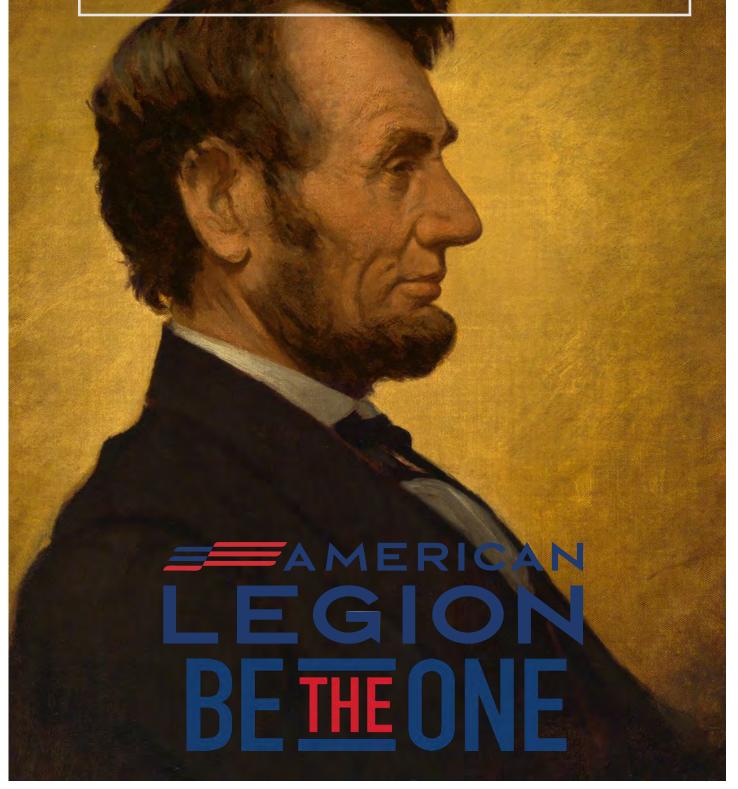
February 2024 Issue

The Oregon Legionnaire

The Voice of Oregon's Veterans, since 1919



Department Adjutant's Message



Jessie Clark | Department Adjutant

adjutant@orlegion.com

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to our Oregon Legion Family. I am a Paid Up for Life member of the American Legion and have been an active member for 10 years. I earned my eligibility for the Legion through my service in the United States Army from 1997-2005. I served at Ft. Drum and Ft. Bragg, as a Multi-channel Radio Operated and then reenlisted with the Army Active Reserves as a Medical Technologist with the 81st RSC. I was mobilized from 2004-2005 when my Army career came to a swift and unexpected end at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM) due to a Medical Discharge.

After my studies and receiving a Masters Degree in Organizational Leadership and Development/ HR Management, I began working as a Practice Manager at Madigan Hospital on JBLM. I traveled to Arkansas where I took a job working with the Corps of Engineers as a Project Manager and a member of The Blue Roof Team where I was sent to Panama City in 2019 following Hurricane Michael.

I started my Legion journey in Arkansas where I was elected as Post Commander, District Commander, Department Training Chairman, and served on several National Committees. I was also nominated as "I Am the American Legion" and was publish in January 2019 edition of the Legion Magazine. In the later months of 2019, I was offered the job as the Adjutant of the American Legion Department of Washington where I continued to serve our great organization.

I am now on a new Legion adventure as your Department Adjutant and I look forward to working with all of you! Continue the great work that you have been doing for The American Legion!





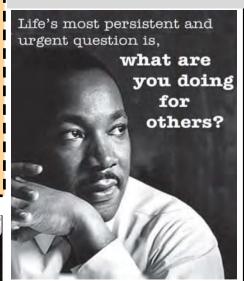




MEMBERSHIP

Membership is important not only to your Post but also to the state and national organizations. Each year, the number of our members and programs for veterans and communities are reported to Congress. Truly, there is strength in numbers, positively affecting proposed legislation for veterans benefits. Stand up and show your support for our veteran's and The American Legion, as well as the men and women currently serving, by renewing your membership today.

RENEW TODAY









Each new
chapter of our
lives requests an
old part of us to
fall and a new
part of us to
rise.

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One of the founding principles of the United States that Americans cherish is the right to freedom of speech. Enshrined in the First Amendment to the Constitution, freedom of speech grants all Americans the liberty to criticize the government and speak their minds without fear of being censored or persecuted.

Right?

Even though the concept of freedom of speech on its face seems quite simple, in reality there are complex lines that can be drawn around what kinds of speech are protected and in what setting.

The Supreme Court declared in the case Schenck v. United States in 1919 that individuals are not entitled to speech that presents a "clear and present danger" to society. For example, a person cannot falsely yell "fire" in a crowded theater because that speech doesn't contribute to the range of ideas being discussed in society, yet the risk of someone getting injured is high. On the other hand, in Brandenburg v. Ohio in 1969, the court declared that even inflammatory speech, such as racist language by a leader of the Ku Klux Klan, should generally be protected unless it is likely to cause imminent violence.

While the text and principle of the First Amendment have stayed the same, the court's interpretation has indeed changed over time. Judges, lawmakers and scholars continue to struggle with balancing strong speech protections with the necessity of maintaining a peaceful society. What do you think? Why is the freedom of speech an important right? Why might it be important to protect even unpopular or hurtful speech? And yet, when might the government draw reasonable limits on speech, and why?

Just something to think about!



Commanders Corner

Be The One Day! If you missed it on January 1st while ringing in the new year, a reminder that Be The One Day occurs on the first day of every month! Legion Family members are encour-

aged to wear a Be the One pin or apparel item to show support and commitment to reducing the stigma around mental health issues among veterans and servicemembers. If you don't yet have a Be The One – Oregon pin, please inquire with your district leadership on availability. Continue to Be The One!

Mere days following the dawn of the new year, actions of the department executive committee approved the appointment of Jessie Clark as our permanent department adjutant. As commander, I could not be more pleased with the actions of the department executive committee, as well as, the diligence and, committed, timely effort of the administration and advisory commission in assisting in making recommendation of Clark as department adjutant. Very clearly, the qualifications and experiences that Clark brings to Department of Oregon will help solidify a vital leadership component of the department.

I extend our sincere thanks to PDC Gene Hellickson for his selfless commitment in providing invaluable experience, and his time, serving as interim adjutant for our department. While it was during a slower business time at year-end for the department, he gave unselfishly during the holiday season to help bridge the period until a permanent adjutant could be appointed. Well done, servant leader!

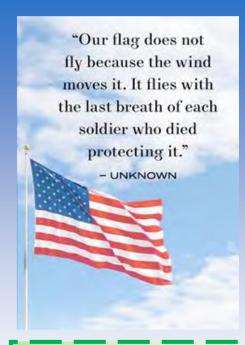
Fox, Goode, Poling, and Washington. Four Chaplains. Four heroes we haven't forgotten. This year Four Chaplains Sunday is February 4th. On or about February 3rd each year we recognize the brave and selfless sacrifices made by these heroes of the cloth, who rendered aid to others and, ultimately, gave their lives so others might live. Please help your post honor their memories by remembering their sacrifice February 4th

The Washington Conference will be held February 25-28th at the Washington Hilton in Washington DC. Oregon will have a delegation of six members attending. Delegates will be conducting national business respective to commissions, councils, and/or committees for TBI/PTSD/Suicide Prevention; Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation; Veterans Employment & Education; National Security; Legislative; and, more. Following the conference, the Oregon delegation will be meeting with each of our U.S. Senators and Representatives concerning the American Legion's legislative priorities supporting our veterans. Typically, the conference concludes with the national commander's testimony before a joint session of the House of Representatives and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs. As the House of Representatives is on recess during the conference week, the testimony has been scheduled for March 13th. Members and supporters can view the testimony via live-streaming; look for that link to be posted on Legion.org.

Thank you for all that you do in support of our American Legion. The American Legion changes lives and saves lives due to your efforts. For God and country, please continue to Be The One with me, when needed, to save a veteran.

BE THE ONE
BUDDY
CHECKS
"TODAY"





Have you renewed your membership?

points to Ponda

People used to wait in line at the checkout and daydream. Now they pull out their phones and go right back into the digital world.

This is a missed opportunity to reflect, to relax, to be mindful of the moment.

Creativity really lives in those quiet, silent spaces.

SCOUTING



This month, we'll look at the Oregon Trail Council. With it's main office in Eugene, the council serves more than 1200 youth supported by over 700 adults in 83 units. They're made up of 6 counties I Western Oregon from the

Cascades to the Coast including Eugene, Springfield, Corvallis, Roseburg, and Coos Bay. Scouts are served along the famous Oregon Coast from Lincoln City to Brookings.

Oregon Trail Council is divided into 7 Districts, Yaquina, Benton, Greenwood, Cascade, Chinook, Wacoma and Doug Fir Districts. They have 6 major camps; Camp Baker on Siltcoos Lake (just outside of Florence). Camp Chinook (near Coos Bay), Camp Kitson (near Oakridge), Camp Melakwa (near McKenzie Bridge), Camp Murnane (west of Eugene), and Mooney Scout Rance (near Winston), along with other smaller camps.

Mike Speer Scouting Chair Department of Oregon







BE THE ONE

Post Commanders & Adjutants

Please make sure you print-out or forward the Legionnaire Magazine each month to your membership.

This is the only way they get to keep updated on what is happening in their Legion.



Department Auxiliary President

The Auxiliary is keeping things moving this year. Do you ever feel like you're being left behind? Not as involved as you'd like to be? Don't know as much as others seem to know?

Your opportunity to get more involved can begin from home. Are you online? Do you use Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), or Instagram? All three platforms are utilized by The American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters. Using any of these platforms is an easy way to find out the latest webinars where they teach about different topics, in-person trainings and how to attend, and tons of information about what others in the Auxiliary are doing. The easiest way to find this information in any platform listed above is to go to the platform, type in alaforveterans in the search bar, and the National Headquarters office will show in the list.

We're never too old to learn. Our department has held in-person trainings, and the attendance is less than 1% of our membership. Using online resources is a great way to get information to the masses. So your unit has members who are not online? This is a perfect opportunity for other members in your unit, who are online, to stepup and help pass on learned information to those who are not online. By sharing information in this manner, we'll learn to work together better in our units, we'll have more trainings available than just relying on department, and there's more flexibility to have training as needed. Everyone can help others by sharing information. We are a team and we need to work together to make our team stronger.

President Catherine Brockmann Department of Oregon









LEGIONNAIRE

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ABOVE
E-MAILS

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2023-2024

DEPARTMENT OF OREGON

COMMANDER'S & PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

For over 104 years in communities across the Department of Oregon, our American Legion Family has been a positive influence supporting veterans and children. Our President's and Commander's project seeks to continue that heritage by raising funds in support of David's Chair, an Oregon company that works to create opportunities for individuals with mobility challenges to use track chairs, at no cost, to access the outdoors.



David's Chair is a 501C(3) nonprofit. For more detailed information about David's Chair navigate to https://davidschair.org

Donations may be made directly to either of the Department of Oregon's American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary, and funds will be combined and provided to David's Chair following the 2024 department convention. The cost of a Tow and Go (chair and trailer) exceeds \$20,000. Please join with us to make Oregon's beautiful outdoors accessible to others!

To donate:

LEGION

Please make checks payable to:
The American Legion
Department of Oregon
and include in the
Memo: Commander's Project

Mail to:

American Legion Department of Oregon P.O. Box 1730

Wilsonville, OR 97070

AUXILIARY

Please make checks payable to:

American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Oregon

and include in the

Memo: President's Project

Mail to:

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Oregon P.O. Box 1730

Wilsonville, OR 97070

Thank you for helping make a difference in the lives of others!



SAL Commander Detachment of Oregon



Son of The American Legion

We have had a few bumps in the road this year, but things seem to be working themselves out.

Membership is going strong, and I expect another great year. We have met and exceeded all target dates so far and should continue to do so. We have been growing over the past several years and with your help, we will continue to do so.

There are about five months left before convention. It is time to start thinking about your year-end reports. It is curial that all squadrons turn in their consolidated squadron reports. We should and can be 100% as a detachment.

The SAL National Commander J.R. Hall will be in Oregon March 7th through the 10th. We are still finalizing his schedule. If he is in your area, please come out and meet J. R.

Always remember, we are here to help promote Legion program and work with posts to better improve the lives of our veterans and their families. Stop fighting with each other and continue to get the work done.

Detachment Commander Robert D. Liebenow The Sons of The American Legion







Have you done your

BUDDY CHECKS

today?

EDITORS NOTES



Reprinting with permission only!

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



CHAPLAINS PULPIT

Hello Legionnaires,

Merry belated Christmas and a very Happy New Years to us all! In case you have not heard, I am the new interim Department Chaplain after Steve Shollenburg, stepped down due to health reasons. I will be finishing out his term till Convention.

If there is anything that I can do for you or if you have questions I can answer please let me know. My number can be found in the confidential roster in a few locations or here it is.

503-781-3215

I hope the New Year brings us new energy, new ideas, and renewed commitment to the pillars of the American Legion.

Chaplain
Betty Fish-Ferguson
Department of Oregon



→

PAST DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

As for my parting words, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. We just finished with Christmas and I hope and pray everyone had a wonderful time with family, friends and never forgetting what the Reason for the Season

is all about, and that being the magical Birth in the little town of Bethlehem so many years ago.

For this new year take some time to reflect on last year, and what you would of done different if you could. Make new plans, wonderful plans with your family & friends, another words take some time for you. We are in such a fast paced life, trying to get by, make ends meet, and we sometimes forget the one place we should be turning, and that is God's word.

So, relax, enjoy life, you never know what might be around the corner.

Steven D. Shollenburg Past Dept. Chaplain

HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL

FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS

Americanism Month

Four Chaplains Sunday First Sunday, February

Iwo Jima Flag Raised - 23 February 1945

Iwo Jima Invasion - 19 February 1945

Lincoln's Birthday – 12 February

Operation Desert Storm, End of - 28 February 1991

Operation Desert Storm, Start of - 24 February 1991

Panama/Operation Just Cause – February 1988

Presidents Day – 3rd Monday of February

Presidents Day Holiday
USCGR Birthday

USO Birthday

Valentine's Day – 14 February

Washington's Birthday – 22 February

Department Finance Officer

All Posts, and District Commanders, welcome to 2024, this is the start of a new year and time to start putting together your financials for tax reporting for the year 2023 if your Post is in a reporting year from January 1 through December 31, 2023. Officers, District Commanders, and

Commission/Committee Chairs, I have emailed our end-of-the-month actuals for the month of October 2023 for our approved 2023-2024 Department Budget. I am continuing our audit of all our accounts with everything else on my plate and have already started our annual Tax reporting for this past Budget Year. All voting Department Executive Committee Members will receive copies of our Department 990 Form and schedules and supporting data ten days before being submitted to the IRS.

A favorite subject let's talk about our budget requests, specifically income versus expense, and discuss budgets in general. The approved Department Budget which is adopted at

budgets in general. The approved Department Budget which is adopted at each Department Convention for the new Membership Year by our Convention delegates. Considerable work goes into the Department Budget, initial budget requests by the officers, programs, and activities of the Department, which is a business. An initial Budget meeting with preparation, reviewing budget requests, and understanding income that will be available to support the new budget which includes membership, which is our market, like any other business. The "market does dictate in any business". Unique, in our business, we do have pass-throughs, and selfsupporting programs, and some of those programs also have grants and other revenue streams. Those programs are co-mingled in our Department Budget as they are programs/parts of our Department. Income versus expense; our expenses cannot exceed our income. As we do each year the Finance Commission will be asking all officers, chairs of commissions and committees, and administration to submit their budget requirements which will occur in the next couple of months. Keep in mind as you meet with your team, plan your activity for our next membership year, and complete your budget request that if you have income, your expenses do not exceed your income. Looking at other areas for income, there are a lot of grants available in our Department. We are also working on legislation for income for one of our programs; and possibly more. We have many years of actuals, income, and expenses, so we can provide you with this information. We have a lot of excellent programs; we are the only VSO that has all these excellent programs. I would encourage officers, chairs of commission, and committee members to attend district and post meetings throughout our Department provide information on their programs and become cheerleaders on all the great programs and activities that we do. And while out there, get commitments and I am sure a lot of interest in our programs and activities. Remember we have a 501c3 that the grants can be held in for your program. And remember, we are a member organization, membership is our market, and market dictates. Remember, we are here to help and answer questions, there are no dumb questions.

PDC Bob Huff, Department Finance Officer



DEADLINE

For the March

Issue: Is

February 5

OUT OF THE PAST—1921

Frank C. Burns of Condon Is Honored

Full military honors were paid Corporal Frank C. Burns of Condon, for whom the American Legion post in that city was name, when his remains ere laid to rest in the Riverview cemetery in Portland January 15. Funeral services were held in the undertaking parlors of Dunning & McEntee, and the funeral cortege was in charge of Portland Post No. 1, of The American Legion. The Remains were escorted to the grave by a firing squad and bugler.

Frank Burns was the first boy from Gilliam county to make the supreme sacrifice in the World War, and was of the stuff that heroes are made of. Early in the war he tried to enlist, but was rejected on account of being three pounds under weight. He then returned to Condon and spent a month in drinking milk in order to make up the desired three pounds. Then he returned to Portland, pass, and was sent to Camp Lewis. Eleven days after arriving there he was sent overseas with Company E, 198th Infantry, Thirty-second Division. While with that organization he was detailed as runner, and met his death in active service at Juvenay, France, on the 30th of August, 1918.



ORATORICAL A SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

For students seeking an academic challenge and an opportunity to earn college scholarship money, the American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program is a natural fit. For more than 80 years, this Constitutional speech contest has educated youth on our nation's founding documents, with an emphasis on citizenship.

The main purpose of the American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the U.S. Constitution among students. Participants also grow in leadership ability, their capacity to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and understanding of the rights, responsibilities, obligations and privileges of U.S. citizenship.

This is an awesome Legion Program and scholarship opportunity for our youth, if your Post is not involved in the Oratorical Program, why not? Get involved today, contact Ann Everetts, Commission Chair. 503-910-8252

annwalt235@earthlink.net

Children & Youth

Hello Legionnaires, Happy New Year to all!

I hope everyone survived the Christmas season and that they are planning a fresh start to the new year.

I would like to continue explaining more about the history and the opportunities involved in promoting the 4th Pillar of the American Legion: Children and Youth.

Since the beginning of the American Legion in 1919, the National Commission on Children and Youth has been guided by three main objectives:

- 1. To strengthen the family unit,
- 2. To work with quality organizations that provide services for Children, and
- 3. To provide communities with well-rounded programs that meet the needs of young people.

In addition to the Temporary Financial Assistance that I have addressed before, this Commission is also responsible for the American Legion Child Welfare Fund that provides more than \$500,000 each year to nonprofit organizations that work to improve the lives of young people. This has brought awareness to Huntington's disease, autism, Reyes syndrome, meningitis, spina bifida, juvenile diabetes, childhood cancers and other debilitating conditions.

More information can be found on the National website.

I will stop here for this month and continue with more information in the next edition of the Legionnaire.

Betty Fish-Ferguson Children & Youth Chair Department of Oregon



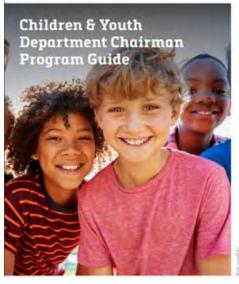
Families in urgent need.
For Disabled Veterans and Their loved ones.

The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation is A

FOUNDATION OF HOPE

For Military & Veterans





The purpose of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is

"To contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth; to aid progress in the field of child welfare and to the sum total knowledge of children and youth through research, studies, surveys and projects, or in other ways, including but not limited to activities and programs benefitting the children and youth of this nation."

"It is through the gifts provided to this foundation that children's lives are saved, their quality of life is improved, and they are taught traditional American values through your selfless actions and demonstration of integrity."

Please help us by donating. Your charitable gift of \$25, \$50 or \$100 contributes to special moments in the life of a child.

Send your donations today to: The American Legion P.O. Box 361626 Indianapolis, IN 46236 Earmark check: Child Welfare Foundation Or donate online: cwf-inc.org/donate/overview



IN MEMORIAM

PAST DISTRICT COMMANDER, JOHN MORFORD, OREGON

WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God, the Great Commander, to summon to His immortal legions our beloved comrade, John Morford, who served as District Commander, Department of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, our beloved comrade demonstrated servant leadership, selflessly, with competence, character and commitment, to the highest level for all to aspire and emulate; and

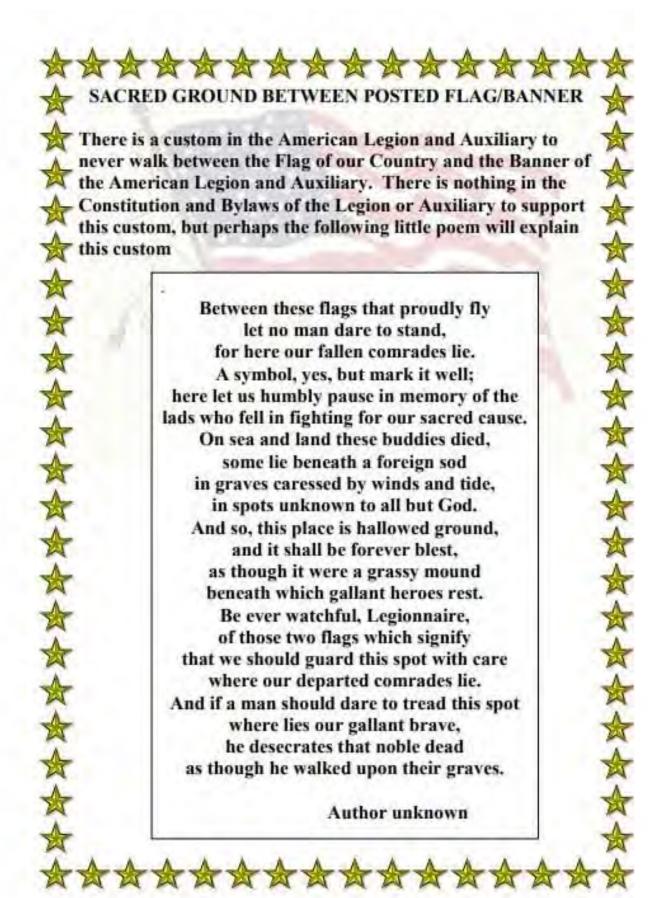
WHEREAS, We humbly bow to the will of Divine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of his distinguished service to our country and his outstanding contributions to The American Legion comradeship; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, Department of Oregon, in regular meeting assembled on this 21^{ts} day of January in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty-four, does mourn the passing of our distinguished Legionnaire, John Morford, that we commend to all his works, and to God his spirit; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That in token of our common grief, a copy of this resolution be presented to his family.

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AT THE MEETING OF THE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OREGON, HELD IN WILSONVILLE, OREGON, JANUARY TWENTY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FOUR.





DEPARTMENT OF OREGON FACILITY OPERATIONS

Effective December 5, 2023, the American Legion Department of Oregon is implementing the following operational changes due to financial constraints:

Office Schedule: The office will have business hours from Tuesday through Thursday each week.

Office Hours: The new working hours are from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Building Access: Access will be restricted to individuals with legitimate business needs only.

Use of Technology: Department computers and printers are designated for official purposes exclusively.

Commission and Committee Resources: Any use of the Department's printers and copiers will incur fees, which will be deducted from the respective commission's or committee's budget.

Department Property: Removal of Department supplies, pamphlets, and advertisements is prohibited without the express consent of the Department Adjutant.

Facilities Scheduling: Reservation of Department facilities must be coordinated in advance with the Department Adjutant.

Visitor Conduct: The Department premises should not be utilized for social events or dining purposes by visitors.

Maintenance Expectations: All visitors, Legionnaires, and employees are required to clean up after themselves, as cleaning services have been significantly reduced.

The Department regrets any inconvenience these changes may cause. This adjustment in operations is necessary for the continued functionality of the Department under current financial conditions.

Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Department Adjutant.



Internal Affairs Commission "ATTITUDE"



All those cloudy and cold days giving you're a dreary spirit?

Tired of all the negativism? ...

Well it is high time to accentuate the positive!

Celebrate our successes!

Appreciate and motivate!

Count your blessings!

Brag a little!

Pat each other on the back!

Progress Report

February marks our Department being two-thirds of the way through the year after Convention. It is time to assess our progress on administering the programs. Is your progress two-thirds along in completing the objectives that were set for this year? If not, it is time to meet with your committee(s) and map out the steps needed to have a successful year.

If the reports on file at Department headquarters are an indication of the level of activity, we are probably in need of a new boost to our programs. Very, very few Commissions, Committees, and Districts have reported with minutes on file at Department. So now we all need to review our objectives for the year, re-engage with those working the programs, and kick up the activity level to accomplish what we started the year to achieve.

If you need help, contact the Department Commission or Committee responsible for the program and seek their assistance. Districts should be the first stop for Posts because each District should have a committee for any program being conducted in the District.

We are headed into Spring soon so the days will be noticeably longer and the activity level in our communities will be raised with the good weather. This is a good time to get out and contact schools, and other community organizations to inform them of the programs that The American Legion has available and the initiatives you are trying to make available to your community.



THE ROLE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE

Role and Responsibilities The Judge Advocate plays a vital role within The American Legion, serving as a guardian of its principles, Constitution, and By-Laws. This document outlines the primary duties and responsibilities of the Department of Oregon Judge Advocate.

Interpreter of Constitution and By-Laws The Judge Advocate serves as the interpreter of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Post, District, or County/Area of The American Legion. At any time, the Judge Advocate may be called upon by the Commander, other officers, and members to rule on the legality of their actions and decisions, ensuring they align with the best interests of The American Legion.

Protector of Integrity The Judge Advocate is entrusted with safeguarding the integrity of The American Legion. Upholding the torch of truth and fidelity that symbolizes the organization's high ideals, the Judge Advocate offers wise counsel and fairness in all actions and advice.

Assistance to Committees and Officers The Judge Advocate can provide valuable assistance to other Post, District, or County/ Area committees and officers. The Service Officer may seek advice, and the Americanism Committee may require input on matters related to education and naturalization laws. Leveraging local government contacts, the Judge Advocate can benefit various committees.

Financial Accountability The Judge Advocate, as per the suggested Post Constitution, is responsible for auditing Post financial accounts. This audit should occur annually, just before the election of officers, or more frequently as needed. A thorough and proper audit is essential for efficient and proper operations.

Legal Clarification In cases of doubt or uncertainty regarding the legality of decisions, the Judge Advocate should contact the Department Judge Advocate for clarification. Personal beliefs or opinions should never influence the decisions rendered by the Judge Advocate.

Constitution and By-Laws The Post Judge Advocate must be well-acquainted with the Post Constitution and By-Laws, as they serve as the governing documents for Post operations. Any issues not covered by these documents should be directed to the Department Headquarters for resolution. Additionally, the Post Constitution and By-Laws should be reviewed, amended, and updated every three years or as required changes are identified. Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion and Department of Oregon. Post Judge Advocates should familiarize themselves with The American Legion and Department of Oregon Constitution and By-Laws. These documents should be referenced to effectively carry out their duties.

Parliamentary Procedure (Roberts Rules of Order) Parliamentary Procedure is an essential aspect of conducting meetings and ensuring the orderly conduct of business within The American Legion. Below are key points regarding parliamentary procedure:

Understanding Parliamentary Procedure Parliamentary Procedure is a set of rules for conducting meetings, allowing all members to be heard and decisions to be made without confusion. It is a time-tested method for conducting business in meetings and public gatherings. Familiarity with parliamentary procedure helps expedite business and maintain order.

Adoption of Parliamentary Law American Legion Posts should adopt parliamentary law as a means to conduct meetings. Members should be familiar with both specific and general rules of the organization. A copy of the Post By-Laws should be readily available on the Commander's desk.

Types of Motions Motions are proposals for action or decisions presented during meetings. There are four basic types of motions: Main Motions, Subsidiary Motions, Privileged Motions, and Incidental Motions.

Presenting Motions Members must obtain the floor properly before presenting a motion. Motions should be stated clearly and affirmatively. Debates on motions should be directed to the Commander and should remain within established time limits.

Voting on Motions Voting methods depend on the situation and the organization's by-laws. Common voting methods include by voice, by roll call, by general consent, by division, and by ballot.

Additional Motions There are two other commonly used motions related to voting: Motion to Table and Motion to Postpone Indefinitely.

Conducting Meetings Effectively Proper use of parliamentary procedure involves allowing motions in order, obtaining the floor correctly, clear and concise speech, and adhering to debate rules. Above all, members should conduct themselves with courtesy and respect.

Parliamentary Procedure, when employed correctly, is an effective tool for conducting business within The American Legion. By adhering to these principles and fulfilling the responsibilities outlined, the Department of Oregon Judge Advocate plays a crucial role in upholding the organization's ideals and principles.

District 2 Commander

Well, we're at the halfway mark in the Legion year.

In November, we had our District 2 meeting at Aurora Post

110. The post and unit did a great job hosting. At the meeting, there were some issues. During the opening, we saluted the flag and then I went into Scout Mode and went right into the pledge of Allegiance. Oops! Then the fact that the meeting went almost 3 hours. We agreed that, in the future, we would hold (time) the post reports (potentially 16) to no more than 5 minutes. That should help. We also had a training segment at the end of the meeting about Oratorical. It was longer than I anticipated, but very informative.

Tis the season for Christmas Parties. Many posts, as well as Dept, are having them. Our district decided that too much partying is not healthy (fun, but not healthy) so we opted not to have one. Enjoy the ones you attend.

Oratorical, still waiting to hear which posts have contestants. District competition is February 24th in Newberg. We are raffling a Pendleton blanket from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to raise money for District Oratorical. So far, so good. \$10/ticket, drawing at the District 2 meeting Feb 3rd. I plan on sending out 5 tickets to each post hoping our folks want to get involved. Post Commanders, look for them in the mail soon.

Everyone loves to have a home of their own. In District 2, we have 7 posts that have their own building and 9 that don't. What seems to be important to folks is having a lounge (bar). Of our 7, 4 have a lounge and 3 don't. While bars are money and membership generators, they are not without their issues. For those of you with them, be careful. For the rest of us, enjoy visiting them, but remember, everything is in moderation.

Retirement is a great thing for the retiree, but not so much for the ones left behind. We wish our former Dept Adjutant Flynn Phillips all the best. We will miss having you at Dept. We also want to give Judge Advocate Gene Hellickson all our support and patience while he works at covering the position until a replacement is hired.

Commander Mike Speer District 2

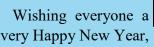




What's going
On in
Your District?
Let us know!
Send in an article for
Next edition....



AMERICANISM "THE LOVE OF AMERICA"



This last year was a great year for our programs after the Pandemic, at least we got them started again.

Now we have to bear down and get our youth notified and updated on our programs, and why they should be participating in them.

There are so many schools & school counselors that do not even know we have these programs, we have to get out and inform them of how great our programs are and how they will absolutely benefit their students, in the form of scholarships, beneficial for the Military Service Academy's, Law Enforcement careers, even political.

Let's get out there and get the job done even better this year, the kids need us.......

Ian Gerstel, Americanism Chair.





Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity.

George S. Patton



"Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud."

Alone we can do so little; Volunteering together we can do so much





VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA



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

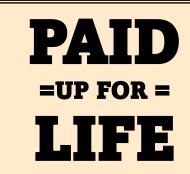
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360.210.4157 19215 SE 34th St. #106 PMB 142 Camas. WA 98607 https://www.godaddy.com/garage/ truecompassdesigns-navigating-webdesign-by-honoring-his-truenoth/

Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) Membership

Anyone who is currently and American Legion member or who is Eligible for membership may become a PUFL member.

Lifetime membership can be paid either in one single lump sum or over 12 equal, monthly payments. Once a member fulfills the PUFL membership dues, he/she will be protected from any future dues increase at the post, department, or national levels.



All PUFL applications must be submitted to National Headquarters by on of three methods:

- 1. Online applications: Once the quote is received the member can apply online. Once confirmed and payment is made, the member clicks "Submit" to complete the application process. Note: For those without internet access, the post or department can perform the process. A link to the PUFL application page has been added to myLegion.org for posts and departments.
- 2. Printed applications: Once the quote is received, the member can print an application to complete and mail to National Headquarters. The application will be pre-filled with the member's name, address, birth date, ID number and total cost of PUFL membership. (Incorrect member information can be updated on the application.) Mail the application and payment to National HQ's at the address provided on the form. Note: For those without internet access, the application should be printed by the post or department and forwarded to the member for completion. A link to the PUFL application page has been added to myLegion.org for posts and departments.
- 3. Call Customer Service: Members can call toll free 1-800-433-3318 and speak directly to a customer service representative. Note: This should not be considered the routine or primary procedure, as members, posts and departments have this ability.

The rate chart listed below applies to post dues of \$48.00 or less. If a post's annual dues are \$48.01 or higher, the post adjutant should contact Customer Service for the correct fee.

AGE	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+
FEE	\$1,535	\$1,399	\$1,229	\$1,025	\$815.	\$599.	\$429.	\$329.

Legionnaire HospitalHELP Insurance Plan



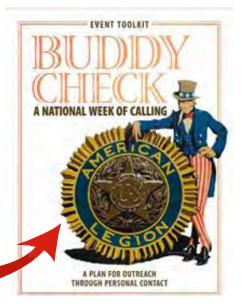
LEARN MORE

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



Don't forget to turn in your
Volunteer & Service hours
along with your Buddy
Checks each month to your
Post Adjutant.

Have you done your
BUDDY
CHECKS





TEACHERS COINS NOW AVAILABLE

STAY AWAY FROM
PEOPLE THAT
CAN'T SEE ANY
WRONG IN THEIR
ACTIONS, BUT SEE
EVERY WRONG IN
YOURS.



VITAL RECORDS

With the devastating fires in Hawaii lately, it brings to mind that you need to make sure you PRO-TECT YOUR VITAL RECORDS from these natural disasters. These may include recent tax returns, Social Security cards, birth certificates, deeds, insurance policies and medical records. You may even want to make copies and store the digitized files on a portable external hard drive, and place your copies in a safe deposit box, or entrusted to someone in a different location.

Take photos of your art, collectibles or other valuable personal property. This will help you support your claims for insurance purposes.



UP COMJNG EVENTS

February 19: Presidents Day Holiday

March 29: Good Friday Holiday

April 20-21: D.E.C. John Day, OR

May 27: Memorial Day Holiday

July 4: Independence Day Holiday

September 2: Labor Day Holiday

November 11: Veterans Day Holiday

December 25: Christmas Holiday



Procedures for Insufficient Quorum: Balancing Timeliness and Participation

When faced with the challenge of insufficient members to form a quorum, Robert's Rules of Order provides pragmatic procedures to navigate the delicate balance between ensuring broad participation and addressing urgent matters promptly.

Adjournment to a Later Date: The primary recommendation when a quorum is not present is to adjourn the meeting to a later date. This allows members a second opportunity to participate and contribute to the decision-making process. By reconvening at a later date, the organization ensures that decisions are made with a more representative group, promoting inclusivity and fairness. It is crucial for organizations to communicate the rescheduled meeting date effectively to maximize attendance.

Balancing Timeliness and Decision-Making Urgency: While adjourning to a later date is the recommended course of action, Robert's Rules acknowledges that certain situations may demand prompt decision-making. In cases of urgency, where delaying a decision could have adverse consequences, the rules permit a temporary suspension of the quorum requirement. This temporary suspension allows the organization to address pressing matters with a reduced number of participants.

Communication and Transparency: In both scenarios, clear communication is paramount. Organizations should transparently communicate the decision to adjourn or temporarily suspend the quorum requirement to all members. Providing reasons for the decision, especially in cases of urgency, fosters understanding and trust among members. Transparency helps maintain the credibility of the decision-making process and ensures that members are informed and engaged.

Recording and Documentation: It is essential to maintain detailed records of the proceedings, especially when decisions are made with a reduced quorum. Comprehensive minutes should capture the reasons for the decision, the number of participants, and any dissenting opinions. Proper documentation not only ensures accountability but also provides a historical record that can be referred to in the future.

The American Legion Jim Willis

Law Enforcement Career Camp of Oregon

Don't let time get away from you, start recruiting for Law Enforcement Camp, now.

A wonderful program for our youth, to learn and possibly help fulfill their career opportunities.

For information concerning the Law Enforcement Camp contact:

Ed Owens jfp_@hotmail.com 360-991-9665



THE AMERICAN LEGION



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY





VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION (VA&R)

Our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Commission members for the 2023-2024 membership year are IPDC Don Weber, Ann Everetts, Dr. Casey Shillam, Betty Fish-Ferguson and

PDC Bob Huff, Chair. The focus of the Commission is oversight over VA&R activities for our department. I have just returned from Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls from a two-day event supporting our Air Guard and personnel assigned to the Base. We presented our programs, Be- the-One campaign, our support with deployments, our American Legion Posts in the area, and how we can help. It was a productive visit, ended up spending three nights there with the worst snow and ice storm and 8 to 10 inches of new snow at Lake of the Woods. I received an open invitation to come back to the base anytime in the area by the Senior Enlisted Leader of the Base and he would take me to all the shops to present our information. Made a lot of contacts and have followup action items from my visit. I won't talk about my return trip, I have driven all over this State in the winter; difficult driving conditions, for many years, this was the worst, tow trucks were at both sides waiting, traction tires and chains were required. I continue to work on priorities, December is loaded, with VA, Taxes, Christmas, more meetings and more snow. What we are short of is Legionnaires volunteering and being involved in their communities. It has become more critical for our Posts to be involved in their communities; we have several units in our communities being deployed in the next ten months. We will have pre-deployment activity, families remaining, which some will need help during their deployment. Remember, we are Veterans still Serving. Who else better to understand Veterans needs and Deployments. Our Department Service Officer is responding seven days a week, as with me it is causing some challenges, our Department Service Officer Ed VanDyke, when you see him say thank you. If you have an interest in performing our Assistant Service Officer position, please contact Ed or myself. The position can only be filled by a Veteran and a member of The American Legion or SAL. Our commission will be meeting on this issue also, as at this point, we are fighting for time with all the meetings in the evening. We are scheduled for additional outreach at several events in our Department and more are being planned and the list is growing and offers new challenges. I will also be supporting Kingsley Field on the 30th of November and the 1st of this month for a mandatory day with the Air Guard. Remember, all Posts and Districts are to have VA&R Committees which should be working with their Cities, Counties and local communities on activities in their areas, we can assist, depending on their schedules. Remember, Veterans and Families do not have to be members of our Legion Family to receive support from our Veterans Service Officer; we are available. We also have oversight of our Department VAVS Program which two of our team are VAVS Representatives and we are being asked by the VA for more support. Remember our VAVS, VA Volunteers, VA&R members are all volunteers, and we need more Legion Family volunteers to support our programs. If you have some extra time and looking for a challenging volunteer assignment supporting Veterans, we need you. We have a lot of members in all areas of our Department, we do not have a lot of volunteers.

The VAVS arm also supports the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) with activity at our National Cemeteries. We are active with two of our National Cemeteries in our Department.

If your District is holding their meeting and would like more information or support with our Pillar I Veterans activities, please contact me and we will be happy to support if available. Thank you.

PDC Bob Huff, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Commission Chair Department of Oregon

TRIVIA ANSWERS

- 1. 1876
- 2. OPERATION HUSKY
- 3. WWI
- 4. AMERICAN CIVIL WAR



Department 2nd Vice Commander

Happy New Calendar Year! Or is it really a happy new year? It seems like

every where you turn lies Kaos, destruction, and a true lack of respect for our Country, our flag, and for our beloved Veterans. Even the Legion is changing and unfortunately the steady decrease in membership (which effects dollars, which effects support, and worst of all effects our individual members that we claim to value and support) is the bi-product of those changes. Like water chipping away at a river bank slowly eroding very structure that supports it. One step forward, two steps back, and why bother to put in the hard work, to volunteer and build a better Legion Organization for those who will follow in our first steps. It feels as thou we need to put on the breaks, reset, and start over and fix it, whatever it is.

So where do we go from here? We fix it! We stand up, put our big boy pants on, and stand up for our veterans in our organization and make buddy checks and ask how our members and their families are doing. Have coffee, lunch, dinner, or go for a ride to another Post. I know for a fact that this is not being done in every community in every city across the State of Oregon and don't forget those members that are on our roster that live outside of the State of Oregon that give their money to support you and your organization.

When you see something wrong question it, get to the bottom of it, and be a part of a viable solution

for the betterment of the individual and organization by understanding the why and how things happen and voice your feed back on the foreseeable future of our organization as a whole. This is what always happens (or should) at the Post level and is brought to the attention of the District Commander for resolution or a simple clarification. Which brings us to the position and critical thinking of our District Commanders, the voice of the Post at Department Executive Meetings, and anytime they are made aware of a concern at the Post and District Level. Think it thru from beginning to end and take action.

Happy Post's and Happy District Leadership makes for a well-run American Legion Department And show they are willing to put In the hard work for them. We can have massive membership growth, over the top attendance at Boys State, JWLECC, and even history making contestants for our Oratorical competitions. After all that is why we are here, to take care of our Veterans and support our local communities and their families.

We are on a role to have a 100% membership year by May15 2024 but we need new members to get it done. Let us all work hard, regardless of our circumstances, and prove that we are here to take care of veterans in the State of Oregon and beyond for the Good of The Legion, Our Legion Families, and for our future leaders in our Communities. Humanitarian helpers for those in need. Wake up and recite/read the Preamble every morning and pray for God and Country!

God Bless our Veterans, their families, and our communities!

2nd Vice Commandeer Rene Ohler Department of Oregon

Department Officers: 2023-2024

Commander: Cory Brockmann

Immediate Past Cmdr:Vacant1st Vice Cmdr:Dan Burks2nd Vice Cmdr:Renee OhlerAdjutant:Gene HellicksonNECman:Kevin OwenAlt. NECman:Gene Hellickson

Finance Officer: Bob Huff

Chaplain: Betty Fish-Ferguson
Historian: Wendy Berger-Wood

Judge Advocate: Gene Hellickson Service Officer: Ed Van Dyke

Veterans Service Officer Vacant

Sgt-at-Arms: Robert Hornbeck Asst Sgt-at-Arms: Ryan Shockley

TAXES, TAXES*

MUST PAY WAR TAX ON LEGION BENEFITS

War tax must be paid on all entertainments given by posts of The American Legion, where admission is charged, even if the money is to be used for the benefit of disabled men, the erection of war memorials or other fraternal purposes.

On every dollar collected, ten cents will be claimed by the government because the Legion is neither a religious, educational or charitable institution, society or organization, according to a recent ruling of the Department of Internal Revenue.

That paragraph of the revenue act of 1918, which provides exceptions from the payment of tax on admissions to entertainments of all kinds is not broad enough, it is said, to include The American Legion or entertainments for the disabled and war memorials.

* From the Oregon Legionnaire—1921





GET INVOLVED
TODAY!







Its not often that you meet a Navy Seabee and it is even rarer that you meet a female Navy Seabee, OK, a former Navy Seabee and in my case, Sunshine Mason, our Umatilla County Veterans Service Officer. Yes, Sunshine is her given middle name, says so on her birth certificate. BTW, she is a died-in-the-wool Navy veteran, and she proudly wears a lanyard with "Navy" emblazoned on it.

If memory serves me correctly I ran into my first bunch of Seabees while serving in Vietnam in 1968. They are trained in construction work and also trained to serve in combat if the need arises. During my time in the Marines I've chatted with Seabees that electricians. were heavy equipment operators, carpenters, and rock quarry blasters - which I think was the connected to road crews.

On with the story. Sunshine comes from a family line of veterans and joined the Navy Seabees as a 20 year old. She went on inform me that after basic training she spent 13

Scuttlebutt-Vets News

A Veteran Helping Veterans

weeks in school to become a builder taking subjects that covered foundation to framing to roofing as well as combat skills. It was a busy 13 weeks.

After training Sunshine was off to Italy and was stationed at NAS Sigonella where she met her future husband, a Seabee. construction mechanic, and was married in the From this base chapel. union two children were born, a son and a daughter and "bonus" son added along the way. One son, you might've wondered, is Seabee construction mechanic and stationed in Guam.

Her enlistment came to an end when the Navy decided that she would be stationed in the lower 48 and her husband would be stationed in Alaska. In order to be with him and her young children she chose to be a traveling spouse. She served not quite four years.

Several years ago Sunshine found work as an account payable and HR for a couple businesses here in the Hermiston area but had a desire to help vets and make a .

difference. In 2017 she applied for such a position and was accepted in the Umatilla County system and had to undergo a year of training before she could take the test for the ODVA accreditation. In 2018 she officially began her career assisting veterans.

I asked her, "What is the most challenging part of being a rep?" Her response was quick, "Not being able to help every veteran and their families."

"How many veterans do you see a month?"

"Too many and yet not enough." Personal visits are one thing but the numerous phone calls are time consuming.



Scuttlebutt-Vets News (Cont.)

The VA, in an effort to streamline their workload, has transitioned to an electronic process which creates a barrier for those veterans who are not tech savvy.

VA claims processing is a lengthy one. Claims can often take up to a year to get processed by the VA. Sunshine informed me that she is a County employee hired to assist veterans in accessing federal and state benefits, and does not work directly for the Veterans Administration











TICKETS AVAILABLE
District 2 Commander:
Mike: 503-703-2757

WORDS OF WISDOM

A POSITIVE MIND IS STRONGER THAN A NEGATIVE THOUGHT.

MILITARY HUMOR

One day, the rain was pouring like crazy and a big puddle formed in front of a local pub just outside the Navy base. An old Marine Sergeant was standing near the edge of the puddle with his fishing line in a puddle. When a Navy fighter pilot saw this, he decided to approach the man and see what he was doing.

"Fishing," the old Sergeant replied.

'This poor old fool,' thought the Navy officer, so he invited the old man inside to buy him a drink.

While drinking their beers, the smart-ass fighter pilot decided to ask, "How many did you end up catching today."

"You the eighth," the old Marine answered.

Legionnaire HospitalHELP Insurance Plan

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







100 YEARS AGO

AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL COMMANDER 1923-1924

JOHN R. QUINN (CA.)



John Robertson Quinn joked that he had been elected at the San Francisco National Convention in 1923 because conventioneers in the mood of the moment, drawn so far from their roos and caught up in the atmosphere of the far west, had elected a wild westerner as their sixth national commander.

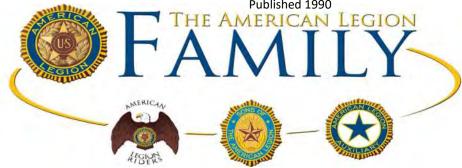
His jest overlooked the fact that they took eleven ballots to do it, however, so along with a genuine westerner as leader, they acquired a reputation for politicking on a par with Delegates at the conventions of the major political parties.

His long association with the American Legion began when he joined the Frank S. Reynolds Post No. 26 in Bakersfield, California. Later he organized the Merle Reed Post No. 24 at Delano. Rising to state commander in 1921-1922, Quinn quickly became known as a firebrand for veterans' rehabilitation with steady stream of complaints about the demands for proper hospitalization of veterans.

Quinn continued zealously to fight for the disabled as N.E.C. manthe next year, serving also on the California Veterans Welfare Board. His ultimately successful efforts to get the California Veterans Far and Home Purchase Act passed by the legislature in 1920 helped make his reputation as a Legionnaire worthy of national notice.

John Quinn remained active in the Legion's national affairs, serving as chairman of the Americanism Commission in 1924-1925, a member of the National Child Welfare Committee the next year, and a director of the Publishing Corporation from 1925 to 1927.

The American Legion, Thomas S Rumer Published 1990



ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

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NEWS RELEASE

January 17, 2024

CONTACT

Elisabeth Shepard, Press Secretary to Governor Kotek Elisabeth.Shepard@Oregon.Gov

Nicole Hoeft, Strategic Communications Director, ODVA Nicole.Hoeft@odva.oregon.gov

Governor Kotek Appoints Dr. Nakeia Daniels to Direct the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs

Salem, OR – Today, Governor Tina Kotek announced that she has appointed Dr. Nakeia Council Daniels to direct the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) pending Senate confirmation. Dr. Daniels has been serving as the ODVA interim director since October of last year, after previously serving as deputy director.

"Dr. Daniels is a talented, dedicated public servant who will bring strong leadership to the director's office," said Governor Kotek. "Her experience in the U.S. Army and multiple executive branch positions equip her well to serve Oregon's veterans with the persistence and compassion the role demands."

Dr. Daniels served in the Finance Administration of the U.S. Army for eight years before working at the Maryland Transportation Administration, then known as the Maryland State Highway Administration. She then relocated to Oregon and worked at the Oregon Department of Energy in 2015. Soon after, she was tapped by former Governor Kate Brown's administration and served in multiple roles, including as a Veterans Affairs Advisor and Director of Equity and Racial Justice, while concurrently serving as the deputy director of the Oregon Youth Authority.

"I am honored and deeply committed to serve Oregon's veterans, our true American heroes. They deserve the utmost quality in services and benefits tailored to their unique needs," Dr. Daniels said. "I am grateful and humbled for the opportunity to lead the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, and I pledge to carry out this important work with diligence, dedication, and duty."





THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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contact National Headquarters at (317) 569-4500 for assistance.					1 1	