

# The second annual 100 Miles for Hope that National Commander Bill Oxford launched recently

See Page 3



As we recover from the past year of the shutdowns and forced isolations, we face serious situations that we need to address. As restrictions are relaxed and we can return to in-person meetings and social gatherings, we all have to take care of business.

We need to get back to contacting current and expired members and letting them know we are back and are still there to help our veterans and their families support our communities. We also need to encourage members to step up and help recover from the past year.

It is the time of year that elections occur at the Post, District and Department. One of their many responsibilities is to mentor the person coming up after them as these officers are elected. If you see members with leadership skills, we need to encourage and train them to step up and take responsible positions. This will help continue the goals of the Post and the continuation of their programs.

When the Legion formed over 100 years ago, they were fighting the results of a pandemic called the Spanish Flu. In the Department of Oregon,

membership fell by 9000 from 1920 to 1923. What these remaining members did was to regroup and recover and push ahead



and turn a tragedy Steve Adams into a success. We Dept. Commander all can take a lesson from these past members and do

what we as veterans do. *Adapt and Overcome* 

# Children & Youth



LARRY WITTMAYER
DEPT 2ND-VICE COMMANDER
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

The latest report puts us at #44 with 81/43%. We have the capability to do better. and I am sure we will GET 'ER DONE. Our renewals, new gains, and PUFL's as of

2/26 put us at 12,961, and we were at 13.838 last year at this time.

IF YOUR POST IS **HOLDING** MONEY FOR MEMBERSHIP, SEND IN YOUR RENEWALS **NOW**.

Our Department Hall of Fame is as follows: (as of 2/26)

75%-80% - We had 20 Posts down from 39 last month.

80%-90%
District 1
Post 2,6,12,42,56,104,168
District 2
Post 33,67

District 3
PoSt 32,51,59,83,100,116
District 4
Post 8,70,84
District 5
Post 4,19,25,29
District 6
Post 23,43,72,97,95,130,157
District 8
Post 180
District 9
Post 34,36,62,123,152
District 10
Post 96

90%-100% District 1 Post 90 District 2 Post 21,58,75,89,173 Districts 3 Post 97 District 4 Post 129 District 5 Post 44,45,49,86 District 6 Post 41 District 7 Post 98 District 9 Post 26,121

District 10 Post 63,67,77 100%+ Post 50 - 127

Post 50 - 127.27% Post 106 - 118.00% Post 76 - 115.22% Post 137 - 115.00% Post 61 - 110.45% Post 28 - 102.33% Post 192 - 101.41% Post 55 - 100.00% Post 79 - 100.00%

### Top Districts

Dist. 10 - 91.55%
Dist. 4 - 85.78%
Dist 5 - 85.00%
Dist, 9 - 84.07%
Dist. 1 - 81.71%
Dist 6 - 80.38%
Dist 2 - 79.09%
Dist 3 - 77.46%
Dist 8 - 77.32%
Dist. 7 - 70.19%

This Department has the ability and resources to be at the top. We have the personpower and the initiative to excel.

Let's show the Western Region and National who they are dealing with, *GO GET'M* 

# 100 Miles Cover Story

DAN WHEELER I wanted to alert
NATIONAL ADJUTANT you to the second
annual 100 Miles

for Hope that National Commander Bill Oxford launched recently. Registration is open now and it officially kicks off April 1.

As you know, we had a very successful debut in 2020 of the campaign that raised around \$150,000 for the Veterans & Children Foundation. This year, Commander Oxford has established goals to double the number of participants (from 5,000 to 10,000) and donations (to \$300,000) to the V&CE.

And that's where we need your help.

National has created a very informative 100 Miles for Hope web page with all the details our members need to register, participate and support the program and the V&CF. We have also developed a sample press release (download release here) that departments can adapt and distribute to their posts via newsletters, website, Facebook page, etc.

Also, worth noting is this is not just an American Legion event. It is for everyone. That's why we also created a sample letter (download sample letter here) that departments, posts and others can use to promote 100 Miles events in their communities.

Last year we were inspired by posts that engaged their communities. In California, two members of a Junior Shooting Sports team participated to raise money for the team. In North Dakota, a high school cross-country team got involved.

Now that the pandemic is easing, we have more opportunities to engage with our communities.

There are countless community organizations, youth groups, churches and others that would be ideal to welcome to a 100 Miles campaign. Here are some examples:

- Veterans service organizations: Team Red White and Blue, Student Veterans of America, The Mission Continues, Team Rubicon and others.
- Youth and family groups: Boy Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, Special Olympics, the YMCA and YWCA, school sports teams, Junior Shooting Sports participants, American Legion Baseball teams, etc.
- Nonprofits specializing in health: The American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, Alzheimer's Association, etc.

Check out all the details on how to register, where to get the commemorative gear and more.

Encourage your districts, posts and members to join and support this important initiative. We'd love to hear the successes throughout your departments. And, most of all, we appreciate your unrelenting support for the V&CF which funds, among other things, the vital work that department service officers conduct for our veterans.

If you have questions, please refer to https://www.legion.org/100miles/FAQ. If your answer is not found there, please check with Henry Howard (hhoward@legion.org).

Saturday,
February
27, I was
at Department with
the Permanent Finance
Commission
putting together the
Proposed



2021-2022 PDC, Bob Huff
Depart - Department Finance Officer
ment Budget. The Proposed 20212022 Budget will be presented and
discussed with the Department Executive Committee (DEC) at our Spring
DEC Meeting held at La Pine Post 45
on Sunday, April 11. After those discussions, the Proposed Budget will be
published in the Oregon Legionnaire
per our Constitution and By-Laws
and presented to the Delegates at our
Department Convention in June 2021
at Seven Feathers for discussion and
adoption.

Continued on page 4

## Interesting things to make



you say
Hmmm....

The current American flag

was designed by a high school student

It started as a school project for Bob Heft's junior-year history class, and it only earned a B- in 1958. His design had 50 stars even though Alaska and Hawaii weren't states yet. Heft figured the two would earn statehood soon and showed the government his design. After President Dwight D. Eisenhower called to say his design was approved, Heft's teacher changed his grade to an A.

Continued from page 3

Yes, it is PDC, Bob Huff tax season. DEPARTMENT FINANCE OFFICER 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 remember, 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 is required to file a 990, 990EZ, or 990-n each year; there are no exceptions.

In this April issue, 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 Department shall, at least forty-five (45) days before the opening of the annual Department Convention, elect their delegates and alternates and certify them

Hello Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Riders,

I hope all of our members are as excited as I am about getting our Posts up and running again. I know that some of our Posts have struggled to survive through COVID. I hope that we can all join together to support those Posts that need a hand up.

I want to send out a big "Thank You" to all of our Department, District, and Post Membership Teams that volunteered in support of membership during one of the most challenging years we have ever had to negotiate through. You are the best!

And in support of the membership,

to the Department Adjutant. registration fee for all authorized delegates, alternates, and delegates-atlarge, as the Department Executive Committee shall determine it, 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.

if your Post Membership Team is active in contacting past due members, you will see many members coming back one by one as the year goes on because they want to support the great things that the American Legion does for veterans and our communities. If your membership team has also been working on the mylegion. org Veterans contact lists, they will also bring in new members. There are many Veterans around us that are in need of a Service Officer or just a place where they can be around other Veterans just like us. So calling these Vet's is the formula for making the goal in the future, so let's get started, today Legionnaires! If you haven't already.

For those Districts and Posts that



LOU NEUBECKER

DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER

WOW, where has this year gone, with all of us being confined to our houses? It seems like yesterday that we were conducting elec-

tions for the District and your Post.

We held the 1st District face-toface meeting for this year in Seaside on March 13th, and we had a GREAT turnout. We had 11 of our 15 Posts in attendance.

We also held a mini-round up with all candidates running for Department Office giving a mini-campaign speech. Running for Commander is our own Don Weber from Aloha Post 104; 1st Vice-Commander is Larry Wittmayer, from Wilsonville Post 065; 2nd Vice-Commander is our own Cory Brockmann from Aloha

Continued on page 5

are still struggling with membership and need direction in general on what you can do to bring your membership team

Select and Addison

around, I PDC, Tom Harris want you Immediate Past Commander to know

that you need to learn and utilize mylegion.org, to build membership and confidence in your team, allowing you to move forward and achieve your goals;)

A few years back, a statistic came out continued on page 5

# Calendar of Events

May Poppies, Armed Forces,
Blue Star Solute, TAL Baseball
American Education Week

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)

June Membership Drive
Summer Youth Programs

14 Flag Day TBD Boy State TBD Girls State

22-26 Dept Convention

July Community Celebration

04 Independence Day

20-25 Jr Shooting Sports

23-31 Boys Nation

28-30 Service Office School

29-31 Membership Wookshop

District 9

Dis-

Meet-

held it's first

ing on March

6th, 2021, at

10 am. At-

tendance was

good, but not

virtual

trict

34 DTH

all Posts at-PDC, Kevin Owens tended. The District 9 Commander main focus was what we "can do" as a District to achieve our numerical goal in membership. The expired lists were sent from the years 2018-2020 and 114/99 Continued from page 4 from Na- PDC, Tom HARRIS

t i o n a l IMMEDIATE PAST COMMANDER about Department Districts and Posts not signing in to Mylegion.org to process membership, etc., and surprisingly enough, there are still Districts and Posts in Oregon that have not signed in this year? That may be due to a lack of internet access...or is it?

We know that there are some Legion Posts out there that do not have internet access to work with My Legion online. It might pay off to check and see if any of them are now within a service area! Let's put this on our list of things to do and see if we can get all of our Oregon Posts online and communicate better in 2021.

God bless you all of our Veterans and their families, and let's have a great year... Starting today!

"Believe and Achieve"

For God and Country



as well. Posts in our District are still struggling with COVID-19, with both two counties at extreme risk.

We welcome the challenge to continue doing the great works of the American Legion. As the District Commander, I am proud of the District members for what they do each day. Having strong Posts with active members good programs is the key to our success now and into the future.

My belief is we can reach goals with the effort of all, and I will be the first person to answer the call of any Post Continued from page 4

LOU NEUBECKER Post 104. We DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER will be holding a Convention at SEVEN FEATHERS Casino in Canyonville off of Interstate 5 exit 99, June 22nd through 26th.

Our next District Meeting will be on May 8th at Aloha Post 104, lunch starting at 11:15 until 12:15; our Caucus meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. We will be electing our District Commander and Vice-Commander for the 2021-2022 membership year. Susan and I would like to announce our candidacy at this time. I've talked to our appointed position, and they said that they would remain in place.

Update on Post 119. They are up and running with assistance from PDC Tom Harris, getting the building fixed and cleaned up, and Holding monthly meetings.

Semper Fi

American
Legion
Child
Welfare
Foundation
Week



in need of help. Communication is always the key, and that is something we all do on a regular basis. To be the best, you have to have the best, and in District 9, we have the best. I leave you with this quote.

You do what you can for as long

as you can, and when you finally can't, you do the next best thing. "You back up, but you don't give up." Chuck Yeager.



# **Editors Notes**

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

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

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

Need to Know Dates

June Convention

July Community Celebrtions, Youth Programs





#### **Back Row L-R**

Steve Hopman, Ron Cauble (Veteran),

#### Front Row L-R

Gery Weber, Dorothy Hoffman, Duane Freauff (Veteran), Judy Ziegelmayer, Connie Tumaniswilli, Bea Morales, Laurel Brown

#### **Not Pictured:**

Veterans: Fred Bagg and Terry Brown



TERRY BROWN DISTRICT 7 COMMANDER

Our photo is of volunteers, including Legion Veterans of Carl Douglas Post 74 at the St Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Food Pantry. Through the 2020 Pandemwildfires,

and recently the ice storm, they have been volunteering to supply needed food and personal care products to those in need. Last year St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry distributed over 78,790 lbs. of food to 1,696 families

Continued on page 7

# Deadline

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

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TERRY BROWN
DISTRICT 7 COMMANDER

(4,783 individuals). The volunteers do-

nated 1,316 hours and traveled 2,029 miles in support of SVdP.

On February 17th, District 7, Carl Douglas Post 74, met at Department and conducted a revitalization for District 7. They successfully transferred members from the 114 and D99 lists into Posts 30, 74, and 98, including moving members into Post 77 and 180. In addition, Post 134 was supplied with a list of members to transfer into their Post. All-in-all, it was a successful day. Thank you to James Moriarty, Doug Jamieson, and District 7 Commander Terry Brown for their work towards 2021 District membership goals.

District 7 is still in virtual lockdown due to COVID-19. However, we are slowly moving towards opening up. Of the seven posts in District 7, only 3 (Gresham 30, F&J Raving 134, and



The 1920 Olympics, held in Antwerp, Belgium, opened on April 20. During these games, long distance running events were dominated by athletes from what country?

- A. Russia
- B. USA
- C. Finland
- D. Germany

Carl Douglas 74 continue to hold post meetings (virtual and in-person).

Post 134 continues to work towards the completion of remodeling their Post. Hopefully, they will be able to open for the public by summer. They have recently acquired sponsorship of a baseball team and are looking to sponsor a Scout troop. Thank you to F&J Ravin post 134 members who assisted with the Department Oratorical contest. It was a great success.

At the end of January, a letter was sent to all Corbett 108 members from District 7 recommending the Post fill the Commander's position as soon as possible. If the Post could not fill the vacancy, what alternatives were available to the Post, including merging with an adjacent District or turning in the post charter to Department. As of this date, Corbett Post 108 is still in the process of soliciting nominations to fill the Post Commander's position. I will present an update at the DEC.







Lifeline

## Children and Youth

In a few weeks, it is The American Legion's "April is... Children & Youth Month." In 1938 April was for-



mally designated

Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis. Posts are encouraged to show their communities that The American Legion is committed to children by sponsoring an event in a safe manner that adheres to their local state and health guidelines. Legion Family members are urged to review their local and state legislation pertaining to children and youth. Write your lawmakers to determine what action is being taken on specific children's issues within your community and state. The American Legion is committed to advocating for children and their futures. For more about Children & Youth Month, please visit April is... Children & Youth Month.



# **Convention Preparartion**

With the American Legion Department of Oregon Convention fast approaching, what do we need to do to prepare for this annual business meeting for the Department of Oregon?

Per the Department Constitution, Article V, Section 4: "Not less than sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Department Convention, the Department Adjutant shall issue to each Post a certificate showing the number of delegates and alternates to which that Post is entitled at that date under this Constitution. The Post Adjutant of each Post shall certify the name of the delegates and alternates elected by the Post by endorsement thereon and shall mail the certificate to the Department Adjutant not less than forty (40) days prior to the Department Convention."

The forms required for this are on the Department of Oregon website, <u>under the Resources tab</u>, <u>then the Forms and Publications tab</u>.

The process for determining the delegates is explained in the Department Constitution By-Laws, Article V, Section 1:

"The several <u>Posts</u> of the Department shall, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the opening of the annual Department Convention, elect their delegates and alternates and certify them to the Department Adjutant."

Other tasks to complete during this process include the election of Post officers. In accordance with the Department Constitution By-Laws Article II, Section 2: "Each Post shall have the following Post officers, to be selected in any manner prescribed by the Post Constitution and By-Laws: a Post Commander, one or more Post Vice Commanders, a Post Adjutant, a Post Finance Officer, a Post Chaplain, a Post Service Officer and such other officers that may be prescribed in the National American Legion Post Officer's Guide."

These officers are then identified to Department using the Post Officer's Certification form available on the Department website. While we're doing this, we should fill out the Certification of Eligibility of Post Officers.

Now is an excellent time to submit your Post for any awards; these are also available on the Department website and must be submitted no later than June 1st. It is essential that your Post members be recognized for their valuable work on The American Legion programs within their community, so please submit your Post for awards.

The District also has some tasks to complete. In accordance with the Department Constitution By-Laws Article I, Section 2:

"Each District shall be organized and shall select a District Commander, one or more District Vice Commanders, a District Adjutant, and such other elective or appointive officers as the District may determine at a meeting to be held following the spring Department Executive Committee meeting and the results of said meeting to be received at a Department Headquarters no later than 20 days prior to the opening of the Department Convention ..."

Further, according to this same section: This annual meeting shall be

composed of Delegates, Alternates, and Delegates-at-Large to the Department Convention who are members



of a Post in the RICHARD RAMEY District ..." And, CONVENTION MEMBER "Posts will vote at convention delegate strength ..."

Note that this section also specifies that "A quorum shall exist at the annual meeting when a majority of the Posts in the District are represented at the meeting."

AND, per Constitution, Article V, Section 7: "With the exception of the Commander, all Department Officers, the Chairman of all Standing Commissions and Standing Committees shall, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Department Convention, submit to the Department Adjutant a written report covering the activities of their respective offices and Commissions; and it shall be the duty of the Department Adjutant to furnish a copy of such report to each delegate at the time of his/her registration at the Department Convention."

As you can see, we have just a FEW things to do before we attend our Department Annual Meeting, known as Department Convention. And they are essential! We need to recognize the excellent work our members are doing by submitting for awards. We need to ensure our officers are appropriately documented to be installed for the coming year. And we need to ensure our delegates are documented properly to represent our interests on matters to be legislated at the Annual Meeting of our Department.

# Law Enforcement Junior Shooting

# Career Camp



JOHN LEE
LAW ENFORCEMENT
CAREER CAMP

The Law Enforcement Career Camp committee has been actively meeting. We met in person at Headquarters in Wilsonville on Febuary 4th, and will be meeting monthly. Sev-

eral options were looked at to have the Camp in person. However, none of the options were viable. After some discussion, we have decided to have the Camp this year virtually, and it was not an easy decision.

The Camp will be for four days, running 2 1/2 hours in the morning and another 2 1/2 hours afternoon. The date will be August 2nd to the 5th. Even though there will be no food or housing cost, there will be other expenses. The Camp will have a fee of \$100.00 with 50.00 dollars recommended from the student. We will be sending a T-shirt, cap, water bottle, and an OSP lanyard sent to all registered students.

A flyer and Application will be on the Department of Oregon WEP page. Further information will be sent to all district commanders and adjutants in the coming months. Contact Department or John Lee for any questions.



Well, the first round is complete, and this is what we use for our Department Tournament. With everything going on, we had a meager turnout. But I would like to thank them for their perseverance during these trying times. The ranking for the Department of Oregon Junior Shooting Competition for 2020-2012 is as follows:

1st Place, Dante Leonard, of Redmond 2nd Place, Robert Bailey, of Redmond 3rd Place, Henry GiomiBrown, of Eagle Dan Evers
Point 4th Place, No- Junior Shooting
lan Gorman, of Red- Chairman
mond

5th Place, Franklin Giomi-Brown, of Eagle Point.

The top 3 will receive nicely engraved medals, and all will receive a certificate of participation.

I want to thank all who participated in this year's program and all the people who helped Raoul Salem with his diligence and hard work every year.

TRUE COMPASS DESIGNS





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

### TRUE COMPASS DESIGNS

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Oregon Legislature has now been in full swing. One week of meetings was lost due to the ice storm, which left the Capital build-

JOHN LEE ing without power or in-LEGISLATIVE ternet. Both the senate and house Veteran and Emergency Preparedness/Management committees have been meeting twice weekly.

House bill 2141 is relating to the Veteran Education Bridge Grant. The program has worked well, and ODVA wanted to extend the program. The house committee felt this was a great program and should not have an end date. They amended the bill to remove the end date, and it was passed in committee unanimously. It is now referred to the Way and Means committee.

House bill 2700 modifies criteria for erecting roadside memorial signs for

WE BELIEVE...
VETERANS IMPACTOUR NATION

1919

2019

Legion.org/WeBelieve

deceased veterans formerly prisoners of war or unaccounted for. This bill applies to 7 or 8 individuals. The House committee has passed it.

Senate bill 319 Dedicates a portion of State Capitol State Park to Vietnam War memorial. They had a public hearing on February 9 with a work session on March 2. There was a lot of support by the committee members. The vote was 3 to 1. Senator Linthicum voted against the bill. His vote is in protest of the Capitol building being closed to the public and votes Nay on all Bills. Park and Recreation will be looking at the request to maintain the memorial on March 20. It appears that there will be no pushback for them.

Senate bill 306 Directs Department of Veterans' Affairs to study and make recommendations for policy proposals for the taxing of military pensions. This bill had public hearings on February 4th and 18th. A work session was held on February 23. It was voted to refer to Finance and Revenue without recommendation. The vote was 3 to 1, with Senator Linthicam voting Nay in protest to the Capitol building being closed to the public. On March 4, it was referred o Finance and Revenue.



Senate bill 378 has its public hearingwith several

testimonies. This bill is related to veteran's employment preferences. There was a couple of written testimonies against this bill; however, the strongest testimony was oral testimony. ODVA also spoke to this bill. They currently do not have an office to take complaints or non-compliance. They are looking at how much funding is required and setting up an office should this bill pass. The senate Veteran and Emergency Management committee has shown considerable support for SB 378. The bill was SB 332 in the 2019 session and passed the senate committee but fail due to the shortened session.

Senate Bill 790, which will name U.S. Highway 30 in Oregon as the Oregon Veterans Memorial Highway, was introduced on March 3 and referred to the Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness committee.

I will continue to update as much as possible to the changing legislative landscape in the next Legionnaire.

# Are you moving?

#### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM**

Please Update My Address in mylegion.org

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

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

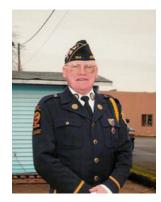
Effective Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_PhoneNumber:\_\_\_\_\_

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

Attn: Adjutant P.O. Box 1730

Wilsonville, OR 97070-1730

Email Address:



RICK DOMINGUEZ
PR COMMITTEE

Hello Comrades,

My name is
Rick Dominguez, Public Relations
Committee
member. Last
November

2020, in The Oregon Le-

gionnaire, I talked about starting an American Legion Amateur Ham Radio Club for Posts in Oregon. Most American Legion Posts should have a Crisis Response Team capable of rapidly responding to developing situations. We called it a QRF (Quick Reaction Force) in the military.

Emergency Communications and Public Service is one reason Amateur Radio continues to enjoy its privileged position on the airwaves is the legendary ability to organize and respond to disasters and emergencies. Because ham radio doesn't depend on extensive support systems, ham stations are likely to operate while the public communications networks are recovering from a hurricane or earthquake.

Self-organized teams train to respond quickly and provide communications wherever it's needed. It is not necessary to have a big emergency to pitch in. Radio operators often work closely with other citizen volunteer teams. Many are also certified as emergency response workers with a wide variety of skills such as first aid, search-and-rescue, and so forth.

Amateur Radio has been around since the beginning of radio communications. In 1901 before curious folks began experimenting with "wireless." Amateur Radio more or less invented itself, right along with broadcasting and wireless telegraphy.

# **Public Relations**

The first amateur licenses were granted back in 1912, and the number of "hams" proliferated. By the end of the 1920s, you could hear both voice and Morse Code on the airwaves. Radio became very popular, instantly connecting communities and individuals as they had never been before. As radio communication became widespread, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was created to regulate the competing radio uses, including broadcasting, commercial message and news services, military communications, and public safety. The Amateur service (the legal name for Amateur Radio) was created in 1934 and has expanded in size and capability ever since.

Through the 1970s, amateurs built an extensive network of relay "repeater" stations to provide regional communications with low-power mobile and handheld radios. In the 1980s and 1990s, microprocessors were quickly applied to radio, significantly increasing amateur equipment's capabilities and ushering in a new digital communications era. Packet radio, an adaptation of computer network technology, was developed by hams and is now widely used for commercial and public safety communications.

Taking ham radio to new heights, astronaut Richard Garriott operated from aboard the International Space Station (ISS). Richard contacted more than 500 different hams from the ISS in a 12-day visit to Space. Richard's father, Owen, was the first ham in Space from aboard the Space Shuttle in 1984. Nearly all of the US. Astronauts have ham licenses, contacting both individual hams and students in school classrooms from orbit.

Like me, with 40 years of service in the US Army, most of my MOS was communications. I am sure some of our comrades were radio operators also. Let's get together with one another and support our communities by opening a Post Ham Radio Station. Post 10 has a Ham Radio License and is online as of this past year.

Who better to become involved than veterans and their families who proudly follow the motto "Still Serving America."

For more information about getting a Ham Radio License, go to <u>www.arrl.</u> org/joinHRLM





With all of these great April holidays, it's difficult to pick a favorite but honestly, one of our favorites is National Superhero Day. Besides being a day to celebrate pure imagination, fun, and creativity, it's also a chance to think about, and support, our everyday superheroes... our Fire Fighters, Soldiers, Policemen, Volunteers, and blood and plasma donors — to name a few.



Due to the Pandemic, the list of popular merit badges has changed:
#1 is Family Life - a new first.
The biggest jumps

SCOUTING CHAIR in popularity aside from Family Life were Public Health, American Business, and Safety. As a final note, the most earned badge was the First Aid Merit Badge spanning from 1911-2020

Council Reports:

Cascade Pacific Council Virtual Advncemengt Academy, 3/20-4/10,

Congratulate the Inaugural Class of Female Eagle Scouts

New guidelines for in-person Scougting are out

Watch a Webinar on re-starting Cub Scouting

4/23-28 Order of the Arrow Fun Weekend

4/3&10 Commissioner College 4/17 Solv Oregon Spring Cleanup 4/22 Council Court of Honor



# 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

# Scouting

Blue Mountain Council 4/17 Badger Mountain Adventure Hike/Fun Run

4/21 Council Board Meeting

Crater Lake Council 3/3 Covid-19 Scouting Updted 2021 Summer Camp Reservations Open

4/30-5/2 & 5/22-23 Woodbadge Training

Camp Staff Applications Open

Mountain West Council 4/24-254 Baloo Training Just Recruit One Program Participation

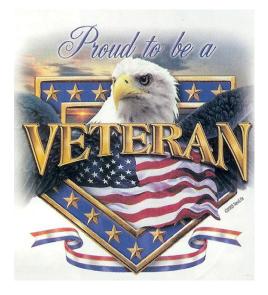
Summer Cub Day Camp Planning

Oregon Trail Council 4/16-18 Order of the Arrow Service Weekend

> 4/20 Council Fireside Chats 4/30 Part 1 Woodbadge

Last but not least, for sure, the latest report shows this Department chartering 40 Scout units that are up from 19 three years ago.

CONGRATULATIONS LEGION-NAIRES!



# Training & Development

Hello Legionaires,

It's that time of year again, the Spring DEC La Pine. It's a long-held tradition.



The Training Betty Fish-Ferguson that would Training & Development have taken place on Saturday is being interrupted by Commander Steve for an executive brainstorming session with the leadership on the State of affairs for The American Legion, Department of Oregon. That will take place during the entire morning, and in the afternoon, those running for office will present their speeches with information and goals for the upcoming year.

To continue a training mindset, I remind everyone that the new MyLegion website will be rolling out the new and improved site in April. All logins on the training site will need to be replaced. There is a tutorial that I can assist you with finding if you have questions. Don't hesitate to ask me.

There have been inquiries about Department Legion College. Everyone wants to have one, but the format is very much up in the air. There is the traditional two and a half-day and the one-day event that moves to four different locations around the State. Still very much up in the air. I will have to keep you posted. See you all in La Pine.



I hope that

the monthly Legionnaire

and Post/Unit newsletters.

If you do not,

all

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read



KATHI KARNOWSKI DEPT PRESIDENT

you are missing out. You will find information not only within our state but National news and what others are doing. Sharing ideas and learning better ways to operate is what we all should be striving for. The Legionnaire has articles on Finance, Boys State, Oratorical, Public Relations, Membership, and all other pertinent help.

We all have limited time so when you pick a project, give it your ALL. We do not have to do everything, but it should be with our whole heart

when we do something. The more volunteers you have, the easier it is on everyone, and it can even be a lot of FUN! I want to thank National Vice Commander Rob Liebenow for his article in the February Legionnaire. If you read it, he talks about ALL of us working as a "FAMILY." Some Families do many projects together, and some do not even want to acknowledge the others. How sad is it to not want to help each other when the end goal is helping our Veterans? There are circumstances, and we do not know the dynamics involved, but can we please just try for our veterans' sake? Legionnaires are Veterans, and you volunteer to help brothers and sisters who may not be able to stand on their own. The BOND between Veterans is one that cannot be broken.

All units should be thinking of officers' Elections and have their nominating committee asking who will run. We hope your county has lowered restrictions and you are having

meetings. not, please do a zoom or telephone meeting. Department can help you



with that. We are moving on with Spring DEC plans on April 10 -11 at La Pine, and info emailed out. Suppose you would like to run for Department President, V. President, National Executive Committee person, or Alt NEC. In that case, you must have a letter of intent to run with your unit endorsing you. Send your letters to Cindy at Department, and she will send them out to those that receive them. If you want to learn more about the ALA, being a Chairman is a perfect start. I have so much respect for Margie DeMoss of N. Eugene Santa Clara Unit #83 for stepping up and asking for a chairmanship that she has never done. Just for something different and to learn. She is our Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) Chairman this year. Thank you, Margie!



L to R, Linda Liebenow, Mary Laudon, Cindy Hillyard

#### Commons is a housing facility for veterans at or below 30%

area's me-

the

of

Clayton Mohr

dian income. It is a 24-unit complex located in Clackamas County. Department staff, all Hillsboro Aux-

# **CLAYTON MOHR COMMONS**

iliary Unit 6, have adopted the five children who live there. They range in age from 13 to 2 years of age. We filled Christmas stockings for the children and now Easter baskets.

We have a year-round food collection for the Clayton Mohr Commons. If you have anything you would like to donate, you can drop it off that the Department office. They could use personal hygiene products, cleaning products, and non-perishable dry goods.

# **Trophy & Awards**



The packets for the awards are sent out to the Posts on March 15. Please follow the deadlines to send them back to Department by

JUDY JOHNSTON the due dates listed.
TROPHY & AWARDS Every Post should have something to

let everyone know what they have done to help the community and veterans in their area.

You may not have done all the things the awards are for, but I know that the Posts members have done at least something they can brag about. Submit it for the Post to be honored during the pandemic.

Please remind the officers of your Post also to fill out the **Consolidated Post Report**. Ask your members what they have done to assist Vets in their area. Did the Post donate money, food, clothing to help people in their community, or was there an exceptional teacher, Fireman, Policeman that the Post would like to honor? Did someone in your Post do something special you would like to recognize? You can nominate them as Legionnaire of year, Chaplin of year, Service officer of the year.

If you do not have access to the different awards, they will also be available at the <u>orlegion.org website</u>.



## Historian

JUDY JOHNSTON Please remember to TROPHY & AWARDS remind the Histo-HISTORIAN rian or anyone who will do a history book for your Post to start putting it together for Department Convention. The book's rules are outlined in the Officer Guide, and anyone can get them online at the Department Web site or National Web site. If you need assistance, you can call me.

I also want Posts to send me some interesting history stories about your Post that we can put in the Oregon Legionnaire for others to know what the Post has in the past. That is what helps make the Legion so memorable for Veterans, community members, children, and families.

# Helps you handle almost any crisis when you're away from home. From Your American Legion Department

Hoppy Easter

Travel confidently with EA+



April 4th

## Legionnaire Benefits

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

Now We Can Help

#### The LIT Plans can help with

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







- Hospital HELP Plan Provides benefits for hospital stays including intensive care, cardiac care, care for cancer, rehabilitative facilities, and V.A. hospitals.\*
- Cancer Care Provides important protection and a daily benefit if you are hospitalized due to cancer.\*
- 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.

5447 ©2019 AGI



PDC, Bob Huff **VE&E CHAIRPERSON** 

know that I am repeating that remain we a holdin pattern ing social with distancing and holding events, rules same

that many businesses and our oth-

er programs are dealing with. I was hoping for this new year that we would see an end to some of our restrictions and start holding events safely. We see some lifting of some restrictions, not for holding events. There is light at the end of the tunnel, with vaccines being administered, schools opening over the next few months. We are seeing some small steps being taken, we are hoping. When we can hold Veterans Stand Downs, Benefit, and Educations Events, we are ready. We are continually working with some of our Schools virtually and working with their new rules for all safety. As always, veteran's and participant's safety remain our focus.

We continue 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. It is a whole new world out there and the way we support our Veterans population and our community's safety.

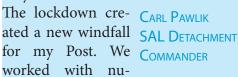
## **Children & Youth**



I look back at the last 12 months. How was I affected? Our State, Communities, and Posts have been shuttered. Meetings canceled, held over the internet, or on cell phones. We lost contact with members, canceled events, and just tried to survive. We lost control of much of our daily lives. A year has passed, and it looks like we may soon return to the new normal, whatever that will be. But I am the Silver Lining type of person, and this is how I see the past year.

Last March, we shut down. I had our usual Fish Fry planned for Friday night, in-house, no biggie, 70 to 90 dinners. I stole an idea from a church in WI... We promoted a Drive-Thru and then linked up with Meals on Wheels. We promoted the event on the internet and signboards. The community responded. Fairy tale numbers showed up, and they were served following the Covid guidelines. A new event was created. We then held events every two weeks, dedicated some for specific groups and others for the Post needs. Every event for a named group was larger than events not dedicated. We expanded our Chicken B-B-O and held two instead of the usual 1, both early sellouts. Every event grew.

Feb. 26, 2021. Four hundred one drive-thru sales in 2 ½ hours. Proceeds, \$2,800.00, donated to the Eugene Special Olympics. weeks later, a drive-thru chicken dinner with the local Boy Scout troop. did They very well.





merous non-profits, built community support, enticed some new members, and we now have groups seeking us out for assistance. I was lucky with the property and the membership I had to work with because It is an excellent setup for a drive-thru. Everyone is not so fortunate.

It has been hard. My Post lounge was closed, for gosh sakes. But working with a few insane members like myself, the Family pulled together. Members had something to do, interact, and found out just what we can do with even more ideas about upcoming events being expressed.

I write this because it sounds better than "Hurry up and pay your dues, your delinquent." Ok, you may be, so get them in. Your Squadron needs them, and the State needs them. I paid Continued on page 16



#### Continued from page 15 dues to my Squad- CARL PAWLIK closed been for COMMANDER

ron. My Post has SAL DETACHMENT most of the year. Few meetings. No value for my money spent? My membership dues and the virus allowed me and my Post Family to create a greater bond with ourselves and the community. To create a more significant income stream and donate more funds than ever before. Without our membership, we die. Without your renewals, some Squadrons will be in trouble. Remember, If our Squadrons reach a certain membership goal and the State HQ also reaches the membership goal, some lucky Squadron will get to remove my mustache. Make it happen.

# Happy Easter to all our Peeps out there!





# Marine Corps call word renaming honors legendary 'Redfield' sniper

Even as the Ma-TODD SOUTH Military Times rine Corps updates



its rifle optics and shooting qualifications, it doesn't forget its history.

Recently Marines at Weapons Training Battalion, Lejeune, Camp Carolina, North dubbed their firing

desk "Redfield" during a renaming ceremony at Stone Bay, according to a Marine Corps statement.

Call words on firing ranges are crucial, helping those who control the multi-area shooting events communicate and coordinate.

Redfield might be an obscure reference for young Marines in their early marksmanship training but it holds a special place in the sniper community, especially those who are steeped in the legend and lore of the sniper's role in the Vietnam War.

"This is history we must remember; marksmanship is our blood as Marines, and WTBN is the life blood of our marksmanship community," said retired U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Bryan K. Zickefoose. "We must remember where we came from, those marksmanship skills we've honed over the many years, we must continue to grow and make them better."



The Marines just switched their main sniper

rifle - look what's next

Marines will soon begin replacing the M110 with the shorter, more ergonomic Compact Semi-Automatic Sniper System rifle that's been in the Army since 2016.

#### **Todd South**

Many a Marine can quickly name at least one famous sniper, Gunnery Sgt. Carlos Hathcock, credited with 93 confirmed kills in Vietnam and an estimated 200-300 more probable kills.

Probable kills are those in which it is likely that the shot killed the target but for lack of third party verification or if the verification would pose a significant risk to safety it could not be performed.

Hathcock's exploits were told in various books, the most recognized "Marine Sniper: 93 Confirmed Kills," by Charles Henderson.



But it is another Marine to which the Redfield naming tips its hat: Sgt. Charles "Chuck" Mawhinney, who holds the official Marine Corps record for the conflict of 103 confirmed kills over 16 months between 1968-1969 and another 216 probable kills.

That tally included 16 headshots in a single day near the An Hoa base outside Da Nang, Vietnam.

Continued on page 17

# Marine Corps call word renaming honors legendary 'Redfield' sniper

Continued from page 16

Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force 12.2 Marines, from 3rd Force Reconnaissance Company, fire M40 sniper rifles at 1,000-yard targets during a training exercise aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Feb. 10, 2012. (Marine Corps)

Side note: Likely to the chagrin of many a Marine sniper, the top tally for confirmed kills by a sniper in Vietnam is held by a soldier. Army Staff Sgt. Adelbert Waldron notched 109 confirmed kills in eight months.

Mahwinney was the son of a Marine Corps World War II veteran but was actually intending to join the Navy after he graduated high school in 1967. But a Marine recruiter promised him he could hold off joining until after deer season that year.

The avid outdoorsman couldn't miss another Oregon deer season so that sold him on the Corps.



Sgt. Charles "Chuck" Mawhinney, who recorded 103 confirmed kills and 216 probable kills with the M40 sniper rifle and Redfield 3x9x40 scope while serving in the Vietnam War. (Sgt. Charles

"Chuck" Mawhinney)

"I started shooting at a very young age, and he taught me to shoot like the Marines taught him, so there wasn't any big transition from hunting in Oregon to becoming a sniper," Mahwinney told American Rifleman in 2012.

And he did it all with the M40 sniper rifle and a Redfield 3x9x40 scope.

"Well, the rangefinder was set up to work with the scope on 3X, but when turning my scope up to 9X the zero would change about one minute of angle. So, I just left the scope on 9X and sighted-in at 500 yards, estimating the range on shots," Mahwinney told American Rifleman magazine.

The backwoodsman and his fellow snipers used some hunting know-how on the snazzy new modern rifle. They kept rain off the scope's lenses with the typical homemade deer hunter's solution, a strip cut from a truck tire inner-tube.

"Most of our shots came from 300 to 700 yards, due to the terrain. We mostly shot from sitting and shooting from sitting at somebody 1,000 yards away is senseless," he said.

The M40 entered service in 1966 and saw five variants with upgrades until 2009. It is built off of the Remington 700 bolt-action rifle platform, one of the most popular civilian hunting rifles of all time.

The 7.62 mm rifle gage an on-thepaper reach of more than 800 yards, but in practice was often effective at even farther distances.

The Redfield scope was paired with the M40 from the beginning. The easily-recognizable green anodized finish optic is highly prized among collectors still. For the time, it's 600-yard ranging feature, built into the reticle, was state-of-the-art. The Redfield's tapered scope mount mimicked earlier World War II-era sniper rifle features, providing a streamlined fit and lower

profile than other mounting options.

Variants of the M40 were still the Marine Corps' sniper rifle of choice for decades after the Vietnam War and beyond. Even as other services swapped out to different weapons, the Marines stuck with the M40 though did pursue other options for development.

It wasn't until 2018 when the Corps officially announced a switch from the M40 to the Mk 13 Mod 7, chambered in .300 Winchester Magnum, a modern sniper rifle with a round that easily reached to 1,000 yards or more that the M40 began to be phased out of service.

With even faster evolutions in modern optics, the Redfield scope actually had been decoupled from the M40 long before.

Post-war upgrades to the rifle included a synthetic stock to avoid the problems associated with wood stocks, susceptible to accuracy problems when wood swelled due to humidity.

The optic has some shortcomings that were addressed with later replacements, the variable plastic ring could crack and the built-in range finder was helpful but sensitive, too much heat or direct sunlight could actually melt the feature.

A new scope, made by Unertl, which had provided optics for the Marines and other services since World War II, eventually replaced the Redfield in the 1970s.

The Redfield company was eventually acquired by Leupold. Mawhinney had teamed with staff at Remington in 2006 to do a rebuild of the original M40. Because many had their wood

Continued on oage 18

# Marine Corps call word renaming honors legendary 'Redfield' sniper

Continud from page 17 stocks replaced after the war there were few that matched what he carried into the bush, according to <u>American</u> Rifleman.



Once they'd built the rifle - exactly 103, one for each of his kills - they approached Leupold about a companion optic. The company, specifically a former Marine officer and vice president within the company named Kevin Trepa, built a 3-9X scope to match. Mawhinney's original M40 was discovered at the Weapons Training Battalion at Marine Corps Base Quantico and, in 1996, retrofitted to the same specifications as it had when he used

it in Vietnam.

A M40 sniper rifle with the Redfield 3x9x40 scope used by Sgt. Charles "Chuck" Mawhinney, who recorded 103 confirmed kills and 216 probable kills while serving in the Vietnam War, is displayed at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. (Sgt. Charles "Chuck" Mawhinney)

It is now on display at the National Museum of the Marine Corps outside Quantico, Virginia About **Todd South** https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/your-marine-corps/2021/03/17/marine-corps-call-word-renaming-honors-legendary-redfield-sniper/

Todd South has written about crime, courts, government, and the military-for multiple publications since 2004 and was named a 2014 Pulitzer finalist for a co-written project on witness intimidation. Todd is a Marine veteran of the Iraq War.





# Victory in Europe Day 2021



https://militarybenefits.info/victory-in-europe-day//

Each year we commemorate Victory in Europe Day, also known as V-E Day. On May 8, 1945 Nazi Germany unconditionally surrendered to the Allied Forces of the Second World War. This day in history marked the end of World War II in Europe, although the war would continue in the Pacific Theater of Operations.

The 75th anniversary (aka VE Day 75) of V-E Day is on Saturday, May 8, 2021 and is recognized as part of National Military Appreciation Month.

### **About V-E Day**

There were actually two surrender signings. The first was on May 7, 1945, when German Col. Gen. Alfred Jodl signed Germany's surrender on all fronts in Reims, France. The second signing was by German Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel the next day (May 8) in Berlin.

Prior to Nazi Germany's surrender, Adolf Hitler committed suicide on April 30, 1945, to avoid being captured by the Red Army. Alfred Jodl and Wilhelm Keitel were later found guilty of war crimes by the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany, and both were subsequently executed.

Continued on page 19

# **Victory in Europe Day 2021**

Continued from page 18

V-E Day marked the end of most of the fighting in Europe, where tens of millions of service members and civilians were killed since the start of hostilities. Approximately 250,000 U.S. troops were killed in the fighting in the European theater. Although fighting ended in Europe, it continued in the Pacific, where U.S. and Allied forces fought the Japanese in Okinawa, the Philippines and other places.

## **V-E Day Celebrates**

On May 8, 1945, tens of thousands of people filled the streets of New York, New Orleans, and cities in Canada, France Australia and other Allied nations. London crowds filled the streets from Trafalgar Square to Buckingham Palace. Princess Margaret and her sister, the future Queen Elizabeth II, were among the celebrating crowds.

U.S. forces participated in the celebrations in France, a nation that had borne much of the brunt of the fighting. The front line troops didn't celebrate upon hearing the news.

The Soviets celebrated on May 9, as fireworks exploded over the Kremlin and celebrations broke out in Red Square.

## Did you know

- Prior to V-E Day, the United States had already started planning to send divisions from Europe to the Pacific for the anticipated invasion of Japan.
- In February 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and Soviet Premier Josef Stalin convened one of the most secretive meetings of modern times at the Yalta Conference.

- The "Big Three" discussed Germany's eventual surrender, the postwar governing of Germany and Poland, and the conditions in which Stalin would enter the war against Japan.
- World War II continued for almost 11 months after the successful Normandy landings in France on June 6, 1944, commonly known as D-Day.
- The day the war began depends on which historian you follow, but it is agreed that the war in Europe ended on May 8th, 1945.
- With more than 100 hundred million people from over thirty nations contributing to the fight, World War II two was the deadliest conflict in human history.
- In the Soviet Union VE Day is called Victory Day and it is observed on May 9.
- Harry S. Truman was born on May 8, 1884.
- About 16 million Americans served in World War II, with 2 million serving in Europe.
- VE Day doesn't mark the end of WW2, Victory Over Japan Day, also known as VJ Day ended the war on September 2, 1945.

## Presidential Proclamation, 1945

The Allied armies, through sacrifice and devotion and with God's help, have wrung from Germany a final and unconditional surrender. The western world has been freed of the evil forces which for five years and longer have imprisoned the bodies and broken the lives of millions upon millions of free-born men. They have violated their churches, destroyed their homes, cor-

rupted their children, and murdered their loved ones. Our Armies of Liberation have restored freedom to these suff ering peoples, whose spirit and will the oppressors could never enslave.

- Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America

## **V-E Day Anniversary Events**

Gen. Tod D. Wolters, Commander U.S. European Command and Supreme Allied Commander Europe, will participate in a virtual wreathlaying ceremony in Belgium.

Commemorative flyovers are scheduled across the U.S. over WWII monuments, veteran cemeteries and other areas of significance.

National Geographic is unveiled its June issue to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

In the United Kingdom celebrating V-E Day is centered on recognizing men and women from a time now called the greatest generation.

Read more: <a href="https://military-benefits.info/victory-in-europe-day/#ixzz6pCE7xbCl">https://military-benefits.info/victory-in-europe-day/#ixzz6pCE7xbCl</a>





# Letter of Candidacy Don Weber for Department Commander

Hello, my name is Don Weber, and I am running for the high office of The American Legion, Department of Oregon Commander. I derived my eligibility by serving 41 years in the Oregon Army National Guard. Including two years deployed to Afghanistan. I have been a member of Aloha Post 104 for 16 years. I have served as the Commander for two years and multiple other official positions continuously since that time.

I graduated from The American Legion National College in 2013. I am a member of the Sons of the American Legion, based on my father's service during WWII. I served as District 1 Commander for two one-year terms and served in several committee positions within District and Department.

As we look at membership in the finest veteran's organization in the nation, we need to understand that members need communication, purpose, and socialization to maintain their commitment to veteran issues. Communication is always knowing what the organization at the National, Department, and Post level accomplished and planning. The American Legion provides the purpose in the four pillars. Socialization is the personal sense of camaraderie and support to purpose achieved by working with other like-minded people.

I look forward to working with the membership teams throughout the state to develop engagement plans that create a community desire to join The American Legion.

My theme will be "Reconnecting Veterans." Through the Buddy Checks, working the programs, and utilizing our Service Officer, we will create an organization that people want to be a member of, supporting membership.

I look forward to seeing you at the annual convention this year and ask for your delegate vote as Department of Oregon Commander. I will work hard to ensure that everyone in Oregon understands what we are working on to promote legion membership. \DW\

#### Candidacy Announcment



Larry Eugene Wittmayer First Vice Commander American Legion Department of Oregon

I hereby announce my candidacy for the high office of First Vice Commander of the Department of Oregon for the term 2021-2022.

My eligibility within the American Legion is based upon honorable service in the United States Navy for 21 years. I served during the Cuban missile crisis, the cold war, and the Vietnam conflict.

During my fourteen years as a member of the American Legion, I have served in the following

- Co-founder Wilsonville post 65
- Commander Post 65
- Post Adjutant Post 65
- Member of the Department Scouting Committee
- Chair of the Department Scouting Committee
- Chair of the Department Membership Commission
- Department 2nd Vice Commander two terms
- Member, National Veterans Employment & Education Council

My American Legion education includes completing The American Legion Extension Institute course, the American Legion Extension Institute Basic Training, and attending the National Membership workshop.

During my tenure as 2nd Vice Commander and Chair of the Membership Commission, I have found that working with my membership team requires a servant leadership style. Working together for the benefit of our fellow veterans is very rewarding.

I, therefore, am asking for your support and vote by electing me as your First Vice Commander for 2021-2022. \LW\

# A Toxic Legacy – Vietnam to the GWOT

Millions of veterans have been deployed in the Global War on Terror, and a disturbingly high percentage of them have been exposed to airborne toxic hazards during their service as a result of burn pits. The Department of Defense (DoD) is beginning to track locations where it utilized burn pits, but this data is far from ex-



haustive and many years late. PDC, JIM WILLIS Regrettably, the conversation ANEC, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE on toxic exposures is not a

new concept to the American Legion and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The American Legion has for decades fought for service-connected disability benefits for adverse health conditions linked to toxic exposures from a variety of toxic substances.

As the VA Public Health Department tells us, "Veterans may have been exposed to a range of chemical, physical and environmental hazards during military service." These exposures result in health concerns such as; burn pit related illnesses, Agent Orange related diseases, Gulf War Veterans' illnesses, radiation-related diseases, vaccinations and medications, etc. Exposure to toxic chemicals may have happened across various wars and operations, including Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, the Gulf War and Vietnam.

Most recently and as a result of the NDAA 2021 bill, three new illnesses have been added to the presumptive illnesses associated with Agency Orange exposure. They are Bladder Canter, Hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism. To determine if you are service connected for these illnesses, you are encouraged to contact the Department of Oregon's American Legion Service officers.

The American Legion continues to push for the inclusion of Hypertension as a service-connected illness associated with exposure to Agent Orange. While this illness is not yet approved, the American Legion will notify our members if this illness is added by action of the US Congress.

Your VA&R Commission expresses great appreciation to the Washington DC Legislative staff for their continuing efforts to add these illnesses to those that new qualify for service-connected compensation for our members.

#### CORY E. BROCKMANN – Candidate for Department of Oregon 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander



I announce my candidacy for the High Office of Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander within the Department of Oregon for 2021-2022.

I am an eight-year, Paid-Up-For-Life member of The American Legion and have held numerous leadership positions at the post-, district- and department-level; and, I currently hold a national appointment on the National Security Council, having previously held a National Appointment on the Americanism Council.

Concerning American Legion education, I have completed the American Legion Extension Institute Course, American Legion Education Institute Basic Training; Oregon Legion College; and I am a graduate of the National American Legion College - Class of 2017. I am a current member of The American Legion Media Alliance and

a former member of its predecessor organizations - The National American Legion Press Association and National American Legion Media Association.

As a Legionnaire, I serve - as *one* of you - as a means of honoring family members who, unselfishly, answered the call of duty in serving before me. I believe veterans are uniquely positioned to strengthen America, one veteran, one family, and one community at a time. And I look to continue making a positive difference in the lives of our veterans. We are stronger when working together, and I ask for your support - and vote - in electing me to the High Office of Department 2nd Vice Commander in 2021-2022.



The Oregon American Legion Foundation was the beneficiary of a total of \$15,337.00 from Wildfire's donations last



vear. The ma- PDC, ANDY MILLAR jority of the TAL FOUNDATION MEMBER donations came from Legion Family.

Let's do our part in donating to Our Founda-



tion for Legion programs!



**Answer:** 

C. Finland

The "Flying Finns", led by Paavo Nurmi and Hannes Kolehmainen, won gold medals in the 10,000 meter run, marathon, individual cross-country, and team cross-country events.



Be prepared with the Lifeline Medical Alert Service

Learn more

Or call 855-495-4359





# Posts encouraged to use Buddy Checks to help veterans and families

INDIANAPOLIS (March 16, 2021) – American Legion Buddy Check programs have assisted thousands of veterans and their families – especially during the COVID-19 pandemic – since their inception in March 2019. By June 2020, more than 3,600 American Legion posts reported Buddy Check activities during the membership year, and thousands more were conducted in the months beyond.

American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford is calling on members in their local communities to continue using the Buddy Check method to reach out to veterans who may need help or just a friendly voice. The American Legion Birthday week of mid-March and Veterans Week in November are ideal times to conduct focused Buddy Check outreach, Oxford said, adding that "Buddy Checks are a way we can connect with our members, former members and veterans in communities throughout the year, as well. Many local posts and American Legion Auxiliary units are making Buddy Check calls on regular schedules to let veterans and their families know they are not alone and that The American Legion Family stands ready to assist them in any way we can."

Toolkits with valuable resources for Buddy Check teams have been refreshed and updated for the program's third year. Those materials are available at <a href="legion.org/buddycheck">legion.org/buddycheck</a>. The American Legion National Headquarters would also like to share Buddy Check success stories in the media and invites members to post their experiences with the program at legion.org/legiontown. Posts are also encouraged to alert local media outlets of their Buddy Check programs and how they help veterans for potential news coverage.

Media contact: Jeff Stoffer, jstoffer@legion. org. (317) 630-1333

#### Children's Organ Transplant Association.

The Trusted Leader Supporting Families ... For a Lifetime

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR: APRIL IS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH and COTA'S 35<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY MONTH

Dear Editor:

The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) was founded in April 1986 when residents of Bloomington, Indiana, rallied around a toddler who needed a life-saving liver transplant. In less than eight weeks, the community raised more than \$100,000 to place the boy on the organ waiting list. But he died before an organ was found. Those community volunteers, along with his parents, turned tragedy into triumph by using those funds to help other transplant families. That was the beginning of COTA and those volunteers were our first Miracle Makers.

For 35 years, thanks to the help of the men and women of The American Legion Family, COTA has assisted thousands of children and young adults by helping to raise funds for a lifetime of transplant-related expenses. Extensive volunteer networks across the nation are working to ensure that no child or young adult needing an organ or tissue transplant is excluded from a transplant waiting list due to lack of funds.

We need your help today to make sure that tragedies, like the one that was the catalyst in founding COTA 35 years ago, are not repeated.

Sadly, 20 people in the United States die each day waiting for an organ transplant. One organ donor can save eight lives. April is National Donate Life Month and COTA is asking everyone within The American Legion Family to go to <a href="https://www.RegisterMe.org">www.RegisterMe.org</a> and register to be a designated organ and/or tissue donor.

**You can become a COTA Miracle Maker**. Find out how your Post, Unit, Squadron or Legion Riders can help a COTA transplant family near you by visiting COTA.org/Legion.

Sincerely.

Rick Lofgren, President rick@cota.org

COTA's priority is to assure that no child or young adult is denied a transplant or excluded from a waiting list due to lack of funds. 100% of lynds raised in honor of patients assist with a lifetime of transplant-related expenses.

> Celebrating 35 Years of Giving Hope 2501 West COTA Drive · Bloomington, Indiana 47403 800.366.2682 · EmmaM@cota.org · COTA.org



#### **Commanders' Project**

Raffle for Convention to raise funds for Children and Youth

Signed Print from Western Artist Cameron Blagg Titled "Grandfathers Past"

Steve's Personal Arrow head from South Dakota is mounted in the frame.

#### **First Prize: Print**

Second Prize \$300.00 Cash

Third Prize \$100.00 Cash

Call Dept. 503-685-5006 for tickets. or make out your check to: TAL DEPT HQ "Commanders Project"

Mailing Address PO Box 1730 Wilsonville, OR 97070

Tickets: \$5.00 each, or 5 for \$20.00 Drawing to be held at the Convention. You need not be present to win.







GREG MARVIN

(North) Membership: Currently, Membership

Greg

vin,

District 5,

Commander

Mar-

Vice

District 5 is doing well. We are DISTRICT 5 VICE currently in 3rd COMMANDER NORTH place in the Department at 89.93% of the goal. While this is not great at this time in the membership year, we have two Posts that have reached the goal and one Post with two members short of 100%. Congratulations to Mosier Post 55 and Sisters Post 86 for achieving 100% of their quota. The Dalles Post 19 is within two members of

their goal. Several other Posts are well within reach of the goal. A Thank You to District 10 Commander Dan Burks for transferring members from the 114AD/DMS 99 lists to local Posts.

Post activities: All three of our Posts with Post Homes, Crook County 29, Prineville, Ray Johnson 44, Redmond, and LaPine 45, are all open and operating within the COVID-19 rules set forth occupancy limits. Other Posts within the District are reporting they are now having Post meetings.

Officer activities: LaPine Post 45 notified me that all their Post Officers and a couple of their E-board members had resigned from their offices. The Post has selected new Officers and will elect them at their April meeting. Sunday, March 21st, PDC/Department Finance Officer Bob Huff and I met with the new Officers and essential workers on their Offices and Post positions' necessary activities. They seem to be blending in with the Post membership and have some good ideas about making the Post successful. The Post membership is at 93% and continuing to grow.

District 5 has scheduled the District Caucus/District meeting for Saturday, April 24th, at Crook County Post 29 (Prineville). The District 5 Auxilliary will also have its Caucus that day. The Auxilliary will serve a luncheon at 11:30, and the meetings will start at 13:00 (1; 00 PM). Members seeking Department Offices are welcome to attend the meeting. COVID-19 requirements will be observed.

# **American Legion Prairie Post 106 Serving Grant County**



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

Veterans in Grant County now have access to VA Telehealth. thanks Legionnaire Bob Van Voorhis a member of Prairie

> Post #106 in Prairie City and

Veterans Chairman for Elks Lodge 1824 in John Day, Van Voorhis, was instrumental in getting Telehealth installed in Lodge 1824 to benefit veter-

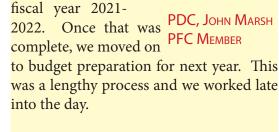
ans in Grant County. Bob acquired a private office and a VAapproved computer to do Veterans Telehealth in a private setting. The arrangement will save veterans traveling long distances over

mountainous terrain, especially during winter months, for medical appointments.

scheduled Appointments are usually after a weekly Veterans Coffee held each Wednesday at the Lodge. However, appointment times can be scheduled based on the needs of the veteran. Prairie Post 106 highly active in their volunteerism by helping with food baskets for holidays, making sure needy children have a warm coat for winter, and helping needy vets who may need wood to keep warm. Legion-

naires in Prairie Post #106 also volunteer to drive the DAV van to transport veterans to VA's Community Based Outreach Clinic (CBOC) in Burns, Oregon, and to the Boise VA Medical Center in Boise, Idaho. **BOB VAN HOORHIS** 

Prairie Post 106



The Permanent Finance Committee (PFC) met,

Saturday, Febru-

ary 27 at the De-

partment. We re-

viewed Chairmen

requests for up-

dates to their pro-

gram budgets for

All the usual suspects were there; Commander Steve Adams, 1st Vice Commander Don Weber, 2nd Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer, Adjutant Flynn Phillips, Finance Officer Bob Huff, and bookkeeper Lynn Newton. Also present were all members of the PFC.

We look forward to a robust discussion on the budget at convention!

For God and Country





#### 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.



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#### AMERICAN LEGION NEWS SERVICE

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1608 K St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3/21/58

105

ANADARKO, Okla.---(AINS)---Oscar O. Morgan has not only been chaplain of
Havens-Cannon Post 23 of The American Legion here for the past 23 years but has also
enrolled more than 50 members in his post for 1958. At an "Oscar O. Morgan Day"
celebration, the hard-working chaplain was presented a national certificate and pin
for his membership work plus an American Legion chaplain's medal by Post Commander
Lyle Griffis.

CARMEL, Calif. --- (AINS) --- Vic MacKenzie, 66, who helped to build the kingsized dimensions of national American Legion Conventions for 25 years, died in Monterey, Calif., on Mar. 14.

A native of Grants Pass, Ore., MacKenzie served with the Army Engineers in World War I. He affiliated himself with Capital Post 9 of The American Legion at Salem, Ore.

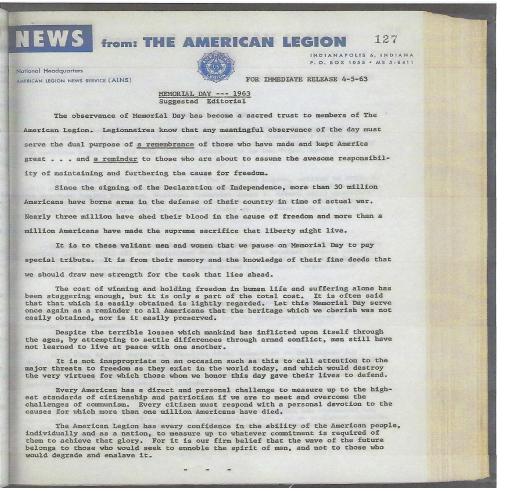
After serving as post commander, he was elected as Oregon's member on the National

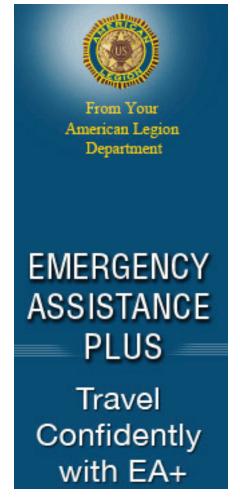
Executive Committee, serving from 1927 to 1929 and again in 1930-31.

He was vice chairman of the National Convention Commission of The American Legion at the time of his death.

MacKenzie was a member of the national American Legion staff from 1931 until his resignation on March 13, 1942, serving first as convention liaison officer and later as national convention director. He was responsible for massive American Legion national conventions in Detroit in 1931, Fortland, Ore., in 1932, Chicago in 1933 and '39, Miami in 1934, St. Louis in 1935, Cleveland in 1936, New York City in 1937, Los Augeles in 1938, Boston in 1940, and Milwaukee in 1941.

After leaving the Legion staff in 1942 to accept a position with the Distilled Spirits Institute of America, he continued in a consulting capacity on national convention matters and had been a member of the National Convention Commission since 1946.





S. Flynn Phillips Adjutant Legionnaire Article

## **CEREMONIAL RIFLE INVENTORY FORM**

CEREMONIAL RIFLE INVENTORY FORM	
ty: ECTION I - ORGANIZATION INFORMATION	
T. Organization Name: 2. City: 3. State:	
SECTION II – STATUS OF US ARMY OWNED CEREMONIAL RIFLES ISSUED TO ORGAN	IZATION
In accordance with the Conditional Deed of Gift(s), AR 700-131 and Title 10 USC §768	
certify that the following United States Army owned rifles conditionally issued for ceren the above organization are:  still required and used in the manner agreed upon in the original statement.  require replacement (place an asterisk (*) next to every rifle that requires replace  no longer required. Request the ceremonial rifle team provide disposition instructions are required.	ment).
Our organization does not have any ceremonial rifles on hand.	
SECTION III – RIFLE LISTING	
1. Model: Manufacturer: Serial Number:	
2. Model: Manufacturer: Serial Number:	
Model: Manufacturer: Serial Number:	
If you have additional weapons, list them on a separate piece of pape to this form.	er and attac
SECTION IV – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	
By signing below, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief that a 100% inventory of a Rifles in our possession was performed and that the rifles listed above (and on attachments) are the on possession of this organization at this time and that all of my statements are true, correct, complete and faith. I understand and acknowledge that concealing material fact and/or making a false statement is a 18 USC §1001 and may result in the cancellation of the Conditional Deed for any US Army property on organization and is punishable by fine or imprisonment. Furthermore, if any additional rifles are located US Army within 30 days of their discovery.  1. Signature of Highest Ranking Official:  2. Date Signed:	ly rifles in the I made in good violation of Title loan to my
Printed Name of Person Signing (First, Middle Initial, Last):	
4. Organization Telephone Number: 5. Organization Email Address:	
SECTION V - NOTARY ENDORSEMENT	
Official Notary Signature:     2. Notary Seal/Stamp:	
	F

Road, Detroit Arsenal, MI 48397-5000

ADPO R-3, December 2019

Page 2 of 2

Office: 586) 282-3298 | DSN: 786-8705

6501 E. 11 Mile Rd.

AMTA-LCL-IFD, M/S: 419D

Detroit Arsenal, MI 48397-5000

It maybe, that you are unaware, the Rifles you have in your Post, are the property of the United State Army. If you receive a request for an inventory report, you must comply right away.

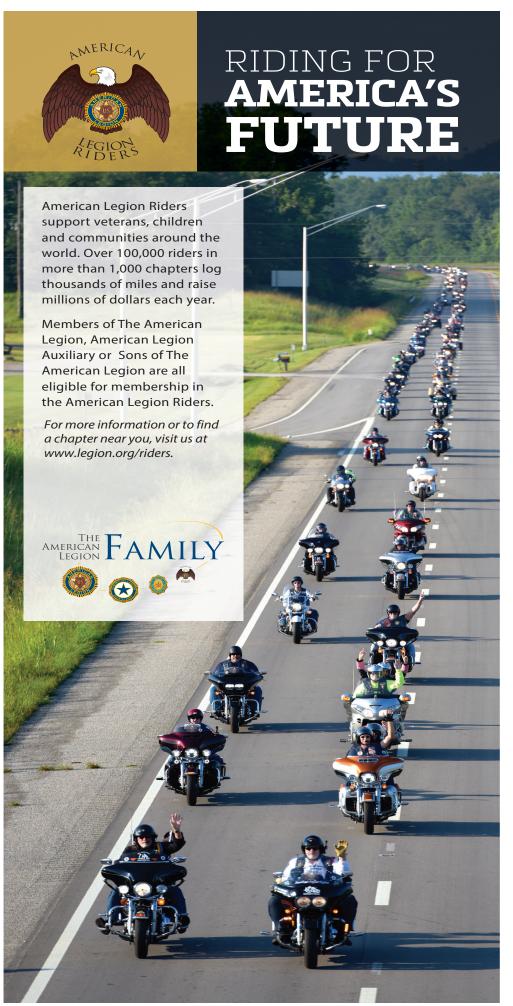
Do you want the Army CID knocking on your door? Talk about this at your next general meeting. Are those rifles secure? Do not lose your ability to have and keep ceremonial rifles for your Honor Guard.

Reminder, rifles are to be reported every 3 years, and if they have any displays they are to be reported **every year**. There are forms located on our website at https://www.tacom.army.mil/ilsc/donations.

The contact is this nice lady below.

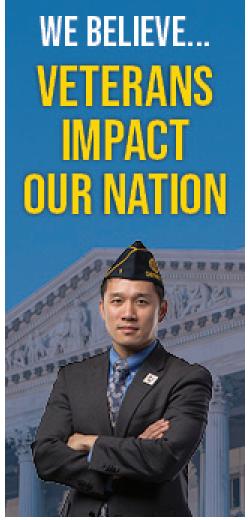
Maria De La Rosa **Army Donations Program** U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM)

maria.r.delarosa3.civ@mail.mil usarmy.detroit.tacom.mbx.ilscdonations@mail.mil



MICK WILSON Having COMMANDER POST 180 trouble getting hold of the VA? Try 1-800-MYVA411. After dialing press 0 and you will be put in touch with a live VA representative. They will be able to answer your questions about COVID and a host of other subjects. If they can't, they can patch you through to an individual or department that can.







# THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

				10 1 20 14 1 14 1		
Name	(First)	(Initial)	(Last)	·	(Date of Birth)	THE GIOTHE
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(P	hone)	(Email)	(Geno		Post #) (Dues)	
☐ I certify that I serv	ed at least one day of active milit	ary duty since December 7, 1941 ar	nd was honorably discharged	or am still serving honorab	ly.	Date
Please check ap  Global War on Ter		nd branch of service below:				Received From
☐ Gulf War ☐ Panama	U.S. Navy U.S. Air Force					\$ for 20 Dues
☐ Lebanon/Grenada ☐ Vietnam						\$ for 20 Dues
☐ Korea ☐ WWII	Merchant Marines	WWII only)		5		Recruiter's Name
Other Conflicts						
Signature of Applicant		Date	Nam	e of Recruiter		Recruiter's Signature
Mail completed applicat contact for amount due.	tion to The American Legio For current department/sta	n National Headquarters, Att te address, go to www.legion	n: Internal Affairs. Annu .org.	al dues must accomp	any completed application. Ask local	Recruiter's Phone #
						<u>:</u>
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Date						
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Name			Recruited by			DUEC DECEIPT
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		rican Legion, apply for membership,		ere?		Squadron No.
				for	20 annual membership dues	
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		n Legion department/state he o to The American Legion dep			npleted application. Ask local contact on.org. ALA 1222013	
AME	ERICAN LEG		ARY – MEN	ABERSHIF	PAPPLICATION	
	AFFLICANT IN CHMATI	ON		ELIGIBILITY INF	ONMATION	THE STATE OF THE S
Full Name				of Veteran (Female Vetera	ns: List Your Own Name)	Million
Address			If Living: American Legi	on Member ID #	Post # City State	DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)
City	State	ZIP	and the second second	is deceased, contact ALA	unit about the necessary military records.)	(Please Print)
Home Phone	Cell Phone		Veteran Served:  WWI (4/6/1917-11/11	1/1918) 941 (check all that apply):		
Email Address	Unit :	# and Location (if known)	Global War or	Terror Lebanon/G		Date
1 1	☐ Birth - 17	☐ 18 and over	☐ Gulf War ☐ Panama	☐ Vietnam ☐ Korea	☐ Other Conflicts	Received From
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		ALA ID#:		☐ Sister ☐ Granddaughter	Self	
Previous Unit City/State:		ALA IU#	To Be Completed E	By The American Leg	ion Post Adjutant/Officer	Recruiter's Name
Signature of Applic	cant (or legal guardian if under 18	B) Date		amed individual served at le honorably discharged or is s	east one day of active duty during the dates still serving honorably.	Recruiter's Signature
Submit this applicat contact Nation	tion to the ALA unit you wish to nal Headquarters at (317) 569-4	o join. If unit is unknown, 500 for assistance.			1 1	
	npany completed application. As		Post Adjutant/Officer Me	mbership Verification	Date	Recruiter's Phone #

Membership pending approval of application.