

The Oregon Legionnaire

The Voice of Oregon's Veterans Since 1919

March 2021

Notes from Commanders,

Commission Reports,

Auxiliary, SAL

Trivia and so much more...

Mt. Hood

Photo by S. Flynn Phillips

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



Inside This Issue

Cover Story Oratorical

Winners page 16

The Great Molasses Flood
of 1919 pages 17-18

Buddy Check Page 18

Impact of Service Officers

Pages 21-23

Oregon American Legion Awards Oratorical Scholarships





LARRY WITTMAYER
DEPT 2ND-VICE COMMANDER
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Since last reported, the Department has reached 75% we didn't get the 80% goal by 1/21/2021. We probably will not reach the goal of 85% by 2/10/2021,

As of this writing, we are at #41 and losing ground. Let's hit it and bring this up. Our Renewals, New Gains and PUFLs as of 1/8/2021 are 12121. It was 12586 on 1/8/2020, putting us 465 behind.

There is a simple way to make up this deficit and make the goal. DMS/114. So far this year, we have transferred 211 compared to 160 last year. **PLEASE FINISH UP YOUR RENEWALS**

New DMS/114 lists have been sent out to the District Commanders and individually to the Posts that have **NOT TRANSFERRED** any members

Our CPA is preparing our 990 and 990EZ for our new 2019 Tax Reporting Year for our Department of Oregon and Oregon American Legion Foundation and will be submitted on time. I can review QuickBooks and our financials for the Department and Foundation from my home, and I am making out my reports from there.

Yes, this is tax season. I know that I am repeating this, as I will continue to as we see some of the adverse outcomes in Post Taxes' filing. A lot brought on by COVID 19, not holding meetings face to face, not visiting our Posts, Post Visitations. And re-

since October.

REMEMBER TO GET IN LINE FOR YOUR BOUNTY MONEY FOR TRANSFERS.

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.

Our Department Hall of Fame as of 1/8/2021:

39 Posts were at 70-80%

Posts 2, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 26, 29, 41, are at 80-90% 42, 44, 58, 59, 62, 70, 75, 87, 89, 95, 96, 97, 98, 123, 152, 157, 173, 180, 192

Posts 55, 61, 67, 79, 86, 121, 129 are at 90-100%

Posts 50 (127.27%)
 137 (115,00%)
 76 (113,04%)
 106 (112.00%)
 28 (101.56%)
 55 (100.00%)

Top Post 50 (127.2750%)

Top Districts 10 at 82.83%
 4 at 81.99%
 9 at 79.88%

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IF YOUR POST IS HOLDING MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE SUBMIT IT NOW!!!!

Join or Renew Your Membership



member, please ask your Post if they have filed their taxes. District Commanders request your Posts, meetings, or phone if they have filed their taxes. Every Post is a separate corporation and must file a 990, 990EZ, or 990-n each year, and there are no exceptions. Remember, we are all on the same team.

In this March issue, please remember; Post elections for new officers and Post delegates to District Caucus and Department Convention is taking place now. Department By-Laws, Article V – Convention, Section 1. Reads “The several Posts of the De-

partment shall, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the annual Department Convention, elect their delegates and alternates



PDC, BOB HUFF
DEPARTMENT FINANCE OFFICER

and certify them to the Department Adjutant. The registration fee for all authorized delegates, alternates, and delegates-at-

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

large, as PDC, BOB HUFF it shall DEPARTMENT FINANCE OFFICER be determined by the Department Executive Committee, shall be sent in accordance with the Convention Committee Code of Procedure. No delegate shall be seated at the Convention unless certification of such election is received by the Department Adjutant at least thirty (30) days prior, except as hereinafter provided." Sixty (60) days before Department Convention, the Department Adjutant will send out Convention Delegate Forms with the authorized Post Delegate strength. The delegate fee is \$15.00 for each delegate. The Post is responsible for sending the Delegate Form with certification from the Post Adjutant and \$15.00 for each delegate strength. If a Post is authorized three (3) delegates and only has two (2) attending, the Post is still responsible for sending in the delegate fees for three (3) delegates. Those Posts not returning their Certified Delegate Forms and delegate fees will not be in good standing and will have **no delegate vote.**

Interesting things to make

you say

Hmmm.....

McDonald's once made bubblegum-

flavored broccoli

This interesting fact will have your taste buds crawling. Unsurprisingly, the attempt to get kids to eat healthier didn't go over well with the child testers, who were "confused by the taste."

Some countries have banned McDonald's.

Fourteen cents a day



S. FLYNN PHILLIPS
DEPARTEMNT ADJUTANT

Borrowed from Department of Arizona

It is not the price of membership; it is the price you paid to be eligible.

Your commitment and sacrifice to this great Nation make you eligible to join The American Legion. Your membership allows you/us to continue to serve our community, State, and Nation.

Your membership dues allow us to support our veterans, their families, and our children and youth.

In Oregon, annual dues are fifty dollars **or less**, which breaks down to less than \$4.50 a month or thirteen cents a day.

Fourteen cents a day: provides training and accreditation for nearly 3,000 service officers who help veterans and their families file VA benefits claims applications and provide other forms of support, free of charge. The American Legion also offers free services for veterans appealing claims decisions and seeking guidance with GI Bill benefits and military transitions.

Fourteen cents a day: Nationwide, The American Legion conducts or participates in more than 1,200 veteran job fairs and career events each year. Employers Include multinational corporations, defense contractors, government agencies, and other companies.

Fourteen cents a day: American Legion posts in many communities



nationwide maintain strong connections with veterans on college campuses. The American Legion provides assistance and guidance as student veterans make the transition to civilian life.

Fourteen cents a day: The American Legion has a powerful presence on Capitol Hill, regularly testifying before House and Senate Committees on Veterans Affairs to protect and maintain vital health-care services, timely delivery of VA benefits, relief for caregivers, and career opportunities for veterans and their families.

Fourteen cents a day: The Legion, which drafted and obtained passage of the original GI Bill in 1944, work with Congress and VA to ensure education, home-loan, and business assistance are relevant and viable for today's generation.

Fourteen cents a day: In local communities, the Legion fields nearly 5,000 youth baseball teams and sponsors more than 50,000 Scouts. The American Legion volunteers millions of hours at VA health-care facilities and gives selflessly in activities, from food drives to homeless veteran stand-downs.

Fourteen cents a day: The American Legion is one of the Nation's top blood donors, and, in the event of a natural disaster or emergency, its National Emergency Fund provides immediate financial relief while an army of quick responding volunteers offers other aid. This list is just a small part

Continued on page 4

Fourteen cents a day

Continued from page 3

S. FLYNN PHILLIPS of what we do. **DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT** The American Legion is, in fact, an organization of veterans serving veterans, their families, and communities.

To Join: legion.org/join

ONE TEAM - ONE GOAL

ONE HEART - ONE SOUL



LOU NEUBECKER
DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER

Well, another month, and we are still in lockdown from the Pandemic.

I received a call from Cannon

Beach requesting that we move the District meeting to March 13th. If we are open to meetings, we will be coming to Seaside. Lunch will be from 11 AM to 1215, with a baked potato bar with all the fixings. The meeting will start at 1 PM.

I want to THANK John Staub for doing an outstanding task with the District Oratorical contest. With all the restrictions in place. Our winner was Viti Eachambadi from John Kalmbach Post 90; second place went to Spencer Beste from Aloha Post 104. Both gave outstanding speeches, and it was very close at the end, our winner won by 2 points.

I traveled to Vernonia Post 119 along with our Vice-Commander Susan Hughes and PDC Tom Harris. I installed Ray Pelster as the new Commander for Post 119. He took over from Joe Suppes. He will have his hands full with revitalizing that Post,

Continued on page 5



RENEE OHLER
DISTRICT 2 COMMANDER

District 2 Posts have been very flexible with the Covid restrictions in place for fraternal organizations. A year into the restrictions mandated by the state has found the 17 Posts in District 2 holding meetings by zoom, go-to-meetings, and those rare times we gathered in small, masked, and social distanced on location.

As a District, we have relied on emails and phone calls to disseminate information and do buddy checks on our members. We have sent the Post Analysis forms for a self-evaluation and status check to ensure we track each post's activities. Although programs have been postponed or canceled for the year, we keep them at the forefront.

sent and include the unexpired rosters. These rosters are available on the Post mylegion.org site and are easily obtained by each post Adjutant. Posts can also request this information from your District Commander. Posts are calling their members and are encouraging them to pay their 2021 dues and, in some cases, bring their membership up from prior years missed. Our 1st Vice Commander has been working closely with those posts that seem to struggle the most. He has also been working with our District 2 membership Chair PDC Tom Harris. We know some members have hardships, and we as veterans must consider sponsoring a veteran with their membership dues during this trying time.

Our Nominating committee comprising of Jim Mckee and Debra Jacobson has received nominations for Commander from our 1st Vice Commander Juan Palacios, for 1st Vice Commander from our 2nd Vice Commander Betty Fish-Ferguson, and 2nd Vice Commander from our Judge Advocate Jim McKee. It is exc-

ellent to these individuals wanting to move up through the ranks, and we are proud of the hard work they have put into our district to date. Nominations will be taken during our District Caucus in May, and hopefully, we can meet in person for our election.

We ask that all veterans read the Department of Oregon Policies dated October 4th, 2020. The Policies can be described as the guidelines or instructions for doing something correctly. These principles govern an individual's conduct or behavior in an organization, such as the American Legion. Policies tell you Why and What is to be done. You may also want to read the Code of Procedures that tells us when to do it and how to do it. This guidance can be found on the orlegion.org site.

We ask that you keep our Veterans in your prayers and support those families that have lost their veterans to the post everlasting.

For God and Country
God Bless



Our Department Adjutant took the attached screenshot at our Saturday, January 23 District 4 Meeting. All the participants were not



PDC, BOB HUFF
DISTRICT 4 ADJUTANT

in this shot, and my screen had all participants as the host. Eight Posts have representatives on the screen in addition to our Department Adjutant Flynn. Another advantage of virtual meetings is that we invite guests who do not have to travel here in inclement weather and can attend multiple sessions on the same day without travel—a good thought with our High Office Officers campaign coming up.

You can also invite Commission or Committee Chairs to your meetings to speak, or subject matter experts, no travel. We have many Post Members who would not travel to a District meeting that now attend, excellent. As a district, we have already voted to continue virtual meetings during inclement weather after the current restrictions have ended for our member's safety.

Calendar of Events

- March **Community Service Month**
 - 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
 - 29 Vietnam Veterans Day
- April **Children & Youth Month**
 - 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
- May
 - Poppies, Armed Forces, Blue Star Solute, TAL Baseball
 - 01 District 10 Caucus
 - 05 Cinco De Mayo
 - 08 District 3 Caucus
 - 09 Mothers Day
 - 12 District 1 Caucus
 - 15 District 9 Caucus
 - 31 Memorial Day (Closed)

As we have all had to adapt to changes to conduct the business of our Posts, Districts, and Department, District 4 has been performing our meetings virtually on ZOOM. Growing pains, yes, some downsides, yes, also positives, yes. A new way of doing business for now and possibly in the future.

Downsides, of course, no face to face, great meals, missing the camaraderie, networking, it goes on and on. The upside, positive. We can still meet. We have better attendance in winter months and fire season with smoke, less driving to meetings in our rural areas, more casual (something to work on), and works in most members' schedules to attend while practicing social distancing and staying at home.



Continued from page 4
LOU NEUBECKER and the build-
DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER ing needs some help. We might get a working parting together when they call for help.

Stay **SAFE**, and I hope to see you in person soon.

Service Month

Get out there volunteer and Show them who we are!

Editors Notes

Reprinting with Permission Only!

Articles submitted to The Oregon Legionnaire that are copied from other publications must be accompanied with written permission from original author or publication before they can be included here. No exceptions. Violation of copy right law is a serious matter that we cannot afford to engage ourselves in. Verbal permission is not acceptable.



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
Business and general offices:
30450 SW Parkway Ave
PO Box 1730
Wilsonville, OR 97070-1730
Phone (503) 685-5006

adjutant@orlegion.org
www.orlegion.org

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

The Oregon Legionnaire Committee

Editor S. Flynn Phillips
Publisher S. Flynn Phillips
Chairman Lou Neubecker
Members Daniel Burks
David Applegate
Mick Wilson

orlegionnaire@gmail.com

Department Officers

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

District 6 News

GLENN BRADLEY

DISTRICT 6 COMMANDER

We had high hopes of this COVID Pandemic getting over by now and having some Post revitalization's with door-to-door visits and a meet and greet. Anyway, in eastern Oregon, that is not going to fly with the governor's restrictions.

In District 6, we are attempting two Post consolidations. Pendleton and Mission Posts and Heppner Post and Ione Post.

Many thanks to District 10 Commander Dan Burks. We are staying ahead of the game on D99 and Post 114 transfers into active Posts.

Post 72, Wallowa has been the first Post to reach the goal. Thanks to my District 1st Vice Commander, Chase Ence, who is also Post Commander and acting Adjutant.

The District puts the final touches on our District 6 showcase for National Vice Commander Rob Liebenow's visit to every Post from April 19 to 25th.

We have done lots of planning for Post-covid and present covid restrictions, but we'll be ready!. Our contingencies even include loss of power at the Millar mountain cabin! (MRE's, the out-house, and campfire dining!)

Need to Know Dates

March
Community Service Month

April
Children & Youth Month

May
National Poppy Week,
Memorial Day, Armed Forces
Day, Mothers Day

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



ENDORSED BY YOUR
AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT

- **Hospital HELP Plan** — Provides benefits for hospital stays including intensive care, cardiac care, care for cancer, rehabilitating 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.
- **Long-Term Care** — Can help provide home health care, supervised adult care, and more.
- **Lifeline Medical Alert Service** — Provides fast access to help in the event of a fall or medical emergency so you can live confidently and independently.

To Learn More and Enroll, Visit
www.TheLIT.com
For Questions Call 1-800-235-6943

*The Accidental Death, Cancer Care, Hospital Help Plan, and On-The-Move Accident Insurance Plans are underwritten by General Life Insurance Company of New York. Plans may not be available in all states. Their prices contain premiums and exclusions. Please visit www.TheLIT.com to review plan details.

Deadline

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



PDC, KEVIN OWENS
DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER

District 9 continues to make weekly progress with seven Posts within striking distance from making their assigned goal. We plan on holding our District Meeting on March 6th in Reedsport at the Senior Center with lunch at noon meeting to follow at 1:00 pm. With always the need for training, we have set up a chance for Posts to receive information that they may not know or help make jobs in the Post easier. Training will start at 10 am before the District Meeting. We are looking for a great turnout. With schools beginning to allow students to return, we hope that Boys State and LECC will be held this summer. All Posts will receive information to get the ball rolling on these programs. I am very proud of what the District has done so far, with the current situation. Not all Posts are holding meetings, so keeping in touch with their leadership is more critical than ever. I encourage all posts to stay in touch with their membership and do their Buddy Checks. It gives all of us a reason to contact those members we may not hear or see from. I hope to have all of the posts within the District be 100% by our next article, **GO DISTRICT 9.**

Be prepared with the Lifeline Medical Alert Service
Fast access to help, 24/7

Free shipping + Free activation

Learn more

Or call 855-495-4359

PHILIPS Lifeline

Endorsed by Your Department of the American Legion

TRIVIA

The 1921 Women's Olympiad, the first international sporting event exclusively for women, opened on 24 March in which country?

- A. Japan
- B. USA
- C. Greece
- D. Monaco

WHAT IF ... THIS WERE YOU?

Learn How the Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus® (EA+®) Helps You Handle Travel Emergencies.

Legionnaire EA+ steps in to help you with more than 20 emergency and medical services ... to help you focus on your recovery and NOT on the costs (or even details like lining up second opinions or flying loved ones home).*

Plus, acting right away also helps lock in your Legionnaire members-only price.

Secure your EA+ protection right away, you're guaranteed the same low price for a FULL year.

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

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

John Kalmbach Memorial Membership Award

We are revising our JKMM award program. We don't seem to be having a lot of participation in our program so far.

It seemed relatively simple when we originally envisioned it. You garner 25 members or more through 4 different sources. Of those sources, three were considered the low-hanging fruit of recruitment, and only one source required any real effort. We did not anticipate that some individuals who weren't eligible because they get the lists first and regularly due to their positions would so nearly decimate the D99 and 114 lists and leave many members to recruit 25 or more new members off the street, as it were.

We have been looking over the 2019 2020 expired members lists. Even a quick glance reveals that if all of those individuals were to be brought back into the Legion, we would be a goal at goal and probably nearly every Post

at goal as well.

I am sure that would be something that would make the National HQ sit up and take notice of Oregon.



PDC, MIKE JONES
A & A CHAIR

So, we will revise our membership award program as follows.

The member who signs up, renews, or transfers the most members from the expired list by June 1st will receive the plaque and \$100. Anyone who still accomplishes the original challenge of course, is still eligible for a plaque and cash. Sorry, but Adjutants and Commanders aren't eligible. This award is for individual members who show the initiative to get the lists and

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7
work them independently.

Send your achievements to PDC Michael Jones at grayelk110@msn.com or mail to 110 NW 4th St. Ontario, OR. 97914. Please have your Post Adjutant or Membership chair verify those members/numbers.



COMMUNICATION & LEADERSHIP

Today we hear a lot of, "because of the pandemic we can't do this or that," or "because of covid-19, we weren't able to go here or there to do this or that". Due to that attitude, we have lost a key element to leadership. That would be communication! Time to turn that malarkey around, in fact, past time.

Leadership and communication are bound together hand and foot. A good leader must also communicate well and often. An effective leadership must establish the proper flow of communication. One does not go well without the other.

We will sight some examples of where we lack in communication, at least in our minds.

For some time now, it appears that we have had a serious breakdown in communications between Dept officers, between District officers, also between these officers and their counterparts in the Auxiliary. I am sure everyone knows you can't get much done if the left-hand doesn't have a clue what the right hand is doing.

There seems to be, at least where the "Oregon Legionnaire" is concerned, a breakdown in communications between District Officers and the individual members in their districts.

There seems to be a breakdown in communication between the program Commission chairs and almost everyone else. Now that everything is done electronically and paper and handbooks are nasty words, whenever these folks are asked for information, the pat answer is, "it's on the website; just look it up." The last time I was told that the website info was 2 years old and incomplete.

If you are or want to be a leader in this organization, you must polish your communication skills. A big part of that skill is learning to listen. If you can't or don't know how to listen, you will never make an effective leader. If you can't articulate important information among your peers, you will never make an effective leader.

Articles in the Legionnaire would be an excellent place to start for District Commanders and program chairman. Let the members know what is going on in your district and what's new, and what ain't in your particular commission/program. And, district leaders don't just get hung up on the membership. We can look at the report and know everything we want to know about that. Facts about what your posts are doing to combat the pandemic or how many programs are being worked currently by your posts. How are your posts doing on their

CPR's?

Communication between the Dept Commander, Adjutant, PDC, Mike Jones and the vice Commanders should be very nearly a daily occurrence. Communication between the Dist Commander and their vice Commanders and Adjutants should be on a weekly basis.

Communication between Commission chairs and their members should be at least monthly.

The bottom line is we will never collect ourselves and drag out of this pandemic fiasco and move forward if we don't start communicating better. That coupled with a sound leadership well versed in the American Legion C/BL's tempered by making significant and timely decisions. It is able to "think on their feet," as it were.

A leader within the American Legion must not only be willing but eager to travel throughout their district or the department. A leader must be a good listener and show genuine interest in the things those members are saying. A good leader must be able to speak and write coherently. They

continud on page 24



2021 American Legion Baseball

Scouting



MIKE SOWLES
BASEBALL CHAIR

After one full month of American Legion Baseball on-line registration, there are 18 draft registrations submitted.

Teams, managers, coaches, and staff can list themselves and teams with this process without paying the registration fee. We are doing this so the American Legion Committee and team managers and coaches can work on the coaching lists, report background checks, and abuse training completion. The information on a draft registration helps the game schedule. Coaches and managers provide their email, phone numbers, and team name and location in this process. Our national online process will not accept the payment of team registration until after February 15, 2021. Team insurance will not be available until March 15, 2021. Hopefully, we will register 45-50 teams this year.

The committee and managers, and teams are eager to plan for the summer season, which is scheduled to start on June 1, 2021, and ends by August 8. The Triple AAA Legion teams will have their state tournament from July 23 through July 28 in Roseburg, Oregon, at Legion Field. The Single-A legion teams will have their state tournament August 4 through August 8 in Aurora, Oregon, at Bob Brack Stadium. It is always encouraged for teams to be sponsored by an American Legion Post.

If you need more information, Call Mike Sowles at 503-509-9948



LARRY WITTMAYER
SCOUTING CHAIR

The 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 Rechartering event.

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

IN OREGON THERE HAS BEEN A REEVALUATION OF THE IN-PERSON YOUTH MEETING REQUIREMENTS.

Cascade Pacific Council

Rebuild Butte Creek Ranch from fire damage.
Plug and Play Scouting Programs
Digital Advancement Helps
Webinars on various subjects
Horse Back Rides at Butte Creek

As always, this committee encourages Posts to sponsor Scouting units.

The Pandemic has brought a new wrinkle to how Scouting is accomplished.

Ranch

Donate and volunteer to Rebuild Fire Damaged Butte Creek Ranch

Blue Mountain Council

Pinewood Derby 2/15-20
Klondike Derby Cancelled
New Advancement Updates online
Online Den Meeting Videos
Celebration for Inaugural Class of Female Eagles 2/21

Crater Lake Council

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.

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

360.210.4157
19215 SE 34th St. #106
PMB 142
Camas, WA 98607

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

A Convention Primer

The American Legion Department of Oregon Convention is the legislative annual business meeting for the Department of Oregon. The officers are elected at this meeting for the coming year. The annual Department of Oregon Budget is discussed and approved.

Reports of the past year are presented to the membership from each of the Department Commissions and Committees. Resolutions are submitted for approval concerning the American Legion's major programs conducted in the coming year(s).

No later than forty (40) days before Convention, each Post elects delegates to Convention, who will be the voting members at Convention. Those members are forwarded to Department, with recommendations to which Convention Committees they would like to serve. The Convention Committees are different from the Department Commissions and Com-

mittees that conduct business throughout the year in managing The American Legion programs.

The business of these Convention Committees is conducted by way of resolutions submitted throughout the year by Posts. Ideas and changes are proposed for adoption by the Department and approval by the Convention delegates.

The Convention Committee on Committees is comprised of the District Commanders (per Constitution By-Laws Article V, Section 2). They determine which of the delegates are to be on each of the Convention Committees. Those Committee assignments are posted at Convention, and the Committees meet no later than the afternoon of the first business day of the Convention to discuss resolutions and make recommendations to the Convention delegates concerning the merits of the resolutions.



RICHARD RAMEY
CONVENTION COMMISSION

Legislative



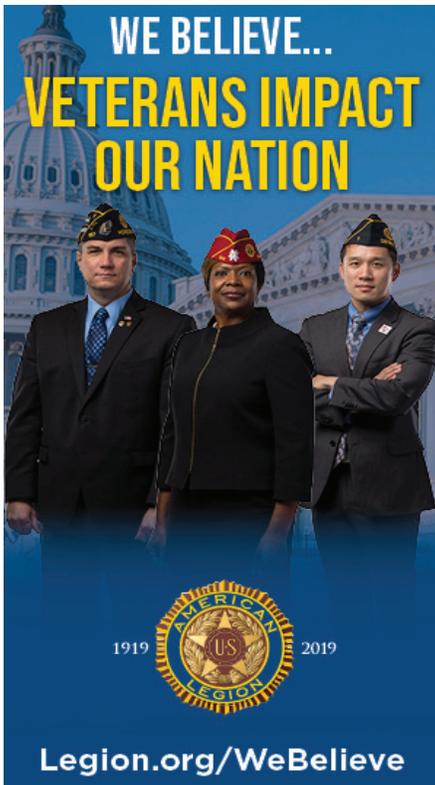
JOHN LEE
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

Well, the Oregon legislative 2021 session is now underway. In odd years it is mandated to run no more than 160 days. This means that the Legislative commission

will be very busy until May of 2021. So far, we are off to a good start with several of the bills. Those that did not pass due to the short session in 2020 were resubmitted. There are currently about 60 bills related to veterans that have been submitted to the House and Senate. We will be monitoring all Bills, but about a third of these bills, the Legislative commission will be watching closely.

I have contacted Jennifer Donovan, the Senior Policy Advisor and Legislative Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA). I am also working with the other veterans' groups though out the state of Oregon. ODVA publishes updates on the bills and the status of them is.

Continued on Page 11



Are you moving?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please Update My Address in mylegion.org

Name: _____
New Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Effective Date: _____
PhoneNumber: _____
Email Address: _____

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

Attn: Adjutant
P.O. Box 1730

Wilsonville, OR 97070-1730

Legislative

National Legislative

Continued from page 10

JOHN LEE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
I will be Emailing these updates out through the department adjutant as they become available, which is usually weekly.

If anyone has a bill that they are interested in supporting or opposing, please let me know. I am willing to work with a post of the individual to submit testimony or get a clearer understanding of the bills. Anyone can submit testimony for a Bill but remember to indicate which organization you represent. If you state that you represent The American Legion, you must have contacted National to get their support. Likewise, suppose you say you represent The American Legion, Department of Oregon. In that case, you will need to contact Headquarters in Wilsonville to ensure all of Oregon is in line with your testimony.



Thank You

June 31, 2021
5:00 AM

To My AMERICAN LEGION Family,
Your out pouring of thoughts, prayers, cards, letters and love has made me so humble; and at the same time, proud and strong as I go through this time of grief that we all must do.

I have known for sometime the cancer was going to take Louise from us, little did I know how hard it was going to be, thank you for being there to help me to get through this very difficult time. May God bless our American Legion as we go forward through these very trying times.

Sincerely,
Bill Carter, POC

Please - would you include this in your next DEPARTMENT NEWS LETTER.

Thank you,
Bill Carter

By the time this issue of the Oregon Legionnaire is published, we will only be days away from our annual Washington Conference in Washington DC.

The Conference is scheduled for March 1st through the 4th, with almost all of the events being held virtually.

The National Legislative Commission meeting is scheduled for March 1st.

The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission will meet on March 2nd.

The TBI-PTSD Suicide Prevention Committee will meet on March 3rd. The National Commander's Testimony will be on March 4th.

National Commander Oxford and several Commission Chairmen will be in DC to personally provide this testimony. The American Legion will Livestream this event, and the link will be on our website: www.legion.org.

Our Oregon National Legislative Council members will be in touch with our Oregon Congressional delegation members concerning the American Legion Legislative Agenda for the 117th Congress, 1st Session during the Washington Conference dates.

The Legislative Agenda for the 117th Congress consists of the following items: (The corresponding Resolution #'s are attached to each agenda item)

1. Address Toxic Exposure & Burn Pits - Resolution No. 118, 2016

2. Improve Health Care for Women Veterans - Resolution No. 37, 2016

3. Tele-health/Rural Health - Resolution No. 75, PDC, JIM WILLIS ANEC, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE 2017

4. Address the Forever War - Resolution No. 22, 2020

5. Citizenship for Honorable Service - Resolution No. 15, 2018

6. Pay the Coast Guard - Resolution No. 23, 2016

7. Close the 90/10 Loophole - Resolution No. 15, 2019

8. Military Awards for Minority Veterans - Resolution No. 17, 2020

9. Peer Support - Resolution No. 364, 2016

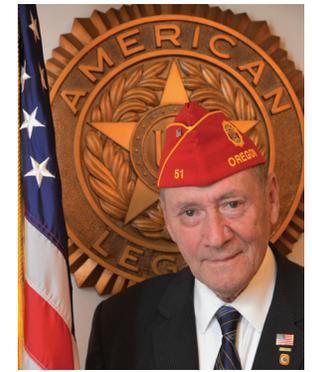
10. Protect the American Flag - Resolution No. 19, 2016

11. Global War on Terrorism Memorial - Resolution No. 16,

The members from the Department of Oregon of the National Legislative Council are:

Jim Willis Assigned to Senator Merkley
Rob Lebenow Assigned to Senator Wyden

John Lee Assigned to US Representative Bonamici



PDC, JIM WILLIS ANEC, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE 2017

Continued on page 12

National Legislative

continued from page 11

PDC, JIM WILLIS
ANEC, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE

Dan Burks Assigned to US
Representative Bentz
Terry Brown Assigned to US
Representative Blumenauer
Kevin Owens Assigned to US
Representative DeFazio
Betty Fish-Ferguson Assigned to US
Representative Schrader

If you would like a copy of the Legislative Agenda for the 117th Congress in PDF format, please use the following link: <https://www.legion.org/publications/226187/legislative-agenda-117th-congress>

We will publish another report following the Washington Conference to bring our membership up to speed as to how we are doing with our agenda in the next session of the Congress.

Legionnaire HospitalHELP Insurance Plan

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

Endorsed By
Your American Legion
Department

LEARN MORE




Irish bars used to be closed on St. Patrick's Day.

You might associate St. Patrick's Day with wearing green and drinking so much you think you actually see leprechauns. However, until 1961, there were laws in Ireland that banned bars to be open on March 17. Since the holiday falls during the period of Lent in the heavily Catholic country, the idea of binge drinking seemed a bit immoral.

National Security

The National Security Commission and the Law and Order/Homeland Security Committee members met by e-mail and phone to select the 2020 Department Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the Year. Due to the Covid-19 protocols, we could not meet in person at the Mid-winter DEC meeting as we have done in previous years. This year we only had one Law Enforcement candidate and did not have any candidates for the Firefighter of the Year.

I attribute this to the lack of Posts being able to meet due to the pandemic. This is a shame as we have so many excellent Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters in Oregon that should be recognized for their service. Hopefully, Posts will find ways to recognize these officers for their service this next year.

In recent years we have had several officers who have gone on to be recognized for their efforts at the regional and national contests. In 2018 our Firefighter, Damon Faust, a volunteer Firefighter from Estacada Rural Fire District 69, was selected as the National Firefighter of the Year. Damon was nominated by Carl Douglas Post #74, Estacada.

Last year our Law Enforcement Officer, Bradley Walther, a 12-year veteran of the Marine Corps, a Nine-year member of the City of Milwaukie, Oregon Police Department, and a member of Milwaukie Post 180, was the Western Region winner and a close choice in the National contest. This shows the caliber of our Police and Fire Officers we have in Oregon.

This year the National Security Commission was proud to select our Law Enforcement Officer **Detective**

Kyle Kalmbach of the Deschutes County Sheriffs Office. Detective Kalmbach has been a member of Deschutes County Sheriff's Office for 5½ years.



GREG MARVIN
NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIR

Before that, he was a middle school teacher for 14 years, has a master's degree from George Fox University, and has lived in the LaPine area with his wife and two children for 15 years. Detective Kalmbach has many recommendations from School officials, the DCSO Sheriff, and the Pastor of his church.

We are proud to have selected him as the Department of Oregon Law Enforcement of the Year and hope that he does well in the Western Regional contest.

It has come to my attention that many Legion Posts in Oregon have yearly awards of Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers. Still, many do not send in applications for the Department awards. Every year, the National Security Commission sends every Post and District Commanders the information packets and applications for Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters nominations.

I would like to see more of these Posts **turning** in the applications to the Department of the selected winners of Post contests to be considered as Department winners. There are a lot of qualified Law Officers and Firefighters that we could consider at the

Continued on page 14

AUXILIARY NEWS



Kathy Karnowski
Oregon Department President
2020-2021

KATHI KARNOWSKI
DEPT PRESIDENT

As this is written almost a month before it comes out, we try and have the most updated info going out to members. You should have heard I canceled the National President's visit for this March. If we had less restrictions, we might have been able to have her and show her what Oregon is all about. As for some good news, our Girls State Chairman has decided to run a Virtual Girls State (as of this writing). She has been in contact with California, who ran a virtual last year, and she thinks it is possible. Information will be coming out as soon as we get it, so please tell your Unit GS chairman that we are planning on going forward this year.

Once again, COVID restrictions stopped us from having an in-person Department Executive Meeting, so we went Virtual. We had a quick District President's meeting just before, and a few units that were on the verge of closing are trying to make a comeback, so that is good news. We still encourage all members, or at least one or two from each Unit, to be at these zoom meetings. You can do it from your own home and be updated on business immediately. Your District President should have shared information with units at your District meetings.

We had several Policies that needed to be updated, so that was one large item on the agenda. Our Legislative Chairman – Susan Guerin, Community Service – Nancy Wilmes, Chair-

man Coordinator – Karol Satterfield, Education & Scholarships – Edna Redhead, Poppy Chairman – Cindy Soria, and Americanism Chairman – Donna Hartwell gave reports.



This past year we had membership coming to the department for a few units, as they had no officers or ones that could not process membership. Data forms, which show the cost of dues, who and where they go, are due by April 1st. If you are one of the units and can process membership, let Debra Godwin, our Membership Chairman know. Department is here to help and by no means wants to or can take over a unit's business.

We had an in-person Admin and Finance meeting on February 20th at Headquarters. It is a must to either cut expenses or raise more money for operating costs. Membership keeps declining, and the cost of everything keeps rising. As a member who wants to see our organization be here for the future, we need your ideas to change what we do and make it more efficient. If you are good at writing grants or know of some, Let Us Know! We are looking at ALL options to operate our department, and there is no quick or easy fix, but we must do it now. Your officers are stewards to protect the ALA as You are!

Last, we Honor one of our Dear friends, Louise Carter, who impacted our Auxiliary and gave from her heart. PDP, District 5 President, Leadership Chairman, and so much more. RIP dear Louise and know stories will be told and tears will be shed. Love you!

DONNA FRAISER
DISTRICT 6 AUXILIARY
CHAPLAIN
The District 6 Chaplain gave testimony before her prayer at the Jan. 23, 2021 meeting. It pretty much says what all Auxiliary members feel and what we have done to aid our Veterans and God and Country.
Thank you,
Kathi Karnowski

Before I lead into prayer and being a new member of the Auxiliary, I would like to express why I am here and why I give my thanks to you all here today and those that serve in the Auxiliary.

This is my testimony and testimony that most here can relate to. My father and mother served in the Navy. My mom was honorably discharged but continued serving our government in a different capacity - as a support to her husband, as he voluntarily served our country. My mother was left in charge of the household, absent many times by her partner. With raising one child, then 2, then 4, then 6, then 7, during the course of my Dad's military career, she kept the home front. She paid bills, dealt with any mishaps, laundry, mowing lawns, keeping the children in activities – other than school, besides packing and moving, while Dad was already at the destination. Mom would say that she was the chief cook and bottle washer. There were times when the children would ask, when will we be with Dad, and in comforting them, she was reminded how much she missed his support, love, and his presence.

As children, we were not aware that we, too, were serving our country, but we did in our jubilant cries when greeting him after separation. Our sacrifice for our country included the

Continued on page 14

continued from page 13

demographics or “The Tour of Duty,” not close to our extended families in growing up and not knowing grandparent’s, uncles, aunts, or even playing with cousins. What we did have is our clan; that was the only thing that was consistent in our lives, as we would make friends and go to schools every four years to start over again. We did not have a home until Dad had chosen a place to retire, about the time some of us started our own lives.

My five brothers served in the military, and my sister and I married military men. Which my sister, our parents, and I took our vows in the same military chapel at Moffett Field, California.

I know not of any occupation that requires such demands of families to serve our country as that of a military family. I say this for all of us here, and you have served as Father, Mother Brother, Sister, Son, Daughter, Husband, and Wife. We are honoring God and honoring our country in as much by honoring our Veterans as we continue our services.

District 6 Chaplain: Donna Frasier, Unit #24 Milton-Freewater, given at the District 6 Mid-Winter meeting.

Let us pray, Father, I give thanks to you, for when we were formed in our mother’s womb, you had a plan for us, a plan for good, not harm, knowing this, you called us to know you. For what we were called to do, it was not easy, but there was joy, there was the bonding that we shared experience together, adventuring seeing our country. Whatever happens to one of us, it happens to all of us. We learned that we needed each other in good times as well as sad. Most importantly, you were always there then and are nowhere for us. Thank you, father,

continued on page 15

National Security

Continued from page 12

GREG MARVIN
NATIONAL SECURITY CHAIR

Department level.

The information and application packets usually are sent out in early October and need to be returned to Department by December 31st to be considered at the Department level. Please look for these packets and get your selections in for consideration.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PLUS

Helps you handle almost any crisis when you’re away from home.



From Your American Legion Department



Travel confidently with EA+



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



ENDORSED BY YOUR
AMERICAN LEGION
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.
- **Long-Term Care** — Can help provide home health care, supervised adult care, and more.
- **Lifeline Medical Alert Service** — Provides fast access to help in the event of a fall or medical emergency so you can live confidently and independently.

To Learn More and Enroll, Visit

www.TheLIT.com

For Questions Call 1-800-235-6943

*The Accidental Death, Cancer Care, Hospital Help Plan, and On-The-Move Accident Insurance Plans are underwritten by 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 to review plan details.

0618
520239

4947 ©2019 AGIA

continued from page 14

for the men, women, and families who served our country from the beginning of our declaration of independence, and your inspiration, of the constitution to the present service where we are. We will be ever grateful to serve this country that believes and trust in you.

Lead us into the endeavors to show our Veterans, we honor them, and for the gratefulness for their services in protecting and their sacrifice they made for our country.

In Jesus name amen (so be it)



We remain in a holding pattern with social distancing and holding events, the same rules that many businesses and our other

programs are. I was hoping for this new year that we would see an end to some of our restrictions and start holding events safely. With vaccines administered, schools opening over the next few months, we see some light at the end of the tunnel and some small steps. We are still in a waiting pattern with the restrictions. When we can hold Veterans Stand Downs, Benefit, and Educations Events, we are ready. We are currently continuing to work with some of our Schools virtually and working with their new rules for the safety of all. As always, veterans' and participants' safety remains our focus.

We continue to meet with our partners on ZOOM virtual meetings. We
continued on page 17

The Anatomy of a Press Release

Few things are as important to your Post, District or Department than getting the news out to the general community concerning what you are doing as a part of the American Legion.

One of the best ways to accomplish this is the creation of a Press Release.

Your press release should be able to be used by newspapers, radio, and television. Be sure to include a point of contact.

The elements of a successful press release include the following:

1. The Subject Headline – This is the Most Important feature. If your headline is not good, your email will not be opened. Some folks working in the media get between 500 and 1,000 emails per day. If your headline stinks, you are done. Quickly get to the subject: What is the story? Why should I care? Why now? Bonus: A good headline helps you to organize your thoughts.

2. Get to the Point – What is your pitch about? Say it. If it is a bold appeal for publicity without much substance, do not bother because you do more harm to your organization's reputation than it is probably worth.

3. Body – This is where you follow up on your headline and create something of interest to the reader. Is it current? Is it

relevant to the reader, and if they are the media, to their readers, listeners or watching audience? If it concerns a public event, include simple things like start and stop times, where to park, will there be food or refreshments and the names of any public figures who will be attending. Also include a contact number for those who would have questions or need additional information.

4. Be sure to include the Legion logo on your **Press Release** and specify where it came from, i.e., Post, District or Department. A contact phone number or email and website should also be displayed on the release.

Some final suggestions: Have someone else proofread your proposed **Press Release**. Not only can they help you catch spelling or

continued on page 17



PDC, JIM WILLIS
ANEC, PR CHAIR



OREGON AMERICAN LEGION AWARDS ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIPS

CORY BROCKMANN The Oregon Oratorical Chair American Legion conducted its 2021 state-level oratorical contest Saturday, February 20th at Santiam Post 51, Lebanon, Oregon and awarded \$11,000 in scholarships to the top placing high school students.

The state-level contest in Oregon is an extension of The American Legion's National High School Oratorical Contest, which is now in its 84th year. The annual competition exists to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U. S. Constitution among high school students. The orators, high school students in grades 9-12 and under the age of 20, prepare and give speeches at post- and district-level competitions, with winners advancing to the state-level contest.

This year's contest saw three district-level contestants competing for the top award of a \$5,000 academic scholarship. Second through third-place finishers receive scholarships of \$3,500 and \$2,500, respectively.

Additionally, given ongoing restrictions due to the pandemic, the National Finals Contest held in Indianapolis, Ind., has been canceled. In lieu of the contest opportunity, an additional \$5,000 academic scholarship is awarded to each state contest winner. That scholarship is awarded from The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation and The American Legion.

CONTACTS:
S. Flynn Phillips, Department Adjutant, adjutant@orlegion.org, 503-685-5006
Cory Brockmann, Department Oratorical Chair, cory.brockmann@comcast.net, 503-313-5216



Winning this year's Oregon American Legion Oratorical contest is Kaylyn Lafayette, representing Travis Moothart Post 184, Brownsville, Ore. Viti Eachambadi representing John Kalmbach Post 90, Banks, Ore. took second place and Tanner Stenkamp representing Ray Johnson Post 44, Redmond, Ore. finished in third place.



2021 Oregon Legion Oratorical Champion

Pictured left to right: Department Commander Steve Adams, Kaylyn Lafayette, National Vice Commander Rob Liebenow, Oratorical Chairman Cory Brockmann



TEENS SPEAK

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

January 15, 1919: The Great Molasses Flood



Posted on January 14, 2021 by Jenny Ashcraft

PNC, PDC, CHARLIE SCHMIDT
PR CHAIR

Does the scent of molasses linger in your home long after the holidays? The Great Molasses

Flood of 1919 left residents from one city claiming they could smell molasses for decades. On January 15, 1919, a giant tank holding 2.3 million gallons of molasses burst open in Boston's North End neighborhood. It flooded the streets creating a 15-foot wave of molasses that carved a path of destruction. The sticky quagmire killed 21 people and injured 150, paving the way for more stringent safety standards across the country.

During WWI, molasses was distilled into industrial alcohol and used to produce military explosives. The Purity Distilling Company set up shop in the densely populated North End neighborhood in Boston. The area was home to many immigrants, and the company encountered little opposition when they constructed a 50-foot tall, 90-foot diameter molasses tank, just three feet from the street in 1915. Days before the deadly explosion, a ship delivered a fresh load of warm molasses. It was mixed with cold molasses already in the tank, causing gasses to form. With the tank filled to near-capacity, a later structural engineering analysis revealed that the walls were too thin to support the weight, and there was too much stress on the rivet holes.



Around 12:30 p.m. on January 15, 1919, workers stopped for lunch and a group of firefighters in a nearby fire-house sat down for a game of cards. Suddenly firefighters heard a strange staccato sound. It was the rivets on the molasses tank popping off. Other witnesses described a low rumbling sound. Before anyone could react, the tank of molasses burst, sending a rush of air that hurled people off their feet. A tsunami of sticky syrup poured over bystanders and horses, and knocked buildings off their foundations. The resulting river of molasses ran through streets and passageways, filling cellars and basements. A one-ton piece of steel from the vat flew into a trestle of elevated railroad tracks, causing the tracks to buckle. First responders rushed to help but were slowed down by knee-deep sticky molasses that had become thicker in the cold air. They labored to find survivors and recover the dead. Initially, there were concerns that the bursting tank was caused by sabotage or an outside explosion (a claim that

Purity Distilling Company clung to). Officials later determined that faulty tank construction was the cause. Workers spent months cleaning the molasses mess by sprinkling sand and hosing down the streets with saltwater.

continued on page 18



continued from page 15

PDC, JIM WILLIS
ANEC, PR CHAIR

punctuation errors, but they will also be able to point out something that may not be clear or is confusing.

Make sure your **Press Release** is timely. Putting it out too far in advance is just as bad a putting it out too late. Something within a seven-day time frame seems to work well.

Good luck with your next **Press Release**.

Continued from page 15

PDC, BOB HUFF have continued VE&E CHAIRPERSON 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 community's safety.

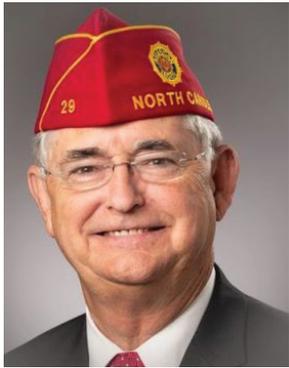


Continued from page 17

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

The tragedy led to many lawsuits and more than 100 damage awards. It also spurred changes in building codes with more stringent building regulations, first in Boston, then in Massachusetts, and then across the country. by **Jenny Ashcraft**

An urgent appeal for Buddy Checks



By National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford
FEB 16, 2021

**BILL OXFORD
NATIONAL COMMANDER**

Dear American Legion Family Members and Friends,

I hope this email finds you well, safe, and warm. Many of you are being affected by the current winter storm that is wreaking havoc throughout the country.

The storm has shut down major roads, created power failures for millions and forced many to stay in their homes amid record cold temperatures.

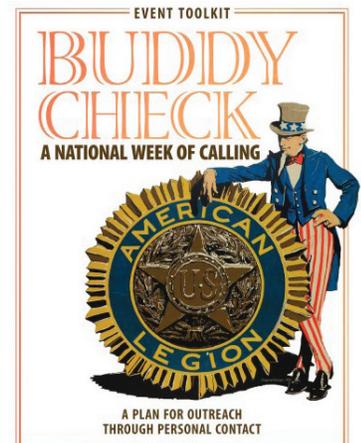
Countless veterans are stuck in their homes. They may be facing dire situations due to the storm. They may need

assistance with staying warm, getting food and water, or having a prescription delivered.

That is why I am making this urgent appeal to you to immediately launch Buddy Checks in your areas. As veterans, we cannot let our buddies down, especially in such a critical time.

Check in with veterans to see how your post can provide much-needed assistance to them during this challenging time. To assist Legionnaires, we have toolkits available for you to use. They were produced with the pandemic in mind. However, they can easily be adapted at this critical time. Review and download the kit at this link.

Join me in reaching out to veterans, as well as friends, neighbors, and relatives in your community. It's quite likely that these check-ins will save lives.



NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION May 8-9, 2019 Indianapolis, Indiana

Resolution No. 18: Buddy Check
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission
Submitted by: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, At its core, The American Legion is an organization by, for, and about veterans of our United States; and

WHEREAS, Serving those who serve is an honor and distinction not unique to The American Legion, but one Legionnaires should endeavor to serve as an example for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, Our most sacred responsibility is to care for our fellow men and women who served this nation with honor; and

WHEREAS, Legionnaires are naturally inclined, through demonstrated commitment to serve something greater than self, to extend hearts and hands to others; and

WHEREAS, Our duty is to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; and

WHEREAS, Only with servant leadership and direct contact can we uncover needs and priorities of our warriors and avert any crisis; and

WHEREAS, Legionnaires shall conduct veteran outreach as part of their daily routine; and

WHEREAS, Legionnaires at all levels join together at least twice per year to contact all members both active and expired with a health and welfare check to be known as "Buddy Check"; and

WHEREAS, "Buddy Check" is not a membership drive or attempt to solicit participation in, or donations for, American Legion programs, it is solely a health and welfare check or offer of assistance; and

WHEREAS, This resolution has the concurrence of the Media & Communications Commission and the Marketing Commission; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in Regular Meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 8-9, 2019, That the process of "Buddy Check" be made formal and executed Legion-wide concurrent with the weeks of The American Legion birthday and of Veterans Day; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the "Buddy Check" be promoted through national and department marketing, media and social media campaigns; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the "Buddy Check" weeks be the primary operational focus of every member, post, department and the National Headquarters; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That results of each "Buddy Check" week be established as a reportable item on the annual Consolidated Post Report.

<https://www.legion.org/publications/247460/buddy-check-event-toolkit>

Buddy Check Week Legislation

On Sept. 23, 2020, U.S. Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, introduced a National Buddy Check Week bill in the Senate, mirroring legislation introduced in May 2019 in the House. The American Legion Legislative Division sent action alerts to members urging they contact their congressional representatives to support the measures, and American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford delivered a video message to the membership urging them to promote the bipartisan legislation.



Post 24 Milton-Freewater A hero among us!



PDC, ANDY MILLAR
NECMAN

Our American Legion Auxiliary unit president, Lynda Dryden, had prepared an "Honor Quilt" to be presented to a longtime member from our post that had Korean War service.

We went to James Marvin's residence, also known as Jimmy Fox, a post-member for 32 continuous years and over 18 years before that of non-continuous service for the American Legion and other states. He hails from Post 24 Milton Freewater. I have had the honor of knowing him for at least 30 years.

After retirement from the Army

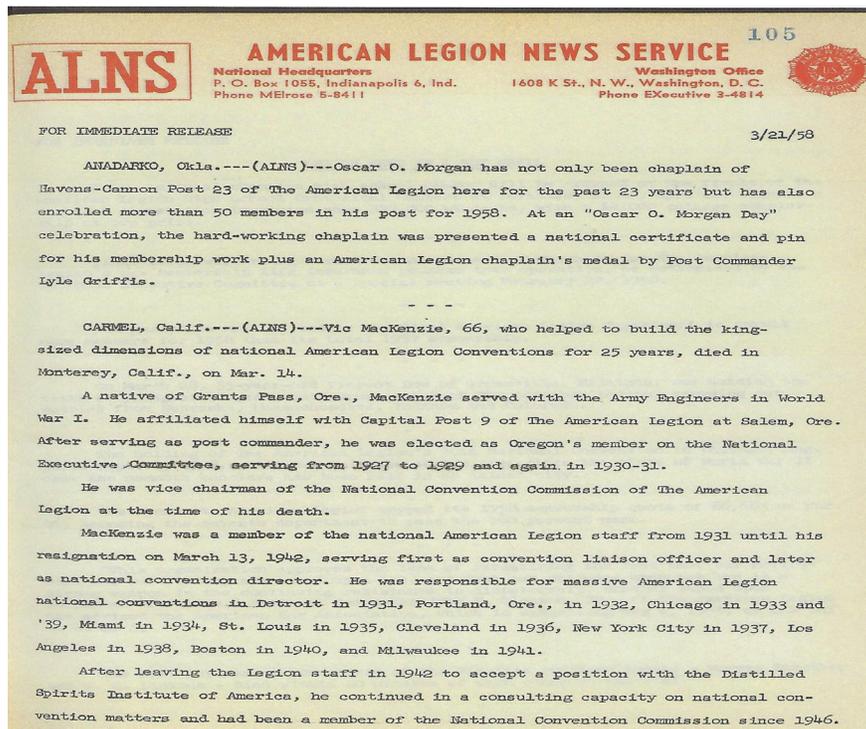
One of my favorite tasks is to honor veterans, especially American Legion veterans!

Our American Legion Auxiliary unit



with Korean war and Vietnam service, he began a career in the entertainment business as "Jimmy Fox and the Blue Notes," a jazz band of notable distinction in the Pacific Northwest. He also played in the backup band of many nationally known jazz artists. He attributes his success in the music industry to his "Mama," who made him start singing in the church choir in the primary grades!

We also presented the 92-year-old vet, National Vice Commander Rob Liebenow's challenge coin in addition to the "Honor Quilt"! He was thrilled with both!



From The Pacific Legion March 1921



Milton

The women's auxiliary of Neil Best post of The American Legion at Milton held the annual elec-

The executive committee gave an open meeting and housewarming in the clubrooms, February 15 for the Legion and other ex-servicemen.

In the near future, the post will stage a show at the local theatre, showing some motion pictures taken by the U.S. Signal Corps during the actual fighting in France.

Silverton

Delbert Reeves Post No. 7 of Silverton is making a rapid advancement as any post in the state. Silverton started with a membership of fifteen at the first of the year, the post has advanced its membership to over 70, and recruits are coming in steadily. This showing is due to the new officers and snappy executive committee of the post.

To begin with, they have obtained one of the most up-to-date and best-equipped lodge and club rooms in their city. The club has been equipped with two pool tables, one billiard table, card tables, piano, athletic paraphernalia, also a large bar (with a rail, which brings back memories of yore). The post-club rooms were initiated the opening night with a big banquet for all the members. The post's intentions for the following year, under the new management are to stage smokers, dances, and other amusements to promote Americanism and place The American Legion well to the front, as it should be.

Seaside

A Legion post is being perfected at Seaside by members of Clatsop's post of Astoria. This post by the sea expects to enroll quite a few of the ex-

servicemen in and around Seaside, membership of a least 100 members being anticipated.

Astoria

Dr. Ross H. Hoskins is now commander of Clatsop post as the result of the recent election of officers. Other chosen at that time were: Charles A. Murphey, vice commander; James A. Buchanan, adjutant.

Klamath Falls

New officers of the Klamath Falls post were installed at a recent meeting of that organization. New Officers are J.H. Carnahan, commander; Coleman O'Laughlin, vice commander.

PDC, GENE HELLICKSON
DEPT JUDGE ADVOCATE
tion of officers on January 31. A social committee will be appointed by the president to arrange for a number of events to be given during the coming year. At the close of the meeting, "mess call" was sounded by The American Legion bugler and the ladies were entertained by the post.

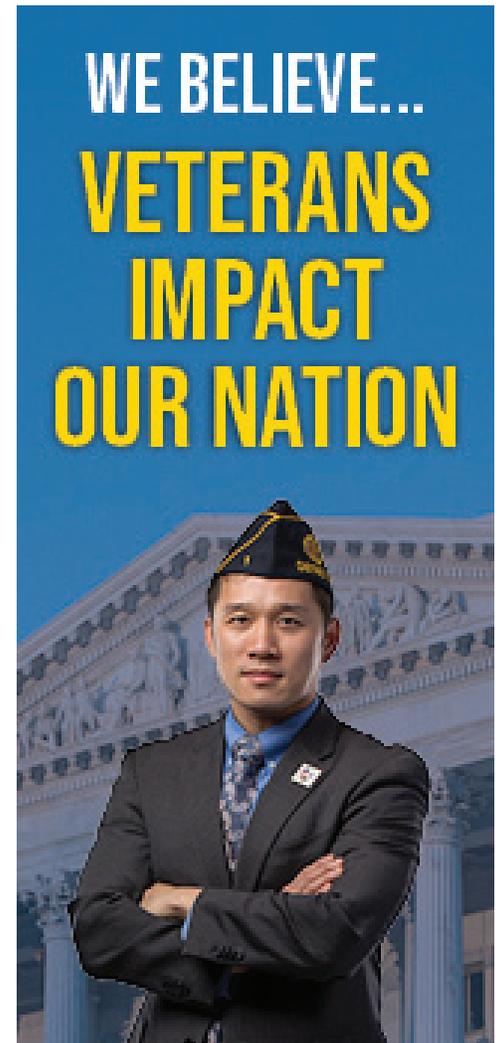
Gresham

At the post's annual meeting, the following officers for this year were elected: Floyd L. Mack, commander, succeeding C.G. Schneider; Ellsworth B. Raker, vice commander, succeeding Glenwood Miller.

The post has been working for more than a year to obtain club room facilities, but until recently had met with no success. The Pastime Club rooms were offered and were unanimously accepted by the Legion men.

Gresham post was organized in September 1919 and has steadily grown until it now has a membership of nearly 150, all of whom will be members of the club. The clubrooms will also be open for the use of all ex-servicemen. The post plans to conduct a short whirlwind campaign for new members.

Dr. H.H. Hughes, Harold J. Buzick, and Roy H. Gibbs are on the house committee.



Thanks Oratorical Volunteers

CORY BROCKMANN The Department **ORATORICAL CHAIR** Oratorical Committee offers sincere appreciation and gratitude to all volunteers who worked to conduct a successful 2021 department-level contest held on Saturday, February 20th. A list of the volunteers and their tasks is listed below.

In Lebanon, the committee also acknowledges Santiam 51 for hosting the department contest and providing sack lunches to contestants and their families, volunteers, and department leadership. Our grateful thanks to Santiam Post 51 First Vice-Commander Larry Williams and the Santiam Legion Family for being such gracious hosts. It takes teamwork to conduct a successful program, and the Oratorical Committee is extremely appreciative of everyone's efforts. A grateful thank you to everyone!

- Judge Bob Huff, White City 192,
White City
- Judge Judy Johnston, Dana King
#137, Portland
- Judge Gea Clausier, Willamette Falls
#5, Oregon City
- Judge Steven Frank, F & J Ravin
#134, Portland
- Judge Patty Louisiana, president,
Veterans Commemoration
Association, Albany
- Timer Gene Hellickson, Sisters #86,
Sisters
- Timer Greg Marvin, George Bell
#49, Moro
- Tabulator Debra Jacobson,
Pioneer #149, Salem
- Tabulator John Lee, Travis
Moothart #184, Brownsville
- Tabulator Yvette Morse-
Warrington,
Pioneer #149, Salem



- Escort-female Yvette Morse-
Warrington,
Pioneer #149, Salem
- Escort-female Catherine
Brockmann,
Aloha Unit 104
- Escort-female Brooke Sayles,
volunteer/support,
F & J Ravin #134
- Coordinator Debra Jacobson,
Pioneer #149, Salem
- Escort/Monitor John Lee,
Travis Moothart #184, Brownsville
Santiam Post 51 First Vice-
Commander Larry Williams



Answer:

D. Monaco

Monte Carlo hosted the 1921 event. One hundred women from five countries participated in ten track and field events. This event was put on because women were not allowed to participate in track and field events in the upcoming 1924 Olympics.

The impact of an American Legion Service Officer



By Henry Howard

FEB 18, 2021

After two deployments to Iraq, Army veteran Shawn Meyer struggled with integrating back into civilian life. First, it was gambling. Then his addiction turned to drinking.

“I didn’t adjust well,” recalled Meyer, who was a Bradley mechanic with 1st Armored Division 26 out of Baumholder, Germany. “I battled addiction a lot. I went to drinking heavily to just forget about everything. And I would wake up and I would drink, and I would go to sleep, and I would drink. And I wouldn’t remember anything. So, I felt good because I didn’t remember anything. I had nothing on my mind. I was not dealing with anything that had happened or that I’d seen.”

He says he “screwed up my life for a good 10 years,” before getting sober Sept. 29, 2013. But then the horrors started over again.

“I started remembering and the depression, the panic, the anxiety, my previous life, it all came back to me

Continued on page 22

The impact of an American Legion Service Officer

Continued from page 21

and I had no vice to go to,” said Meyer, who lives in Brandon, S.D.

Even though he was skeptical of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on a previous experience, he put his trust in Courtney VanZanten, the service officer for The American Legion Department of South Dakota.

“I need help,” he told her.

As an accredited service officer through The American Legion, VanZanten is trained to help veterans like Meyer. Some veterans need to enroll in the VA. Others need assistance with complicated benefits claims. There are a myriad of tasks service officers perform for free for any veteran.

VanZanten helped Meyer get enrolled in VA, a process which means that in the coming months he will obtain benefits he previously did not receive. For his PTSD, anxiety and depression related to his service, his disability rating will be 70 percent.

“She said she could help me,” recalled Meyer. “She came and did all the paperwork right there at my convenience. I can’t go too many places; I don’t feel safe. So, she came right to my house and we did the paperwork, and she took care of everything for me. The award is nice, but I learned a long time ago money won’t buy you happiness. Courtney gives me hope.”

VanZanten, an Air Force veteran,

has been a service officer for about five years. Like all American Legion service officers, her training and support are funded by The American Legion’s Veterans & Children Foundation (V&CF).

The foundation provides critical training for service officers so they can remain updated on different procedures, benefits and more so they can assist veterans.

“It’s world-class training,” she said. “We get up-to-date training on court law coming through. Great examples of the latest cases that could make an impact on our veterans. When Blue Water Navy rolled through, we were right on top of getting our veterans into the VA. When hearing loss claims were opened up to National Guardsmen and Reserve, we were on top of it.”

VanZanten is appreciative of the support from those who support her work through donations to V&CF. (To make a contribution, [please visit this page.](#))

It’s crucial to have information roll down to us through the training,” she explained. “And being told how to present cases in the best way possible, so when it does get into the regional offices in the VA, or if you do have a case that makes it up to the BVA, you’re presenting the best case possible for your veteran. That’s the kind of training that we’re provided. That’s the advantage of going through an

American Legion service officer.”

Rodney Smith knows the importance of VanZanten’s work.

Smith, a Brown Water Navy vet from the Vietnam War, had a memorable encounter the first time he visited VA in 1988.

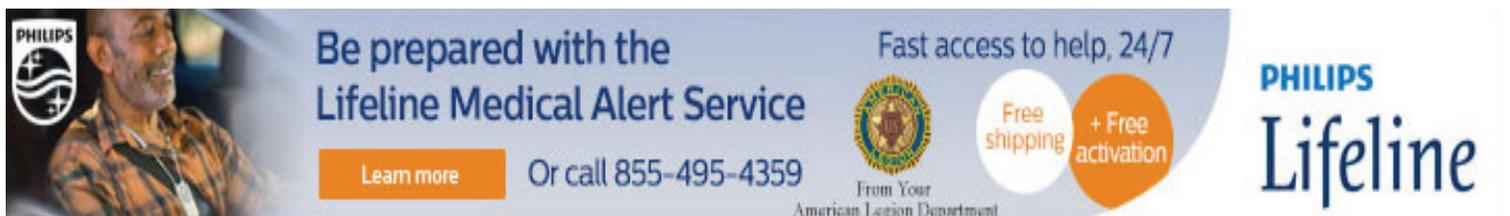
“I went down to the VA and had a horrible experience,” he recalled. “And to follow up, they sent me back to a doctor and I ended up in the women’s clinic to see a gynecologist that they were contracting with. I said I’d never, ever be back.”

At the urging of his uncle, Smith returned to VA about 20 years later and had a better experience. But it wasn’t until he connected with VanZanten that he realized all his benefits.

“I got my glasses through them and basically I was pretty much done,” he said. “I’d go in occasionally for the annual physical. That was about it. When Courtney became our Legion veteran service officer, it was just the difference between night and day. She’d fill out the papers, she knew what questions to ask. She worked very hard on my behalf.”

With her help Smith, who is a diabetic, now get his insulin from VA. He’s also had two surgeries and acupuncture to cure a shoulder blade that bothered him for 20 years. And that’s not all.

Continued on page 23



PHILIPS
Be prepared with the
Lifeline Medical Alert Service
Fast access to help, 24/7
Free shipping + Free activation
Learn more Or call 855-495-4359
From Your American Legion Department
PHILIPS Lifeline

The impact of an American Legion Service Officer

Continued from page 22

“They also found an aneurysm and part of that was with Courtney’s pushing,” he said. “I said I wasn’t getting enough air, I was breathless. She kept telling me that I need to push it. I need to get back into VA and I need to follow up on this. Without her pushing, I never would’ve done that. They found an enlarged aorta coming out my heart and they called it an aneurysm, which scared the hell out of me at first.”

The aneurysm seems to be under control now. If an August check doesn’t reveal any changes, Smith should be in the clear.

With VanZanten’s assistance, Smith’s disability rating has increased from 10 percent to 70 percent.

“It’s about the most important things in the VA system, the Legion system,” he said. “Without the help of Courtney and other service officers around the state and around the country, it’d just be a mess. I was an educator for 22 years and I hate paperwork. Having someone who knows the system and knows which paperwork I should have, it’s just been unbelievable.

“Courtney makes it easy because she knows what questions to ask and she does it in a conversational tone, manner and draws things out that I wasn’t sure I’d ever say to another human.”

Serving veterans like Smith and Meyer fulfill VanZanten, who is commander of American Legion Post 136 in Chester, S.D.

“It’s pretty incredible,” she said. “This is an incredibly rewarding po-

sition. I care deeply about all of my veterans. My work with the Legion is very important to me. To know that it has such a resounding impact, not only on my veterans, but on their lives, their spouse’s lives, their family’s lives, and therefore the lives of those in their communities, it’s pretty awesome.”

The American Legion to State Veterans Homes: ‘Obey the Law, Cooperate with VA’

INDIANAPOLIS, February 25, 2021

Alarmed by a report that 35 state veterans homes across the country have not shared coronavirus data with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the head of the nation’s largest veterans organization called on the facilities to “obey the law.”

“A federal law requires VA to post information about coronavirus cases and deaths that occur at state-run veteran homes,” National Commander of The American Legion James W. “Bill” Oxford explained. “Stars & Stripes reported that 35 of 158 state veterans homes have not provided the data that VA requires. This is completely unacceptable. In June, I spoke about the tragic deaths that occurred at the state home in Holyoke, Massachusetts due to the comingling of coronavirus patients with asymptomatic residents and personal protective equipment shortages. VA doesn’t run state homes but the department plays an important oversight role. In order to assist these facilities and prevent similar tragedies, these state facilities must be transparent and share the data with VA and the public. Veterans and their loved ones need assurances that their homes have the resources that are



needed and are following appropriate protocols to keep all residents safe.”

Oxford added that 123 state veterans homes are reporting the information to VA but that it is not good enough. “A veteran is a veteran no matter where he or she lives,” he said. “The American Legion believes every facility that claims to serve veterans must be top-notch. We expect full compliance with the law.”

About The American Legion

The American Legion is the largest U.S. veterans organization with nearly 2 million members in more than 12,000 posts across the nation and in foreign countries. Chartered by Congress in 1919, The American Legion is dedicated to the motto of “Veterans Strengthening America.” Legionnaires accomplish this through the organization’s four founding pillars of mentoring youth and sponsoring wholesome community programs, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security and continued devotion to servicemembers and veterans.

###

Media contact: John Raughter, jraughter@legion.org, (317) 630-1350

COMMUNICATION & LEADERSHIP

continued from page 8

PDC, MIKE JONES
A & A CHAIR

must be an enthusiastic and motivational speaker, including good motivational articles. They must be able to think on their feet and make decisions quickly and decisively based on extensive Legion knowledge and experience. And, above all, you must enjoy working with all kinds of people.

If this sounds like you, let others know. Ask for committee assignments to help prepare you. Look for a mentor, hopefully, someone with plenty of knowledge and experience. A PDC might fit the bill if they are nearby or easily reached by phone to help you along the way. But, any knowledgeable Legionnaire with whom you share mutual respect and similar interests works.

If this doesn't sound like you, or you are not interested in spending that kind of time or dedication, there are still many exciting things to do in the American Legion you might enjoy.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Commander's Message



STEVE ADAMS
DEPT. COMMANDER

Again, it has come to my attention that we are not training (Mentoring) future leaders in our Posts, Districts, and Department level Commissions and Committees. Consequently, we have a hard time getting people into these positions that know what their responsibilities are. This is unfair to the people that are asked to fill these position and positions.

Suppose you are a Post Officer, District Officer, Department Officer, Commission Chairman, or Committee Chairman. In that case, it is your obligation to seek people out to mentor and make sure they have an excellent working knowledge of the position and what is expected of them. If we do not encourage potential future

leaders, we are doing an injustice to our organization and are putting the success of our Dept. in jeopardy.

Current Officers and Chairman also need to follow the rules and submit their reports on time so people above them can do their job. Read the description of your position and do what is needed to be successful. None of us are getting any younger, and we need to continue the American Legion Department of Oregon's success.





A Word About Legionnaire Insurance Trust

Over Five Decades of Partnership for a Healthy America

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) was formed in 1966 with two primary goals: to provide Legion families with low-cost insurance protection, and to provide a source of revenue to participating Legion Departments.

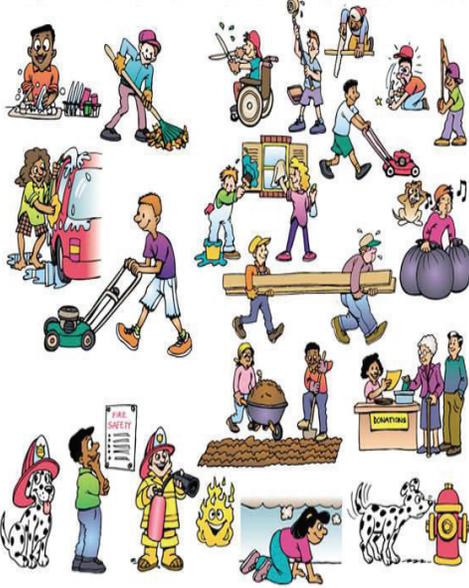
The Trust has been so successful in its over fifty years that today over 500,000 Legionnaires in 50 participating Departments are enrolled in this unique program.

Also, in the same period of time, almost \$1 billion dollars in claim benefits have been paid to Legionnaires and their families through the LIT; and over \$100 million in allocations have been paid to participating Legion Departments. The first Trust insurance plan to be offered was the Hospital Income Protection plan, a program designed to pay fixed dollar amounts for periods of hospital confinement. Over the years, other insurance coverage offered included: Cancer, Accidental Death, Critical Illness, Disability Income, Emergency Assistance, Long Term Care, Medicare Supplement, Discount Cards, Dental, Whole Life, Auto, Homeowners, Identity Theft, and Home Health Care.

Since its creation, AGIA has worked closely with the Trust to develop insurance programs especially designed for Department members and their families. We are proud to serve you through the Trust and invite your inquiries and suggestions on any aspect of our activities.

More Than **50** Years Of Service To The Legion Family

COMMUNITY SERVICE



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.

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 Am-

ericanism month and the Four Chaplains Sunday (February 7) remembrance. March is Community Service month as well as



PNC,PDC, CHARLIE SCHMIDT
m o n t h PR CHAIR

The American Legion’s 102nd birthday (March 15) and National Vietnam War Veterans Day (March 29).

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!”



Happy 102nd Birthday
American Legion
March 15th



MARCH 29TH



Department Blood Drive



Left: Blood Mobile taking up the entire parking lot. Right: Jeanne Nave Red Cross manager and Betty-Fish Ferguson and Keizer Post 17 Acting Commander Douglas Kroll



Our first Department Blood Drive was a huge success thanks to Cindy Hillyard, our Auxiliary Office Staff, for coordinating it. The appointment sheets were full, and it ran all day long. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers who worked the registration desk freeing up the Red Cross staff to do their work. If you would like to participate, we will have more of these in the future.



National Vice Commander Rob Liebenow Volunteering to give blood. Betty-Fish Ferguson Pioneer Post 149 and Keizer Post 17 Acting Commander Douglas Kroll staffing the registration table

American Legion Wilsonville

Sponsor Group

Thursday, February 25, 2021

Date of Drive

17 Total Number of Donors	6 First Time Donors
14 Units Collected	42 Potential Number of Lives Saved

When you made the decision to host a blood drive, you helped change lives.



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:

- Global War on Terror
- Gulf War
- Panama
- Lebanon/Grenada
- Vietnam
- Korea
- WWII
- Other Conflicts
- U.S. Army
- U.S. Navy
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Marines
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Merchant Marines (WWII only)

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____ Name of Recruiter _____

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

ALA 08/2019

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.

ALA 12/2013

DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

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



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



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):

- Global War on Terror
- Gulf War
- Panama
- Lebanon/Grenada
- Vietnam
- Korea
- WWII
- Other Conflicts

Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:

- Male Spouse
- Grandmother
- Daughter
- Female Spouse
- Sister
- Granddaughter
- Mother
- Self

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 #