority given to homeless female Veterans.

Currently, there are no designated housing for homeless female Veterans from Eugene to Portland. The facility was a previous nursing home. It was purchased and remodeled by the Arches organization. It has a capacity of 36 with 1,2, and 3 person rooms. Tanner House is considered a low barrier facility where pets can stay, and you do not need to be clean and sober to live there.

Pioneer Post 149 sponsored a three-person room and provided all linens, toiletries, drapes, furniture, and pictures. There will be 24hour staff on-site and resources available for those in the transition back to civilian life.

Tanner House is named after Sgt Derrick Tanner, who committed suicide while struggling after returning home from deployment. Anyone can tour the facility on Center Street. It's a beautiful place for Veterans to get back on their feet. Veterans can apply for rent from the VA and a room through Arches.





MIKE SOWELS  
POST 58 ADJUTANT

Our procession had 20 members with Breakfast sandwiches and coffee, which Curtis Parker and Vern Hart provided at 10 am, and the Drive goodbye started at 11 am.

Our first stop was at Elmcroft Assisted Living of Stayton. They requested us to do a ceremony. Post 58 delivered a Flag Salute, the Pledge, National Anthem, and a Veterans Day Speech by 2nd Vice Commander/ Sons of American Legion Commander Bill Devereaux.

Our second stop was at Stayton Elder Manor, where our WW II Army WAC veteran Helen Bennett organized residence to greet us and discuss our day's venture. We traveled about the streets of Stayton for two hours, driving through the shopping area parking lots and the Stayton Hospital. Our group included four vehicles following, and six on our float were wearing the required masks and distance.

It was a great Day to be a Veteran and a Post 58 family member!

See photos of our Staging area for the Drive Bye in Stayton, Oregon, for 2020.



B. Devereaux Vets Day 2020 at Elmcroft Assisted living, Stayton



Post 58 ceremonies at Elmcroft Assisted Living, Stayton, Ore.  
Vets Day 2020



Vets Day Drive by Stayton, Ore. 2020

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JAMES W. "BILL" OXFORD  
NATIONAL COMMANDER  
MILITARY.COM • NOVEMBER 11, 2020

## This Is the Best Way to Honor a Veteran on Veterans Day

Alexander Hamilton understood.

"Justice and humanity forbid the abandoning to want and misery men who have spent their best years in the military service of a country or who in service had contracted infirmities which disqualify them to earn bread in other modes," the architect of America's financial system said.

The men and women who have earned the title "veteran" during modern times are a much more diverse group than the continental troops that Hamilton led during the Revolutionary War. Nonetheless, the sentiment is still valid.

The organization that I lead, The American Legion, believes no veteran should be abandoned. We believe veterans have earned the opportunity to thrive. To succeed. To live the American dream. In short, veterans are our nation's greatest asset.

Veterans Day, Nov. 11, can be traced back to the 1918 armistice that ended World War I. That great moment, which was intended to usher in a new era of world peace, also occurred in the middle of a global pandemic.

The veterans of a century ago did not have a state-of-the art health care system to respond to their wounds and ailments. They did not have a GI Bill to help them obtain higher education or home loans. They did not have veterans' preference laws to help ensure meaningful job opportunities. But they did have a brand-new organization of wartime veterans known as The American Legion. It was the advocacy of this group that would help veterans achieve all of these things and much more.

Today's veterans are hurting once again. Military suicides have increased 20 percent this year. Veteran-owned businesses have closed or struggled immensely during the pandemic-related shutdowns. Instead of returning to the warm embrace of an appreciative nation, veterans feel even more isolated as they come home to a society changed by social distancing and a health care system that is at times overwhelmed by the coronavirus.

Patriotic citizens often ask The American Legion about the appropriate way to honor a veteran. The simplest way is to thank one. Flying the American Flag on Veterans Day or donating to a veteran's charity are also appreciated gestures. Those in a position to do so should consider hiring veterans, which not only benefits the job seeker but is often a smart business move.

The American Legion has developed an extensive Buddy Check program, in which we encourage our members to regularly communicate with their fellow veterans. We are simply telling our brothers and sisters-in-arms that we appreciate them and that we are there for them. We offer to help those in need. We listen to their concerns as comrades with a common bond.

Our Buddy Checks have resonated. Both houses of Congress are now considering bipartisan legislation that would raise awareness about suicide prevention among veterans by promoting these peer wellness checks. It would establish a Buddy Check week and direct the secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs to consult with nonprofit organiza-

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tions, mental health experts and members of the armed forces to develop and implement education opportunities on conducting effective and appropriate checks.

So, if you're looking for another way to honor vets this Veterans Day, you might want to contact your representative and senators. Ask them to support S. 4657 and H.R. 4290 to enact a federally backed Buddy Check program.

"Someone in your life needs to hear that they matter. That they are loved. That they have a future. Be the one to tell them," an Army veteran said this year. Unfortunately, those were the final words shared by Ronnie McNutt, who livestreamed his suicide on social media.

Did you catch his final plea? "Be the one to tell them."

That, more than anything else, is the best way to honor a veteran.

-- The opinions expressed in this op-ed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Military.com. If you would like to submit your own commentary, please send your article to [opinions@military.com](mailto:opinions@military.com) for consideration.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 10-2-59

(Editor's Note: The following is the first of a series of by-lined articles by Rabbi Robert I. Kahn, national chaplain of The American Legion, which will appear in The American Legion News Service. Mats of Rabbi Kahn, in both half-column and column widths for use with the publication of this feature may be obtained by writing: ALNS, National Public Relations Division, The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Ind.)

Veterans Day - November 11, 1959  
By Rabbi Robert I. Kahn  
National Chaplain, The American Legion

"The price of liberty," said Thomas Jefferson, "is eternal vigilance."

But there is another price, paid by many of the veterans of our wars, which still collects installments from crippled bodies, tortured souls, disabled skills, war-born handicaps in the race of life. If anyone asks, therefore, how to observe Veterans Day, the best way would be to visit the nearest VA hospital, there to realize once again the obligation we owe to those who purchased our freedom with their health and vigor.

The American Legion, more than any other organization, has tried to keep alive in all Americans this consciousness of responsibility for the needy veteran. In so doing, Legionnaires are both unselfish and dedicated. The American Legion has more than once voted down a proposal by some of its members that it seek an across-the-board pension for every veteran regardless of need. And on the other hand, the average Legionnaire who has voted against a pension for himself pays dues and gives time and effort to secure pensions for sick and needy veterans.

Such unselfish service is at the very heart of The American Legion. It represents the highest kind of spiritual ideals taught by the Bible. This program echoes the words of the Bible: "I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame. I was a father to the needy and the cause of him I knew not I searched out."

May Veterans Day remind all Americans of our continuing obligation to those who have paid the price of our liberty.

- - -

Merry Christmas to our  
Veterans and their families



**PLEASE BE SAFE  
AND KIND TO ONE  
ANOTHER**





# Operation Magic Carpet

MICK WILSON

POST 180 COMMANDER

VIA WIKIPEDIA

Here is an amazing *VETERANS DAY* story regarding our WWII veterans returning home. I was never aware of this massive undertaking.

This article has the most incredible pictures of our returning military I've ever seen. I cannot imagine what it took to get these guys home.

We now have two generations who never entered the military, who have no idea how fortunate they are to live in a free country. A country that isn't speaking German because of the sacrifices these young men & women made so we could remain a free country. I say this to my own children and grandchildren who have no idea how patriotic those old-timers feel and will never forget.

This is one email with genuine proof of an historical event. Share it please, for pictures worth 1,000 words. (Do you remember what Eisenhower said at the end of the war? "Take pictures of the dead Holocaust Jewish people, for a generation or two from now, many people will never believe it happened!")

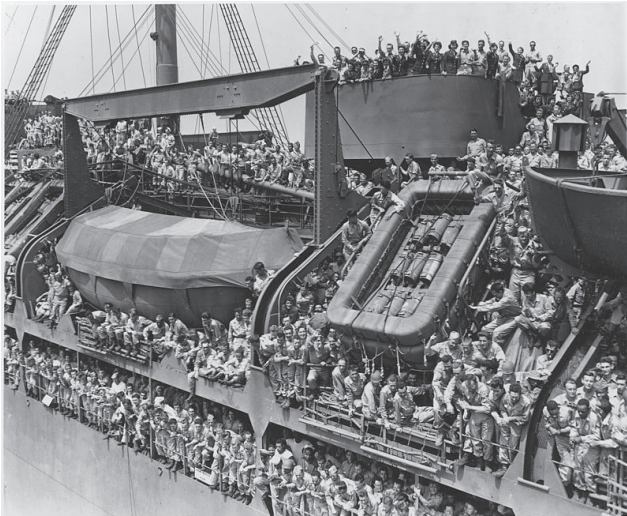
Returning the troops home after WWII was a daunting task. We needed a Magic Carpet to fly everyone home . . .so we made one!

A few numbers: In 1939, before the war, there were 334,000 servicemen, not counting the Coast Guard.

By 1945, when the war ended, there were over 12 million, including the Coast Guard! Eight million of these men and women were scattered overseas in Europe, the Pacific, and Asia. Shipping them out, over a period of time, hadn't posed a particular problem. During the war, 148,000 troops crossed the Atlantic west to east each month; getting them home afterward was a massive logistical headache. The effort to get them back to America – and home -- ramped up to 435,000-a-month over a period of 14 months.

Army Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall had already established committees to address the issue in 1943.

When Germany fell in May 1945, the US. Navy was still busy fighting in the Pacific and could not assist with the herculean task of transporting three million men and women home. That job fell to the Army and the Merchant Marine. Three hundred Victory and Liberty cargo ships were converted to troop transports for the task.



*(above) Soldiers returning home on the USS General Harry Taylor in August 1945*



*(Right) Hammocks crammed into available spaces aboard the USS Intrepid*

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In October 1945, with the war in Asia also over, the Navy started chipping in, converting all available vessels to transport duty.

On smaller ships like destroyers, capable of carrying perhaps 300 men, soldiers were told to hang their hammocks in whatever nook and cranny they could find. Carriers were particularly useful, as their large open hangar decks could house 3,000 or more troops in relative comfort, with bunks, sometimes in stacks of five welded or bolted in place.



**(above) Bunks aboard the Army transport SS Pennant**



**(above) Troops performing a lifeboat drill onboard the Queen Mary in December 1944, before Operation Magic Carpet**

**(right) U.S. soldiers recently liberated from Japanese POW camps**

The Navy wasn't picky, though: cruisers, battleships, hospital ships, even LSTs (Landing Ship, Tank), were packed full of men yearning for home.

Two British ocean liners under American control, the RMS Queen Mary and the Queen Elizabeth, had already served as troop transports before the war, and continued to do so during the operation, each capable of carrying up to 15,000 people at a time, though their normal, peacetime capacity was less than 2,200.

Twenty-nine ships were dedicated to transporting war brides – i.e., women married to American soldiers during the war.

The Japanese surrender in August 1945 came none too soon, but it put an extra burden on *Operation Magic Carpet*.

The war in Asia had been expected to continue well into 1946, and the Navy and the War Shipping Administration were hard-pressed to bring home all the troops -- who now had to get home earlier than anticipated.

The transports carrying them *also* had to collect numerous POWs from recently liberated Japanese camps, many of whom suffered from malnutrition and illness.

The time to get home depended a lot on the circumstances. The USS Lake Champlain, a brand new Essex-class carrier that arrived too late for the war, could cross the Atlantic and take 3,300 troops home in a little under four days and eight hours.

Meanwhile, troops going home from Australia or India, would sometimes spend months on slower vessels.

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There was enormous pressure on the operation to bring home as many men as possible by Christmas, 1945. Therefore, a sub-operation, Operation Santa Claus was dedicated to the purpose.

Due to storms at sea and an overabundance of soldiers eligible for the return home, however, Santa Claus could only return a fraction of them in time. Actually, many of the troops got back to American soil, but not quite home.

The nation's transportation network was heavily overloaded. Many trains heading west from the East Coast were on average six hours behind schedule, and trains heading east from the West Coast were twice that late.

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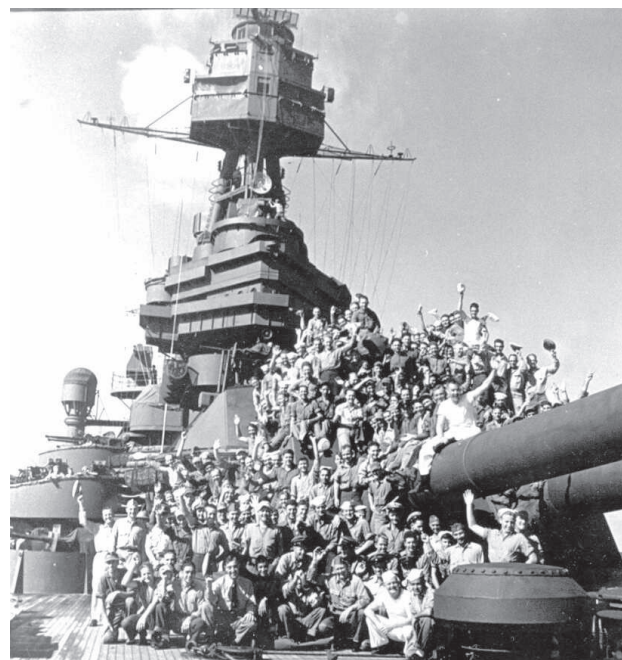
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The *USS Saratoga* transported home a total of 29,204 servicemen during *Operation Magic Carpet*, more than any other ship. Many freshly discharged men who found themselves stuck in separation centers were greeted with an outpouring of love and friendliness from the locals. *Many* townsfolk took in freshly arrived troops, and others invited the boys to Christmas dinner in their homes.

Still others gave their train tickets to soldiers! Many organized quick parties at local train stations for men on layover.



One Los Angeles taxi driver took six soldiers *all the way to Chicago*; another took another carload of men to *Manhattan, the Bronx, Pittsburgh, Long Island, Buffalo and New Hampshire*. *Neither of the drivers accepted a fare beyond the cost of gas.*

All in all, though, the Christmas deadline proved untenable. The last 29 troop transports, carrying some 200,000 men from the

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China-India-Burma theater, arrived in America in April, 1946, bringing *Operation Magic Carpet* to an end. An additional 127,000 soldiers had to wait *until September* to return home, and finally lay down the burden of war.

**GOD BLESS THE “GREATEST GENERATION”** (above) and the Generations that have served this Great Nation before-and-since WWII!

**A veteran** - *whether active duty, retired, served one hitch, or reservist is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to “The Government of the United States of America,” for an amount of “up to and including his life.”*

*That is HONOR, and there are too many people in this country who no longer understand it!*

## POW-MIA MEMORIAL HIWAY 26 DEDICATION SEASIDE



Standing in front of the mock sign prior to the ceremony is left:AL Department Commander, Steve Adams, National Vice Commander, Rob Liebenow, and District 1 Commander, Lou Neubecker.

*continued on page 22*





TAL District 1 Commander, Lou Neubecker of at Seaside Post 99, presided over the ceremony. This ceremony was a joint VFW and American Legion Ceremony. Lou invited the VFW State Commander, George Carroll down to attend and lend remarks for the VFW.



TAL Department Commander, Steve Adams shakes hands with VFW State Commander, George Carroll.

This was the first time both State Commanders had been present for a ceremony.

## Seaside Post 99



VFW State Commander, George Carroll gives remarks.



District 9 VFW Commander, Ken Smith gave his remarks as they donated the money for the Seaside sign.



TAL Department Commander, Steve Adams and VFW State Commander, George Carroll fold the Colors.



TAL Department Commander, Steve Adams renders a salute.



District 1 1st Vice Commander, John Staub of Post 104 plays Taps



Post 99 Commander, PDC, Jon Marsh and a Post 99 member /VFW Post 12123 Commander, Albert Wood prepare to toss the Wreath into the water from the bridge.



Post 99 Commander, PDC, Jon Marsh and a Post 99 member /VFW Post 12123 Commander, Albert Wood prepare to tossing the Wreath into the water from the bridge.





# IN MEMORIAM

## A Tribute to Jack LaBox

PDC, JIM WILLIS  
ALT. NECPERSON

A few weeks prior to his passing on November 10, 2020, Jack LaBox, our Legislative Commission Chair, called me to say that he was too ill to complete the end of the year report on the State Legislature. Jack asked if I could help, and I said I would. What follows is what I think Jack would have wanted his fellow legionnaires to know.

The State Legislature's 2019 "long" session passed twenty House and Senate bills pertaining to veterans. In addition, there were ten House or Senate Concurrent Resolutions that passed to honor and recognize military personnel for service to our country.

On June 30, 2019, the "long" session adjourned, leaving some 6 House bills and 8 Senate bills still in committee and unable to move during this session.

Because Jack was also the American Legion's representative to the United Veterans Groups of Oregon (UVGO), it fell to that group to determine which of the bills to recommend for the 2021 "long" session Legislature.

I believe that Jack would have recommended the following bills move to the 2021 session:

HB 2195 A – Dedicates a portion of the State Capitol Park to the Vietnam War memorial.

HB 2203 A – Funds for Veteran Treatment Courts.

HB 2976 A – Sets minimum standards for licensing career schools.

SB 243 – Veterans' Preference – ODVA to conduct a study to determine the effects of employment discrimination against veterans on the unemployment rate.

SB 462 – Seabees license plate – ODVA and DMV to work together on all new plates concepts.

SB 500 A – Veterans property tax exemption – Grants higher property tax exemption for property of veterans with service-connected disabilities.

SB 722 A – State unemployment benefits for active military.

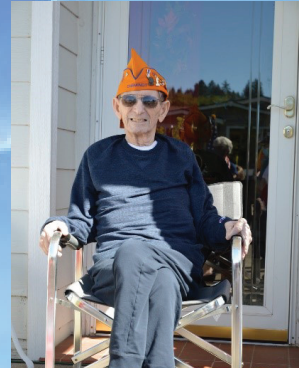
SB 938 – Roseburg Veteran's Home Bond Authorization – would create General obligation bonds for constructing a veteran's home in Roseburg, Oregon, with bonds set at \$17.5 million.

While there will surely be more veterans' bills introduced in the 2021 session, these are simply the holdover bills that I hope will be recommended.

With Jack's untimely passing, Department Commander Steve Adams has appointed John Lee as the Department's Legislative Commission's new Chair.

I know John would like to hear from you if you have an idea for a veterans' bill for the Legislature's next session. John will also serve as the Department representative to the UVGO and help set up the legislative agenda for the 2021 session. In closing, I would also like to acknowledge Jack's contribution to the American Legion's annual Washington Conference. Jack set up our meetings with the Oregon delegation in both House and Senate to make the best use of our time while in the Nation's Capitol.

In addition to his work on Department Commissions and Committees, Jack was a former Post and District Commander. He will be missed by all who knew and worked with him. May he rest in peace.





Gresham Post 30 Commander Ron Kamys wasted no time after taking over the Commander slot from George Sims, who moved to Woodburn. The members got together and decided to give some needy veterans receiving some Meals on Wheels a gift box while Meals on Wheels delivered their usual delivery. Brianna Winingham is the Program Director for the Gresham Meals on Wheels. The Post is a member of the Gresham Chamber and is getting out there and letting the public know they are alive and well, helping veterans.

She provided Ron some feedback:  
Hi Ron,

I just wanted to give you some pictures and an update. The gift boxes we SO popular. One client got teary and said it was the nicest thing done for him as a vet since he was in Vietnam and wasn't very well received immediately after service.

We were so happy to be a part of this. Thank you so much! We have a couple of extra boxes due to cancellations/hospitalizations, so I've got a list of veterans associated with the Gresham Senior Center who don't receive Meals on Wheels. We will be delivered to them over the next day or two. Again, thank you. This gift box idea was so cool! All the volunteers who delivered meals, absolutely loved the experience.



These are just a few of the grateful Veterans Meals on Wheels Serve.



## VETERANS TAKING CARE OF OUR OWN

S. FLYNN PHILLIPS  
DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

The Commander kept a promise to Dorothy Copeland, widow of the late WWII and Korean War veteran Joe Copeland from Albany Post 10. He promised to change out her flag whenever it got worn and needed replacing. So on October 13, we made the trip to Dorothy's house to change out the flag.



Dorothy Copeland, widow of Joe Copeland, and The American Legion Department Commander, Steve Adams



Steve talked about honoring your commitments, and He was friends with Del Riley, age 93, he completed his climb to glory Thursday, August 23, 2018. Joe Copeland passed away on December 20th 2016 at the age of 91. Del bought the flagpole from The American Legion Post 10, and Commander Steve Adams presented her with a smaller flag, and installed the flagpole outside her home's front door.

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Steve talked a lot about Del being a WWII veteran and Del's best buddy Joe Copeland a WWII and Korean War Veteran, both members of Post 10. Steve commented, "We are losing the last of our WWII veterans; we need to remember these guys." Steve had asked Del's daughter Deleen to write something for an article about Del and Joe. He said more is better. Keeping her word, she wrote nineteen pages, which I called a Novela "Two Buddies from the Greatest Generation: Del and Joe" Recollections from a Daughter. I called her and said, The Oregon Legionnaire is usually 20-24 pages. Your Novel would take up an issue all by itself. We had a good laugh at that one.



Del Riley picture taken in 1944



Del's Buddy, Joe Copeland in 1944



From Bruce Riley, "Dad is pictured in the middle between my brother Mark and I. The picture taken in 2008 in Italy.

The battlefield on which he fought 63 years prior, in the background.

Excerpts are from "Two Buddies from the Greatest Generation: Del and Joe" Recollections from a Daughter. **By Deleen Wills**

*From what I heard, that night was not unlike hundreds of other nights when eighteen-and-nineteen-year-old buddies gathered at a bar and drank too much, resulting in emotional feelings of patriotism, thus enlisting to serve in WWII. They might have even gotten some spur of the moment, meaningful or meaningless tattoo, that later they would be the only ones who would recognize or understand its true meaning.*

*Del Riley was one of those boys. The Armed Forces recruiter asked him, "Army or Navy?" Not all that fond of water, he figured the Army meant he'd be on land. Del replied, "Army." Then the second question that changed the course of this life was: Europe or the Pacific? He'd select mountains and snow, having been raised in northern Alberta for part of his childhood. He'd take hills and peaks anytime over, going south to the ocean, heat, humidity, and bugs."*

*Del enlisted in the Army in 1943, joining the elite 10th Mountain Division, 85th Infantry Regiment, C Com-*

*pany, as a ski trooper and scout. He went to Camp Hale in Colorado for rigorous mountain training and later to Camp Swift in Texas before deployment to Europe and the Italian Alps. He learned to ski carrying a rifle and a ninety-pound pack of supplies.*

*Private Riley left on January 4, 1945, on the USS West Point. Several years earlier, President Roosevelt's wife Eleanor had been christened the SS America and was one of the first passenger ocean liners. The ship was turned over to the Navy in 1941 and went through massive conversion, including painting it camouflage gray. It was the fastest ship in the fleet and arrived earlier than scheduled, outrunning a submarine on the trip.*

*On the night of February 19, the 85th and 87th Divisions spent part of the night trying to sleep on snowy, rocky ground with one GI blanket. They were to attack shortly after midnight. Once they got on their feet, the shivering slowed down. On top of everything else, Del said the officers decided the attack would be after midnight on February 20, and the soldiers would be armed with only bayonets and hand grenades since firing would reveal their position. They would be going in without coverage of artillery fire.*

*Their success again depended on the element of surprise so all weapons were unloaded and were not to be fired until after daylight when an order would be given. This was a completely new tactic, and they hadn't trained for this.*

*On February 20, Del's unit filed toward the line of departure. He was the second scout up the mountain, following behind Les Green, six years older. Right behind Del was buddy Don Olson with more trailing him. It was dark, and they didn't know where they were, how far they'd gone, or where the*

*Continued on page 26*

*Continued from page 25*  
*Germans were hiding.*

*The Germans didn't know where they were either, but they did know the paths most likely to be taken. Everyone was trapped, and it seemed inevitable that one of them would hit a wire. It turned out to be Green. The explosion ripped off the calf of Green's left leg and instantly sent a blazing piece of shrapnel through Del's right femur, or so he assumed. He remembered somersaulting through the dark and may have hit another mine wire in the process, and a dead giveaway where they were like sitting ducks.*

*The Germans began sending mortars in their direction, and both crawled to try to get away. But in what direction? It was pitch black, freezing, and snowy, but Del somehow found a big rock. The two got behind it and used a belt to tie off Green's leg in an attempt to stop the bleeding. The cold helped, and Green's bleeding slowed. Del's own wound had been cauterized at the entry point by the heated shrapnel.*

*The Germans knew roughly where the two were holed up and would ricochet machine gun bullets off the rock to discourage them from scooting away. Neither could walk anyway, so they just sat tight and waited for the medics.*

*Medic Frank Kurzinger was on his way. Del could see him in the darkness from the red cross on his helmet. "We saw him a ways away. And I called to him." This is always where Del, when sharing this story, stopped to compose himself. It often took a while, especially the older he got.*

*"The last thing Frank said was, 'I'll be right over.' He walked into that mine-field and went sky-high." Del tried to warn him, yelling not to come any farther, but Medic Kurzinger couldn't hear him over the noise overhead. "To this*

*day, I wonder, if I hadn't called him, would he still be alive?" Del, couldn't talk about this incident without emotion until the day he passed because Frank never made it home to tell his story. Del didn't even know if Frank had any family.*

*While lying on the frozen ground in the snow for hours waiting for help to arrive, he could only listen to gunfire and airplanes overhead and prayed that the rest of the battalion reached the top of Mount Belvedere.*

*The rest of the soldiers carried on, moving up the mountain; however, some of them managed to get to the rock with a litter. Green "was looking plumb puny," Del said, so he sent his buddy off first.*

*Another medic gave Del a shot of morphine, stuff so powerful he wrote the time of the Morphine injection on Del's forehead in iodine so another Medic wouldn't double the dose. Dawn was breaking by then with American planes strafing the site, only five hundred yards, so close it looked like he could reach out and touch the wheels. The morphine put him to sleep.*

*It was twelve hours by the time another medic reached him at 1 p.m.; he was still passed out. He got Del onto a stretcher, then lay him directly across the windshield of a Jeep, telling him to hang on to the Jeep's passenger to stay on board. With no real route to follow, the Jeep four-wheeled over rocks and around trees down the mountain, mortars still flying, until it could get Riley to a first-aid station, "Course I was still groggy from the shot and didn't care much what was going on."*

*Arriving at the first-aid facility, a doctor immediately gave him a good-size glass of Scotch, and he was "back out of my misery in a hurry with that," he would laughingly share.*

*They loaded him in an ambulance and delivered him to an evacuation hospital on the front lines, where he had his first surgery.*

*His next stop was an Army hospital for another surgery and, after almost four weeks, loaded on the USS Shamrock Bay hospital ship on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. One of the ship's physicians, Dr. Kelly, introduced himself saying it was a good day for the Irish as Del's last name was Riley.*

*After two days, the Shamrock arrived in Naples, where he was transferred onto the USS Larkspur, a huge hospital ship with hundreds of injured. He and one other white man were in a ward with thirty-eight black men from the 92nd Infantry Division nicknamed the Buffalo Division, for a nineteen-day trip to Charleston, South Carolina.*

*Del admitted, "I really didn't know how to act or what to do around these fellows. After several hours of being absolutely quiet, one of the guys hit me and said I was all right. We spent nineteen days laughing. Those guys had the greatest stories to tell."*

*That was the last time he saw any of those men. From there, he went on a hospital train across the United States, taking five days, arriving at Madigan Hospital at Fort Lewis, Washington, for treatment on April 7. He remained there until his honorable discharge and release on October 2, 1945.*

***He received the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, Good Conduct, and several campaign medals for his service and was honorably discharged in October 1945. He often thought about Frank and wondered what happened to his other buddies. But it was time to move on with the next chapter of his life."***

*Continued on page 27*





Joe Copeland

**"Joe Copeland** learned to work at an early age on his parent's farm east of Albany, where he was born. He was the second of five siblings. He attended schools in Albany, graduating from high school.

Joe's dream had always been to become a marine, as his Father had been during World War I, and two brothers in World War II. He felt it was his destiny. Right after high school, he began trying to get into the service. However, due to being blind in one eye, it was not to be as easy nor as soon as he wanted. The story about his blindness is that no one realized he couldn't see out of one eye until when he was about five years old when he got whacked by a tree branch because he didn't see it.

It took two attempts until he convinced the military he was fit for some type of service before the Army accepted him in 1943. In 1944, he began boot camp in Kentucky. He couldn't be on the battlefield, so they trained him as a cook."

On February 4, 1944 he wrote in legible cursive on off-white paper in blue ink to his mother that he'd received her cookies and about three-quarters were gone before he left for guard duty. He sent thanks from him and his buddies and the following story:



"We went on another hike today, six and a quarter miles with a full pack, canteen full of water, pistol belt, first-aid packet, and gas mask that was about six pounds. I don't know how much it all weighed but I do know that we went three-and-an-eighth miles in fifty minutes and the last mile of this was muddy, slippery and creeks running every which way and made it hard going."

"Joe wanted to serve his country but nearer to the battlefield. Cooking wasn't his favorite thing to do. Joe first served as a cook at a hospital in England. He also helped bring in injured men as well as unload many who had lost their lives in battle.

Finally, he persisted enough and was assigned to drive trucks, delivering supplies to the battlefield for troops in the Rhineland. When asked later how he could manage driving responsibilities being blind in one eye, his reply was that he just stayed on the tail of the vehicle in front of him."

His mother received a small brown envelope with the return address reading:

War & Navy Departments V-Mail  
Service Official Business

The round Postal Service stamp reads: April 17, 1945, "Dear Mom,

Well, you guessed it, I am in the fatherland somewhere. You know how the censor is, so it is just somewhere. I will give you my opinion of Germany as I see it. They all seem to have good clothes and seemingly enough food. There is a lot of blown buildings here, but not as bad as in France. They live in a village and then go out from here to farm.

I think you know what a DUCK is, and you know it goes on the water and land. They have big 6x6 ones here. We were brought in here as drivers. Tomorrow I will be assigned to a duck as an assistant driver, it is the same as the driver, but just second. I don't say I will drive, but I hope to try."

Joe drove a duck back and forth across the Rhine River, delivering gasoline to General Patton, who he never met in person. They drove twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, until the battle was won.

History.com provides this information: DUKW boats made their first appearance in combat during the 1943 invasion of Sicily known as Operation Huskey. The name DUKW corresponded to General Motors manufacturing code ("D" is "1942 model," "U" is "amphibious," "K" is "all-wheel drive," and "W" is "dual rear wheels"). Soldiers simply called them "ducks."

Like actual ducks, these truck/boats with wheels looked a little awkward. But their weird design is what allowed troops to drive the vehicles from water onto land—a crucially important task because before, large ships had to sail up to the shore for the time-consuming process of unloading. Duck boats simplified this because they were preloaded vehicles that drove right out of a ship, motored across a few miles of water and right up onto the land.

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*In the U.S. military, ducks boats were Army vehicles that truck drivers were trained to use. As land trucks, they were pretty useful, especially with their added ability to transition from land to river travel. In March 1945, the Allies used duck boats to cross the Rhine River to Germany.*

*By March 26, 1945, the main body of the U.S. and British forces in Europe had crossed the Rhine, their last major obstacle in the conquest of Germany. Advancing as much as fifty miles a day against crumbling German defenses, the U.S. First and Ninth armies encircled the Ruhr, capturing the industrial heart of Germany and trapping some 325,000 German troops. The British Second Army, meanwhile, moved across northern Germany, and the Canadian First Army drove into the occupied Netherlands. The U.S. Third Army raced through southern Germany.*

*On April 12, the U.S. Ninth Army crossed the Elbe River and was within seventy-five miles of Berlin. Four days later, the Soviets began a drive on the German capital. On April 25, the two great Soviet armies completed the encirclement of Berlin—with Nazi leader Hitler trapped within, and Soviet and American forces linked up on the Elbe River. On the night of April 30, with Soviet troops less than half a mile from his underground bunker, Hitler committed suicide with his mistress, whom he had married the night before. His chosen successor, Admiral Karl Doenitz, had no choice but to surrender and at midnight on May 8, 1945, the war in Europe was officially over.”*

*Joe was there until the end of the war. After helping to win that war, he was honorably discharged and went home with the rank of staff sergeant. He was asked if he'd like to sign up for the Army Reserves, and he never hesitated. “YES” was his answer. He never*

*read the fine print of what that actually meant.*

*He went home to Lebanon, Oregon, and met a girl named Dorothy on a double-blind date. It was set up by Joe's best friend who would go on to marry Dorothy's sister. . Joe and Dorothy were married a few months later in 1947, and he started a job in carpentry and settled down on a small farm, never guessing to hear from the Army again.*

*For several years he attended the Army Reserve monthly meeting and thought that would be it. Imagine their surprise when in 1950 he received a letter in the mail one day saying he was to report for training and in two months would be going to Korea.*

*On March 10, he wrote, “We've been working twenty-four hours a day because the roads are in such bad need of repairs.” He warned Dorothy not to place too much stock in news reports of battles at the Han River, which his unit was supporting. “It's not any bigger than the Santiam and the water is very clear. Ice is just starting to form,” he wrote.*

*He wrote on March 22, “I am going up to B. Co. of the 14th, the company we have been working for since we have been here. They are five miles this side of the Seoul bridge. I will be in charge of ten men and six tanks. I don't know how long we will be there, but they have a section of the road to fix and need our help. We are going to keep six tanks running in the daytime and three at night. We are going to set up our tent and move out of here lock stock and barrel.”*

*He continued, “We had three tanks went up above Seoul a little way last night. They hauled up a platoon of men from here with mine detectors. They had to remove some mines on the roads. They reported some nice streets*

*and homes in Seoul, so they saw it. Of course, there are lots of blown-up buildings. There are hardly any Koreans there now and very few GIs.”*

*Twenty-two letters were postmarked in April 1951 to Dorothy; Joe was diligent about writing almost every night. The mail delivery was sporadic. His letters usually began with “No Mail Today.” Then the next day, he'd receive several from her. He reported that the food was poor, and he was losing weight. In one letter dated April 5, he outlined the type of trucks he drove. They had random air alerts and had to turn every light out, flashlights, and all. “There were supposedly two unidentified aircraft just south. This morning we heard a lot of shooting going on about five miles from where we were loading up, and when we came in, we were told there was an air raid, and that was our guns trying to shoot them down.”*

*On April 30, he wrote, “I was out again today, the same road. The Chinese haven't moved any since yesterday, so we held them last night all right. Tomorrow is May Day, and you know in Russian that is a big day for celebrating so they may strike again tonight. We expect it. We have lots of troops dug in now, so if they do strike tonight, they will have a helluva fight getting through our lines. They say seventy thousand Chinese have been killed in the last seven days, really giving them hell; the planes and artillery is doing it mostly, the infantry hasn't been in contact with them much.*

*To the left of us we saw the jets drop napalm bombs; we could see them blew up, and the fire and smoke roll out. They are about two to three miles away. Those jets would come diving straight down and then drop the bomb and go shooting up, I never saw anything so fast. They are traveling.”*

*Continued on page 29*



*Continued from page 28*

*In May, fourteen letters arrived still written using green ink on thin parchment paper, most two pages back-to-back with the green bleeding through both sides, making it hard to read.*

*He reports, "Sleeping bags were taken from us, so we were given two blankets, and it's cold at night. The mosquitoes are bothersome, work detail is boring, and the Chinese moving locations. There are rumors about the reserves and those with time spent in WWII and Korea maybe being released. This has lifted morale knowing many will be done with this assignment." They were camped around Canadians, the same bunch from Ft. Lewis. He commented that they were much easier to talk to and lived the same lifestyle than the Englishmen.*

*His unit played the 1st Platoon of B. Co. in a baseball game, and Joe said it was the best day he'd had in Korea. His team got beaten but had lots of fun, and he pitched two baseball innings. His arm was sore. He wrote that his replacement had been determined, so he'll be able to head home as soon as they will let him but might be four months away.*

*On May 31, his two-page letter turned from green ink to blue. He wrote, "Do you notice that I finally used up that bottle of green ink? This is not clear blue yet but should change a little when the Green gets out of the pen. They seem to be doing pretty good at the front."*

*In June, he wrote eighteen letters dated through June 28.*

*He wrote, "I don't think I will see Japan because they are letting all the organized reserves go to Japan first because if they do go ahead and send the inactive reserves home by December 31, they figure the active reserves ought to go first and I think that is only fair.*

*They are trying to pass some stupid bill to keep inactive reserves in seventeen months now, I hope that doesn't mean we have to stick it all out over here."*

*On June 14, he wrote, "I had the best news yesterday that I have ever had in my life, they told me to come to the Co. and pack up to go home, there are seven of us in all. We leave on the 16th, and if we will go to Japan and stay a few days or go straight to the States but will let you know as soon as I find out." Then he reported from Inchon where he had been relocated to a big building with wooden floors that they may be there for eight days, then to Japan for a few days or a week then home. They should be on a General type of ship, which is one of the bigger ones that take only 10 to 14 days to get to the States.*

*On June 19, he wrote, "Well, I guess this is the day we leave Korean soil. They told us to pack up this morning. Happy Birthday to Me. We will eat early chow and at 11 begin the two-mile hike down to the dock. We get on a small boat and go way out to the ships. I guess the harbor has too many wrecked ships in it to let all the boats into the docks."*

*On June 22 he updates Dorothy, "Well, we made it across to Sasebo, Japan, and have finished most of our processing, even got paid. They are very strict and must stay close to the barracks. If you foul up, you could be sent back to Korea.*

*They have steel cots here with mattresses and only have one sheet. There is a snack bar, PX, theatre, service club, and Red Cross club here, so if we finish our processing this afternoon, and maybe we will be able to leave the barracks. They are three-story and painted up, so they don't look too bad. We have all found out what a broom is for once again, and there are floors here, you*

*know. It is hot and humid, and my shirt is sticking to my arms."*

*On June 27, he wrote, "I knew they couldn't keep us here forever; we are leaving early in the morning. We are going to be aboard President Jackson, bound for San Francisco. Estimated time is from 12 to 15 days.*

*I hope you can find out the exact time we land somehow over there. We can't tell exactly from here. When the ship gets within three days of home, then we know but close to weather and so forth it has to be estimated from this side of the water.*

*This will be my last letter to you, Darling. The next time you hear from me, I will be in your arms. If I don't see you at the dock, I will call up your aunt and see if you are there and have left a message there."*

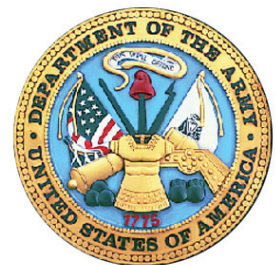
*Joe signed his final letter, "Hoping to see you in 12 to 15 days. With all my love, Joe."*

### **Books by Deleen Wills**

*Through Colorful Doors, Because of Colorful Doors, and her first book, Behind Colorful Doors, where Del's childhood story is told in The Gray Door, written by his daughter from his childhood memories. Available on Amazon.*

**Thank you and the Legion for recognizing two of the "Greatest Generation."**

**Bruce Riley**





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Dear Legionnaire Amanda Smith,

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Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

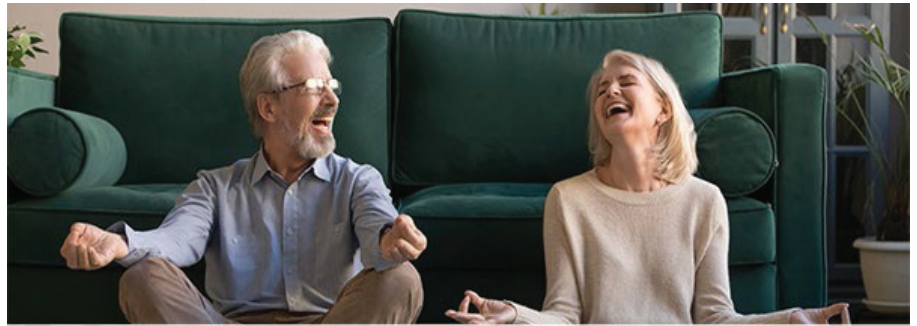
J. Christopher Burke, FLMI  
Benefits Officer  
Legionnaire Insurance Trust Program



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# THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALA 08/2019

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

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



# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALA 12/2013

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

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



# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



## APPLICANT INFORMATION

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Submit this application to the ALA unit you wish to join. If unit is unknown, contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance. Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. Membership pending approval of application.**

## ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

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

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

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

**Veteran Served:**

☐ WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ALA 09/2019

## DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

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