

# The Oregon Legionnaire

The Voice of Oregon's Veterans Since 1919

February 2021

THE  
AMERICAN  
LEGION **FAMILY**

## Notes from Commanders,

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

## Inside This Issue

CPR's page 12  
Four Chaplains page 16  
Audie Murphy page 17-21  
SS Warrimoo page 23



Mr. Hood  
Photo by S. Flynn Phillips



The value of Membership:

"It's not the price you pay to join the American Legion,  
but rather the price you PAID to become eligible."



LT. A.D. GOODE

LT. G.L. FOX

LT. C.V. POLING

LT. J.P. WASHINGTON



# MEMBERSHIP

My fellow Legionnaires, I hope you made it through the holidays well. As we are now in the last half of the membership year and are still dealing with the Covid situations, we need to make an extra effort to achieve membership goals. Even Though we cannot have in-person meetings, we can achieve goal by phone calls to contact our fellow veterans. Using the 114 and DMS rosters and Posts need to contact their non-current members and, if nothing else, buddy checks to make

sure they are OK. We also need to have a membership application with us at all times. You would not go fishing without taking your fishing pole. Along that line, I have seen people at the store with a Veterans hat on and asked if they were a member of the Legion and if not I talked to them about joining and the benefits of being a member. Over the years, I have got several members this way and have also learned about some excellent fishing and hunting spots, and

have established a good friendship.

To sum up, we all need to get off our collective backside and work membership to continue to make the American Legion the greatest Veterans organization and around for another 100 years fighting for Veterans.

STEVE ADAMS  
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



DON WEBER  
DEPT 1ST-VICE COMMANDER

notice an increase in the number of

It continues to be challenging to plan our Program activities. Congratulations to Posts that found unique ways to conduct the annual activities. I

Posts showing blood drives. That is a great activity that can meet social distancing requirements. I did have the opportunity to attend the University of Portland virtual annual award ceremony.

Many of our Posts have found ways to conduct the programs and meet the social distance guidelines. Albany Post 10 was able to perform their annual Christmas Toy Drive for children by coordinating it outside. I hope they share more details for The Legion

naire so other Posts can use some of the activities they put together.

This year is a real challenge for membership. I believe that if we continue to connect with Veterans, membership will take care of itself. That means focus on "Buddy Checks" and conduct the programs your Post can focus on. Doing that will make the community aware of The American Legion and want to be involved in such a great organization.



LARRY WITTMAYER  
DEPT 2ND-VICE COMMANDER  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

85% by 2/10/2021.

Since last reported, the Department has reached 75% towards the 80% goal by 1/21/2021. We should be able to make it with hard work. The next goal is

this up. Our Renewals, New Gains and PUFLs as of 12/31/2020 are 11956. It was 12342 on 12/31/19, putting us 386 behind.

There is a simple way to make up this deficit and make your goal. DMS/114. So far this year, we have transferred 211 compared to 160 last year.

I sent new DMS/114 lists to the District Commanders and individually to the Posts that have **NOT TRANSFERRED** any members since October.

What is so simple about DMS/114:

1. You get a list of present members on the National list.
2. You CALL them with an invite to transfer to your Post.
3. If no phone number, send an Email.
4. If no email, send a letter.
5. MAKE A LIST of who you contacted and follow up in a week. If no response, call again.
6. Fill out the Member Data form. You can copy and email it to Dept. Adjutant or snail mail it in.

As of this writing, we are at #40 and losing ground. Let's hit it and bring

**REMEMBER TO GET IN LINE FOR YOUR BOUNTY MONEY FOR TRANSFERS.** Our Department Hall of Fame as of 12/31/2020:

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

LARRY WITTMAYER

DEPT 2ND-VICE COMMANDER

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

35 Posts were at 70-75%

Posts 2,8,12,21,23,25,26,29,41,  
are at 80-90%

44,58,59,62,87,89,96,98,  
152,157,173,180,192

Posts 28,61,67,79,86,121,129 are  
at 90-100%

Posts 50 (127.27%)  
55 (100.00%)  
76 (113.04%)  
106 (110.00%)  
137 (115.005%)

Top Post 50 (127.275%)

Top District 10 at 82.39%  
4 at 80.06%  
9 at 79.04%

Keep up the good work and **PLEASE**  
use the DMS/114 lists, this will get  
us over the top.

**REMEMBER**, when you see a guy  
or gal wearing a military hat, strike  
up a conversation and end it with a  
copy of the application you carry in  
your wallet.

## Interesting things to make you say



Hmmm.....

There's only one  
letter that doesn't

appear in any U.S. state name

Can you guess the answer to this ran-  
dom fact? You'll find a Z (Arizona), a  
J (New Jersey), and even two X's (New  
Mexico and Texas)—but not a single Q.

Our financials were put together for  
preparing our 990 and 990EZ for our  
new 2019 Tax Reporting Year for our  
Department of Oregon and Oregon  
American Legion Foundation, which  
are being done outside for our new  
Tax Year, October 1, 2019, to Septem-  
ber 30, 2020. We are still working on  
our Financial Reporting Systems to  
support all our recent changes. CO-  
VID 19 issues and the wildfires in  
Oregon and South West Oregon have  
changed some priorities, and we are  
continuing to work on them, slow  
recovery with many changes. I have  
the ability to review QuickBooks and  
our financials for the Department and  
Foundation from my home, and I am  
making out my reports from there.

I know that I am repeating this, as  
I will continue to see some of the ad-  
verse outcomes in Membership re-  
porting and filing of Post Taxes. A lot  
brought on by COVID 19, not hold-  
ing meetings face to face, not visiting  
our Posts, Post Visitations. Post Adju-  
tants, if not reporting your Post mem-  
bership, renewals, and new members  
on mylegion.org, please start.

We have training available, and  
we can present it virtually. As you  
receive new or renewed Member-  
ship, it must be reported  
in "NOW" PDC, Bob Huff  
time. The Department Finance Officer  
easiest way and fastest is by using  
mylegion.org. You can save money  
for your Post on Postage, and you im-  
mediately receive credit from Nation-  
al and Department for your renewals,  
all positive. And remember, please  
ask your Post if they have filed their  
taxes. District Commanders ask you  
Posts, meetings, or phone if they have  
filed their taxes. Every Post is a sepa-  
rate corporation and is required to file  
a 990, 990EZ, or 990-n each year, and  
there are no exceptions. If you need  
help or have questions, please ask. We  
are here to help if we can before it gets  
too late. We can accomplish this vir-  
tually. Remember, we are all on the  
same team.



PDC ROB LIEBENOW

NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER

We advertise  
ourselves as  
a family. This  
"FAMILY"  
is not the  
case in some  
posts. Some  
posts seem  
to think that  
they control  
the SAL and  
do not work with their Auxiliary. Le-  
gion Posts, SAL Squadrons, and Aux-  
iliary Units need to understand the  
importance of working together, but  
at the same time, we need to keep

## Working Together

our independence. Fighting amongst  
ourselves will only tear a family  
apart. Posts, Squadrons, and Units  
all play an important role in our vet-  
erans and their families' well-being.  
Let's stop the bickering and work to-  
gether as a family.



The American Legion Family





PDC, GENE HELICKSON  
DEPT JUDGE ADVOCATE

Delegates to the 101st American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis in August 2019 voted to change the constitution and by-laws.

Most of the changes involve reflecting the passage of the LEGION Act, and the subsequent eligibility changes to the Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary (also including the Auxiliary's eligibility change), as well as adoption of the singular "they" style, more practical than "he or she." Read the resolution approving the changes – which includes a marked-up version of the old constitution and by-laws at:

<https://archive.legion.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.12203/11710/2019n001.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

The National Executive Committee, at its fall meeting in Indianapolis in October, then approved a coordinating change to the Preamble to the Legion's constitution: "associations in the Great Wars" is now "associations in all wars." This change is only the second time the Preamble itself has been changed; the first was to make "Great War" "Great Wars."

***The American Legion, Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies; 57th Edition; Revised March 2020:*** "The American Legion Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies ("guide") provides the reader with very general Information about planning and conducting various programs. Information within the guide stating "shall or must" is based on federal law or federal/IRS regulations and mandates. All other items of Information in this

## About the Constitution and By-Laws

guide are general suggestions except for the National Constitution and By-Laws. This guide does not constitute any legal advice..."

The responsibility given to the individual Post is the source of our strength and ability to grow. The Post is in no small degree autonomous, restricted only by the broad general guidelines contained in the national or department constitution and by-laws.

**THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS** of an organization contain specific rules for the conduct of its business. General rules and customs for an orderly procedure, in addition to these specific rules, are commonly known as parliamentary law. These rules are needed to guide an organization's deliberations to do the right thing in the right way at the right time and to secure the best results with the least expenditure of time and effort. The underlying principles of parliamentary law are justice and courtesy to all, one thing at a time, the rule of the majority, and the right of the minority

Page 98 of the 2020 Post Officer's Guide gives a "Suggested Form for Post Constitution."

Page 100 of the 2020 Post Officer's Guide gives a "suggested Form for Post By-Laws."

By-laws Article X, Rules of Order, Section 1. All proceedings of this Post shall be conducted under and pursuant to Roberts' Rules of Order, except as herein otherwise provided.

Page 111 of the 2020 Post Officer's Guide: Parliamentary Procedure

Procedure - For a member to constantly raise points of order and insist upon the strict observance of every rule in a peaceable assembly where there are members ignorant of these rules and customs is but to defeat the opportunity to gradually accustom the membership of the proper observance of parliamentary procedure.

**PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY** –...and for the members to be familiar with both the specific and the general rules of the organization. A copy of the by-laws should always be on the commander's desk. Excellent books and small leaflets on parliamentary procedure have been written, but "Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised" is the accepted authority for The American Legion.

## Calendar of Events

February	<b><i>Americanism Month</i></b> 15 Presidents Day 20 District 10 Meeting 28-3 Washington Conference
March	<b><i>Community Service Month</i></b> 28-3 Washington Conference 3-5 Dept SO School 12 District 1 Meeting 13 District 3 Meeting 20 District 9 Meeting 20-26 National Legion College
April	<b><i>Children &amp; Youth Month</i></b> 01 April Fools Day 02 Good Friday 09 Oratorical Finals (Nat'l) 17 District 7 Meeting 24 Dist 3 (Boys & Girls State Orientation TBD) 24 District 4 Caucus





PDC, ANDY MILLAR  
NECMAN

On January 13, 2021, our National Commander Bill Oxford issued a call to action. In May 2020 reached out to Legion leadership about the challenges we were facing not only as an organization but as a nation. He is proud of many ways our post have stepped up to assist their communities through food and blood drives, meal preparation, and countless other creative ways are legionnaires excelled in times of need.

He doubled down on three key challenges from last year designed to grow and strengthen our organization:

1. Recruit over 100,000 new members into the organization.
2. Attain 90% renewal rate.
3. Achieve 100% CPR reporting.

It is going to be tough to meet the hundred thousand new member goal. However, nationwide we have over 615,000 expired members for 2019 and 2020.

The commander has a call to action for all leaders between now and March 15 to:

1. Encourage our posts and districts to work their expired rosters,
2. Personally contact and renew those members who have not renewed,
3. Conduct periodic checks to those renewed members to see how they are doing.

Encourage posts to work on DMS lists. Remember, there is a five-dollar incentive for the department when someone contacts a 2020 DMS member and gets them to transfer and re-

new at the local Post in 2021. We need to make working renewals our main priority.

On November 17, we held a special virtual national executive committee meeting by zoom. Resolution number one is entitled #48 IndyCar Team Sponsorship. This resolution will implement a strategic relationship between the American Legion and the Jimmy Johnson/Chip Ganassi #48 Indy Car Team. We anticipate that we will get additional membership donations and sales from Legion emblem sales, not to mention the television advertising we can get from the 17 IndyCar races per year. One being at the Portland International Raceway in mid-September.

We had virtual national executive committee meetings on October 14 and 15th where we passed over 40 resolutions.

Of note, resolution number 36 entitled ***“MISSION BLUE POST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM”***, wherein posts with financial need could apply for thousand dollar grants for current and past-due mortgage payments, real estate rents, insurance premiums, and current which in past utilities as a result of covid. \$5 million was authorized from the American Legion national emergency fund for this program.

***Eligibility for a Mission Blue Post Assistance Program grant requires Posts to have:***

1. A Consolidated Post Report on file.
2. Filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
3. Filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the department.
4. Actively participated in one or more American Legion programs in the last 18 months.

5. A financial need.
6. A certificate of insurance naming The American Legion, doing business as American Legion National Headquarters as an additional insured.
7. Documentation indicating that the post is incorporated correctly.

The Mission Blue Post Assistance Program [grant application is available online.](#)

American Legion Posts applying for a grant will be required to submit the completed application to their respective department for approval before it can be sent to National Headquarters. This application procedure is the same as the NEF.

American Legion Posts have until December 31, 2021, to apply for a Mission Blue PAP grant. Resolution number 32. Risk management mandates for national youth programs, which mandates sexual abuse awareness training and criminal history background check screening for American Legion baseball program staff, American Legion Boys Nation, American Legion national oratorical contest, Junior Shooting Sports, Boy Scouts. This resolution strongly urged and encouraged departments to establish procedures and policies for sexual abuse training and criminal history background check screening.

**Resolution number 35, insurance requirements:**

Requiring that any and all insurance policies purchased by an American Legion department, department chartered intermediate body, post or organization shall specify that the American Legion is held harmless and named as an additional insured on any and all insurance policies and its strongly urges all American legion departments to follow similar courses

*Continued on page 6*



# Editors Notes

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Since 1919  
The Voices of Oregon Veterans  
The Oregon Legionnaire

Official Publication of The American Legion, Department of Oregon.

Published online 12 times per year  
by The American Legion, Department of Oregon.

Copyright 2018  
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Aide to Cmdr	William "Bud" Stutheit

Continued from Page 5

PDC, ANDY MILLAR of protective  
NECMAN action requiring  
departments on intermediate  
bodies and post that obtain insurance  
policies hold their respective American  
Legion departments harmless  
and also named as an additional insured.  
There will be more to come out  
from the national judge advocate on  
this resolution.



In 1921, an international conference was held for the purpose of limiting naval armaments, particularly battleships and aircraft carriers. What was the name of this conference?

- A. National Disarmament Conference
- B. Naval Disarmament Conference
- C. International Disarmament Conference
- D. Washington Disarmament Conference

## Deadline

for the March issue  
of the  
Oregon Legionnaire  
is February 5th, 2021

## Legionnaire Benefits

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- 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

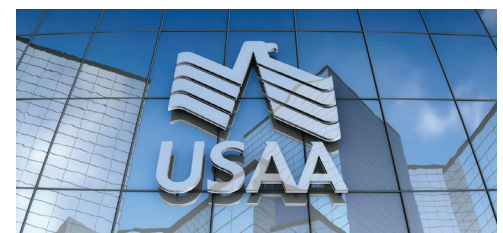


- **Hospital HELP Plan** — Provides benefits for hospital stays including intensive care, cardiac care, care for cancer, rehabilitative facilities, and V.A. hospitals.\*
- **Cancer Care** — Provides important protection and a daily benefit if you are hospitalized due to cancer.\*
- **Accidental Death** — 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.\*
- **Emergency Assistance Plus** — Provides you with 24/7 emergency medical and travel assistance services should something happen to you or your family while traveling away from home.
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01/18

02/18/21



## Need to Know Dates

February  
Americanism Month

March  
Community Service Month

April  
Children & Youth Month



## District 1 News



**LOU NEUBECKER**  
**DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER**

Your District officer hopes you all had a GREAT holiday season under the circumstances.

There is not much to write about, with most of the District being Lockdown. No meetings to attend or Post to visit. I know that some Posts are holding virtual meetings, which is good. If you want me to attend the call me or send me an email at [legiondistrict1@gmail.com](mailto:legiondistrict1@gmail.com).

When I send out the membership report, I'm getting several emails bounced back. Please send the correct email to the district email account.

As we start the new calendar year, Post Commander's and Adjutant's are reminded to submit your By-Laws to the department if you have made changes. If no changes were made please submit an email to the Department Adjutant that no changes were made. If your By-Laws haven't been reviewed in several years (3 or more), take this time to complete that task.

Just a reminder that we are scheduled to hold a district meeting in March in Cannon Beach at 1 PM on the 13th if we can meet in person. If not, we will have another "GO TOP MEETING" starting at 10 AM.

Post Chaplain's and Adjutant's, please notify District Chaplain Richard (Dick) Rye when a member of your Post goes home. His email is [r.rye@gmail.com](mailto:r.rye@gmail.com)

## District 9 News

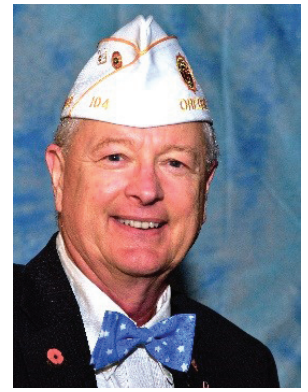


**PDC, KEVIN OWENS**  
**DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER**

As we move forward into a new year, District 9 is to continue working on those important programs that make the

American Legion a strong Veterans group. Posts are starting to work on Baseball, Boys State, and Law Enforcement Career Camp. We have worked hard on membership, most of the Posts are near 100%, and a couple is near 85%. The hardest part of all this virus business is not able to get together. We are a social group who network with each other for ideas making our communities and the American Legion better. The District will continue to work hard on membership building the legacy District 9 has, to strive to be the best in the Department.

## ROTC



This year the Universities could not conduct their annual awards ceremonies; however, they did hand out the Cadets' awards. Each University made the Department aware of the award recipients, and we sent the awards to the University for personal presentation to the Cadets.

**DON WEBER**  
**ROTC CHAIR**

The University of Portland conducted a virtual award ceremony. They maintain an honor guard at their Veteran Memorial and then started the Program by videotaping a "Changing of the Guard." They also had a panel discussion online, with several distinguished speakers.



## Sending hugs from afar

## Thank you Veterans for your service



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IF ...**



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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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# The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program



**CORY BROCKMANN** to develop more **ORATORICAL CHAIR** in-depth knowledge and appreciation of the United States Constitution among our high school students. Other objectives of the contest include developing leadership qualities, thinking and speaking clearly and intelligently, and preparing for acceptance of the duties and responsibilities, rights, and privileges of American citizenship.

This past year, events occurring both nationally and globally provided additional lessons to our youth related to the impacts of the coronavirus and political activism and includes their observations of activities demonstrated by adults reacting to both of those impacts, be it positive or negative.

As Legionnaires, we strive to con-

tinue being positive role models within our communities and among our youth. And, it is through such efforts we move forward, safely, in conducting our department-level contest.

The Department Oratorical Contest schedule is **Saturday, February 20, 2021, at Post 51 in Lebanon**. It will be conducted as a closed contest and not open to the public, be it the general public or the American Legion family members. Volunteers are still necessary and vital to conducting the Oratorical contest in adherence to national contest rules. The Oratorical Committee continues to monitor the impacts of coronavirus and community restrictions and has been developing guidelines to conduct a safe department contest. The Committee will provide more details as prudently as possible.

Your help as a volunteer is needed! Please contact a member of the oratorical Committee to learn more about how you can help. Your department oratorical committee members are Steve Bergadine, Richard Ramey, PNC Charles Schmidt, Debra Jacobson, and **Cory Brockmann**.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

"The COVID-19 virus has stifled occasions to hold in-person Public Relations meetings but created alternative means for committee members at all levels of staying connected. Technological options as conference calls, GoToMeeting, and e-mail have become a substitute for conducting Legion business over the past 9-10 months.



**PNC,PDC, CHARLIE SCHMIDT  
PR CHAIR**

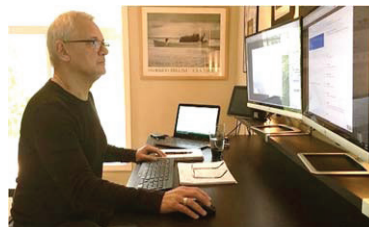
While governmental mandates have limited Post public activities due to COVID-19, social media offers us options to share The American Legion messages: newspapers (daily and weekly), radio, television, periodicals, and Post/District newsletters. Post newsletters are excellent methods for staying connected with Post members, especially if the Post is restrained from holding meetings. There are still messages to share each month and/or quarterly with members with no meetings.

The American Legion Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies gives suggestions for monthly programs and activities. January is a good time to present flags and copies of the flag code to local schools. Posts should already be in the middle of the Oratorical program. February is Americanism month and the Four Chaplains Sunday (February 7) remembrance. March is Community Service month as well as The American Legion's 102nd birthday (March 15) and National Vietnam War Veterans Day (March 29). *Continued on Page 9*

TRUE COMPASS DESIGNS



Work About Contact



*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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Continued from page 8

PNC,PDC, CHARLIE SCHMIDT  
PR CHAIR

April is Children and Youth Month. These are a few suggestions that Posts can work with to start in 2021. The websites of the National and Department provides numerous resources on programs and other patriotic and veteran-related dates and activities. There is plenty of information to share with the membership. Until we can return to normal operations, it is vital that Post leaderships select a media source to keep in touch with its members on a routine basis. As Legionnaires, we have a legacy to carry forward. Happy New Year 2021 and Happy 102nd Birthday, American Legion!"



## SCOUTING



LARRY WITTMAYER  
SCOUTING CHAIR

The pandemic has brought a new wrinkle to accomplish scouting. Many councils have devised. Here are some ways to keep the program moving forward and complete the rechartering events.

Below is an example of some innovative methods and events:

### Cascade Pacific Council:

- rebuild butte creek ranch from fire damage
- plug and play scouting programs
- digital advancement helps
- webinars on various subjects
- horseback rides at butte creek ranch
- donate and volunteer to restore fire damaged Butte Creek Ranch

As always, the Scouting Committee encourages Posts to sponsor Scouting units.

The pan-

demic has brought a new wrinkle to

### Blue Mountain Council

- 1/23 annual council meeting
- new advancement updates online
- online den meeting videos

### Crater Lake Council

- 1/21 6:30 pm council virtual roundtable and
- silver beaver recognition
- 2021 camp staff applications due

### Mountain West Council

- conducting summer camp promotions
- participating in the victory over hunger
- victory garden program
- planning for summer cub day camp
- leader specific training 1/9

### Oregon Trail Council

- lists of den meeting videos

That is all for now. Remember, there is a youth out there whose unit needs a sponsor. Your Post can step up.



## VETERANS EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION and HOMELESSNESS



PDC, BOB HUFF  
VE&E CHAIRPERSON

Our Commission's mission and goals remain the same; we have a plan; everything is in place but is in a holding pattern with social distancing and the new rules like many businesses and

our other programs. I was hoping for this new year that we would see an end to some of our restrictions, and we could start holding events safely. Hope is good. We are still in a waiting pattern with the restrictions. When we can have Veterans Stand Downs, Benefit, and Educations Events, we are ready. We are currently working with some of our Schools virtually and working with their new rules for the safety of all. As always, veterans' and participant's safety at our effects

remains our focus.

Yes, we are continuing to meet with our partners on ZOOM virtual meetings. We have continued our ZOOM meeting, supporting our National Guard in our Vet-Net meetings. Currently, Yellow Ribbons are virtual, with more restrictions, a lot of challenges. A whole new world out there and the way we support our Veterans population and our communities.





Post Commanders and Adjutants, this is the single most important report you do all year.

**S. FLYNN PHILLIPS**

**DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT**

time again. Do not let COVID get in your way. You all did at least one thing to report. So, do not send a blank report.

Let's all show the rest that the **"The WEST is still the BEST" AGAIN.**

**June 30 is the DEADLINE** for the CPR to be into department. Submitting On-line any time on the left column in MyLegion.



**Member/Post Processing**

List All Members

By ID#

By Name

Mbr Data Change by ID

Review Member Changes

Members Renewed Online

Lookup New DMS mbr

Post Inquiry

Consolidated Post Report

PUFL Application

## Consolidated Post Reporting: 'Every post has a story to share'



Department of Florida Facebook photo  
The American Legion SEP 17, 2020

**The American Legion's federal charter requires the submission of an annual report to Congress on activities for the year.** More than 8,840 of the 12,637 American Legion posts submitted a Consolidated Post Report (CPR) for the 2019-2020 membership year **by its deadline of July 1.** That's an average completion rate of 70 percent. American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford challenged and encouraged departments to hit 100 percent reporting. **One hundred percent reporting is one of four requirements to achieve the Post Excellence Award.**

Nine departments answered Oxford's challenge and achieved 100 percent reporting – Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Maryland, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma

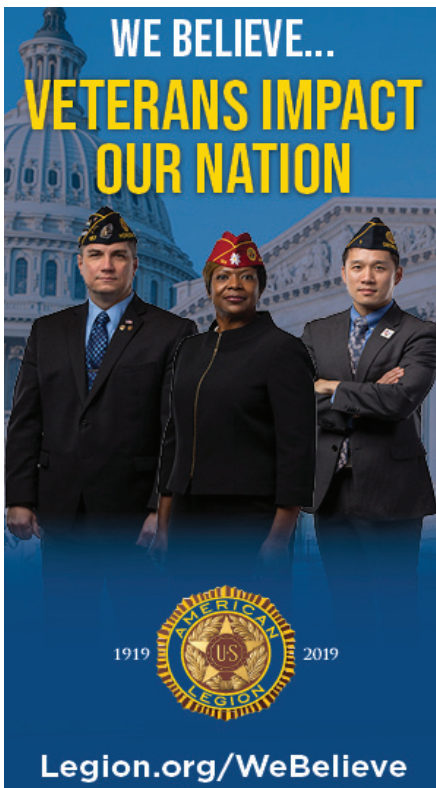
and **Oregon.** A few department leaders share how they did it.

### Department of North Carolina

"Every post has a story to share," said Department Adjutant Randy Cash. "The American Legion Department of North Carolina had a special incentive to reach 100 percent Consolidated Post Reporting for 2019-2020. National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford hails from the 'Tarheel' state. Having served at the post, district, division and department level, as well as on committees and commissions at the national level, Commander Oxford understands the critical importance of these reports. Through his encouragement and leadership, the Department of North Carolina mapped out a plan to achieve 100 percent post participation.

"Soon after the 2019 National Convention in Indianapolis, department leadership began sending out information to posts emphasizing the importance of the CPR. Electronic newsletters, emails, bulletins, the NC Legion newspaper, and district, division and department meetings were all utilized to help emphasize the role the CPR plays in shaping The Ameri-

*Continued on page 11*



## Are you moving?

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

Continued from page 10

can Legion at the local and national level.

"The CPR is a barometer to measure the impact and effectiveness of the Legion, and a checklist for the individual post to determine if they are fulfilling the vision of our founders. We emphasized that the CPR is more than a 'paper drill.' It is a significant tool to use in support of our nation's veterans.

"Administratively, district commanders are required to visit a post at least once a year and record all programs and community support. The department designed a new district commander form to better capture post activity and to make it more compatible with the CPR. The form helps facilitate a more seamless transfer of information to the CPR and better highlight the significant accomplishments of the individual post.

"In addition, department staff and the Membership, Post Activity, Post Organization and Revitalization Committee, and district commanders worked together as a team to collect information, confirm activity or events, and assist posts in capturing relevant data. Other tools such as department-level Buddy Checks, post websites and Facebook pages were additional resources in telling the Legion story in North Carolina. District commanders, the Membership Committee and department staff directly supported the 30 to 40 percent of posts needing assistance with the process.

"The COVID-19 pandemic presents many challenges. At the same time, it presents many opportunities. Even though we are having to adjust some of our day-to-day operating procedures, it reinforces the need for communication, teamwork and creativity."

## Department of Maryland

Department Commander Philip Dorsey gave Second Vice Commander Ronald Holcombe the role of calling all post commanders and adjutants to remind them that June 30 was the cutoff date to have CPRs into the department. "Thanks to my second vice commander, he stayed on top of it. He didn't let it rest (until all CPRs were in)," Dorsey said. For the 2020-2021 membership year, completing a CPR is one of three requirements for posts in Maryland to receive membership awards.



## Milwaukie Post 180 Conducts Successful Food and Clothing Drives



**MICK WILSON**  
**POST 180 COMMANDER**

On January 9th and 23rd, the Milwaukie Post conducted food and clothing drives in support of veterans and community residents who needed help. These drives were extremely successful, and over two pickup truck loads of clothing and one truckload of non-perishable food items were collected. The Post dropped off many of the collected items to county veteran support organizations and is currently working with other veteran support entities to replenish their supplies. We appreciate the community response to this outreach effort and plan to conduct future events of this nature. For additional information on this outreach, please contact the Milwaukie Post Outreach Coordinator Ms. Lee-Ann Gibbons ([aloutreach190@gmail.com](mailto:aloutreach190@gmail.com)).





# AUXILIARY NEWS



KATHI KARNOWSKI  
DEPT PRESIDENT

If ever there was a time when we tried to get back to our “normal”, it has been this past year, all year. We all handle stress and setbacks differently, and it shows when we talk to other Posts & Units. Some have literally shut down and not done anything (or minimal), and others have found ways to work around restrictions and have blossomed. Whichever way you have moved forward, don't let anyone tell you what you should have done but feel proud for what you have done. Who knows better than you about what is best for your members and the area you live in. Most of our active members are older and cannot

take the risk of being exposed to COVID-19, and none of us want you to. Winter DEC was held virtually, and we hope to have an in-person meeting on April 11th. Make plans now to join us in the beautiful La Pine Unit/Post #45.

It was good to see Posts and Units that served our Veterans and Active Military during these times. Some have stated that there were obstacles and that it could have gone smoother, but the first time you do something out of the “norm”, plan on it not being perfect and going with that. Challenging times are put before us for a reason, and it is how we handle these Challenging times that define us. Life seems to cycle every so often, and I think we see one of those. This Challenging time has forced us to use different ways of conducting business, which may indicate the future, who knows. Our lives are changing every

day, and we all need to change and adapt to stay viable. We continually look at what our

members need and what they tell us they want from our organization. We need input from our members as to what they see for our future and look at our financial situation, to see what it will allow us to do. We are only as good as our members and are restricted by volunteers and finances, now and in the future. Help us sustain our Department and Units by staying as a member and by recruiting new members. We don't look at recruiting as just a financial asset. Instead, we need new ideas and energy. We need to look at people who want to adopt a “new family” that does good work for Veterans and the Military, they are out there, and we **ARE THAT FAMILY**.



## MORE AUXILIARY NEWS

CONRAD PROPP

PDP, LINDA LIEBENOW  
DEPARTMENT SECRETARY

My Story

Conrad, well known to his friends and neighbors as “Pops.” He is a neighbor of Cindy in the office on the Auxiliary side. We invited him in for lunch at Department one day, and Linda Liebenow of the ALA decided to take notes for an article in the Legionnaire.

Conrad joined the Army at 17 years old, still wet behind the ears, and served 7 ½ years. He started at Fort Carlson Colorado's basic training and spent three years at White Sands Missile Range. Then went on to Fort Rucker, Ala. for helicopter school and later to Fort Bragg Special Warfare,



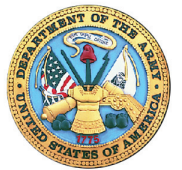
where he says, “where they dropped you in the boonies with a box of rice.”

He was ordered to South Vietnam, Pleiku from 1963-1965, Camp Hollo-way, 119th Assault Helicopter Company. He was Crew chief on three different helicopters. The Bell UH-1 Iroquois (nicknamed “Huey”) helicopters with four crew members. Uncle Sam extended enlistment because of the Berlin Crisis and again for the

Cuban Crisis.

From Vietnam, he went to Fort Hood, Texas. He wanted to stay in but did not want to stay in Texas. He wanted to stay with the helicopters, so he got out in 1965. So I wandered around the country “looking for me.” I got married at 29 and had two kids. He bartended in Florida, where he met Bing Crosby, Johnny Weissmuller (Tarzan), and Burt Reynolds.

He wound up in Wyoming, where his family was. He worked in a Uranium mine until it closed, then worked in a local radiator shop.



*Continued on page 13*

*Continued from page 12*

He got an interview with the U&I Sugar refinery in Mosses Lake, WA, and worked there for three years.

His Mom lived in Beaverton, so he came down here for a job with Illinois Glass Co. as a Master mechanic and worked there for five years. He flew to Wisconsin for a job interview with Foster Forbes Glass Plant. He accepted the job and drove his motor home there and worked there for 1 ½ years but didn't like it there because of all the plant's pollution. He was used to working in a much cleaner environment.

At 59, he was living on savings and his deceased wife's SS. He bowled two days a week in a Senior League with his Mom. He worked part-time for Sunset Lanes in Beaverton.

He met a gal online from Clatskanie. They would then meet at Spirit Mountain Casino. He later moved in with her and helped her with her rabbits. He built the business up to a 700-rabbit herd, driving twice a month to Gold Hill to sell the rabbits. After 3 ½ years, she got sick. She was having bad headaches, kidney failure, and they put her on dialysis. He learned how to take care of her at home and took care of her for five years. The rabbit business suffered.

In 2010, he went back to Viet Nam, "in his head." (PTSD). He bummed around for more than two years. For the last several years, he has lived in his 5th wheel on his daughter's place while his son helped build his daughter's house.

Two years ago, he met Barb, who introduced him to a psychologist for PTSD. He helped her sell her house in Sun River and got her moved to Florence.

He now goes to the VA, where he is 90% disabled, 40% for his hearing, and 50% for PTSD. "Things that he has been packing around since 1965". That's my Story, and I'm sticking to it.

## *In Loving Memory*



It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that we announce the loss of PDP, Louise Carter.

Louise was Department

President 2004-2005 and a member of Crook County Unit #29

Born December 25, 1936 in Casitas Pass, California to Henry & Lora Musick.

In 1942 the family moved to Powell Butte where Louise attended Powell Butte Grade School and Redmond Union High School, graduating in 1954. She then attended Central Oregon Community College in Bend, Oregon and in 1955 graduated as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

She worked at Pioneer Memorial Hospital for 42 years as a nurse and later as the head of the purchasing department.

Louise was a member of the Lady Elks, Eagles and was very active for many years in the American Legion Auxiliary. She was the Department President of the American Legion Auxiliary in 2004-2005, volunteered



at American Red Cross, Prineville Senior Center and belonged to the Crook County Historical Society.

Louise enjoyed camping and being outdoors and loved spending time with her family.

She is survived by her husband Sid Carter, sister Carol Beeman of Yuma, Arizona, Son Jack (Diane) Hodnett of Drewsey, Oregon, Son Edward (Tina) Hodnett of Prineville, son Thomas of Prineville and son Ray (Cindy) Carter of Colorado Springs, Colorado. She is also survived by nine grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her parents Henry and Lora, Brother Edward, Sisters Ruth Collins and Dorothy Hendrix.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to a charity of your choice.

Cards may be sent to:

Sid Carter  
740 SE Holly Street  
Prineville, OR 97754

A small service was held Monday January 25th, at Crook County Cemetery





## Milwaukie Post 180 Assists Red Cross

Early in the morning of 26 January, the Red Cross Blood Drive Coordinator contacted the Milwaukie Post 180 Commander with an emergency request.

The Red Cross site was planning to use for blood donations on the 26th was not going to be able to support the collection due to a Water-Main issue, and the Red Cross needed a site for the blood collection. Milwaukie Post 180 stepped up to fill the need, and the Post opened up for the Blood Drive from 1 PM to 7 PM. The Red Cross collected over 30 pints of blood. We are ready to assist our veterans and community whenever and wherever possible.



**MICK WILSON**  
POST 180 COMMANDER



Hello again,

Thanks to the you and the American Legion's gracious use of your building we were able to collect **28 units** of life saving blood. Just think that if you had not let us use the room we would not have been able to potentially provide and save 84 lives.

*Thank you!!*

**Marcea Vandermeer**  
Regional Market Manager, Pacific Northwest/Northern California  
American Red Cross Blood Services

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- **On-The-Move Travel Accident**
- **Emergency Assistance Plus**
- **Medicare Supplement Insurance**
- **Health Insurance**
- **Dental Insurance**
- **Long-Term Care**
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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.\*
- **Emergency Assistance Plus** — Provides you with 24/7 emergency medical and travel assistance services should something happen to you or your family while traveling away from home.
- **Medicare Supplement Insurance** — Supplements your Medicare Coverage at group rates.
- **Health & Dental Insurance** — Request a quote on various Health & Dental Insurance Plans designed with you in mind.
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**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 Securian 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](http://www.TheLIT.com) to review plan details.

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**PDC, GENE HELLICKSON** (DEC) or the **DEPT JUDGE ADVOCATE** Department membership take action on an issue. Minutes record the basic details about the motion or resolution and the DEC's decision.

### MOTIONS

Motions are how an action is proposed at a meeting run under the parliamentary procedure, such as Robert's Rules of Order. When the DEC meets, any voting DEC member can propose a motion, but it must be "seconded" by another voting DEC member before the rest of the DEC can debate on the issue and consider voting on the issue. Motions aren't required to be written, and a voting DEC member can propose a motion orally. Because of this, motions often occur as part of the course of a debate on a larger issue. Also, motions are generally considered actions by the

Motions and resolutions are how meeting participants propose that either the Department Executive Committee

(DEC) or the Department

## MOTION OR RESOLUTION?

DEC and not necessarily the Department membership.

### RESOLUTIONS

A resolution is simply another form of a motion, but it's more formal and usually used for more important or ceremonial issues. Resolutions adopted by the DEC's voting members and later approved by the voting members of the DEC are considered a formal act of the corporation and not just a DEC action. Resolutions are recognizable by the formal style used -- they have a preamble, where points of fact are introduced with the term "whereas," which is followed by a body in which the term "resolved that" lists each action is taken.

### MEETING MINUTES

Minutes are a note-keeping format for parliamentary procedure. During a DEC meeting, minutes are kept by the Adjutant, a DEC officer charged with administering the meeting. Minutes should note the precise wording of every motion or resolution that is introduced. They should record who introduced a motion or resolution, and the participant that seconded the motion. If a vote is taken, that should

### Parliamentary Procedure

Making meetings more effective



the meeting minutes on file.

be noted as well. Since a resolution is a written motion, a signed copy should be kept with

### NOTING MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Minutes are not notes. Minutes should display the meeting name, location, participants, actions and objectively capture the conversation's tone and direction. While someone taking notes might write specific quotes or information, the minutes should remain general and focus on their actions. For formal meeting minutes, there is little difference in how resolutions and motions are described. Resolutions simply must be differentiated from motions. For example, board member Comrade T's motion could be recorded like this in the minutes, "Moved by Comrade T that the Department Adjutant study the cost of new furniture." However, a resolution may be noted like this, "Resolved that the Department of Oregon buy new office furniture, as moved by Comrade T and seconded by Comrade U."



Answer:

D. Washington Disarmament Conference

Great Britain, France, Italy, China, Japan, Portugal, Holland, and Belgium attended, Russia was not invited.





## THE STORY



It was the evening of Feb. 2, 1943, and the U.S.A.T. Dorchester was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 service men, merchant seamen and civilian workers.

Once a luxury coastal liner, the 5,649-ton vessel had been converted into an Army transport ship. The Dorchester, one of three ships in the SG-19 convoy, was moving steadily across the icy waters from Newfoundland toward an American base in Greenland. SG-19 was escorted by Coast Guard Cutters Tampa, Escanaba and Comanche.

Hans J. Danielsen, the ship's captain, was concerned and cautious. Earlier the Tampa had detected a submarine with its sonar. Danielsen knew he was in dangerous waters even before he got the alarming information. German U-boats were constantly prowling these vital sea lanes, and several ships had already been blasted and sunk.

USAT Dorchester leaving St. John's Harbor on the way to Greenland in the fall of 1942

The Dorchester was now only 150 miles from its destination, but the captain ordered the men to sleep in their clothing and keep life jackets on. Many soldiers sleeping deep in the ship's hold disregarded the order because of the engine's heat. Others ignored it because the life jackets were uncomfortable.



On Feb. 3, at 12:55 a.m., a periscope broke the chilly Atlantic waters. Through the cross hairs, an officer aboard the German submarine U-223 spotted the Dorchester. The U-223 approached the convoy on the surface, and after identifying and targeting the ship, he gave orders to fire the torpedoes, a fan of three were fired. The one that hit was decisive—and deadly—striking the starboard side, amid ship, far below the water line.

Captain Danielsen, alerted that the Dorchester was taking water rapidly and sinking, gave the order to abandon ship. In less than 20 minutes, the Dorchester would slip beneath the Atlantic's icy waters.

Tragically, the hit had knocked out power and radio contact with the three escort ships. The CGC Comanche, however, saw the flash of the explosion. It responded and then rescued 97 survivors. The CGC Escanaba circled the Dorchester, rescuing an additional 132 survivors. The third cutter, CGC Tampa, continued on, escorting the remaining two ships.

Aboard the Dorchester, panic and chaos had set in. The blast had killed scores of men, and many more were seriously wounded. Others, stunned by the explosion were groping in the

darkness. Those sleeping without clothing rushed topside where they were confronted first by a blast of icy Arctic air and then by the knowledge that death awaited.

Men jumped from the ship into lifeboats, over-crowding them to the point of capsizing, according to eyewitnesses. Other rafts, tossed into the Atlantic, drifted away before soldiers could get in them.



Through the pandemonium, according to those present, four Army chaplains brought hope in despair and light in darkness. Those chaplains were Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic; and Lt. Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed.

Quickly and quietly, the four chaplains spread out among the soldiers. There they tried to calm the frightened, tend the wounded and guide the disoriented toward safety.

"Witnesses of that terrible night remember hearing the four men offer prayers for the dying and encouragement for those who would live," says Wyatt R. Fox, son of Reverend Fox.

One witness, Private William B. Bednar, found himself floating in oil-smeared water surrounded by dead bodies and debris. "I could hear men crying, pleading, praying," Bednar recalls. "I could also hear the chaplains preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going."

Another sailor, Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, tried to reenter his cabin but Rabbi Goode stopped him. Mahoney, concerned about the cold Arctic air, explained he had forgotten his gloves.

"Never mind," Goode responded. "I have two pairs." The rabbi then gave the petty officer his own gloves. In retrospect, Mahoney realized that Rabbi Goode was not conveniently carrying two pairs of gloves, and that the rabbi had decided not to leave the Dorchester.



By this time, most of the men were topside, and the chaplains opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight.

When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men.

"It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven," said John Ladd, another survivor who saw the chaplains' selfless act.

The only surviving life jacket from the USAT Dorchester, located at the U.S. Army Chaplain Museum, Ft. Jackson, South Carolina

Ladd's response is understandable. The altruistic action of the four chaplains constitutes one of the purest spiritual and ethical acts a person can make. When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did the Reverends Fox and Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line.

As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains—arms linked and braced against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, 672 died, leaving 230 survivors. When the news reached American shores, the nation was stunned by the magnitude of the tragedy and heroic conduct of the four chaplains.

"Valor is a gift," Carl Sandburg once said. "Those having it never know for sure whether they have it until the test comes."

An actual flashlight from a USAT Dorchester lifejacket donated by a survivor to the Chapel of Four Chaplains



That night Reverend Fox, Rabbi Goode, Reverend Poling and Father Washington passed life's ultimate test. In doing so, they became an enduring example of extraordinary faith, courage and selflessness.

The Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were awarded posthumously December 19, 1944, to the next of kin by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces, in a ceremony at the post chapel at Fort Myer, VA.



A one-time only posthumous Special Medal for Heroism was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President Eisenhower on January 18, 1961. Congress attempted to confer the Medal of Honor but was blocked by the stringent requirements that required heroism performed under fire. The special medal was intended to have the same weight and importance as the Medal of Honor.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS JANUARY / FEBRUARY / MARCH

The Milwaukee American Legion Post is still under COVID-19 re-opening restrictions by the state and county. However, we are trying to assist our veterans and community with outreach efforts and support during these challenging times. We have three events that we want you to be aware of and we hope you can assist us in these events!

**Clothing Drives:** We are asking for **NEW** and/or **SERVICEABLE, CLEAN USED** clothing for infants, children, and adults. All sizes are needed. **Please do not bring any dirty or unserviceable clothing--we will not accept these items.** This is a great time to clean out that closet of those items you no longer use and make room for those new items you are looking for and need!



**Food Drives:** We are asking for non-perishable food items such as can goods and items that have extended shelf lives.

The **clothing and food drives** will be held on Saturday, January 23rd and February 13th, 2021 from **10AM to 2PM** each day. Volunteers will be in the Post parking lot staffing the drop off station / booth.

**Food Drives**  
Sat. Jan. 23rd  
Sat. Feb. 13th  
10AM-2PM

**Blood Drive:** A Red Cross blood donation event will be held at the Post on Saturday, 13 February and 13 March.



**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 the Red Cross and give the gift of life by donating blood!



**Financial Assistance:** Cash and checks will also be accepted in lieu of food and clothing items. All money collected in support of this project will be used to purchase food and clothing. Please make checks payable to **Milwaukee American Legion Post 180** and indicate in the memo section **Clothing & Food Drive**. Checks can also be mailed to: Milwaukee Post 180, Attn: Clothing & Food Drive, 2146 SE Monroe St., Milwaukee, OR 97222.

**All donated items will be used to support veterans, veteran families, and members of the community that are in need of assistance. The COVID-19 virus and wild fires have had a devastating impact on our citizens and you can assist in helping them with your donations.**

Ms. LeeAnn Gibbons is the Post Outreach Coordinator for the food and clothing drives and she can be reached at [leeann.gibb@yahoo.com](mailto:leeann.gibb@yahoo.com) or 503-880-7171 for additional information.



On a frigid January afternoon in 1945, Company B, 15th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, was attacked on the outskirts of Holtzwihr, France, by six tanks and an estimated 250 German infantrymen, who were determined to wrest the Bois de Riedwihr from the Americans. Certain that his decimated company could not withstand the German onslaught, 1st Lt. Audie L. Murphy ordered his men to fall back to safety deep in the forest. After expending all his carbine ammunition at the enemy, Murphy himself prepared to fall back. Suddenly, he spotted a .50-caliber machine gun on the turret of a burning tank destroyer. Knowing that his position had to be held at all costs, Murphy climbed on top and began firing the machine gun at the oncoming Germans.

He would later be awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroics.

Native Texan Murphy, destined to become a postwar film star, made his courageous stand during the Colmar offensive, which eventually drove the Germans from their last foothold on French soil. The 3rd Infantry Division's role in the offensive was to advance near the Bois de Riedwihr, a large forest in the northern sector of the Colmar Pocket that stretched between the heavily fortified villages of Riedwihr and Holtzwihr. Lieutenant Colonel Keith Ware, executive officer of the 15th Regiment, later recalled how imperative it was to secure the forest, explaining, 'Its possession was of cardinal importance, as the woods

## On this day in 1945, Audie Murphy climbed a burning tank and schwacked Nazis with a 50-cal.

dominated the German stronghold of Holtzwihr, the reduction of which was essential to the prompt accomplishment of the 3rd Division's offensive tasks.

On Jan. 23, the 30th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, captured the woods and reached the outskirts of Holtzwihr and Riedwihr, where the Americans encountered 10 enemy tanks and tank destroyers accompanied by at least 100 infantrymen. The result was disastrous. Without cover and unable to dig foxholes in the frozen earth, the American unit was cut to pieces. Shattered, understrength and badly disorganized, the 30th was forced to withdraw from the Bois de Riedwihr.

The 15th Regiment was ordered to retake that same ground the next day. The subsequent fighting was so furious that the regiment's Company B, among others, was decimated. With the exception of Lieutenant Murphy, all the officers were killed, and 102 of the company's 120 enlisted men were either killed or wounded before they even reached their assigned position. By midnight on Jan. 25, Company B had penetrated 600 yards into the woods and was in position north of Holtzwihr.

Within the hour fresh supplies reached the weary survivors of Company B. After the men were resupplied, they were ordered to move up to the south end of the woods, facing the village of Holtzwihr, and hold the line until relief came. Advancing through snowy darkness in the early morning hours, the men reached their assigned position before dawn. Once there, the weary GIs began a futile attempt to dig foxholes in the frozen ground.



Audie Murphy made a name for himself in battle and on the screen

Audie Murphy was well-known as the most highly decorated American soldier of World War II

**Mark Grimsley**

Murphy later recalled his men's frustration:

"This night seemed unusually long, and the snow colder than I ever dreamed it could be. The sound of picks on frozen ground beat against my eardrum like mad. The 18 men left in Company B had been digging in that goddamned snow-covered granite and the only benefit received from it was the exercise, which kept them from becoming stiff and immobile with the cold. And even when one stopped digging it was necessary to walk about to keep your feet from freezing."

Murphy, who had taken over the depleted company during the night, feared a dawn attack and was concerned that his men could not stand up to an assault.

"Strange, but it seems dawn breaking means more than any other time of the day or night, to an infantryman," he said of that suspense-filled evening. "It is an accepted time to attack or be attacked. Mercifully, as the overcast dawn broke, two M10 tank destroyers  
*continued on page 18*



*Continued from page 17*

from Lt. Col. Walter E. Tardy's 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion arrived just in time to support Company B's position."

But to the relief of Murphy and his men, the Germans did not attack at daybreak.

Murphy took advantage of the unexpected lull to begin forming his lines, using one tank destroyer and five armored vehicles from the 3rd Reconnaissance Troop to protect his right flank. Company A connected loosely with his left flank. The second tank destroyer selected a position approximately 40 yards ahead of the lines. Murphy then set up his command post in a drainage ditch 10 yards in front of the rear tank destroyer. He maintained contact with battalion headquarters, a mile to the rear, by a field phone.

Company B was stretched across a butt-end of a large 'U' whose sides were formed by two great fingers of trees that led toward Holtzwihr, Murphy recalled. The heavily fortified village was now in plain view over the rolling, snow-covered fields. The two tank destroyers sat astraddle a narrow dirt road that ran deep into the woods. Murphy knew German armor would have to advance along the roadway. Early in the afternoon, he phoned back to 1st Battalion headquarters for last-minute instructions. He was informed that the 2nd Battalion, 30th Regiment, had not yet arrived to reinforce his company. Hold your position were his orders.

At 2 p.m. on Jan. 26, 1945, German armor and infantry moved out from Holtzwihr, preceded by an artillery barrage.

"From my forward shallow emplacement, I saw the counterattack forming



*above* Movie still from Universal Studio's production of "To Hell and Back", 1955, starring Audie Murphy. (National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution)

with six tanks and about 250 foot soldiers garbed in white suits," Murphy recalled, "so it would've been impossible to spot them sooner or any farther away than a mile. I alerted the men and ran for the field phone and called the artillery officer at battalion headquarters and arranged for 2nd Battalion to fire. I no sooner gave the order to fire than all hell broke loose. The Germans had started their preliminary barrage. Pfc. Donald Eckman remembered: You could see the pennants on the antenna of the German tanks....That got our attention right away....We also saw a huge sea of white infantry coming toward us."

The infantry belonged to the German 2nd Mountain Division, which had been transferred to the Colmar region from Norway. The men had been trained for operations in mountainous terrain. Individual companies of this division were brought down from Norway and fed into the lines as soon as they arrived. By committing this elite division to action at Holtzwihr, the German commanders demonstrated how vital they believed it was to hold a bridgehead west of the Rhine.

The German tactical objective was to gain control of the road that led from Holtzwihr through Murphy's position and into the woods beyond the regimental headquarters. If successful, the enemy attack would clearly threat-

en the 3rd Division's entire position. Murphy recognized the importance of holding the road at all costs.

"Once the enemy came within range, Tardy's tank destroyers opened fire. Unfortunately, their 90mm shells bounced harmlessly off the steel sides of the oncoming German armor. I saw the enemy tanks get direct hits," said Murphy, "but the rounds proved ineffective against the heavily armored German tanks. Advancing and firing viciously, they knocked out a Company B machine-gun crew. Then the rear tank destroyer was hit by an 88mm shell that pierced its thin armor and killed the commander and gunner. The surviving crew members scurried out and retreated into the woods."

Undaunted, the crew in the lead tank destroyer, after surviving several close calls, mounted an attack on its own. Staff Sgt. Joseph Tardiff and Corporal Robert Hines simultaneously blazed away with .50- and .30-caliber machine guns, cutting down the oncoming enemy infantrymen. Suddenly, however, the crew lost control of the tank destroyer when they tried to maneuver into a better firing position. The vehicle slid off the road and into a drainage ditch, leaving its main gun at a useless angle that prevented it from being trained on the enemy. Stuck fast in the ditch, the tank destroyer became a sitting duck for German fire. The crew climbed out and hastily retreated to the forest.

With both American tank destroyers out of action and large enemy infantry and armored forces moving on his position, Murphy realized that the remnants of his company could hold out no longer. He ordered his men to fall back to safety deep in the forest while he stayed behind, directing artillery fire. Pfc. Irving Kelly was reluctant to leave Murphy.

*Continued on page 19*

*Continued from page 18*

"I remember being mad as hell when Murph told us to go back," Kelly recalled. "We wanted to stay and fight by his side. I remember vividly that Sgt. Harold Corl and myself were the last two to leave. Due to a technical problem with forward observer 1st Lt. Walter Weispfenning's radio, Murphy remained at his post, directing artillery fire over the field telephone. It was not a heroic act, said Murphy. I figured if one man could do the job, why risk the lives of others."

Murphy: ordered fire directly on top of the advancing Germans, communicating target instructions to 1st Battalion headquarters while at the same time shooting at the enemy infantry with his carbine," Kelly said.

"I loved that artillery," Murphy recalled. "I could see Kraut soldiers disappear in clouds of smoke and snow, hear them scream and shout, yet they came on and on as though nothing would stop them. The Germans had advanced to within 50 yards of Murphy when a nervous lieutenant from battalion headquarters inquired about the enemy's position. Murphy replied, If you just hold the phone a minute, I'll let you talk to one of the bastards.

After exhausting his carbine ammunition, Murphy was preparing to fall back when the .50-caliber machine gun on the turret of the burning tank destroyer caught his eye."

Soon the fire would reach the vehicle's fuel and ammunition, but Murphy knew the gun was his only chance to stop the Germans. He climbed aboard the tank destroyer and began spraying the big .50-caliber at the enemy. Pfc. Anthony V. Abramski later reported, I saw Lt. Murphy climb on top of the burning tank destroyer while bursts of machine pistol fire from the advancing infantry battered against the

hull and tread.

Murphy knew that the .50-caliber would have no effect on the tanks, so he concentrated his fire on the advancing infantry.

"I would not waste my ammunition on something that direct hits by 90mm shells could not slow down, he said. I concentrated on the foot soldiers, believing that the tanks would not advance very far without them. Private Charles Owen, one of the 18 men left in Company B, watched in awe as Murphy raked the oncoming enemy. Boy, he was effective on that .50-caliber, said Owen. I don't know whether he'd ever had .50-caliber training or not. But the Germans were deathly afraid of .50-calibers; they had armor-piercing capabilities."

Another observer, Sgt. Elmer Brawley, who witnessed the engagement from the fringe of the woods, added, The German infantrymen got within 10 yards of Lieutenant Murphy, who killed them in the draws, in the meadows, in the woods—wherever he saw them. Murphy's deadly fire on the supporting infantry eventually forced the tanks to return to an area in front of the woods. These tanks added their murderous fire to that of the Kraut artillery and small-arms fire that showered the lieutenant's position, Brawley said.



***The newest installments to AUSA's "Medal of Honor" comic series features Sal Giunta and Audie Murphy. (AUSA)***

The billowing smoke from the tank destroyer, combined with the constant roar of battle, prevented the Germans from detecting where the machine-gun fire was coming from. According to Murphy, With all the crackle of firearms and big shells exploding all around, they probably didn't even hear my machine-gun fire, much less guess its point of origin. Although the smoke provided some concealment, it also interfered with Murphy's visibility, which allowed some enemy soldiers to creep up unnoticed on his right flank. He wrote: When I first saw them, they had stopped in the drainage ditch directly in front of me and were frantically discussing something. I pressed the trigger and slowly traversed the barrel—the bodies slumped in a stack position.

Suddenly, two 88 mm. shells slammed into the tank destroyer. The concussion and shock of the explosion threw Murphy violently against the turret, nearly knocking him to the ground. Murphy was enveloped in clouds of smoke and spurts of flame, Weispfenning recalled. Miraculously, Murphy managed to maintain his composure and continued to fire the machine gun. The only time he stopped firing was when he had to reload or relay firing instructions to artillery. Years later, displaying his characteristic dry wit, Murphy remarked: I remember getting the hell shook out of me, but that was nothing new. I also remember for the first time in three days my feet were warm.

Amazingly, his luck continued to hold when the gray clouds broke long enough for American fighter-bombers to assemble above the raging battlefield. After hearing the glorious sound of the approaching planes, Murphy had the ar-

*Continued on page 20*



*Continued from page 19*

tillery mark the German positions with smoke shells so the pilots could start strafing. The enemy attack, although slowed, still pressed forward, however. Once again, the infantry threatened to overrun the strongpoint, now held down by a single American. In a daring move, Murphy continued to call for artillery fire, even though it was falling uncomfortably close to him by that time. I figured that I could luck it out of that barrage if the Krauts could, he said.

With the renewed barrage, the Germans finally realized that someone had them zeroed in with artillery. However, they still could not locate the source of the machine-gun fire that was cutting their ranks to pieces.

“A small group of Germans managed to infiltrate the woods as far back as the 1st Battalion headquarters, but the majority of the enemy infantry began to fall back toward Holtzwihr,” said Murphy. “Without the protection and support of the foot soldiers, the German armor wisely left the field. I can understand why the Kraut infantry missed me, deadpanned Murphy. But I can never forgive the German tank men for their poor marksmanship. It was real sloppy.”

Just as the Germans began to fall back, Murphy’s field telephone went dead. Exhausted and bleeding profusely, Murphy climbed off the burning tank destroyer and limped back into the forest. I turned from the Germans and never looked back, he recalled. I was too weak from fear and exhaustion to care anymore. Shortly after reaching the woods, Murphy heard the tank destroyer blow up, blasting off the turret on which he had been standing.

Although steel and rock fragments riddled the field map that he had car-

ried during the battle, Murphy had been incredibly lucky. His trousers were soaked with blood from an old wound, suffered the previous October, that had been reopened in the course of his frenzied ordeal. Murph was a daredevil; he took chances that others just wouldn’t take, recalled Brad Croeker, a Company B private. He was too daring for most of us. His middle name was lucky. Bill Weinberg added: I think he was just willing to stick his neck out. But it was a matter of being careful, too. He took more chances than others, but he did it in a calculated way.

When Murphy got back to his company, he helped organize a counterattack. In sworn testimony, Sgt. Brawley stated: Lieutenant Murphy, refusing to be evacuated, led us in a strong attack against the enemy, dislodging the Germans from the whole area. Murphy continued advancing until the men of Company B had reoccupied their original positions.

Frozen and exhausted, the GIs spent the rest of the afternoon holding their ground.

“That night we lay among our dead comrades who fell that afternoon, Murphy said.

Croeker recalled: “We were right beside the Colmar Canal. After that bloody day was over, we went down to the canal to get a drink....The bodies were so thick, you had to push them aside to get a drink of water.”

Strengthened by replacements, the 3rd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, captured Holtzwihr on Jan. 27. The Germans, disheartened by their lack of progress against the Americans, pulled most of their men and materiel out of the area. Except for small pockets of enemy resistance, the areas east of the Ill River and north of

the Colmar Canal were clear of enemy forces by Jan. 28.

On June 2, 1945, Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch, commanding general of the Seventh Army, presented Lieutenant Murphy with the Medal of Honor. The official citation reads in part: “For an hour the Germans tried every available weapon to eliminate Lt. Murphy, but he continued to hold his position....His directing of artillery fire wiped out many of the enemy; he killed or wounded about 50. Lieutenant Murphy’s indomitable courage and his refusal to give an inch of ground saved his company from possible encirclement and destruction and enabled it to hold the woods, which had been the enemy’s objective.”

Charles Owen recalled years later: “He saved our lives. If he hadn’t done what he did, the Germans would have annihilated us. We were already beat down pretty bad and about out of ammunition.”

For Murphy, the Medal of Honor was the crowning achievement of an illustrious combat career. By the end of the war, he had received every medal for valor that his country had to offer, including two Bronze Stars, the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, three Purple Hearts and the Legion of Merit—making him the most decorated American soldier during World War II.

After the war, Murphy returned to Texas, but the reluctant hero was invited to Hollywood in September 1945 by actor James Cagney, who had seen his photo on the cover of *Life* magazine. Murphy made more than 40 films, including *To Hell and Back*, *The Red Badge of Courage* and many Westerns. On May 28, 1971, a private plane crashed outside Roanoke, Va.,

*Continued on page 21*

Continued from page 20  
killing the five people aboard, including passenger Murphy, 46.



*Audie Murphy's gravesite, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. (Carol M. Highsmith photograph, now in the Library of Congress)*

*This article was written by Daniel R. Champagne and originally appeared in the May 2002 issue of World War II.*

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**VERNONIA'S VOICE  
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## Training and Development



**BETTY FISH-FERGUSON  
TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT  
CHAIR**

I stated last month in the Legionnaire. I intended to continue with District Commander training at the previous DEC. Of course, all training was canceled when the onsite meeting went online. I will continue with trying to provide useful and meaningful training. The next topic will be a deep dive into Americanism and all its programs. By then, we will have a new Department Oratorical winner heading to National. Hopefully, with the best of situations ahead of us, the New Year will bring us together soon.

In between these times, I would en-

courage anyone who has not taken the American Legion Basic Training Course. It is a beginner's education to all things American Legion. Topics include:

1. History and Organization
2. Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
3. National Security
4. Americanism
5. Children and Youth
6. Course Conclusion
7. Final Exam

For a deeper dive into The American Legion try the American Legion Extension Institute.

Sections include:

1. History and Organization
2. Service Divisions and Sections
3. Americanism, Children and Youth, and Public Relations
4. Legislative, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Economic, National Security, and Foreign Relations Programs. Department Adjutant Flynn has copies for those interested. Hope to see you all soon.

## Pelster Named New American Legion Post Commander of Post 119

Ray Pelster was sworn in as the new Commander of American Legion Post 119 in Vernonia on January 22, 2021.

Pelster takes over the troubled Post 119, which has struggled to attract members, from outgoing Commander Joe Suppes.

One thing in Pelster's favor, as he tries to revitalize Post 119 going forward, is the fact that they will no longer share their building with the Vernonia Cares Food Pantry; the American Legion graciously allowed Vernonia Cares to use their building for many years. The American Legion now has room to host more and larger activities if they chose.

Pelster is a long time Vernonia resident. He is a veteran of the Vietnam War, where he performed helicopter transportation. He graduated from barber school in 1961 and had cut hair locally until health issues forced him to shut his business two years ago; he has since recovered his health and hopes to resume cutting hair again.

American Legion membership is open to anyone who has served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces since December 7, 1941, and has been honorably discharged or are still serving.

Pelster was sworn as Post 119 Commander by District 1 Commander Lou Neubecker; District 1 covers Columbia, Washington, Clatsop, and Tillamook counties and has 15 posts. Also in attendance for the ceremony was District 1,

*Continued on page 23*





PNC, PDC  
CHARLIE SCHMIDT

## Scholarships and Education

Application for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship will be available online at [www.legion.org/scholarships/legacy](http://www.legion.org/scholarships/legacy) beginning January 1, 2021, and will end on April 15, 2021. The American Legion Legacy Scholarship is a needs-based scholarship designed to fulfill a financial gap remaining after all federal and state educational grants/scholarships available to an eligible applicant have first been applied. Priority consideration is given to children of U.S. service-members who died while serving on active duty on or after Sept. 11, 2001. Children of post-9/11 veterans having been assigned a combined disability rating by the Department of Veterans Affairs of 50 percent or greater may also qualify.



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*Scotland has 421 words for "snow"*

**Yes—421!**

That's too many fun facts about snow. Some examples: sneesl (to start raining or snowing); feeble (to swirl); flinkdrinkin (a light snow). Ect.....

Too many to list lol



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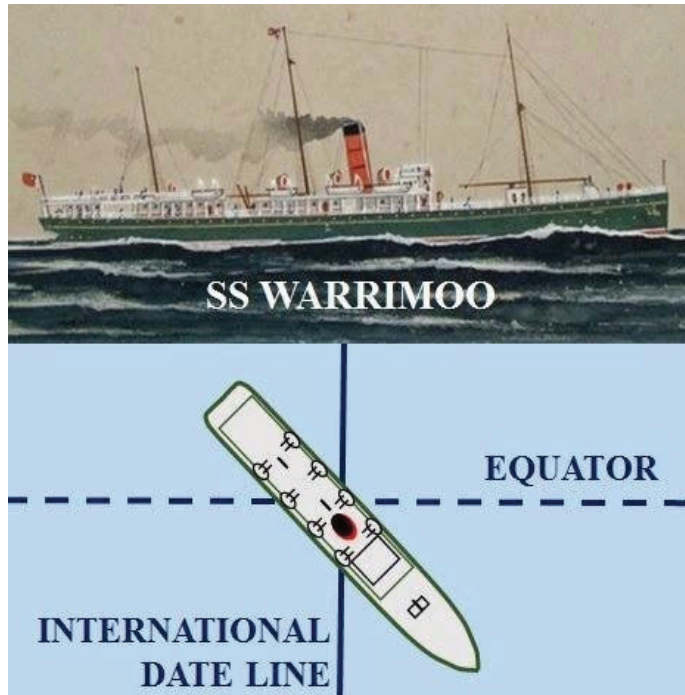
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# Confused about day, year, season,.....Happy New Year

Not being very 'Nautical', I found this more than interesting.... Will this ever happen again?



HUH???

The passenger steamer SS Warrimoo was quietly knifing its way through the waters of the mid-Pacific on its way from Vancouver to Australia. The navigator had just finished working out a star fix and brought Captain John D.S. Phillips, the result. The Warrimoo's position was LAT 0° 31' N and LONG 179 30' W. The date was 31 December 1899. "Know what this means?" First Mate Payton broke in, "We're only a few miles from the intersection of the Equator and the International Date Line". Captain Phillips was prankish enough to take full advantage of the opportunity for achieving the navigational freak of a lifetime. He called his navigators to the bridge to check & double check the ship's position. He changed course slightly so as to bear directly on his mark. Then he adjusted the engine speed. The calm weather & clear night worked in his favor. At mid-night the SS Warrimoo lay on the Equator at exactly the point where it crossed the International Date Line!

The consequences of this bizarre position were many:

The forward part (bow) of the ship was in the Southern Hemisphere & in the middle of summer.

The rear (stern) was in the Northern Hemisphere & in the middle of winter.

The date in the aft part of the ship was 31 December 1899.

In the bow (forward) part it was 1 January 1900.

This ship was therefore not only in:

Two different days,

Two different months,

Two different years,

Two different seasons,

But in two different centuries - all at the same time!

WOW



*Continued from page 21*

1st Vice Commander Susan Hughes, along with special guest Tom Harris who was the Oregon Centennial Commander in 2018.

The American Legion assists veterans in accessing benefits - often benefit that veterans were unaware they were entitled to.

Pelster has a big job ahead of him. Post 119 has some maintenance issues to address at the facility, as well as the lagging membership. District 1 Commander Neubecker and Past State Commander Harris offered Pelster assistance with those issues, noting that the American Legion has access to construct materials and able bodies to help with some of the work. They also said they hoped to help host some events to make Post 119 more visible to the community, coordinate meetings, and increase membership. There was also talk of new signage and a new flagpole.

The American Legion motto is "Veterans Helping Veterans, Families and Communities. It has 2.2 million members across 13,000 posts. It was started in 1919 and helped develop the modern Veterans Administration (VA), and pass the GI Bill and the Post 9/11 GI Bill. American Legion volunteers are trained by the VA and fundraise to assist veterans. They help the transition from military to civilian life. Other American Legion programs include Disaster Preparedness, Operation Comfort Warrior, which assists wounded service members. Blue Star Banners supports military families, a Blood Donor Program, the full accounting of POW/MIA personnel, and their well-known American Legion youth baseball program.

*For more information about membership in the American Legion go to [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)*





# 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](http://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](http://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 # \_\_\_\_\_