

The Oregon Legionnaire

The Voice of Oregon's Veterans Since 1919

March 2023



**Notes from Commanders,
Commission Reports,
Auxiliary, SAL,
Trivia and so much more...**

**Also in this Issue:
Cover Story
American Legion Birthday
Pages 20-21**

**HAPPY 104TH BIRTHDAY
TO
THE AMERICAN LEGION**





LARRY WITTMAYER
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Legionnaires, we're coming around to election season, which brings me to address this past year and the future year.

The position's responsibilities or obligations as a District Commander could be demanding. You are the kingpin in your

FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Leadership as the District Commander

District's success and its individual Posts. You must be prepared to attend meetings, write reports and prepare yourself to vote for the will of your Posts.

So, when it comes time to decide whether to run for District Commander or not, let me leave you with this thought. If you're not ready to know your Posts intimately and encourage and communicate:

You should run as far away as possible and not throw your hat in the ring for election or reelection. Please remain active but not as a District Commander.

This Department and your Posts in your District need an actively involved District Commander.

Thank you



Need to Know Dates

March

Community Service
Legion Birthday
St Patricks Day
Boys State Selection

April

Children & Youth Month
Scouting Activities
Boys State
American Legion Children
Welfare Foundation Week

May

St Louis Caucus
National Poppy Week
Armed Force Day
Mother's Day
Blue Star Salute
School Awards
Memorial Day
Kick Off American Legion
Baseball
American Education Week

Department Officers

Commander	Larry Wittmayer
Imed. Past Cmdr	Don Weber
1st Vice Cmdr	Cory Brockmann
2nd Vice Cmdr	Dan Burks
Adjutant	S. Flynn Phillips
NECman	Kevin Owens
Alt NECman	Gene Hellickson
Finance Officer	Bob Huff
Chaplain	Steve Shollenberg
Historian	Dick Winders
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

Just as Spring is upon us and we are grateful for the gifts brought forth by nature, there is also much to be thankful for in our



American Legion membership, **CORY BROCKMANN**
1ST VICE COMMANDER
Our value of membership.

We can easily find examples of the value of membership, and it can be found everywhere around us. As veterans, perhaps we lose sight of it at times, but it just takes a moment to stop and reflect to find value and benefits to our membership.

One example is recognizing the efforts of our department's legislative delegation, which has just returned from the Washington Conference in Washington, D.C. They took part in making visits on Capitol Hill to advance our legislative priorities with Oregon's congressional legislators. You can find these priorities for the first session of the 118th Congress at

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The first 'known' dance marathon winner was:

- A. Vera Sheppard
- B. Alma Cummings
- C. Emma Shepra
- D. Viola Commens

2023 Department Convention on the Coast in Southern Oregon



The Mill Casino • Hotel & RV Park
3201 Tremont St. North Bend, OR 97459

JUNE 14th-17th

FUN! ADVENTURE! EDUCATION! PARTICIPATION!

PASSPORT To Education and Participation? We've got it!

GAMES? We've got them!

TRAINING? It's all here at Convention!

Come to this year's Convention at Coos Bay for this and much more!
All this and more, more, more at this year's Convention.



2023 CONVENTION ADVERTISING RATES

****THIS ISSUE WILL BE IN FULL COLOR****

Standard Pricing		Premium Pricing	
Full Page	\$300	Inside Front Cover Color sold	\$450
½ Page	\$225	Inside Back Cover Color	\$450
¼ Page	\$150	Back Page Cover Color sold	\$550
Business Card	\$100	Page 3	\$350

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR ADS: April 15th, 2023

Submit Artwork in PDF form.

Please make checks payable to: The American Legion Department of Oregon
PO Box 1730 Wilsonville, OR 97070-1730

Questions? Please contact Renee Ohler at (503) 348-7160

The American Legion Department is a registered 501 (c)(19) nonprofit organization Tax ID: 93-0112195

Take this opportunity to highlight your Legion Family and/or the candidate you are endorsing. Doing so will support the Department. All proceeds from this convention will be divided among the Department Legion Family.

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<https://www.legion.org/legislative/> **CORY BROCKMANN**
1ST VICE COMMANDER

The value of membership is also found in witnessing the fabulous work being accomplished by our commissions and committees and the programs they lead. Recently concluding was our department's oratorical contest. I congratulate Oratorical Chair Maria Tye and the entire oratorical committee, districts, and posts for their efforts in successfully conducting this year's program. Those efforts create viable opportunities that benefit not just their future, but all of ours as the youth become future leaders in their families and communities and strengthen our nation.

Spring planning should already be underway within posts for supporting upcoming programs for the year, helping to strengthen opportunities for youth development. Please get in touch with your district leaders and district committee chairs for information and planning details on all of our programs, be it children and youth, American Legion Riders, blood drives, veteran stand-downs, supporting our law enforcement and firefighters, and more.

We find the value of membership in the sacrifices and efforts made by countless veterans and their family members, during military service and in still serving their country by supporting The American Legion.

This month we celebrate The American Legion Birthday, March 15-17th, Congressional Medal of Honor Day, March 25th, and National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29th – lest we forget.

Thank you for helping make a difference in the lives of our veterans. And, please, join me to '**Be The One**' in your post and community should the need arise. We are **Veterans Strengthening America**.

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

We just completed our Budget Meeting in Wilsonville, putting together our Proposed 2023-2024 Department Budget. Thank you to those Department Officers, District Commanders, and Commission Chairs that submitted a Budget Request. Some difficult decisions had to be made, and it is a business to come up with a balanced budget, which is required.

This Proposed Budget will be presented at our Spring DEC in Redmond, then be published in the Legionnaire for all members and presented to the Department Convention Finance Committee at Convention and then presented to the Delegates to our Department Convention at the Mill Casino in North Bend, and the Delegates will cast their vote for adoption. Our Department Convention and By-Laws require this.

Our Department Budget Year is October 1 through September 30. This is also our Department Tax Year which we are completing and submitting now. Lower membership affects our Department Budget and what we can do to complete our mission and commitments to our Members and Veterans Community. Our 2021-2022 Department Budget plan was for increased membership and matching funds to offset our shortfall, as agreed in our Spring DEC and Department Convention.

We had to revisit our budget, which we do monthly throughout the Budget year, which is part of that plan. We cannot have a negative budget. That discussion as our membership did not increase and matching funds did not support the income required. Thank you to those Posts, Legionnaires, and Districts that have supported this effort. As we put this Proposed 2022-2023 Department Budget together, we were required to reduce our Membership income to support our actuals

and make further reductions in expenses. We need to work on our membership, and there are plenty of opportunities in our Department for **PDC, BOB HUFF** growth; a **DEPARTMENT FINANCE OFFICER** lot of our Posts are active after COVID and are doing a good job for their members and their communities and holding events. All of us must work together as a team to turn this around. We have done it before and been very successful.

Tace-et-Face



For those Posts with a Tax Year of January 1 to December 31, it is time to get your financial information in order and file your 990-N, 990EZ, or 990 Tax Form. Remember, there are no exceptions. The IRS system has gone live.

Remember, the Oregon American Legion Foundation is a 501©3, and those contributions are tax-deductible. Funds are used for our programs. There is a lot of information and grant requests on our Web Site. Department Program Chairs, there are grants available for most of our programs. All you must do is apply for them. We have our Foundation, which is a 501c3 which grants can be made out and earmarked for your Program.

BE THE ONE



STEVE SHOLLENBURG
DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

Well, hello, everyone,

I finally made it back from my sabbatical in Seattle. What a long three months. The Stem Cell

Transplant went great, but it was a pretty tough procedure. I was pretty sick for about a month and a half, but with the outcome, I dealt with it OK. I am cancer free and not expecting it back.

The people/staff in the Puget Sound VA Hospital Marrow Transplant Unit were awesome. I could not have asked for better people to take care of me while undergoing such a procedure. They were outstanding, from the Head of the Department down to the housekeeping personnel. I am truly very appreciative of the excellent care I received. I will be in recovery mode for the next six months, but getting better every day.

I want to thank everyone that called me and sent me Christmas cards, New Year's cards, and Birthday cards. I received over 70 cards from my Legion family, and almost every card had multiple names and signatures. So again, thanks to everyone for all the thoughts, prayers, calls, and cards while I was up there. It truly meant a lot.

And speaking of calls, how about them **BUDDY CHECKS**? We do our **BUDDY CHECKS** all the time, but you never really know what a **BUDDY CHECK** means until you receive one when it's needed. I've made numerous **BUDDY CHECKS** over the last few years and didn't think much about it,

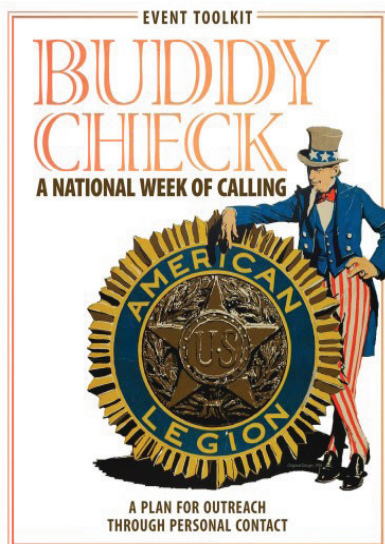
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STEVE SHOLLENBURG except just
DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN checking on
a buddy, saying **HI**, and seeing how
they're doing.

When you are in the hospital, sitting in a hotel room sick, waiting for the next hospital visit, sitting at home scared about what the next visit to the hospital will be like. You receive a **BUDDY CHECK** from someone from your post, district, or even department; it means the world to you. Someone to talk to, someone to listen to, someone who cares enough to call you is on the other end of the phone, and it's a lifeline for you at that specific time. I know it was for me. I had a few bad days, sick, anxious, wishing I could crawl into a hole somewhere and forget about it all, but then the phone rang, and a familiar voice was on the other end, checking up on me, wondering how I was doing. It's a life changer. From the bottom of my heart, I thank everyone for those called. You will never know just how much they meant. And a huge special thanks to Debra for the daily morning and night calls and for answering that phone every time I needed to talk.

When you're doing "**BUDDY CHECKS**," you never know. You just might "**BE THE ONE**."



PDC, KEVIN OWENS
NECMAN over the past 104 years. The following is just a snapshot of some major accomplishments over the years. I hope this will inspire everyone to recruit new members and bring back those who may have dropped out for some reason. Actions speak louder than words, and The American Legion has taken action for all Veterans and continues to do it day in and day out. Be proud, knowing they are always looking out for all of us.

1919

March 15-17

Members of the American Expeditionary Force convene in Paris for the first American Legion caucus.

May 8-10

St. Louis Caucus. "The American Legion" is adopted as the organization's official name. The Legion's draft Preamble and Constitution are approved.

June 9

The National Executive Committee adopts the Legion emblem.

Sept 16

Congress charters The American Legion.

Nov. 10-12

First Legion convention convenes in Minneapolis. The Constitution and preamble are adopted. Delegates vote 361-323 to locate the Legion's national headquarters in Indianapolis, instead of Washington. A resolution is passed in support of Boy Scouts of America. Today, the Legion is the chartering agency for more than 1,700 Scouting units made up of approximately

March is the time we celebrate the birth of our organization. It is a time to reflect on what The American Legion has accomplished

64,000 youths.

1920s

Aug 9, 1921

The Legion's efforts result in the creation of the U.S. Veterans Bureau, forerunner of the Veterans Administration. Today, the Legion continues to lobby for adequate funding to cover medical, disability, education, and other benefits for veterans.

June 15, 1923

The first "Flag Code" is drafted during a Legion conference in Washington. Congress adopts the code in 1942. Today, the Legion is at the forefront of efforts to pass a constitutional amendment to protect the U.S. flag from physical desecration.

July 17, 1925

The Legion creates the American Legion Baseball program. Today, more than 50 percent of Major League Baseball players are graduates of the program. About 82,000 youths play on Legion-sponsored teams each year.

1930s

September 1932

The Sons of The American Legion is officially recognized during the 1932 National Convention in Portland, Ore.

June 1, 1938

The final round of the Legion's first annual National High School Oratorical Contest is conducted in Norman, Okla. Today, more than 3,400 high-school students from around the country compete annually in the contest, which promotes a greater understanding of the U.S. Constitution. Winners receive thousands of dollars in college scholarships.

1940s

Dec 15, 1943

Past National Commander Harry W. Colmery starts to write in longhand, on Mayflower Hotel stationery in Washington, the first draft of what

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Editors Notes

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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

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The Oregon Legionnaire**

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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

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The Oregon Legionnaire Committee

Editor S. Flynn Phillips

Publisher S. Flynn Phillips

Chairman Renee Ohler

Members Richard Ramey

Dan Burks

Mike Speer

Roberta Davis

orlegionnaire@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

March

Community Service Month

05 Dist 2 Mtg Canby
11 Dist 1 Mtg Aloha
11 Dist 3 Mtg Newport
15-17 TAL Birthday
17 St Parick's Day
17-18 Round Up Prineville
18 Dist 5 Mtg Prineville
25 Dist 9 Mtg Roseburg

April

Chidren & Youth Month

01 Dist 6 Mtg Enterprise
07 Good Friday (Nat'l Clos)
09 Easter
15-16 DEC Redmond
22 Dist 4 Caucus Grants Pass
21-23 National Oratorical
29 American Legion Family Day

May

St Louis Caucus

06 Dist 10 Caucus Prairie City
06 Dist 7 Caucus Estecada
07 Dist 2 Caucus Newberg
07 Dist 6 Caucus Baker
10-11 Spring Mtgs (Nat'l)
13 Dist 1 Caucus St Helens
13 Dist 3 Caucus Lebanon
13 Dist 5 Caucus Prineville
16 Dist 8 Caucus Portland 1
19-20 OR Air Show Hillsboro
20 Dist 9 Caucus N Bend
20-21 Womens Veterans Conf.
Salem Convention Center
28-29 Memorisl Day Events
Hillsboro & Portland
29 Memorial Day (Closed)
30 Application for National Legion
College Due not later than May 30th
to Department



PDC, PNC, ROB LIEBENOW
DETACHMENT COMMANDER

Here it is, March already. As most of you know, the older you get, the faster the time goes.

We are having a terrific year in membership. We have been ahead of all the target dates; hopefully, this will continue. We should be 90 to 100% by the time National Commander Carlton visits us this month. He will be coming in on March 9th and leaving on the 12th. It looks like we will take him over to Seaside, down to Coos Bay, to Grants Pass or Williams, and then to the Medford airport.

Next year we plan to take the new Commander to Eastern Oregon.

Speaking of membership, we have added a new squadron this year. Williams Squadron #50 is just waiting on their charter. We also have two are three Posts looking to charter a squadron. We are in the process of reviving two squadrons, and they are Sheridan #75 and Oregon Trail #150. Hope to have them on board by April 1st. Hopefully, Salam #136 will start up again.

We have added over 200 new members this year, and that is great. We need new members if we are going to continue to grow. We are just over 62% retention and should be renewing are current members at a rate of 90%. I know with a bit of work, we can get there. Last year our retention rate was around 86%, and I know we can do better than that and get up to

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PDC, KEVIN OWENS will later become the “GI Bill of Rights” – considered the Legion’s single greatest legislative achievement.
June 22, 1944

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs into law the original GI Bill, or Servicemen’s Readjustment Act, ushering in monumental changes in U.S. society. Higher education becomes democratized after 8 million veterans go to school on the GI Bill, get better jobs, buy houses in the suburbs, and raise families. For every dollar spent on educating veterans, the U.S. economy eventually gets \$7 back.

May 29, 1946

The Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary present a small, struggling organization called the American Heart Association with a \$50,000 grant. The grant inaugurates a nationwide program for the study, prevention, and treatment of rheumatic heart disease.

1950s

May 4, 1950

The Legion votes to contribute funds to the field of mental health, thereby playing a key role in launching the National Association for Mental Health.

July 9, 1954

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is formed. Today, more than \$11 million has been awarded to youth organizations and projects designed to help America’s children.

1960s

Sept 1, 1966

The Legion voices great concern over the fate of prisoners of war in Vietnam. Today, the Legion urges a full accounting of all POWs and troops missing in action; and has formed a special group from among the nation’s major veteran’s organizations to continue pressing for further resolution of this issue.

1970s

May 1, 1972

The Legion implements a Halloween safety program for children; it remains the only national program of its kind.

1980s

Aug 26, 1982

The Legion presents a \$1 million check to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund for construction of the Wall in Washington, becoming the largest single contributor to the project.

July 21, 1983

The Legion announces its sponsorship of an independent study on the effects of exposure to Agent Orange on Vietnam War veterans. Congress receives the results of the “American Legion-Columbia University Study of Vietnam-era Veterans” in 1989.

1990s

Aug 2, 1990

The Legion files suit against the federal government for failure to conduct a Congress-mandated study about the effects of Agent Orange on veterans who served in Vietnam.

June 15, 1991

The Legion hosts its first Junior Shooting Sports National Air Rifle Championships at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. Today, more than 2,000 high school students a year enter the contest, which teaches gun safety and marksmanship.

Oct 1, 1995

The Legion forms the Persian Gulf Task Force to enhance service for the newest generation of wartime veterans, thousands of whom suffer from illnesses linked to their service in the region.

Sept 16, 1996

The Legion awards a \$20,000 college scholarship to each of the 10 inaugural Samsung American Legion high school scholars.

Sept 3, 1997

The Legion presents its first National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award at the 79th National Convention in Orlando, Fla.

2000s

Oct. 10-11, 2001: The American Legion creates the American Legacy Scholarship Fund for children of military members killed on active duty on or after Sept 11, 2001.

Oct 17, 2003: American Legion efforts on Capitol Hill break the deadlock on the Disabled Veterans Tax when Congress creates a 10-year phase-in for service-connected disabled retirees to receive military retired pay and VA disability compensation without subtraction from either. Legion efforts also result in passage of the Military Family Tax Relief Act.

Sept 3, 2004: American Legion lobbying leads to more progress in elimination of the Disabled Veterans Tax with passage of PL 108-375 that eliminates the 10-year phase-in for 100 percent service-connected retirees, allowing them to immediately begin receiving both retired pay and VA disability payments.

Oct. 17-18, 2007: The American Legion National Executive Committee passes Resolution 35 and adopts The American Legion Riders as a national program of The American Legion. The first American Legion Riders chapter was established by American Legion Post 396 in Garden City, Mich., in 1993.

June 30, 2008

President George W. Bush signs into law the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act, a next-generation GI Bill strongly supported by the Legion. The bill renews the federal government’s commitment to veterans by providing them with substantially better education benefits. The Post-9/11 GI Bill took effect Aug 1, 2009 and sent an unprecedented number of veterans to college. Today

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PDC, KEVIN OWENS as at its formation, the Legion remains at the forefront of efforts to improve education and other benefits for all veterans.

Oct 22, 2009: President Obama signs the Veterans Health Care Budget Reform Act of 2009, guaranteeing “advance funding” for VA appropriations, a formula that The American Legion has strongly supported for many years. The new law sets funding for VA one year in advance.

2010s

October 2010

Continuing a long-standing tradition of advocating for timely and adequate medical care for veterans, the Legion forms a PTS-TBI Ad Hoc Committee to both examine current methods by VA and the Department of Defense of treating the two conditions and investigate potential alternatives.

May 5, 2011: The National Executive Committee authorized establishment of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC) to promote emergency communications and disaster preparedness, engage youth in math and science and facilitate public communications with our nation’s federally licensed amateur radio operators who are veterans. TALARC membership opened free for members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion who are FCC licensed ham radio operators.

October 2012

VA guarantees its 20 millionth home loan. 1936-1937 National Commander Harry Colmery and 1943-1944 National Commander Warren Atherton escorted the original GI Bill of Rights through Congress in 1944, arguing passionately for veteran’s educational benefits, government-assured health care and what they called “readjustment allowances.” Today Colmery and Atherton are lauded as the “fathers of the GI Bill” and its successors.

July 2016: The Legacy Scholarship is expanded to children of post-9/11 veterans who have a combined VA disability rating of 50 percent or greater.

Aug 16, 2017: The Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017 – also known as the “Forever GI Bill” because it removes time limits for veterans who wish to use it for college – is signed into law by President Donald J. Trump. The legislation is named for The American Legion past national commander who in the winter of 1943-44 drafted the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act that changed the nation after World War II.

Aug 23, 2017: President Donald J. Trump signs the Veterans Appeals and Modernization Act of 2017 on-stage at the 99th American Legion National Convention in Reno, Nev. The measure offers three courses of action for veterans to appeal decisions on their disability benefits claims in an effort to reduce the number of pending appeals – at this point, more than 470,000 nationwide – and speed up the process. It is the first time in history a U.S. president has used an American Legion National Convention stage to sign a bill into law.

March 15-17, 2019: The American Legion celebrates its 100th birthday in Paris, France, throughout the United States and around the world.

July 30, 2019: President Trump signs the Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service – the LEGION Act – which extends recognized wartime service to cover previously unrecognized periods of U.S. military conflict, back to World War II. More than 1,600 Americans were killed or wounded in armed hostilities during periods not previously recognized as wartime. The act allows veterans who served outside of the previously designated war eras to join The American Legion.



Continued from page 6

PDC, PNC, ROB LIEBENOW that 90%.
DETACHMENT COMMANDER

Our next DEC will be in April, and as soon as the call goes out, I will send out the agenda. Remember, there is no department hotel, so you are on your own to make reservations.



I have a POW/MIA Wooden flag made by a marine that I am raffling off for my Commanders Project.

The tickets are 6 for \$5.00, or 30 for \$20.00 giving you an extra 6 tickets.

Please call me at 503-318-6426 if you wish to purchase some tickets.

Drawing will be held at Convention in June 2023

Unit 43 *Sharing the Love*

Here are pictures of Unit #43 getting together for lunch on VALENTINE'S DAY. Our unit has talked about getting together for something other than auxiliary business and we finally did it.

15 of us showed up. We plan on doing it again around Easter time. About half of the members come to meetings and the others don't so at least we came together to eat.

Pictured here, we have Martha Valiant, Barb Crouch, Joan Smith, Aloha Botelho, Diane Higley & Jody Craig. Right side, Sharon Haefer, Roxie Ogilvie, Teresa Mastrude, Margy Tucker, Gayle Wheeler & Deb Oliver.

AUXILIARY NEWS



BETTY FISH-FERGUSON
DISTRICT 2 COMMANDER

This is a busy time for The American Legion. The Washington Conference has just been completed and we will be gearing up for the Caucuses. As of this writing, the Department Oratorical competition has just wrapped up, and congratulations to Hannah Hurty, the District 2 Oratorical winner and now Department champion, who was chosen from a field of 6 speakers. Kudos to Carlton Post 173, who sponsored her. Hannah will advance to the National competi-

Hello
Legionnaires,

March is upon us. Most of the freezing weather is behind us, and spring is ahead of us.

tion in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Upcoming events:

The next District 2 meeting is on March 5th at Canby Post 122.

The Spring DEC is April 14-16th at Redmond Post 44.

The Spring District 2 meeting and Caucus will be on May 7th at Newberg Post 57.

The Americanism programs are also gearing up. Boys State, Jim Willis Law Enforcement Career Camp, and Baseball are hard at work.. Please get out and try to find participants for these programs. Get to your schools and meet with the staff. Many Posts are reporting schools are showing a renewed interest in these activities. With support for these programs come new potential members.

Let me finish by wishing everyone a Happy American Legion birthday.



WE BELIEVE...
IN PATRIOTISM



S. FLYNN PHILLIPS
DEPT. ADJUTANT

DMS, and encumbered, unencumber mean. So I asked Michele.

Clarification on a few items, please. Can you explain the difference between ENCUMBERED and UNENCUMBERED? When does the transferred member count as a member of the Post? And finally, some of the people on our listing in the holding Post have 114 and others 114AD, what is the difference?

There are always questions that Adjutants, Commanders, and legionnaires helping with membership, and transfers have. Some are; what the heck are the letters AD,

Michele Steinmetz, the Member Engagement Coordinator at National, has answered some of these:

"I know it seems confusing, but once you understand it, it isn't."

DMS means direct mail solicitation, **Encumbered** means all monies stay at national. When they join, first renewal and second renewal, if they are not transferred into a local post, all the dues collected remain with national. Once they are either transferred into a local post or after they renew for the second time (where all dues stay at national), they become **unencumbered**.

Only if you transfer DMS AD (encumbered) members into a local post will that transfer count for membership goals. If it's a regular HQ 114 member, they will only count when they renew for the next year. HQ 114

transfers will show up in the post's membership totals but won't count for the department or national goal purposes. Only traditional renewals or new starts and DMS AD transfers will count for membership goals on the membership report.

114 AD means "Administrative" or encumbered (\$\$ stay at National until they have transferred into a local post). I hope this helps. You might need to read this a few times to absorb it.

Michele

Still Serving America,

Michele Steinmetz, Member Engagement Coordinator
Internal Affairs & Membership Division



RICHARD RAMEY
INTERNAL AFFAIRS CHAIR

This is an excellent time to ramp up our visibility with the community by promoting Boys State, Law Enforcement Career Camp, Scouting, and American Legion Baseball. Through actively advertising these programs, we can raise awareness in the community about some of the American Legion's most effective programs for

March 12th Daylight Savings Time begins, and March 20th is the official start of Spring. We will see better weather and more outside

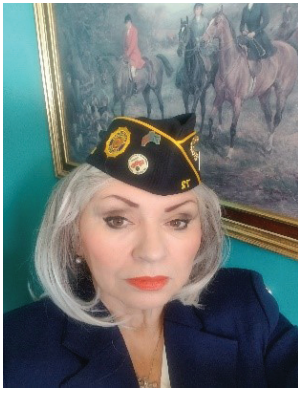
activities with each of these.

Children and Youth.

Now is also the time to plan for the Flag Day and Memorial Day events. With good public relations, these activities can help our membership by letting the community know about, participate in, and support their awareness of The American Legion and how much we do for veterans and our communities.

Also, it is an excellent time to consider who the new leaders will be for the coming membership year. Look around your post and highlight the efforts of those who have been active in achieving the successes accomplished in The American Legion programs. Invite them to continue to improve your programs by accepting leadership positions.





MARIA TYE
ORATORICAL CHAIR

with Flynn Phillips,
Dept. Adjutant and
Maria D. Tye, Dist. 6 Adjutant & Ora-
torical Chair.

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPT. OF OREGON AWARDS \$17K IN SCHOLARSHIPS

—for The
American
Legion by
Allen L.
Buzard,
historian &
scholarship
committee
Post 184



L-R Commander Wittmayer, 1st Place Hannah Hurty, 2nd Ayla Davies, 3rd
Adeline Saunders, 4th Mrinmayee Kulkarni, 5th Tanner Stenkamp,
6th Joseph a. Fish

The American Legion Santiam Post 51 in Lebanon played host over Presidents Day Weekend to the Department of Oregon's 86th Annual American Legion High School Oratorical U.S. Constitution Speech Contest

Under the skillful emceeing of Legionnaire Maria D. Tye, Chair of The American Legion Department of Oregon Oratorical Speech Competition, six high school students from throughout Oregon pitted their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution against one another. As the young orators jockeyed for first place—and the honor that comes with it—to represent Oregon at the national level, the six professionally-dressed teens maintained calm throughout the five-hour test of wits. The national event will be held near The American Legion headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, during the weekend of April 21-23, 2023. There, student contestants from 50 states, a number of territory departments and the winner of Department #1 of France will compete for a total of \$203,500 in American Legion scholarships at its 86th Annual High School Oratorical national competition.

The American Legion Santiam Post 51 in Lebanon, Oregon, was the won-

derful venue for the Department (statewide-level) contest. Approximately two dozen Legionnaires and Legion Auxiliary members from various posts and units throughout Oregon supported these promising teens in their roles as escorts, judges, tabulators, timekeepers, coordinators, photographers, room monitors, chaplain, and bestowers of prizes.

Joseph Fish, a senior at Enterprise High School, placed sixth. He hopes to attend either Montana State University or MIT and major in computer science. Tanner Stenkamp, a senior at Redmond High School, placed fifth. She plans to attend the University of Idaho and major in business. Joseph and Tanner were each awarded \$1,500 in scholarships by The American Legion Department of Oregon.

Placing fourth was Mrinmayee (pronounced “Muh - rin — My”) Kulkarni, a junior at Westview High School in Portland who earned \$2,500 in scholarship money, while Addie Saunders also won \$2,500 by placing third. Addie is a frosh at Vale High School, and although she has a few years ahead of her, she is hoping to major in business as well. Mrinmayee is steadfast in her

her goal of majoring in pre-law as an undergrad, followed by the law school.

Judges' and tabulators' deliberations following all six speeches kept the audience of parents, siblings, and approximately 40 members of the greater American Legion family, including the American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, and Past National/Department Commander Charlie Schmidt of Burns Post 63 on edge as they finalized results; particularly since the first place winner must be certified to advance to nationals.

And it was understandable given the quality of student orations.

The high school competitors had to independently research and prepare their orations to last a minimum of 8 to a maximum of 10 minutes. In addition to the longer prepared orations, officials at the Lebanon Oregon event randomly selected a topic from four amendments (VI, X, XIV Sec. 1, and XVI) as chosen by and for this year's National American Legion oratorical committee. Appropriately, Hannah, Mrinmayee, Tanner, Ayla, Addie, and Joseph were sequestered from one an-

Continued on page 12

Continued from page 11

MARIA TYE other during their ORATORICAL CHAIR speeches. Each had 5 minutes to prepare an impromptu oration of 3 to 5 minutes on the 6th amendment (Jury Trial & Counsel). Students stood before the audience, proving their familiarity with the sixth amendment to the U.S. Constitution by clarifying the history behind it, giving relevant examples, citing contemporary applications, and explaining its value and importance to citizens, all without any notes, cards, or aides.

Ayla Davies, a junior at Burns High School, won runner-up and earned an American Legion Department of Oregon scholarship worth \$4,000. Stated Ayla, "I'll attend whichever college or university offers the best softball scholarship terms and a strong psychology program."

With Legionnaire District 2 Commander, Betty Fish-Ferguson, accompanying as a surrogate mom—her dad was away in Virginia, and she prefers to compete without her mom in the audience as she gets too nervous—Hannah Hurty won the Department of Oregon's top prize of \$5,000 plus the right to proudly represent all her Oregon high school peers at nationals in two months. Miss Hurty is a Summit Learning Charter School senior in Carlton, Oregon.

Oratorical speech contests focused on the United States Constitution are just one small facet of The American Legion. The American Legion is the oldest veterans service organization, founded in 1919, a year after World War I. It places its present motto of "Veterans Strengthening America" upon four pillars: Veterans, Defense of the U.S. Constitution, American-

ism, and Youth.

NOTE:

The mid-Willamette valley is fortunate to be served by The American Legion Post 10 in Albany, The American Legion Santiam Post 51 in Lebanon, and The American Legion Travis A. Moothart Post 184 in Brownsville. Eligible mid-valley high school students, their counselors, parents, and especially teachers of seniors within their attendance zones are encouraged to reach out and inquire about additional local post-scholarship monies waiting to be claimed. For example, a new \$500 Sgt. Travis A. Moothart Memorial Scholarship, with an application deadline of March 31, 2023, is available to a qualifying senior who is on track to graduate from Central Linn High School and can be used at virtually any trade school, community college, or university.



PDC, PNC, ROB LIEBENOW
TOALF MEMBER

you need to apply to the Foundation for funding your programs.

You also need to fundraise and contribute back to the Foundation. Too many chairmen do not understand what they need to do, so they do nothing, and this shows in our programs and lack of program success. We used

Are you, as a Department Chairman, taking advantage of the Foundation? As a chairman, especially if you deal with a Children and Youth committee,

to have Youth Chairman who raised their own funds, but that seems too much work nowadays, so you sit back and do nothing.

This article is supposed to be about the Foundation. What good is the Foundation if no one takes advantage of it? We can have a strong Foundation and Department if everyone does their job.



Military help line
for Legionnaires

<http://militaryhelpline.org/about-us/>

The Oregon American Legion Foundation

We Support our children today in

Boys State
Girls State
Jr Shooting Sports
Oratorical
Baseball
Scouting
Jim Willis Law
Enforcement Career Camp



They are our future tomorrow



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Jim Willis
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PHILIPS Lifeline

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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

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



Jack Johnson, the first Black heavy-weight boxing champion, patented a wrench (U.S. patent #1,413,121) on April 18, 1922.



LARRY WITTMAYER
SCOUTING CHAIR

Year Nomination.
PLEASE GO TO

LEGION.ORG OR ORLEGION.ORG
for the application. So far, no nominations have been received.

Council Events:

Cascade Pacific Council
503-225-5777

Activity is increasing, with several posts coming online chartering scouting units. Most important is the Eagle Scout of the

3-5 Camp Meriwether Super Weekend
4-5 Outdoor Leader Skills
4 Scouting for Food
10-12 OA Rendezvous
24-26 Spirit Lake Webelos Woods
31-2 Camp Meriwether Super Weekend

Oregon Trail Council
541-485-4433

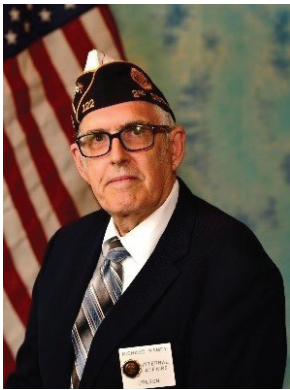
3 Council Recognition Dinner
10-11 BALOO
11 Starker Tree Plant
17-18 Outdoor Leader Skills
18 Troop Leader Training Coos Bay/Greenwood
25 Camp Mooney Service Day

Blue Mountain Council
509-735-7306

3 Americans Hockey Night
4 & 11 Yo-Yo Lessons
24 NRA Shotgun Instructor Training
25 Astronomy MB Clinic and Planetarium Show

Mountain West Council
208-376-4411

11 Snake River District Recognition Night
31 OA YLS Seminar
1 BALOO



RICHARD RAMEY
TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

mentoring people in our organizations so they are prepared to help us achieve the best program results. Start by asking members where their interests are and introducing them to the prospect of assisting in one of the Post activities. Be sure to explain what the task requires and the desired outcome. Then, find someone working on a program that can provide help, training, and advice in achieving success in the effort.

With Spring comes the prospect of more activities and finding people to help in their achievement. One of our most important jobs is

joined The American Legion because we saw the need to extend our service through camaraderie with fellow veterans. We also seek to extend our service to help our community. And, in that endeavor, members often need a nudge to find the right fit for their talents to achieve that good feeling that comes from helping to improve our communities.

Lastly, be sure to recognize the efforts of everyone involved. The recognition that having accomplished the program's success will go a long way in giving people the desire to continue serving.

That's part of the mentorship, too!



WORDS OF WISDOM

"Fear leads to self-doubt which is the worst enemy of creativity."

DAVID OLGIVY

We have served our country and



PDC, BOB HUFF
VA&R CHAIRPERSON

Our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Commission members for the 2022-2023 membership year are IPDC Don Weber, Department

2nd Vice Commander Dan Burks, Ann Everetts, and PDC Bob Huff, Chair. The focus of the Commission is oversight over VA&R activities for our Department.

We still have an opportunity for another Legionnaire in good standing to join our team. If you are interested in joining or participating with this elite team and being part of our future supporting Veterans and families in our Department, please contact us. Our Commission held a virtual Zoom meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, and focused on reopening our American Legion Veterans Service Office in the Portland Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA). We took several action items from this meeting which included an inspection of the VBA office we previously occupied, the number of veterans we supported at that location before COVID restrictions versus the number of veterans we have been supporting using virtual and phone contact.

We are still developing that information. We also have oversight of our Department's VAVS Program, and two of our team are VAVS Representatives. The VAVS program has representatives at our VA Facilities in Oregon, which all need more volunteers desperately. If you have some extra time and looking for a challenging volunteer assignment supporting Veterans, we need you.

VA & R

With the closing of Compensation and Pension (C&P) activities in Roseburg and White City with staffing issues and reassigning clinical staff to higher priority assignments and moving patient needs to community care, both Roseburg and White City have also been changing over to CERNER, the new computer program supporting the VA, which has been met with a lot of challenges.

Roseburg and White City have challenges with volunteer drivers with the moving of C&P and more Veterans appointments being scheduled in the Portland VHA. VA SORCC has requested we hold a venue in the rural communities to support the new PACT activity. We are also responding to issues caused by the new CERNER system with communication and appointments directing Veterans to an avenue for assistance. Thank you to all of you that continue to support our Veteran community. Keep up the excellent work.

Face mask requirements continue at all Federal and Medical facilities which are in red. The VAVS arm also supports the National Cemetery Administration (NCS) with activity at

our National Cemeteries. We have additional responsibility at the VA SORCC and Eagle Point National Cemetery as we have more face-to-face contact. The Commission also supports the System Worth Saving Program and has supported four events in the past at our Roseburg and White City VAs with our National Organization.

And remember, Save the Date for the 2023 Women Veterans Conference, May 20 and 21, 2023. The event will be held at the Salem Convention Center/Grand Hotel. The Theme is "Stronger Together – Voices of Service." The Website is wvc.oregondva.com, and the contact at ODVA is Jessica Bradley, Women Veterans Program Coordinator. The event website is being updated now so that participants can sign up for the event. We have several Legionnaires interested in attending this event and are reserving rooms for the event. Please get the word out to all Women Veterans in Oregon, all 25,000 of them. This is an excellent event.

If your District is holding its meeting and would like more information or support with our Pillar I Veterans activities, don't hesitate to get in touch with me, and we will be happy to support you.

Thank you



VETERANS EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION and HOMELESSNESS



PDC, BOB HUFF
VEE & H CHAIRPERSON

Our Commission held a virtual meeting on Zoom on Monday, January 30, 2023. We welcomed our new member Ryan Shockley, Post 56 Service Officer, to our team.

We discussed upcoming events in our Department that we will be supporting. As some COVID restrictions are being relaxed, there is more opportunity to hold events, and we are receiving inquiries for information and support, which is good. We are still seeking more Commission and Committee members to provide coverage for the whole Department. If interested, please provide your contact information, as this is a needed service for our veterans and their families.

The Veterans Employment, Education, and Homelessness Commission and Committee members are District 9 Commander Larry Hill, Tom Fitzgerald, Ryan Shockley, and PDC Bob Huff (Chair).

The Commission and Committees support Veteran's Employment, Education, Homelessness, Service Connected, and Veterans Small Business opportunities. Two of our Posts, Hillsboro Post #6 and Aloha Post 104, submitted Large and Small Employers Award recommendations with supporting packages. Both have been reviewed and have been presented to the National VE&E Division in Washington, DC, for consideration for the National Award for Large and Small Employers.

We will also present Department awards. I will be in Washington, DC, for the Washington conference and the National Veterans Employment

and Education meetings, where we will discuss these awards and bring back to Oregon more information and opportunities for more employment, education, and homeless events in our Department.

VA, one of our partners that we have held events, which had a 50-participant participation cap, which had to be approved by National VA, has relaxed the approval process as of last week, and events can now be approved at the Facility Director, who has opened up a new opportunity for our team. We are currently reviewing the requirements for our Commission to participate in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games and are actively holding dialog on this event.

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
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Camas, WA 98607



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

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portion of hospital bills or
you can use your cash
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MEMBERSHIP



Department of Oregon 2023 Membership as of 2/24/23

OR Dist 0001 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0002	Washington	Forest Grove	7	35	72	2	116	140	82.86
OR-0006	Hillsboro Inc	Hillsboro	6	55	126	5	192	245	78.37
OR-0012	Clatsop Inc	Astoria	18	56	209	0	283	410	69.02
OR-0042	J H Wellington Inc	St Helens	2	17	72	1	92	120	76.67
OR-0047	Tillamook	Tillamook	0	2	7	1	10	15	66.67
OR-0056	Argonne Inc	Sherwood	7	31	135	2	175	235	74.47
OR-0068	T Les Galloway	Clatskanie	1	20	73	0	94	120	78.33
OR-0090	John Kalmbach	Banks	4	19	75	0	98	142	69.01
OR-0099	Seaside	Seaside	37	39	207	4	287	320	89.69
OR-0104	Aloha	Aloha	25	66	306	2	399	500	79.80
OR-0119	Vernonia Inc	Vernonia	2	2	25	0	29	38	76.32
OR-0124	Beaverton	Beaverton	1	14	52	0	67	115	58.26
OR-0126	Neill Walker	Nehalem	0	3	5	0	8	15	53.33
OR-0158	Tigard	Tigard	28	68	313	4	413	584	70.72
OR-0168	Cannon Beach	Cannon Beach	3	10	97	2	112	151	74.17
		SUM:	141	437	1,774	23	2,375	3,150	75.4

OR Dist 0002 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0007	Delbert Reeves	Silverton	0	9	15	1	25	27	92.59
OR-0009	Capital	Salem	0	40	93	2	135	180	75.00
OR-0017	Keizer	Keizer	3	2	32	3	40	44	90.91
OR-0020	Carl B Fenton	Dallas	1	16	82	1	100	131	76.34
OR-0021	Mc Minnville	Mc Minnville	33	48	285	7	373	449	83.07
OR-0033	Independence	Independence	0	5	29	1	35	40	87.50
OR-0046	Woodburn	Woodburn	1	10	34	1	46	53	86.79
OR-0057	Lester C Rees	Newberg	18	8	48	5	79	75	105.33
OR-0058	Stayton	Stayton	5	24	117	3	149	173	86.13
OR-0075	Sheridan	Sheridan	11	8	57	1	77	58	132.76
OR-0089	MT. Angel	MT. Angel	1	2	51	1	55	58	94.83
OR-0110	Aurora Inc	Aurora	0	3	6	2	11	15	73.33
OR-0122	Canby	Canby	11	49	176	4	240	300	80.00
OR-0136	Salem	Salem	1	33	55	0	89	130	68.46
OR-0149	Pioneer Inc	Salem	1	12	12	0	25	40	62.50
OR-0159	Mill City-Gates	Mill City	0	2	1	0	3	22	13.64
OR-0173	Carlton Memorial	Carlton	7	12	73	1	93	105	88.57
		SUM:	93	283	1,166	33	1,575	1,900	82.89

OR Dist 0003 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0003	Eugene Inc	Eugene	0	17	32	0	49	65	75.38
OR-0010	Albany Inc	Albany	25	83	345	5	458	527	86.91
OR-0011	Corvallis	Corvallis	0	19	41	0	60	94	63.83
OR-0032	Calvin Funk	Cottage Grove	9	12	44	5	70	62	112.90
OR-0040	Springfield	Springfield	0	25	51	4	80	106	75.47
OR-0051	Santiam Inc	Lebanon	20	53	455	3	531	636	83.49
OR-0059	Francis M Yost	Florence	3	12	54	0	69	105	65.71
OR-0061	Tri-Counties	Junction City	0	16	50	4	70	75	93.33
OR-0064	Cascade	Oakridge	0	6	14	1	21	27	77.78
OR-0083	North Eugene-Santa Cla	Eugene	12	31	153	1	197	273	72.16
OR-0097	Lincoln City	Lincoln City	0	10	19	0	29	29	100.00
OR-0100	Mary's River	Philomath	0	1	7	0	8	15	53.33
OR-0116	Newport	Newport	33	29	203	4	269	299	89.97
OR-0133	Timber City	Sweet Home	0	8	13	0	21	29	72.41
OR-0184	Travis Moothart	Brownsville	4	13	42	0	59	58	101.72
		SUM:	106	335	1,523	27	1,991	2,400	82.96

OR Dist 0004 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0008	Klamath	Klamath Falls	9	34	163	0	206	281	73.31
OR-0014	Guy T Applewhite	Ashland	0	4	9	0	13	24	54.17
OR-0015	Medford	Medford	0	38	104	6	148	232	63.79
OR-0028	Grants Pass	Grants Pass	6	30	192	4	232	288	80.56
OR-0050	Williams Valley	Williams	7	6	39	0	52	43	120.93
OR-0069	Rogue River	Rogue River	0	2	4	0	6	15	40.00
OR-0070	Glenn Morrison	Cave Junction	0	4	19	1	24	38	63.16
OR-0084	Malin Inc	Malin	1	10	35	0	46	63	73.02
OR-0129	Myers-Holland Inc	Central Point	0	4	113	0	117	132	88.64
OR-0192	White City	White City	0	8	45	0	53	84	63.10
		SUM:	23	140	723	11	897	1,200	74.75

OR Dist 0005 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0004	Stevens-Chute	Bend	0	24	61	2	87	145	60.00
OR-0019	The Dalles Inc	The Dalles	1	13	45	0	59	84	70.24
OR-0022	Hood River	Hood River	0	10	42	0	52	73	71.23
OR-0025	Frank Burns	Condon	1	4	19	0	24	32	75.00
OR-0029	Crook County	Prineville	15	21	175	4	215	236	91.10
OR-0044	Ray Johnson	Redmond	4	41	157	9	211	266	79.32
OR-0045	La Pine	La Pine	34	80	235	2	351	416	84.38
OR-0048	Eugene Cougar Greene,	Warm Springs	0	2	1	0	3	15	20.00
OR-0049	Sherman County	Moro	0	9	18	0	27	44	61.36
OR-0055	Mosier Inc	Mosier	0	2	17	0	19	24	79.17
OR-0073	Maupin	Maupin	0	0	5	0	5	15	33.33
OR-0086	Sisters	Sisters	1	11	74	0	86	141	60.99
OR-0125	Jefferson County Vetera	Madras	0	6	26	0	32	48	66.67
OR-0131	Deer Ridge	Madras	0	1	0	0	1	31	3.23
OR-0135	Wamic	Wamic	0	1	1	0	2	15	13.33
OR-0164	Don L Medlock	Spray	0	3	0	0	3	15	20.00
		SUM:	56	228	876	17	1,177	1,600	73.56

OR Dist 0006 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0023	Pendleton	Pendleton	0	9	7	1	17	37	45.95
OR-0024	Milton-Freewater	Milton Freewater	0	14	53	2	69	87	79.31
OR-0037	Hermiston	Hermiston	17	13	59	0	89	110	80.91
OR-0041	John Noble Holcomb	Baker City	0	10	33	1	44	65	67.69
OR-0043	La Grande	La Grande	3	35	152	3	193	233	82.83
OR-0072	Kruse	Wallowa	1	2	26	1	30	30	100.00
OR-0087	Heppner	Heppner	0	0	0	0	0	39	0.00
OR-0095	Ione	Ione	1	16	31	0	48	41	117.07
OR-0130	Athena	Athena	1	2	15	0	18	18	100.00
OR-0140	George St Dennis	Mission	0	4	4	1	9	27	33.33
OR-0157	Wallowa Lake	Joseph	1	7	49	0	57	63	90.48
		SUM:	24	112	429	9	574	750	76.53

OR Dist 0007 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0030	Gresham	Gresham	0	15	44	3	62	130	47.69
OR-0074	Carl Douglas	Estacada	19	36	79	1	135	180	75.00
OR-0098	St Johns Inc	Portland	2	13	42	1	58	55	105.45
OR-0108	Corbett	Corbett	0	7	8	0	15	20	75.00
OR-0134	Frederick And John Ravi	Portland	9	22	55	1	87	180	48.33
OR-0137	Dana King	Portland	0	4	19	0	23	36	63.89
OR-0185	City Of Roses Musicians	Portland	1	3	15	0	19	24	79.17
		SUM:	31	100	262	6	399	625	63.84

OR Dist 0008 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0001	Portland	Portland	8	59	160	2	229	425	53.88
OR-0005	Willamette Falls Inc	Oregon City	4	7	15	2	28	75	37.33
OR-0065	Wilsonville	Wilsonville	1	5	23	0	29	65	44.62
OR-0127	Sandy	Sandy	0	2	8	1	11	20	55.00
OR-0150	Oregon Trail	Portland	7	21	62	2	92	110	83.64
OR-0180	Milwaukie	Milwaukie	20	38	397	5	460	605	76.03
		SUM:	40	132	665	12	849	1,300	65.31

OR Dist 0009 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0016	Earle B Stewart	Roseburg	7	48	107	5	167	256	65.23
OR-0026	Bandon	Bandon	4	5	40	5	54	60	90.00
OR-0034	Bay Area	North Bend	1	25	99	22	147	160	91.88
OR-0036	Coquille-Myrtle Point	Coquille	0	6	33	0	39	52	75.00
OR-0062	Reedsport	Reedsport	2	14	17	1	34	45	75.56
OR-0076	Port Orford	Port Orford	0	9	9	0	18	47	38.30
OR-0121	Sutherlin	Sutherlin	0	2	48	0	50	56	89.29
OR-0123	Fallin	Canyonville	4	6	44	0	54	81	66.67
OR-0152	Baird-Heaton	Oakland	0	5	30	0	35	44	79.55
		SUM:	18	120	427	33	598	801	74.66

OR Dist 0010 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0063	Harney County	Burns	5	12	87	1	105	113	92.92
OR-0067	Ontario	Ontario	12	10	87	0	109	131	83.21
OR-0077	Ellis Tracy	John Day	2	5	31	0	38	53	71.70
OR-0079	Nyssa	Nyssa	0	3	12	0	15	29	51.72
OR-0096	Vale	Vale	8	4	33	1	46	59	77.97
OR-0106	Prairie	Prairie City	5	4	60	0	69	63	109.52
		SUM:	32	38	310	2	382	448	85.27

OR Dist 0099 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0114	Headquarters	Portland	0	75	384	0	459		
		SUM:	0	75	384	0	459		

Department of Oregon Totals

	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Transfers	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
Sum:	564	2,000	8,539	173	11,276	14,174	79.55

District	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
1 OR Dist 0001 LGN	141	437	1,774	23	2,375	3,150	75.40
2 OR Dist 0002 LGN	93	283	1,166	33	1,575	1,900	82.89
3 OR Dist 0003 LGN	106	335	1,523	27	1,991	2,400	82.96
4 OR Dist 0004 LGN	23	140	723	11	897	1,200	74.75
5 OR Dist 0005 LGN	56	228	876	17	1,177	1,600	73.56
6 OR Dist 0006 LGN	24	112	429	9	574	750	76.53
7 OR Dist 0007 LGN	31	100	262	6	399	625	63.84
8 OR Dist 0008 LGN	40	132	665	12	849	1,300	65.31
9 OR Dist 0009 LGN	18	120	427	33	598	801	74.66
10 OR Dist 0010 LGN	32	38	310	2	382	448	85.27
11 OR Dist 0099 LGN	0	75	384	0	459		
SUM:	564	2,000	8,539	173	11,276	14,174	79.55

District	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
1	564	2,000	8,539	173	11,276	14,174	79.55
SUM:	564	2,000	8,539	173	11,276	14,174	79.55



Detachment Of Oregon 2023 Membership as of 2/24/23



Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0050	Williams Valley	Williams	14	0	0	0	14	10	140.00
		SUM:	14	0	0	0	14	10	140

Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
OR-0001	Portland	Portland	5	0	32	0	37	44	84.09
OR-0006	Hillsboro	Hillsboro	2	0	20	0	22	22	100.00
OR-0008	Klamath	Klamath Falls	1	0	13	0	14	16	87.50
OR-0009	Capital	Salem	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-0010	Albany	Albany	4	0	11	0	15	20	75.00
OR-0012	Clatsop	Astoria	12	0	47	0	59	75	78.67
OR-0015	Medford	Medford	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-0019	The Dalles	The Dalles	0	0	7	0	7	10	70.00
OR-0021	Mc Minnville	Mc Minnville	7	0	37	0	44	54	81.48
OR-0022	Hood River	Hood River	0	0	3	0	3	10	30.00
OR-0024	Milton-Freewater	Milton-Freewater	1	0	14	0	15	14	107.14
OR-0028	Grants Pass	Grants Pass	3	0	15	0	18	23	78.26
OR-0029	Crook County	Prineville	11	0	55	0	66	79	83.54
OR-0032	Calvin Funk	Cottage Grove	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-0034	Bay Area	North Bend	5	0	24	0	29	21	138.10
OR-0041	John Noble Holcomb	Baker City	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-0043	La Grande	La Grande	0	0	10	0	10	32	31.25
OR-0044	Ray Johnson	Redmond	0	0	11	0	11	23	47.83
OR-0045	La Pine	La Pine	8	0	39	0	47	61	77.05
OR-0048	Eugene Cougar Greene,	Warm Springs	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-0051	Santiam	Lebanon	10	0	59	0	69	94	73.40
OR-0056	Argonne	Sherwood	8	0	27	0	35	59	59.32
OR-0058	Stayton	Stayton	5	0	18	0	23	23	100.00
OR-0061	Tri-Counties	Junction City	2	0	11	0	13	10	130.00
OR-0067	Ontario	Ontario	0	0	13	0	13	14	92.86
OR-0075	Sheridan	Sheridan	2	0	0	0	2	10	20.00
OR-0083	North Eugene-Santa Cla	Eugene	3	0	26	0	29	44	65.91
OR-0095	Ione	Ione	0	0	16	0	16	21	76.19
OR-0099	Seaside	Seaside	31	0	76	0	107	115	93.04
OR-0104	Aloha	Aloha	30	0	84	0	114	120	95.00
OR-0110	Aurora	Aurora	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-0116	Newport	Newport	5	0	42	0	47	67	70.15
OR-0122	Canby	Canby	11	0	40	0	51	52	98.08
OR-0134	Frederick And John Ravi	Portland	0	0	2	0	2	10	20.00
OR-0136	Salem	Salem	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-0150	Oregon Trail	Portland	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-0158	Tigard	Tigard	17	0	51	0	68	71	95.77
OR-0168	Cannon Beach	Cannon Beach	5	0	73	0	78	101	77.23
OR-0173	Carlton Memorial	Carlton	3	0	19	0	22	24	91.67
OR-0180	Milwaukie	Milwaukie	35	0	71	0	106	87	121.84
OR-0184	Travis Moothart	Brownsville	0	0	0	0	0		
OR-9999	Sal Holding Sqdn	Tigard	0	0	0	0	0		
		SUM:	226	0	966	0	1,192	1,426	83.59

	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Transfers	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
Sum:	240	0	966	0	1,206	1,414	85.29

District	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
1 OR Dist 0004 SAL	14	0	0	0	14	10	140.00
1	226	0	966	0	1,192	1,426	83.59
SUM:	240	0	966	0	1,206	1,414	85.29

Detachment Of Oregon 2023 Membership as of 2/24/23 County Summary Including Encumbered HQ Transfers

District	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
1	240	0	966	0	1,206	1,436	83.98
SUM:	240	0	966	0	1,206	1,414	85.29

OREGON WOMEN VETERANS CONFERENCE

May 20-21, 2023 | Salem, Oregon



The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs is excited to announce the in-person return of the **Oregon Women Veterans Conference**, which will be held **May 20-21, 2023**, at the **Salem Convention Center**.

This free biennial conference, hosted by ODVA for more than 25 years, celebrates the contributions, diversity and strength of Oregon's women veteran community, and is the largest gathering of women veterans, across every generation of service, in the state. This year's agenda will include inspirational speakers, informative seminars and breakout sessions, and opportunities to network with other women veterans and receive direct assistance in accessing earned benefits and other resources

The 2023 conference registration will also incorporate social community connections through the **Whova** platform, which will further allow women veterans to access conference information and resources, and connect with one another before, during and after our in-person event.

Attendance is free, but registration is required. Registration is now open for this event. If your organization is interested in conference sponsorship or exhibitor opportunities, please visit our [Sponsors](#) and [Exhibitors](#) pages.

[REGISTER FOR 2023 WOMEN VETERANS CONFERENCE](#)

"This was an exceptional conference. I only wish I had known it existed earlier. I will try to attend this every year!"

https://whova.com/portal/registration/owvc_202305/

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PLUS

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



From Your American Legion Department



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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




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PHILIPS Lifeline



The American Legion 104th Birthday 2023 The American Legion Media & Communications Division 2 Milton J. Foreman was a distinguished general, a World War One hero and a founder of The American Legion. In 1921, Foreman provided a roadmap for service and national unity in an Armistice address at the University of Illinois. "Between good and bad no armistice is possible; the fight goes on and on; the sound of its cannon can never cease, as it ceased three years ago in France," he told the crowd. "We must develop our national feeling. We must get rid of 'blocs' – agricultural blocs, labor blocs, capitalistic blocs, -- and think of our country as a unit and ourselves as much a part of that unit as if we were the officers and the privates in an army.

We must train ourselves in this national service, fight in it, die in it if necessary...You must have the courage and endurance for this." – unquote.

On the day of Foreman's Armistice Day speech, fellow American Legion founder Hamilton Fish, Junior, a powerful member of Congress, stood at Arlington National Cemetery for the dedication of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Tomb was the culmination of Legion advocacy and Fish's legislative determination.

Though Past National Commander Foreman did not live to see the hor-

rors of World War Two, his call for training, service, unity, courage, and endurance would be answered by the next generation of Americans. It was the generation that would transform a start-up organization of Great War veterans into the largest and most powerful community service force in the country.

It was Foreman's contemporaries in The American Legion who would create the greatest domestic legislation ever passed by Congress – the GI Bill of Rights. Legionnaires from World War One, led by Past National Commander Harry Colmery, understood that America had a duty to remember its newest veterans.

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 would make higher education, home loans, vocational training, and readjustment compensation available to those who honorably answered the nation's call during what many viewed was a war for survival. On the back of every American Legion membership card is the Preamble to our organization's Constitution. In the Preamble, we pledge to "make right the master of might." The American Legion has always believed in "Might." It is why our founders included a strong national defense as one of our Four Pillars.

While many of America's wartime enemies had strong militaries, The American Legion understood Fore-

man's warning that between good and bad no armistice was possible. For too many veterans, the war does not end when the guns fall silent. Last year, The American Legion witnessed the signing of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act. The law provides comprehensive health care and benefits to veterans with illnesses related to burn pits, atomic radiation, Agent Orange, and other toxic exposures. Thousands of Legionnaires worldwide wrote, called, visited, and messaged lawmakers. They reminded Congress that elected officials should serve veterans as well as veterans have served America. The PACT Act wasn't the only recent legislative achievement by The American Legion.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is now mandated to conduct annual Buddy Check Weeks, an initiative started by The American Legion. Through our camaraderie, The American Legion has always appreciated the power of peers. Veterans share a common bond and can have a positive impact on those in crisis. Through Buddy Checks and the Be the One program, The American Legion has made suicide prevention its top priority. There is no single answer to solving the tragedy that thousands of veterans each year die by their own hand. American Legion National Commander Jim Troiola (Tree ola) simply asks that we each commit to

Continued on page 21

Continued from page 20

“be the one to save one.” That means eliminating the stigma and instead saluting the courage that it requires to call the 988-crisis line and begin the path to mental wellness. Since our founding, The American Legion has understood that service encompasses far more than military duty and commitment to veterans.

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It is an obligation to our communities, and especially, the youth of America. From Boys & Girls State...to Shooting Sports...to Baseball...to Oratorical contests...The American Legion Family offers the finest programs and scholarship opportunities of any service organization in the country. An important aspect of our American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation is its training of a strong corps of service officers but that is only part of its mission. The Veterans & Children

The American Legion 104th Birthday

Foundation also provides Temporary Financial Assistance to Legion and military families in need due to expenses related to food, shelter, utilities, and health. These are just a few of the programs in which The American Legion delivers on its motto of Veterans Strengthening America.

The American Legion’s true strength does not come from the corridors of Congress or from its national headquarters. It comes from the communities. It is on display when residents of a storm-stricken town take refuge at an American Legion post that is converted into a makeshift emergency shelter. The strength is in an American Legion job fair, post meeting or troop homecoming event. The American Legion’s strength is felt when a group of cap-wearing veterans visits patients at a VA hospital. The strength of the Legion resonates when volunteers speak about their military experience in school classrooms on Veterans Day. The American Legion strength is seen when an honor guard pays respects at a veteran’s funeral or a Rider’s chapter raises awareness for a worthy cause.

One hundred and four years ago, a committed group of World War One veterans from the United States met in Paris, France with a broad vision. Included among their goals was “to inculcate the duty and obligation of

the citizen to the state.” It was repeated by PNC Foreman’s expressed desire two years later to “develop our national feeling.” More than a century later – the duty, obligation and national feeling desired by the founders exists in abundance. It can be found at more than 12,000 American Legion posts around the globe. It is a feeling that has proven timeless over the last 104 years, one that matters deeply today and will endure for generations to come. Thank you and God Bless our American Legion.



Answer: B. Alma Cummings

The first woman to win a dance marathon was Alma Cummings, in 1923 who danced for 27 hours without stopping.

A few months later her record was overtaken by 69 hours of dancing by Vera Sheppard.

The American Society of Teachers of Dancing had a petition against them because it was “dangerous and a disgrace to the art of dancing.”

HELPING A HERO

Changing Lives, One Veteran at a Time

Post 37

Hermiston Community really Supports it's Veterans



Aaron Wetterling
Vet Scuttlebutt

Not too long ago, I posted, probably on Facebook, the information concerning one of our events, and a reader responded, "You must live in a very patriotic community."

I have no idea how to gauge the patriotism of a city, but I do know this about our area of the world. Our citizens seem to care about our veterans.

During the last few years, numerous other veterans and I have enjoyed the annual Veterans Breakfast at the Community Center promoted by the Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by several local businesses. I've always appreciated those who go out of their way to assist financially and volunteer their time to serve.

The Breakfast was canceled in 2020 due to the covid crisis, but our Chamber of Commerce and its members rose to the occasion and presented every Vet that showed up at the Sandstone Middle School parking lot a ticket for a free meal at a local eatery listed on the ticket. Even the Cinema participated and handed out a ticket for free admission to a movie.

When the fall of 2021 came around it was time to get the Veteran's Breakfast wagon back on the trail.

The Hermiston Parks Department jumped at the chance to grease the wheels and get this gig rolling and did

a super job coordinating sponsors and volunteers to pull off this time-honored tradition.

The American Legion was asked to lend a hand and did, setting up tables and chairs for 150 guests. When the Breakfast took place, nearly every chair was occupied.

It was great to see the Vets once again gathered and enjoying each other's company.

As Veterans Day 2022 approached, our Parks Department already had the ball rolling, and it was rolling very well. Once again, they asked the Legion to set up tables and chairs....this time, 300! We did this two days before the Breakfast, and on the day in between, four of Hermiston's finest, representing the Chamber and the Parks Department, decorated each table and put out place settings... and to those, I humbly say, "Thank you?"

As the Vets and their family members entered the Community Center, they were warmly welcomed by a cadre of greeters. Thank you.

Then there were the volunteers from the local Key Clubs, Kiwanis, and Rotary, serving food and ensuring the coffee flowed. Thank you.

A **BIG** Thank You to our sponsors. The Pheasant Blue Collar Bar and Grill, Umatilla Electric Co-Op, Burns Mortuary, Lamb Weston, Specks Printing, Kiwanis, and The AGAPE House.

Yes, we have a very patriotic community, and just wait until you see the small-town parades in our surrounding communities.

The American Legion, Post 37, meets

the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the AGAPE House, 500 W. Harper RD, Hermiston.

For more information about the American Legion call 541-720-1815.

Important phone numbers for Vets: The Veterans Crisis line's new number - is 988; then press 1

Chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat. Text 838255.

Walla Walla Vet Help Center
509-526-8387

Vet Rep Oregon Employment Dept.
541-975-4519

Umatilla County Veterans Rep
541-667-3125

Morrow County Vet Rep
541-922-6420

CTUIR Tribal Vet Rep
541-429-7389

Thank you for checking in.

"Semper Fi!"



"Civil rights used to be about treating everyone the same. But today some people are so used to special treatment that equal treatment is considered to be discrimination." — Thomas Sowell

A National Treasure

Thomas Sowell

He's still alive at 92 (b. Jun 30, 1930 in Gastonia, NC), but retired.

Sowell grew up in Harlem, served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War.

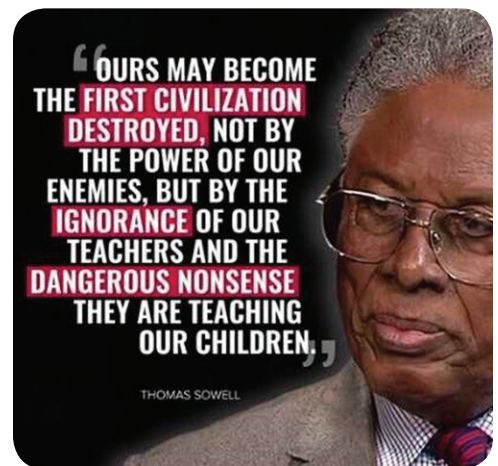
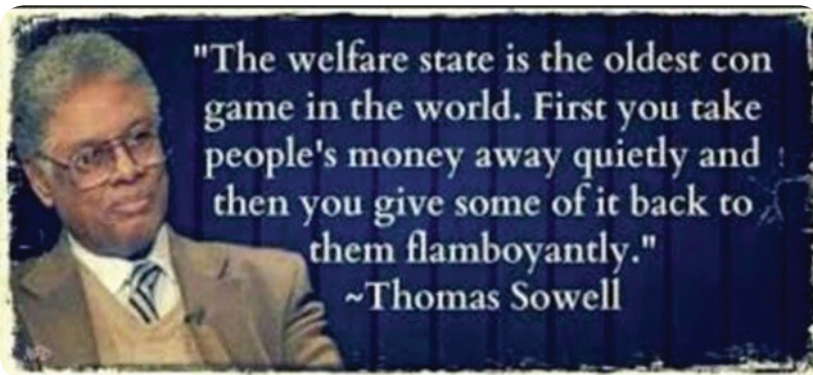
Graduated Magna Cum Laude from Harvard, Masters from Columbia, PhD Economics University of Chicago, economist, social theorist, philosopher, author, Senior Fellow Hoover Institution, Stanford University, National Humanities Medal, and Francis Boyer award.



"No society ever thrived because it had a large and growing class of parasites living off those who produce."

~ Thomas Sowell

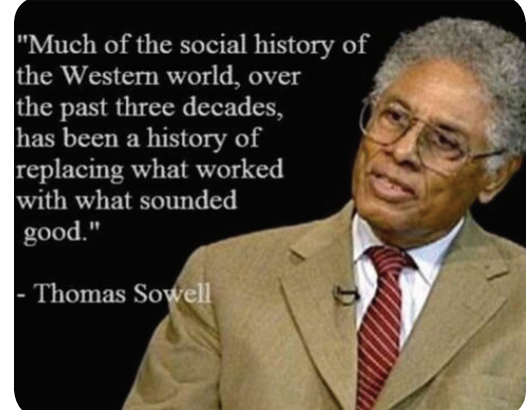
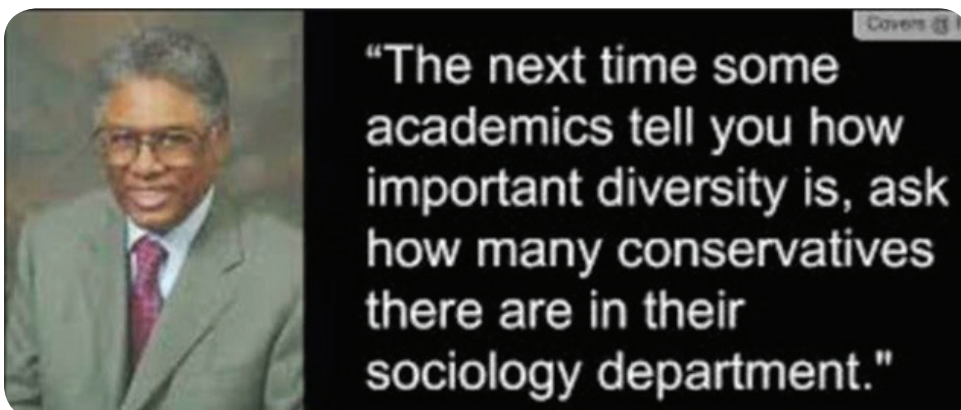
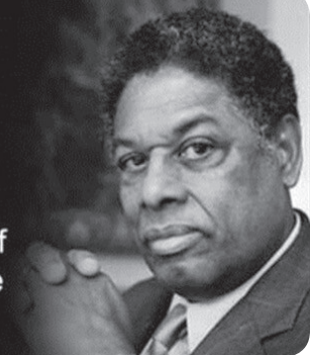
"WHAT EXACTLY IS YOUR 'FAIR SHARE' OF WHAT 'SOMEONE ELSE' HAS WORKED FOR?"
—THOMAS SOWELL



"One of the sad signs of our times is that we have demonized those who produce, subsidized those who refuse to produce, and canonized those who complain."

Thomas Sowell

It is hard to imagine a more stupid or more dangerous way of making decisions than by putting those decisions in the hands of people who pay no price for being wrong.



The Chapel of Four Chaplains Awards



Group that presented PDC, Bob Huff with the Vietnam Medallion



Four Chaplains Award presented to PDC, Bob Huff from MCL, Loren Otto

On Friday, February 10, 2023, PDC Bob Huff was presented The Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Humanitarian Award in a ceremony in Grants Pass by the Marine Corps League, who had submitted his nomination to receive the Award. His name was added to the Legion of Honor (LOH) of The Chapel of Four Chaplains. The Award was presented for his selfless service for a lifetime of outstanding humanitarian service, which has profoundly affected the quality of life in one's community and nation. Selfless service consists of deeds and actions on behalf of others irrespective of their race, ethnicity, or faith. This Award is given very rarely.

How to make Buddy Check Wristbands for Public Awareness

The American Legion
FEB 16, 2023

American Legion Buddy Checks are to be conducted during the week of the Legion's birthday per Resolution 18. Download the Buddy Check Toolkit to help you connect with Legionnaires and veterans in your community.

The American Legion Department of Oregon has also created an engaging tool to help you prepare for and promote Buddy Checks, as well as Be the One.

The Department of Oregon created colorful wristbands to educate the public on the Legion's Buddy Check

program and Be the One suicide prevention awareness initiative and to give them something they can wear daily as a reminder.

Two wristbands are in 4x6 Ziplock bags with a cardstock insert educating on Buddy Checks or Be the One.

"We went with two bracelets per pack to create the opportunity of engagement," said Department 1st Vice Commander Cory Brockmann. "You can pull one out and wear it and give the other to someone else. So wear it and share it."

The Buddy Check packets feature a variety of slipknot wristband colors – yellow, red, white, black, orange, blue,



red, pink, green, hunter green, etc. While the Be the One wristband is silicone, red and blue and has the American Legion brandmark, Be the One website and "Save a veteran" embossed on it.

To date, nearly 4,000 Buddy Check packets have been made and 8,000 slipknot wristbands.

How to make slipknot bracelets

Continued on page 25

How to make Buddy Check Wristbands for Public Awareness

- **Watch YouTube videos.** Brockmann searched “How to make slipknot bracelets” on YouTube, and about 20 three-minute videos popped up. He then went to a sporting goods store and bought cord used for lacrosse rackets. He cut it into 18-inch lengths and practiced in front of his computer while watching YouTube videos.

- **Purchase string.** Lacrosse net strings work or Brockmann found wholesalers (to make it cost-effective) and bought spools of 300-foot paracord in a variety of colors that were on sale.

- **Purchase white cardstock for the inserts.** Brockmann lays three out on a single sheet.

- **Identify funding.** The Department of Oregon American Legion Foundation provided grants to cover the cost of the Buddy Check and Be the One wristband. For about 3,000 Buddy Check packs, it was \$1,000; and around \$1,200 for 5,000 Be the One silicone bracelets. “The beauty of this is that it is scalable. You don’t have to have a grant for \$1,000 or \$1,500 and go all in. I would encourage folks to develop your design based on what your intended target is. Then grow it from there.”

- **Make the wristbands.** Brockmann said it’d been all volunteer work to make the slipknot wristbands that have included the whole Legion Family and Legion Baseball players. “It’s labor intensive, but it’s a great opportunity for relationships with the foundation and American Legion Family.”

Card inserts

FRONT: Buddy Check
Our Mission: No veteran left behind.

It’s that simple.

Because one is one too many.

BACK: Please wear and share these slipknot bracelets as a reminder of the sacrifices made by veterans and our military servicemembers And as a symbol of the bond that unites us together, as one. American

Together, we can prevent veteran suicide.

(The back also features the Veterans Crisis Line phone number and website for more resources, and donation information to the department’s foundation to support suicide prevention efforts.)

FRONT: Be the One logo

BACK 1: The American Legion’s mission is to reduce the rate of veteran suicide by empowering veterans, service members, their loved ones, and anyone else to take action to save the life of one veteran when the need arises.

BACK 2: Wear or share this bracelet as a reminder of the sacrifices made by veterans, service members, and their families. It symbolizes the bond that unites veterans and civilians together as Americans.

Together, we can all act to reduce the number of veteran suicides.

Be the One

Find opportunities for engagement

The Department of Oregon has left Be the One packets at VA hospitals and on a table, they sponsored at a veterans memorial fundraiser. They, too, handed out more than 800 Buddy Check packets to fans at a Portland Trail Blazers game.

“Be the One outreach is good for the public because the solution to ending veteran suicide isn’t just talking to veterans,” Brockmann said. “It’s talking to family members of veterans, and it’s talking to the public ... identifying with those that are friends with veterans. It’s going to take all of us to bring an end to veteran suicide.”

Brockmann added that you don’t have to live in a large metropolitan area to engage successfully. “The more events that bring engagement are smaller events.” You can create these packets for delivery at blood drives, farmers’ markets, fairs, parades, and other community events.

“Successes can happen everywhere. There are no failures. The key failure would be the one where you don’t take action. One step at a time; start small and build it.”

“Some of the biggest cases of mistaken identity are among intellectuals who have trouble remembering that they are not God.”

Thomas Sowell

We are mailing Emergency Assistance Plus (EA+) on March 1st.

Quick reminder about EA+:

If you're traveling away from home and experience a medical emergency, EA+ steps in to provide essential support services that can help you during your emergency. Services include:

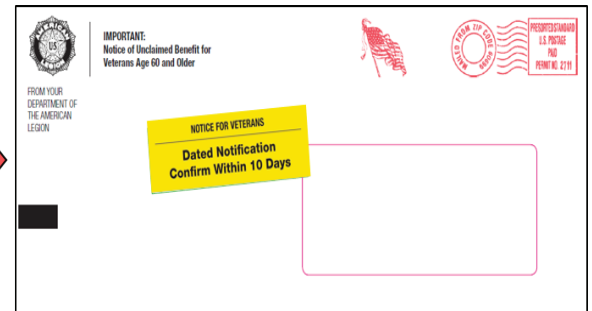
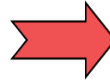
- Medical Evacuation to get you to a more appropriate hospital.
- Transportation Home after hospitalization.
- Nurse Escort to help you travel if deemed medically necessary.
- Return of Vehicle if it is stranded due to your emergency.
- And More!

Product may not be available in all states and may not mail all your members. If you want a more detailed description of this product, visit www.TheLIT.com/Emergency-Assistance-Plus.

WHAT'S MAILING THIS MONTH?



Here's what it will look like to most people who receive it.



- We will be hosting a webinar about the Legionnaire Insurance Trust on March 30th. Stay tuned for a formal invite.
- The next mailing is Accidental Death on April 12th.
- The LIT Trust Meeting will be held April 23-26th at the Tradewinds Island Grand Resort.



HOW DID IT DO?



We are excited to report that the Cancer Care Insurance direct mail campaign we mailed in November brought in over 1,000 new insureds!

Brought to you by: [Facebook](#)
The Legionnaire Insurance Trust

Questions? Contact Cristina Garibay
800-445-3269
cgaribay@agia.com

Wilsonville Mayor Julie Fitzgerald attended a meeting of The American Legion Post 65 Monday night

The mayor shared updates with the veterans about current city projects, including the future Frog Pond East and South developments, construction along Kinsman Road for the Willamette Water Supply pipe, and plans to straighten the infamous “Boeckman dip” between Canyon Creek Road and Wilsonville/Stafford Road.

Fitzgerald said she would like the American Legion to be present at more city events. “You’re helping to support other veterans just by your very presence,” she said. The American Legion is an organization for U.S. military veterans founded in 1919. The local Post 65 is headquartered in Wilsonville and led by post command



*Wilsonville Mayor Julie Fitzgerald attended a meeting of The American Legion Post 65 on Jan. 16, 2023.
Kaelyn Cassidy Pamplin Media Group*

der Larry Edwards.

Post 65 is often involved in community service opportunities in Wilson

ville such as food and blood drives, donations to scholarship programs and sponsorship of Wilsonville Boy Scout Troop 528.

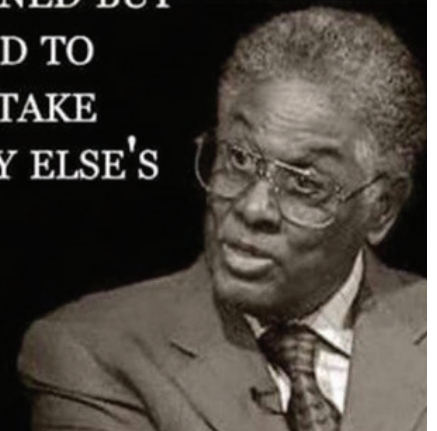
“We seem to be getting closer and closer to a situation where nobody is responsible for what they did but we are all responsible for what somebody else did.”

Thomas Sowell



“I HAVE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY IT IS ‘GREED’ TO WANT TO KEEP THE MONEY YOU HAVE EARNED BUT NOT GREED TO WANT TO TAKE SOMEBODY ELSE’S MONEY.”

THOMAS SOWELL



The American Legion Post 73 Maupin gets a new Commander



Past National Vice Commander Robert Liebenow (left) swearing in the new American Legion Post 73 Maupin Commander Dennis G. Wright at Department Headquarters.



82-year-old Dennis G. Wright is the new Commander of The American Legion Post 73 in Maupin. He is determined to continue the legacy forward and keep The American Legion alive and well in the small rural town of Maupin. He travels back and forth between Portland and Maupin.

The city is now taking care of the building since the membership has dropped off considerably in the last many years. In 1919, The American Legion was founded on four pillars: **Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.** Each of these pillars encompasses a variety of pro-

grams that benefit our nation's veterans, its service members, their families, the youth of America, and ordinary citizens.

He will reach out to the community and its' veterans to help him promote the Programs of the American Legion. Oratorical Speech contest, Boys State, the Jim Willis Law Enforcement Career Camp. Scouting, Junior Shooting Sports. For more information, see these websites, <https://www.legion.org> and <https://orlegion.org/>. You can contact him directly. Ph: (503) 799-4595, and email; vista-house@com-cast.net

Mt. Angel American Legion Post and Auxiliary Unit #89



Making the donations (L-RT) were Jim and Martha Kosel, and Wayne DeVore, with Bess Nichols from the Home accepting the donations.



Mt. Angel American Legion Post and Auxiliary #89 donated seven Apple I-PODs and music cards to the Oregon Veterans Home at Lebanon for use by the residents in the memory care unit. Each I-POD will be loaded with the veteran's favorite music. Also included in the donation were hats, gloves, and scarves, hand knitted by Sherry IpoX, a Mt. Angel resident.

PACT Act Fraud Prevention

On August 10, 2022, President Biden signed the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins Act of 2022 (PACT Act) — possibly the largest expansion of Veterans benefits in history — into law.

The PACT Act expands Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances, and it helps VA provide generations of Veterans and their survivors with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve.

However, predatory companies are targeting Veterans' retroactive benefit payments and VA needs your continued support to help us educate Veterans and their survivors about the types of fraud tactics being used against them — especially now that the PACT Act has been passed.

Some predatory companies, not accredited by VA, are targeting Veterans by offering to assist them with their VA benefit claim. These companies charge absurd fees or require those applying to pay a portion of their VA benefits for this 'help'. VA will never charge Veterans or their family members to apply for the benefits they may be entitled to receive.

Please share the following information with Veterans and their survivors to help them guard against fraud and scams:

- Apply directly to VA. You may submit your application securely online via [VA.gov](https://va.gov) or in person at any regional office. You may file your claim directly with VA, and VA will help gather the necessary evidence to sup-

port it. There are no costs or hidden fees to apply.

- Be suspicious of media advertisements from companies which provide information about the PACT Act and suggest you can only obtain benefits with their help. These companies may not be accredited with VA and may be attempting to charge you illegal fees.

- Use the VA Office of General Counsel (OGC) [Accreditation Search](#) to confirm and validate the credentials of anyone offering claims assistance.

- Be cautious of aggressive law firms or companies expressing a sense of urgency and insisting you must act now.

- Do not sign a contract agreeing to pay an unauthorized company a fee to help you with your VA claim. There are [accredited Veterans Service Organizations, agents and attorneys](#) who may assist you.

- Be cautious of companies claiming to be contacting you on behalf of VA. Contact VA directly at 1-800-827-1000 if you are unsure about the authenticity of a message you've received.

- Review all documents thoroughly. Never sign a blank form for someone else to complete later. Always review the fully completed form.

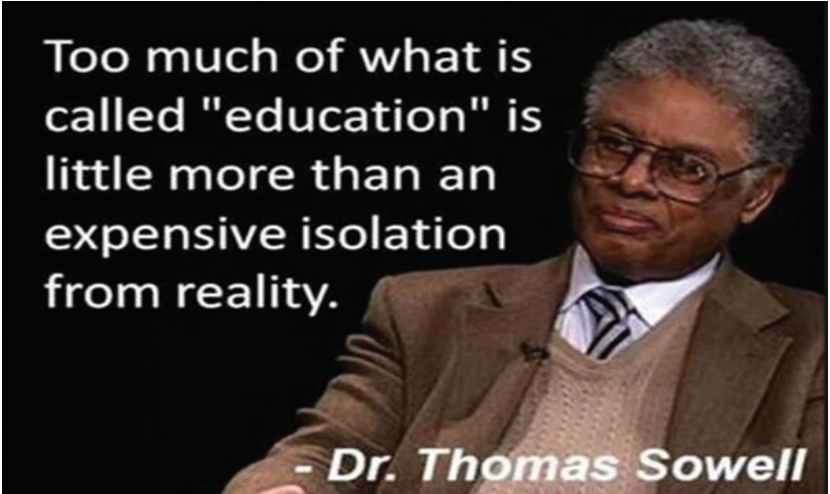
Helpful Resources and Tools

Veterans and their survivors who think they might be eligible should apply for PACT Act benefits right now. Go to www.va.gov/PACT or call 1-800-MYVA411 for more information.

To report suspected fraud or predatory companies, please contact VA [OIG \(OIG\) Hotline \(va.gov\)](#).

Veterans and their survivors who suspect a company is using predatory practices, should file a complaint with the [Federal Trade Commission](#) and the [Better Business Bureau](#). For more information on how to avoid scams, go to <https://www.fcc.gov/veterans-targeted-benefits-scams>.

Although there's still a lot of work to be done, we appreciate your partnering with us to help protect Veterans and their survivors against fraudsters and PACT Act scams!



Too much of what is called "education" is little more than an expensive isolation from reality.

- Dr. Thomas Sowell



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

American Legion Department of Oregon at Washington, DC Conference



(L-R) PNVC, Rob Liebenow, Legislative Chair, John Lee and National Security Chair, Greg Marvin pose with (Bottom Left) Representative Lori Chavez-DeRemer in Washington DC.

Rob Liebenow, John Lee, and Greg Marvin met with House Representative for District 5 Lori Chavez-DeRemer during The American Legion's Washington Conference on February 28th.

As a member of the Republican Party, she represents Oregon's 5th congressional district in the United States House of Representatives. She is the first Republican woman to represent Oregon in the House.

They discussed The American Legion's priorities for the 118th Congress, 1st session. The eight members of the Oregon delegation met with all the Oregon Legislators or their staff.

Those who also attended also where: PNC, Charlie Schmidt, PDC, Bob Huff, and Department 2nd Vice Commander, Dan Burks

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.

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JOHN LEE
LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

Join me in doing
your part for our
Legislation.

Scan and it
will take you
to our Na-
tional website
for allerts on
Legislative is-
sues.



Happy 104th
Birthday
to
The American Legion



THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Name _____ (First) _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____ (Date of Birth) _____

Mailing Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (ZIP) _____

(Phone) _____ (Email) _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female
(Gender) _____ (Post #) _____ (Dues) _____

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

Please check appropriate eligibility era and branch of service below:

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

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____ Name of Recruiter _____

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

ALA 08/2019

Date _____

Received From _____
\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues _____

Recruiter's Name _____

Recruiter's Signature _____

Recruiter's Phone # _____



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

Date _____

Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____ Birth Date _____

Name _____ (First) _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____ Recruited by _____ (Initial) _____ (Last) _____

Address _____ (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (ZIP) _____ (Phone) _____

Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____

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

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

(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____

Has Applicant previously been a member of the SAL? _____ Where? _____

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

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

Signed By Applicant (or Parent) _____ Eligibility certified by _____

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

ALA 12/2013

Date _____

Received From _____
\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues _____

Squadron No. _____

Department of _____



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____ Unit # and Location (if known) _____

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

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

Previous Unit City/State: _____ ALA ID#: _____

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

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

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

If Living: American Legion Member ID # _____ Post # _____ City _____ State _____

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

Veteran Served:

☐ WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)

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

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

Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:

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

To Be Completed By The American Legion Post Adjutant/Officer

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

Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification _____

Date _____

ALA 09/2019

Date _____

Received From _____
\$ _____ for 20 _____ Dues _____

Recruiter's Name _____

Recruiter's Signature _____

Recruiter's Phone # _____