



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER
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August — October 2018

DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA 2018-19 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Department of Montana Commander Richard Klose was born in Jamestown, North Dakota June 10th, 1943. He played for two years on The American Legion Baseball team in Buchanan, North Dakota. He graduated from Buchanan High School in 1961 in North Dakota. After graduation Richard joined the Army in Fargo, ND as a radio-teletype operator; he served two years in the 4th Armored Division in Bamberg, West Germany. He was honorably discharged in 1964.

Richard is an 11-year member of The American Legion with Laurel Post 123 in District 11. He has held the following Post positions Chaplain for one year and Commander for seven years. He also held the positions of District Adjutant for two years and District Commander for District 11 for two years. In addition, Richard has held the Department positions of Vice Commander, and Commander. He has held numerous committee positions at the Post, District, and Department level.



Commander Richard A. Klose
Department of Montana

Richard is also a member of the Son's of The American Legion Squadron 123.

He is very active in his community and is currently serving as Vice President of the "Friends of the Yellowstone National Cemetery," and former president of the "United Veterans Council of Yellowstone County." Richard is a member of the Laurel United Methodist Church. He served on the church trustee board and was president of the trustee board for two years. Richard is a ten-year board member of the Laurel Senior center, with four of those years serving as board president. He is also a board member of the Adult Resource Alliance of Yellowstone County. The Adult Resource Alliance provides services for senior citizens in Yellowstone County, including meals on wheels. Richard was recently elected as a City Council member in Laurel.

Richard is married to Gayle, his wife of 31 years. Gayle is a five-year member of The American Legion Auxiliary in Laurel. Richard has six children and grandchildren living in Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Virginia.

Department of Montana Vice Commander Jeff Nelson served with the 172nd light arctic infantry brigade at Fort Richardson Alaska from Oct. 1973 to May 1976. He was part of a combat support company that specialized in Redeye air defense missiles. Jeff attained the rank of Sergeant at the time of his discharge. It was in Anchorage Alaska that Jeff joined Spenard Post 1 of the Alaska American Legion while still on active duty.

After being discharged Jeff moved back to his home state of Wisconsin and pursued an associate degree in livestock management from Blackhawk Technical Institute. He then joined a local Legion Post at Barneveld Wisconsin and maintained his membership there until moving to Montana in 1983.

Jeff is a 40-year member of The American Legion and has held all Post positions at his home Post, Polson Hardwick #112, including Post Commander twice. He has been District 4 Commander, Zone 4-5-6 Commander, and Dept. Sgt.-at-Arms. He has travelled to many of the leadership workshops when they were held throughout the northwest region of



Vice Commander Jeff Nelson
Department of Montana

the United States. Jeff has chaired the Department Oratorical Committee for three years, the Department Finance Committee for three years, and served as a member of the Americanism Committee at National for four years. He has been serving on the board of directors for the Mission Valley Mariners Legion Baseball team since its beginning in 1989. He has been a part of The Montana American Legion delegation at the National Conventions seven times.

Jeff's community involvement includes being past Grand Knight of the Polson Knights of Columbus, Chairman of the Friends of the NRA banquet and fundraiser for three years, the Veterans Honor Guard, and volunteering with the 4-H Shooting Sports for several years as an instructor.

He started his own business in 1990 and has been running Nelson Dairy Service since then. The business supplies and sells dairy equipment to dairy farmers in three states.

Jeff is married to Christine Nelson and they reside in Polson. They have four children and seven grandchildren.

Important Upcoming Dates

Aug 8 – 12 AL Class AA Baseball
Regional - Missoula
Aug 16 – 21 Legion Baseball World
Series – broadcast on ESPN 3
Aug 24 – 30 Nat'l Convention
Minneapolis, MN
Sep 3 Labor Day Holiday
Sep 8 First Dist. Meeting, District 7
Bozeman
Sep 11 Patriot Day
Sep 12 Renewal Notice Cutoff Date
Sep 12 .. 50% Membership Target Date
Sep 21 – 23 Nat'l Children & Youth
Conference, Indianapolis
Sep 28- 30..... Nat'l Americanism
Conference
Oct 13-18 Nat'l Fall Meetings,
Indianapolis
Oct 7 Last Dist. Meeting, District 9
Harlowton
Oct 26-28 Fall Conference, Helena

The American Legion of Montana 2018 Fall District Meetings

8 SEP DIST. 7.....BOZEMAN
9 SEP DIST. 6.....DEER LODGE

15 SEP ...DIST. 1..... PLENTYWOOD
16 SEP ...DIST. 10.....BAKER

22 SEP ...DIST. 2..... MALTA
23 SEP ...DIST. 3/8 VALIER

29 SEP ...DIST. 4..... PARADISE
30 SEP ...DIST. 5..... CORVALLIS

6 OCTDIST. 11 BILLINGS
7 OCTDIST. 9.....HARLOWTON

In this issue

40&8 History..... 12
ALA Girls State 7
ALA Girls State photo gallery.....9
AL Boys State photo gallery 8
AL Centennial 12
Armstrong honored at Sell Tourney ..5
Auxiliary Service Star10
Best History Book Post 23.....4
BIG K Changes13
BIG K Form..... 13
BIG K Winners2
Buddy Ads.....16
Carlisle recognized for service.....15
Chaplain's Corner.....3
CN207
Constitution Changes Errata..... 13
Convention Awards & Raffles4
Dept. Officers15
Dept. Officer's Reports2
Dist. Commanders 15
Disaster Response: Flooding.....12
Firefighter OTY4
Goal Rosters & Standings 6
HQs Post 105 Dues Increase.....6
Important Dates1
Law Officer OTY4
LIT Form7
MT State Vets Cemetery photos5
MVAD Thank You2
Post 14..... 4,15
Post 16.....4,5
Post 42..... 3,14
Post 57..... 12
Post 89..... 3,13
Post/Unit 25..... 14
Post Everlasting & Memorials3
Publication Deadline.....2
Resolution Tracker 13
Sen Daines..... 14
Sen Tester14
Service Officer5
Sons of Legion experience..... 14
Stoltz Commendation5
Submitting articles/photos..... 15
"Unattended Veterans Ceremony" 7

The American Legion Department of Montana Officers 2018-2019



COMMANDER KLOSE

A well-deserved Thank You to now past department commander Larry Dobb for getting our department membership to 100%. It's been a long time since our department met 100 percent goal. Also, thanks to all the members who made phone calls and rang door bells.



Richard Klose
Dept. Commander

A special thanks to the three Posts: numbers 3, 341, and 130, for doing a great job putting together our Department Convention.

On Saturday, September 8th at Bozeman we start our Fall District Meetings. I would like to see at least the Post Commander and Post Adjutant at meetings. There is always a lot of info at these meetings to take back to the Posts.

There are three areas that I would like to see us improve on:

- 1. more mentoring of our members, which includes having monthly meetings and using the script that is in the "Officers Guide and Manual of Ceremonies"
- 2. get more boys attending American Legion Boys State
- 3. get more students involved in the oratorical contest

As we enjoy our summer days please remember to get those membership renewals in.

Our next big event is the 100th National Convention in Minneapolis August 24-30, 2018. It would be great to see a large number of Legion members from Montana at the 100th convention.

Finally, thanks for electing me as department commander for the year 2018-2019. This a great honor to serve as your Department Commander, thank you. ●

VICE COMMANDER NELSON

Here it is a new fiscal year and I wonder were the past year went. I want to talk a little bit about the centennial year of the American Legion coming up. As a department we are going to be involved in so many activities throughout this next year. I look forward to visiting as many districts as I can and sharing ideas on making this one of the most memorable years for many of you. I am hoping every post is already planning some sort of special event in their area.



Jeff Nelson Dept. Vice
Commander

I look back on the past 100 years and wonder what it must have been like to have gone through some of the times our nation has grown through and how The American Legion has helped make some of those changes possible. The biggest event that I can think of had to have been the GI Bill of Rights. Personally, I benefitted from the bill. By continuing my college education, I was able to acquire skills that helped in my business today.

So, what will the next 100 years hold for future veterans? If we are to remain an organization that helps veterans in need, we must get the word out to the younger veterans still serving and those recently released from active duty. The American Legion is there to make sure the GI Bill of Rights is continuing through the next 100 years. Just letting these young men and women know the Legion has their backs is the greatest testament in having them join our ranks.

Again, I look forward to meeting so many of you in the coming year and helping to make your post proud in your communities. God Bless and keep your powder dry. ●



APRIL 20, 2018

To Montana's American Legion:

Thank you – very much – to Montana's American Legion, for contributing \$10,000

directly into the state's Montana Veterans Affairs Division – specifically for keeping our statewide outreach program functioning this state fiscal year.

The state's recent and immediately mandated state-agency budget reductions required that the division turn in its state cars and terminate regular outreach to approximately 45 Montana communities – where our veterans service officers assist veterans attaining federal VA benefits. State Commander Larry Dobb and The American Legion, Department of Montana, came through for Montana's veterans, the outreach program serving them, and its state of Montana partner in quality veterans services... a relationship we have shared since Montana's American Legion spearheaded the successful legislative effort to create this agency in 1919 – then known as the "Veterans Welfare Board." We share the Legion's birth year.

Thank you, again, for coming through for us when it counts the most — deeply appreciated and warmly received; we needed it! Our longtime partnership and mutually-held ethos define our relationship.

SINCERELY & RESPECTFULLY,
JOE FOSTER, ADMINISTRATOR
MONTANA VETERANS AFFAIRS DIVISION

BIG K WINNERS

The \$400 Big K winner for May was Mike Schaff SAL Squadron 14, Mike's name was drawn by Lori Perkio of Butte Post 115.

The Big K winners for June were Judy Lode of Helena Auxiliary Unit 70 \$400, drawn by Glen Sharbono of Ronan Post 138, and the grand prize of \$2000 for the year, presented at Department Convention went to Michael Boyd of Brockton Post 61, Michael's name was drawn by Gary Sutton of Lincoln Post 9.

The Districts received \$406, Posts \$2346, Units \$629, and the Squadrons \$127.50.

The Big K for 2019 is now open for new memberships and renewals until December 31, 2019. See page 13.

DEADLINE

October 1, 2018
Nov 2018 - Jan 2019 issue

Submit all articles by above date.

Send copy to :
lmtprpub@gmail.com, or

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Armed Forces Reserve Center
PO Box 6075
Helena MT 59604-6075

See page 15: How to Submit Articles or Photos.

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IN THE MONTHS OF:
FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST AND NOVEMBER
COPY DEADLINE IS THE 1ST DAY OF THE MONTH
PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

COMMANDER - RICHARD KLOSE
VICE COMMANDER - JEFF NELSON
ADJUTANT - GARY A. WHITE

From the Desk of the Adjutant

GARY WHITE

The 2018 Convention has come to a close and with it the start of a new year with new officers and new opportunities to contribute to the success of our Posts, District and the Department. I hope to see all Legion Family members return to the Convention in Polson June 28-30, 2019. Due to circumstances outside their control Missoula Post 101 has had to cancel their sponsorship in the 2020 Convention, but Billings Post 117 stepped forward and will now host the 2020 Convention, followed by Post 2 in Helena in 2021.



Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Department, whether they be at the Post, District, or Department level they will have a busy year before them and they will need every members' support as they go about doing the American Legion's business and representing our members. To outgoing officers, I would like to thank you for your service and dedication to The American Legion, I know it isn't always an easy thing to carry out the duty you swore to uphold, but I trust that you know you did the best you could, and you had a positive effect on all you encountered during your tour of duty.

With the start of the new membership year it is time to get to work on new members and renewals, the longer we wait in the membership year the harder it will be to make membership targets and goals. Our

first target is the 50 percent target for September 12. All Post packets with the membership cards and rosters have been distributed either to the Post Adjutants or Commanders or to the new District Commander. If your Post has not yet received your packet contact your new District commander and make arrangements for delivery. Remember Adjutants, you may now submit your transmittals online through the MyLegion website, if you need assistance the first-time call Department Headquarters and we can walk you through it.

Of course, with the new membership year comes new membership goals for Posts and Districts. The earlier you make your membership targets and goals, the easier it becomes to focus on programs and building strength in your Posts. Good programs and publicity about what your Post is doing in your community will build membership. Don't be afraid to brag about your accomplishments within your community, to your community.

Two major resolution acted upon were \$7.00 dues increase for HQs Post 105 to \$47 (Resolution 18-09) and reorganizing the Finance Committee (Resolution 18-01). For more information on the resolutions go to page 13.

At the conclusion of the Post Convention Executive Committee meeting I announced my retirement, I will retire on April 1, 2020. More information on job announcement for Department Adjutant will follow in the months to come.

The first District Meeting is District 7 in Bozeman, September 8. I hope to see many of you at the District Meetings. If you have never attended one, let this year be a first for you. Remember any member may attend; the District Meetings are not just for officers. ●

Chaplain's Corner

KAREN SEMPLE, DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

Two Wolves

With summer here, I'm reminded of campfire tales – especially since my granddaughter will soon be at camp again this year. One story often told around the campfire that can benefit us all goes something like this:

One evening, a young boy asked his grandfather, a wise old Native American, why people act the way they do. He told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside every person.

He said, "My son, there is a battle between two wolves inside us all.

One wolf is evil: it is anger, arrogance, ego, envy, false pride, greed, guilt, inferiority, jealousy, lies, regret, resentment, self-pity and superiority,

The other wolf is good: it is benevolence, compassion, empathy, faith, generosity, hope, humility, joy, kindness, love, peace, serenity, and truth."

The grandson thought about this for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf wins?"

The wise old man simply replied, "The one you feed."

We can choose how we speak, how we perceive the world and

how we interpret what happens in our interactions with others. I encourage you to be generous and always think the best of others' actions and words. If someone speaks to you in a harsh manner, unless you were mean or rude to them first, don't take it personally: it's not about you – it's about what's going on inside of them. Don't be offended. Respond calmly.

You have the choice to spread good will amongst our members by putting them first and yourself last.

Have you noticed how many people's grammar has changed in the past decade or so — so they put themselves first when speaking about themselves and someone else? "Me and ____ did this or that." It's indicative of how self-centered our culture is becoming. Call it a Freudian slip, if you want; however, words do have meaning. Putting yourself first displays your ego front and center in your conversation.

"For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: ...To promote peace and good will on earth..."

I encourage you to feed the good wolf so you can, indeed, promote peace and good will.

May you be well.

Broadwater County Remembers

BY JEN DALRYMPLE

On Saturday, 26 May, Broadwater County volunteers joined together across the County in placing American flags on the graves of our Veterans in remembrance and honor of their past military service to our Nation. On Monday, Memorial Day ceremonies were presented for the residents of the Broadwater Health



Unit 42 Auxiliary member Connie Shindoll and granddaughter, Emily, place flags at Deep Creek Cemetery.

Center and at the Memorial Park in Townsend to honor the military members that paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. American Legion Post 42 Family members and guests paid tribute with an Honor Guard, Color Guard, Taps, wreath laying, prayers and speeches. We

want to thank all of the Legion Family members, volunteers and attendees that took the time to place flags, join us in the ceremonies and come by the Legion for cookies and drinks afterwards. We are the legacy of their sacrifice and we remember them for that honor.

Sheridan Post 89 joins Highway Marker Program

Sheridan's American Legion Post 89 has joined with other American Legion Posts in Montana to implement The American Legion's Fatality Marker Program. This program works with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT) to mark locations along Montana Highways where a traffic fatality has occurred. The white markers on a red stanchion are placed on the highways after checking with the family who lost the family member. Sheridan's American Legion Post 89 is responsible for MT Hwy 287 between mile markers 10 and 37. All materials for

the markers were donated by local businesses and the markers were made by the Sheridan High School's VoAg class as a community support project by the students.



Post Everlasting



Apr/May/Jun 2018

- ☆ COULSON, JIM, 3/16/18 – Vietnam – US Navy – 4-year member of Post 72, Columbia Falls, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ DANFORTH, WARREN, 9/7/18 – WWII – US Marine – 5-year member of Post 135, Lolo, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ FITZGERALD, STUART, 2/4/18 – WWII – US Marine – 26-year member of Post 20, Dillon, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ WELSH, JACK, 2/22/18 – Korea – US Army – 15-year member of Post 119, Billings, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ CURRY, CLAUDE, 10/14/17 – Korea – US Army – 18-year member of Post 119, Billings, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ HARRIS, STANLEY, 3/11/18 – Vietnam – US Army – 4-year member of Post 106, St Ignatius, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ YOUNG, QUENTIN, 4/15/18 – Vietnam – US Navy – 15-year member of Post 97, Libby, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ ATCHINSON, JOHN, 5/18/18 – Vietnam – US Air Force - 11-year member of Post 108, Whitefish, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ SPROULE, WILLIAM, 4/14/14 – WWII – US Navy - 11-year member of Post 23, Livingston, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ CUTLER, WILLIAM, 5/26/17 – Vietnam – US Army - 14-year member of Post 23, Livingston, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ FORESTER, VIRGIL, 2/3/18 – Korea – US Army - 12-year member of Post 87, Manhattan, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ CARROLL, LOY, 2/3/18 – Vietnam – US Navy – 39-year member of Post 87, Manhattan, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ HEETERKS, JOHN, 4/30/18 – WWII – US Navy – 13-year member of Post 87, Manhattan, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ COOPER, HOWARD, 3/20/18 – Korea – US Army – 49-year member of Post 16, Lewistown, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ LANGFORD, LEE, 4/12/18 – Korea – US Army – 10-year member of Post 16, Lewistown, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ ERICKSON, VERNON, 7/23/17 – Korea – US Army – 13-year member of Post 6, Choteau, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ NESBIT, KENNETH, 3/30/2018 – Vietnam – US Army – 17-year member of Post 6, Choteau, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ MCLAUGHLIN, CLAYTON, 6/29/18 – Korea – US Army – 8-year member of Post 72, Columbia Falls, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ NASH, GORDON, 5/4/18 – Vietnam – US Marine – 10-year member of Post 15, Harlowton, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ STEINMASEL, JACK, 6/4/18 – WWII – US Navy – 40-year member of Post 17, Red Lodge, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ RANKIN, GEORGE, 3/27/18 – Korea – US Army – 38-year member of Post 69, Galata, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ BUXTON, KENNETH, 4/18/18 – Vietnam – US Army – 15-year member of Post 16, Lewistown, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ NORDSTROM, FRED, 10/27/17 – Vietnam – US Air Force – 4-year member of Post 135, Lolo, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ MCLAUGHLIN, CLAYTON, 6/9/18 – Korea – US Army – 8-year member of Post 72, Columbia Falls, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ PETERSON, NEIL O, 6/18/18 – Korea – US Army – 12-year member of Post 89, Sheridan, Interred with Military Honors

Day is done
Gone the sun
From the lakes
From the hills
From the sky
All is well
Safely rest
God is nigh
Fading light
Dims the sight
And a star
Gems the sky
Gleaming bright.
From afar
Drawing nigh
Falls the night
Thanks and praise
For our days
Neath the sun
Neath the stars
Neath the sky
As we go
This we know
God is nigh.



Sheridan Post 89 Dedicates Second Veteran Wall of Honor

SUBMITTED BY MIKE MORGAN, POST 89 ADJUTANT

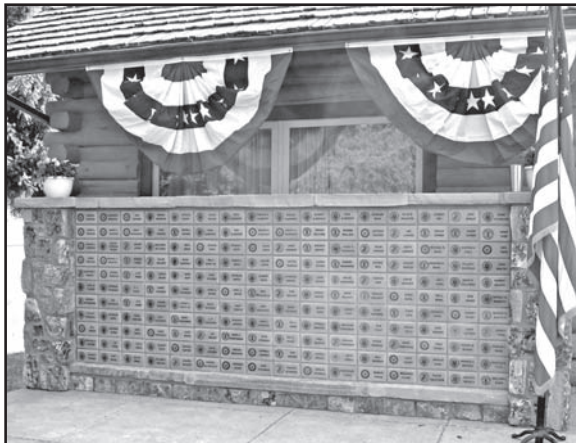
On Memorial Day, Sheridan Post 89 dedicated its second Veteran

on Terror. Community members were well represented at the ceremony with the Sheridan Town Mayor, Bob Stump, the keynote speaker. Following the dedication, Post 89 conducted Veteran Remembrance Ceremonies at the five Ruby Valley Cemeteries (Sheridan, Laurin, Alder, Nevada City and Virginia City) the Post supports.

Dedication ceremony with (l-r) Cliff Morgan-Post 89 Commander, Mike Morgan-Post 89 Adjutant (speaking) and Bob Reimard-Post 89 Project Chairman



Wall of Honor in front of the Post Building. This wall contained the names of an additional 176 Veterans from throughout the Greater Ruby Valley and augmented the 159 names on the first wall. All branches of the armed forces are represented with names of men and women veterans from the Civil War up to the current War



2018 CONVENTION ANNUAL AWARDS
GREAT FALLS, MONTANA
MONTANA EAGLE AWARD
highest percentage of membership for Fall Conference and Department Convention:
Fall Conference District 9
Department Convention District 9

JUNEAU MEMORIAL AWARD
best percentage increase over year before Posts 75 and under:
Florence Post 134, 133.33% of goal and 130.61% over last year.
Runner up: Colstrip Post 44, 120.00% over last year.

FUHRINGER MEMORIAL AWARD
best percentage increase over year before Posts 76 to 175:
Malmstrom Post 341, 98.05% of goal and 106.92% over last year
Runner up: Hamilton Post 91 with 123.53% over last year.

ANGELL MEMORIAL AWARD
best percentage increase over year before Posts 176 and over:
Missoula Post 27, 103.63% of goal and 106.92% over last year
Runner up: Helena Post 2 with 105.50% over last year.

TOP NEW MEMBER GETTERS:
1. Don Bost, Lewistown Post 16 - 40
2. Lee Sargent, Ennis Post 65- 11
3. Ray Stolp, Helena Post 2 - 10

MOST NEW MEMBERS EACH DISTRICT:
1. Dorothy Goodwin – Polson Post 112 - 7
2. Ray Stolp – Helena Post 2 - 10
3. Lee Sargent – Ennis Post 65 - 11
4. Hal Rice – Geraldine Post 102 - 8
5. Don Bost – Lewistown Post 16 – 40

BEST AMERICANISM REPORT:
Distinguished Service: Helena Post 2

BEST CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT
Large Post: Manhattan Post 87
Medium Post: Havre Post 11
Small Post: Twin Bridges Post 31

BOY SCOUT PLAQUE
Post which contributed the most to the Scouting program for the year 2018:
Helena Post 2

SHOOTING SPORTS
Sporter Individual: James Edison St Regis
Sporter Team: Mineral County Shooting Sports 1 St Regis
Precision Individual: Elizabeth Lorentz Missoula
Precision Team: Hellgate Junior Shooting Sports 2 Missoula

LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR
Scott Burlingham, Ravalli county Sheriff’s Office; submitted by Corvallis Post 91.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR
Brent Peters, Laurel Volunteer Fire Department; submitted by Laurel Post 123

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OF THE YEAR
Dr Karen Cody, Montana VA Health Care System; submitted by Helena Post 2

BEST NEWSLETTER
Large Post – Helena Post 2
Medium Post – Lolo 135
Small Post – Ronan Post 138

SPECIAL AWARDS
Silver Brigade Award (25 or more new members)
Don Bost – Lewistown Post 16

Department Membership Recruiter of the Year
Don Bost – Lewistown Post 16

Equaling or Surpassing Previous All Time High
Ennis Post 65
Ronan Post 138

District Commander Achievement Award
District 5 – Greg Marose
District 6 – Josh Clement
District 7 – Randy Kemp
District 8 – Kim Kay McCarty Martin

National Achievement Award for 100% District Commander:
District 5 – Greg Marose
District 6 – Josh Clement
District 7 - Randy Kemp
District 9 – Demorise Allen
District 11 – Jim Bossen

Post Excellence Award:
Lewis & Clark Post 2, Helena
Lincoln Post 9
Fergus Post 16, Lewistown
Valley Post 41, Glasgow
Malta Post 57
Freedom Post 72, Columbia Falls
Thomas Mann Post 81, Culbertson
Corvallis Post 91
Andrew Pearson Post 117, Billings
Laurel Post 123
Ronan Post 138

Zone Commanders Award:
highest percentage of goal within their Zone
Southwest Zone Commander Joyce Babcock, 102.57%.

Post 16 AMERICAN LEGION LEADS MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS

DERIVED FROM LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS ARTICLE

The last Monday of May is always a tough one for Don Bost.

A Vietnam Veteran and American Legion Post 16 Commander, Bost helps put together Memorial Day services at all the cemeteries in Lewistown, followed by an extended service at Veterans Park on East Main Street.

Bost does this because he understands the significance of the holiday to those who have served.

“Memorial Day is for veterans,” he said. “It’s an extremely important day for veterans to honor their dead. Other than Veterans Day, it’s the most important day of the year.”

Bost treats the day as such, often emceeding all services.

He’s done this a number of years now; still, it’s a struggle for him to get through a ceremony.

“It gets difficult sometimes,” he said, “and it’s been even more difficult since we lost my friend Tom Killham.”



“Other than Veterans Day, it’s the most important day of the year.” Don Bost, American Legion Post 16 Commander

Killham, also a Vietnam Vet, was Post 16 adjutant. Together, he and Bost expanded Legion membership and turned the Post into one of the top Legions of Montana.

“With about 465 members, we have the second-largest Post in the state,” said Bost. “That’s a large contingent of veteran support.”

There is an awful lot of veteran support in Central Montana, Bost said, and he appreciates the many volunteers who have helped make places such as the Vietnam Memorial at Symmes Park and the Veterans Park a part of the community.

Frank Hansel, who designed Veterans Park, was one of those veterans who played an integral role in making veteran pride more visible. He passed away earlier this month. A celebration of his life took place at Veterans Park Wednesday, June 20.

“We are going to miss Frank,” said Bost. “He was really responsible for making the park what it is today. He knew everybody involved, including the major contributors.”

Gallatin Post 14

SUBMITTED BY RICK GALE, BOZEMAN AMERICAN LEGION POST 14

This year’s Arbor Day in Bozeman, Montana was dedicated to Veterans by the City of Bozeman for their bravery and service to country.



Arbor Day celebrates the role of trees in our lives and promotes tree planting and care.

Sherm gets a special smooch!

Post 14 Korean War Vet Sherm Veltkamp receives kiss from grand-daughter 7-yr-old Scarlott at Bozeman’s Memorial Day Parade.



Submitted by Sherm Veltkamp

Law Officer of the Year

Scott Burlingham, Ravalli county Sheriff’s Office; submitted by Corvallis Post 91.



Firefighter of the Year

Brent Peters, Laurel Volunteer Fire Department; submitted by Laurel Post 123



Park Post 23 Livingston wins Department’s Best Historical Record Book Contest Next step - National Contest!

District 7 Commander Jim Howe presents the winner's check and certificate to Post Historian Dean Gilbert and Unit Historian Carol Woodley for their combined work of excellence. Way to go Park Post 23 Family!



2018 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION RAFFLES & DRAWINGS

Department Raffle:

First Place – HP Laptop Computer with Printer – **David Waggoner**, Laurel sold by American Legion Post 123, Laurel.

Second Place – Ruger LCP 380 Pistol – **Lonnie Cook**, Helena sold by American Legion Post 2, Helena.

Third Place - 20 Gauge Shotgun – **Ken Simon**, Plentywood sold by American Legion Post 41, Glasgow.

Fourth Place – Savage Model 42 .22 over .410 Shotgun – **Matt Egloff**, Butte sold by American Legion Post 115, Butte.

Membership Drawing:

\$50 to **Gary White**, Helena Post 2, name drawn by Ray Stolp, SAL Squadron 2, Helena

\$50 to **Don Bost**, Lewistown Post 16, name drawn by Glen Sharbono American Legion Post 38, Ronan.

\$50 to, **Frank Mason, Jr** Post 91 Corvallis, name drawn by Lori Noble, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 138, Ronan.

2017 Big K Grand Prize \$2000 to **Michael Boyd** of Brockton Post 61, drawn by Gary Sutton, Post 2, Helena.

Service Officer, Department of Montana



SERVICE OFFICER KELLY ACKERMAN

During the Department Convention in Great Falls last month, I provided Post Service Officer Training for the first time since I’ve been a Department Service Officer. I was extremely pleased to receive overwhelming support and more than 25 in attendance.

Not knowing what the attendance and interest would be, I kept the training down to 1 hour and covered only the highlights; however, knowing the interest level, I plan to incorporate this training into our District Meetings and future Department Conventions. I have even garnered support from our friends in the VHA Business Office to participate.

Some of the information that I provided is as follows from the Post Service Officer Guide:

Background: “The American Legion’s Post service officer (PSO) is a volunteer position within an individual Post. A PSO serves as a link between the veteran or dependent and a representative holding American Legion accreditation. An effective PSO understands benefits afforded to veterans and dependents; however, the PSO is not authorized to file any claims on behalf of the claimant. PSOs serve as the valuable resources to veterans in local Posts to ensure that our veterans and their dependents receive their earned benefits.”

Points of contact: The PSO should have readily available the contact information for various resources in their local area that could be beneficial to veterans and their dependents. These resources can include, but are not limited to:

- American Legion department service officer (DSO)

- Local representatives with American Legion/state accreditation
- Agencies for senior citizens
- State and local nursing homes
- Homeless shelters
- State and national cemeteries
- Department of Veterans Affairs contact information, including phone numbers and website addresses

Other VA benefits that we discussed were Disability Compensation, Non-Service Connected Pension, Death Pension, VA Home Loans, Education benefits, Healthcare Enrollment. Brochures and business cards were given to each PSO for referral purposes.

The relationship that each PSO has with the DSO, as well as the local state/AL office is very important! To adequately assist the veterans and family members in your Post, you will need the help of the DSO and local Veteran Service Officer. We need your support and assistance as well.

The goal of our nine Montana Veterans Affairs Service Offices staffed with accredited Veterans Service Officers is to assist all veterans and their dependants with their VA benefits. Please contact us for more information.

Listed below are the MVAD/ AL offices throughout the state:

MVAD/AL offices throughout the state:	
Belgrade	(406) 388-4601
Billings	(406) 248-8579
Butte	(406) 533-0910
Great Falls	(406) 452-2265
Havre	(406) 265-4225
Helena	(406) 495-2080/2081/2082
Kalispell	(406) 755-3795
Lewistown	(406) 538-3174
Miles City	(406) 232-1203
Missoula	(406) 542-2501

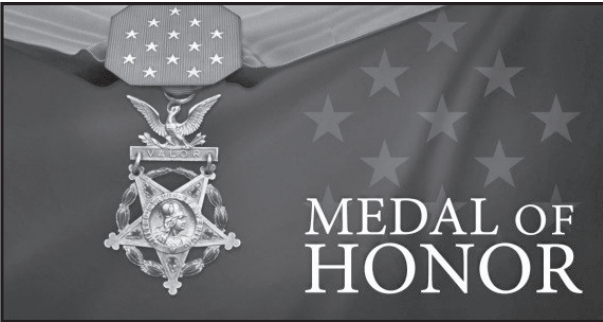
Thank you for your service
to our great Country!

Post 5’s Stoltz receives Commendation



PHOTO BY SHARON MOORE; MILES CITY STAR

On February 3, 2018, Post 5 Legionnaire Frank Stoltz, WWII Veteran and POW, was presented the 2017 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation in Miles City. From left: Post 5 Commander Bob Prahl, US Representative Greg Gianforte, Frank Stoltz, and District 10 Commander Clancee Collins.



Medal of Honor recipient remembered

DERIVED FROM LEWISTOWN NEWS-ARGUS ARTICLE

During Veterans Day service at the Lewistown City Cemetery, American Legion Post 16 Commander Don Bost honored Andrew J. Cummins, an 1898 Medal of Honor recipient known for “gallantly assisting in the rescue of the wounded from in front of the lines and under heavy fire of the enemy” during the height of the Spanish American War.

“Honoring someone like [Cummins] is what Memorial Day is all about,” Bost said. A special Medal of Honor flag was placed for him that’s blue with 13 stars on it to represent the 13 original colonies.

It takes a lot of work to put these events together, Bost said, but it’s always worth it, and it’s an honor for him to do so as a veteran and as part of the American Legion.

“None of this happens without American Legion Post 16,” Bost said. “These kinds of events just don’t exist when there isn’t an American Legion.”

One reason for this is the funding. “It costs [the Legion] a certain amount of money to do this,” Bost said. “This year we had to replace 33 flags [around the cemeteries and Veterans Park]. It’s an ongoing project. We have a lot of people working on this, including the whole honor guard. They do an excellent job. Like I said, none of this happens without the American Legion.”

This year Lewistown native David Lynch was the guest keynote speaker; a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Navy who served on submarines and carriers. The host Veterans also rang a bell one time for every veteran from the area lost in the last year - 56 of them.”

David Armstrong honored at 23rd Keith Sell Tournament

SUBMITTED BY RAYMOND READ

David Armstrong was honored at the 23rd annual Keith Sell Tournament on June 30, 2018 for his military service as a World War II veteran.

Over 75 years ago he was one of a band of intrepid military experimenters assigned to the United States Quartermaster Corps who volunteered to develop the use of dogs in the defense of our Nation engaged in World War II.



Dave being showered with affection by his lead sled Dog during Camp Rimini training in 1943

Camp Rimini War Dog Reception and Training Center was established near Helena in late 1942 as one of the four training centers for utilization of man’s best friend. Ultimately, personnel at Camp Rimini trained over 850 Sled and Pack dogs along with their handlers. In a little over two years, these teams spread out over the turbulent campaigns of the War in many inhospitable places, such



Dave being honored by the Helena Senators American Legion at the Keith Sell Tournament

as the Canadian Wilderness, New Foundland, in northern Europe such as in the Battle of the Bulge and ultimately even Asia.

After his experience in WWII Dave was to settle in Montana where he married, became one of the first directors of the Montana Veterans Affairs Division, serving Montana’s veterans in efforts to return to civilian life, but he was still caught up with his love of the Sled Dog.

Dave was instrumental in establishing the Governors Cup 500 Mile Sled Dog Race in the 1970’s, later known as the current *Race To the Sky*.

Dave is a long-time member of Post 2, (Lewis & Clark) Helena

Memorial Day at Montana State Veteran’s Cemetery



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY JEN DALRYMPLE

DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA
MEMBERSHIP GOAL ROSTER
2019



		Year end Goal 2019	Year To Date Total	Year End 2018	percent of Goal
DISTRICT #1					
22	WOLF POINT	43	1	35	2.33%
41	GLASGOW	82	0	90	0.00%
45	HINSDALE	58	0	49	0.00%
49	HOMESTEAD	10	0	12	0.00%
55	POPLAR	35	0	34	0.00%
56	SCOBEY	60	0	48	0.00%
58	PLENTYWOOD	50	0	44	0.00%
61	BROCKTON	49	0	28	0.00%
81	CULBERTSON	95	0	105	0.00%
85	BAINVILLE	30	0	24	0.00%
104	NASHUA	14	0	15	0.00%
122	OPHEIM	34	0	29	0.00%
229	WESTBY	15	0	16	0.00%
TOTAL		575	1	529	0.17%

DISTRICT #2					
11	HAVRE	127	0	98	0.00%
48	CHINOOK	46	0	46	0.00%
50	BIG SANDY	26	0	26	0.00%
57	MALTA	91	0	102	0.00%
67	ROCKY BOY	33	0	14	0.00%
79	SACO	11	0	17	0.00%
88	CHESTER	38	1	35	2.63%
109	TURNER	28	0	22	0.00%
110	FORT BELKNAP	12	0	12	0.00%
TOTAL		412	1	372	0.24%

DISTRICT #3					
36	VALIER	55	0	56	0.00%
37	CONRAD	56	0	53	0.00%
40	CUT BANK	62	0	50	0.00%
43	SHELBY	55	0	55	0.00%
69	GALATA	36	0	27	0.00%
73	SWEETGRASS	74	0	74	0.00%
127	BROWNING	30	0	27	0.00%
CN20	CALGARY	47	0	47	0.00%
TOTAL		415	0	389	0.00%

DISTRICT #4					
52	THOMPSON FALLS	61	0	59	0.00%
72	COLUMBIA FALLS	98	2	112	2.04%
74	EUREKA	47	0	53	0.00%
86	BIG FORK	57	0	55	0.00%
97	LIBBY	198	2	174	1.01%
106	ST IGNATIUS	58	0	54	0.00%
108	WHITEFISH	66	2	66	3.03%
112	POLSON	125	1	120	0.80%
113	ARLEE	32	0	25	0.00%
126	CHARLO	14	0	14	0.00%
129	PARADISE	65	0	60	0.00%
137	KALISPELL	225	0	208	0.00%
138	RONAN	57	8	68	14.04%
TOTAL		1103	15	1068	1.36%

DISTRICT #5					
13	ST REGIS	53	0	54	0.00%
27	MISSOULA	355	0	376	0.00%
47	HAMILTON	121	0	120	0.00%
63	CONDON	46	0	48	0.00%
68	MISSOULA	37	0	35	0.00%
83	CLINTON	16	0	15	0.00%
91	CORVALLIS	160	1	168	0.63%
94	STEVENSVILLE	216	16	220	7.41%
101	MISSOULA	54	0	58	0.00%
124	FRENCHTOWN	37	0	36	0.00%
125	DRUMMOND	51	0	50	0.00%
131	ALBERTON	30	0	34	0.00%
134	FLORENCE	60	0	64	0.00%
135	LOLO	135	2	138	1.48%
TOTAL		1,371	19	1,416	1.39%

DISTRICT #6					
1	BUTTE	193	0	194	0.00%
2	HELENA	743	64	804	8.61%
9	LINCOLN	54	0	61	0.00%
10	DEER LODGE	72	1	62	1.39%
20	DILLON	185	0	166	0.00%
21	ANACONDA	245	2	236	0.82%
24	WHITEHALL	91	0	92	0.00%
31	TWIN BRIDGES	43	1	37	2.33%
33	PHILIPSBURG	10	1	10	10.00%
42	TOWNSEND	117	0	119	0.00%
46	BOULDER	23	0	25	0.00%
89	SHERIDAN	63	2	78	3.17%
115	BUTTE	104	0	103	0.00%
TOTAL		1943	71	1987	3.65%

AT LARGE					
105	HELENA	185	1	101	1%

		Year end Goal 2019	Year To Date Total	Year End 2018	percent of Goal
DISTRICT #7					
14	BOZEMAN	350	4	371	1.14%
19	BIG TIMBER	189	0	173	0.00%
23	LIVINGSTON	169	0	179	0.00%
25	WHITE SULPHUR	63	0	67	0.00%
30	BELGRADE	254	13	253	5.12%
65	ENNIS	40	1	52	2.50%
78	W YELLOWSTONE	29	0	30	0.00%
87	MANHATTAN	169	1	157	0.59%
93	THREE FORKS	42	0	44	0.00%
99	BIG SKY	56	1	59	1.79%
118	GARDINER	35	1	34	2.86%
TOTAL		1396	21	1419	1.50%

DISTRICT #8					
3	GREAT FALLS	258	3	261	1.16%
6	CHOTEAU	102	3	106	2.94%
2	FORT BENTON	49	0	39	0.00%
51	AUGUSTA	49	0	40	0.00%
64	DUTTON	61	0	49	0.00%
80	FAIRFIELD	33	1	34	3.03%
102	GERALDINE	114	0	115	0.00%
103	POWER	32	0	32	0.00%
130	VAUGHN	48	1	43	2.08%
133	CASCADE	30	0	33	0.00%
341	MALMSTROM	155	2	162	1.29%
TOTAL		931	10	914	1.07%

DISTRICT #9					
15	HARLOWTON	103	1	104	0.97%
16	LEWISTOWN	398	78	467	19.60%
18	ROUNDUP	66	2	64	3.03%
53	STANFORD	26	0	21	0.00%
62	DENTON	23	1	24	4.35%
70	JUDITH GAP	67	0	65	0.00%
76	HOBSON	47	0	43	0.00%
96	ROY	20	0	23	0.00%
120	WINIFRED	31	0	32	0.00%
TOTAL		781	82	843	10.50%

DISTRICT #10					
5	MILES CITY	81	0	74	0.00%
12	SIDNEY	43	1	36	2.33%
28	GLENDIVE	123	1	99	0.81%
29	CIRCLE	18	0	17	0.00%
32	TERRY	101	0	101	0.00%
35	BAKER	136	0	109	0.00%
39	FORSYTH	97	1	89	1.03%
44	COLSTRIP	30	0	40	0.00%
60	EKALAKA	15	1	15	6.67%
77	LAME DEER	11	0	6	0.00%
114	FAIRVIEW	37	1	37	2.70%
128	BROADUS	13	0	14	0.00%
TOTAL		705	5	637	0.71%

DISTRICT #11					
4	BILLINGS	484	6	459	1.24%
8	HARDIN	46	0	54	0.00%
17	RED LODGE	56	0	63	0.00%
34	COLUMBUS	58	0	65	0.00%
71	FROMBERG	18	0	19	0.00%
84	BELFRY	39	0	34	0.00%
92	HYSHAM	22	0	18	0.00%
100	PARK CITY	56	0	58	0.00%
111	CUSTER	59	0	66	0.00%
117	BILLINGS	180	0	198	0.00%
119	BILLINGS HGTS	174	1	182	0.57%
123	LAUREL	113	2	115	1.77%
TOTAL		1305	9	1331	0.69%

☆ Post or District has reached or surpassed its incentive Goal

2019 INCENTIVE GOAL	11,116
2019 MEMBERSHIP TO DATE	235
2018 TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	11006
TOTAL PERCENTAGE	2.11%

The American Legion needs you!

RENEW ONLINE TODAY!

<http://www.legion.org/renew>

HQs POST 105 MEMBERS

At the recently concluded Department Convention in Great Falls Resolution #18-09 passed raising the dues amount for HQs Post 105 in Helena (*not to be confused with Post 2 in Helena*). This resolution calls for annual dues for Post 105 members to be raised to \$47 effective 1 January 2019.

For those who pay their 2019 dues prior to January 1, 2019 — their 2019 dues are still \$40.

Remember, HQs Post 105 members may transfer into a local Post at their dues rate. For more information on transferring to a local Post contact Department HQs at amlegmt29@mtlegion.org or call toll free 866-793-1257.

TEN LARGEST POSTS

Post	2	HELENA	804 MEMBERS
Post	16	LEWISTOWN	467 MEMBERS
Post	4	BILLINGS	459 MEMBERS
Post	27	MISSOULA	376 MEMBERS
Post	14	BOZEMAN	371 MEMBERS
Post	3	GREAT FALLS	261 MEMBERS
Post	30	BELGRADE	253 MEMBERS
Post	21	ANACONDA	236 MEMBERS
Post	94	STEVENSVILLE	220 MEMBERS
Post	137	KALISPELL	208 MEMBERS

DISTRICT STANDINGS

DISTRICT	PERCENTAGE	COMMANDER
9	110.78%	Demorise Allen
5	104.85%	Greg Marose
11	103.42%	Jim Lish
6	102.26%	Josh Clement
7	100.35%	Randy Kemp
8	98.17%	Kim Kay McCarty Martin
4	97.91%	Glen Sharbono
3	92.40%	Charlie Coutts
1	91.52%	Joe Yeoman
10	90.10%	Clancee Collins
2	87.74%	Lowell Long

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
July 6, 2018

SQUADRON	GOAL 2019	TO DATE
WOLF POINT #22	10	0
GLASGOW #41	10	0
PLENTYWOOD #58	10	0
CULBERTSON #81	23	0
NASHUA #104	10	0
HAVRE #11	16	0
CHINOOK #48	19	0
MALTA #57	10	0
GALATA #69	42	0
LIBBY #97	10	0
POLSON #112	10	0
MISSOULA #27	17	0
HAMILTON #47	10	0
CONDON #63	10	0
CORVALLIS #91	10	0
STEVENSVILLE #94	21	0
LOLO #135	34	0
BUTTE #1	29	0
HELENA #2	76	0
ANACONDA #21	33	0
TOWNSEND #42	18	0
BUTTE #115	19	0
BOZEMAN #14	51	0
BIG TIMBER #19	22	0
LIVINGSTON #23	10	0
BELGRADE #30	64	0
MANHATTAN #87	27	0
BIG SKY #99	12	0
GREAT FALLS #3	16	0
CHOTEAU #6	16	0
GERALDINE #102	53	0
VAUGHN #130	17	0
HARLOWTON #15	22	0
LEWISTOWN #16	128	0
MILES CITY #5	11	0
BAKER #35	34	0
FORSYTH #39	45	0
BILLINGS #4	27	0
BELFRY #84	23	0
CUSTER #111	11	0
BILLINGS #117	10	0
LAUREL #123	10	0
HQS POST #9999	0	0
TOTALS	1046	0
☆ SQUADRON GOAL MET		



American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Girls State 2018

BY GIRLS STATE STAFF

While many Montana Legion Family members are aware of Girls State, very few have ever worked at it. What an amazing opportunity to empower and touch the lives of Montana’s stellar young women who are entering their senior year of high school – they are our future!

Montana Girls State seeks to cement knowledge of the fundamental principles of American government through hands-on experience and role play. Organization of a mythical 51st State gives the Delegates (attending girls) actual practice in filing and running for elections, developing City and State government and exercising their elected and appointed offices for the week-long duration of the session. The offer of actual voter registration was taken advantage of by some of the 18 year old eligible Delegates who had not yet registered. The American Legion Auxiliary is committed to helping young women of Montana understand the functioning of local and state government along with the challenges of filing, running and executing duties of public office so that when and if they desire, they can participate to the fullest in our Democratic system. Delegates had fun, met new people, and developed life-long friendships.

This year’s Girls State would not have been possible without the gracious support of Department of Montana ALA President, Kathy Long; Carroll College and Sodexo staff; Red Ants Pants Foundation, Sarah Calhoun, CEO; Accent Print Shop, Kris Schaffer, owner; Helena Sunrise and Townsend Rotary Clubs; Billings ALA Unit; US Senator John Tester; MT Supreme Court Justice Beth Baker and the Supreme Court Clerks; MT Governor Steve Bullock and Lt Governor Mike Cooney; Superintendent Elsie Arntzen (MT Office of Public Instruction) and staff; MT Senator Jill Cohenour (SD 42), Legislator Mary Ann Dunwell (HD 84), MT Chief Clerk of the House, Lindsey Vroegindewey; Broadwater County Commissioner, Laura Obert; Attorney Jim Hunt and Associates; KTVH Television and so many more.

The Director, Jen Dalrymple, is a Dual Legion Family Member – belonging to both The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary. She leveraged her 33 years of Air Force leadership experience to gather the team of women needed

(executive staff, nurses, and counselors), to prepare and conduct this year’s session. During planning meetings, the team created the schedule which included: college scholarship opportunities through the military service academies, ROTC, American Legion and ALA; political campaigns and elections for City and State offices; committee meetings; legislative days; a murder trial; talent show; several different tours and an Inaugural and Alumni Banquet. The week included prominent guest speakers as well as two-day hands-on Mock Trial (murder!) in the District Court House, Moot Court in the Montana Supreme Court and Legislative debates in the Capitol Chambers.

In our heated, polarized political climate, a heart-warming moment arrived when Elsie Arntzen and Jill Cohenour, together on stage, enlightened the Delegates about their collegial working relationship and personal friendship that transcends their opposing political party affiliations. Both shared in describing how they were in the Legislature working together for the good of all Montanans. That relationship was and still is based on finding common ground on which to relate and support issues while accepting and respecting each other’s political differences.

On Wednesday, Peggy Miller, American Legion Auxiliary National Northwest Regional Vice President gave an inspiring talk, “YOU ARE OUR FUTURE!!” She began with a brief history of the ALA. One seldom heard, yet sage piece of advice she shared was, “If the horse is dead, get off it and go on to something else.”

The Mock Trial murder case was conducted by Helena attorney, Jim Hunt and his staff of volunteers at the Lewis and Clark County District Courthouse. Moot Court activities were presented and mentored by Danielle Shyne, Senior Clerk for Justice McGrath and the other Clerks of the MT Supreme Court as the Delegates proceeded through an Appellate Court experience in the MT Supreme Court. MT Supreme Court Justice Beth Baker administered the Oath of Office and conducted a robing ceremony for all elected Girls State Supreme Court Justices in the Capitol’s Old Supreme Court Chambers. What a treat that was!

While the two different Courts were in session, the remaining Delegates participated in

trial runs of the new Legislative voting machines introduced by Chief Clerk of the House, Lindsey Vroegindewey and lively debate of their bills on the House and Senate floors in the Capitol. The week culminated in a personal visit from Senator John Tester, who spoke at the Capitol during lunch on Friday.

The Inauguration and Alumni Banquet Friday evening welcomed several Alumni with the earliest graduating Girls State in 1956! There was a display of historic Girls State artifacts that many found interesting. Awards and scholarships were presented by the Director. Guest speaker, Sarah Calhoun inspired everyone with her “Business for Dummies” story of how she launched Red Ants Pants and created her foundation to support leadership development for rural women. She then presented a check for \$1,500 from the RAP Foundation to support Girls State rural Delegates. Wow and thank you, Sarah!

What did Montana Girls State mean to the delegates this year? From exit surveys in their own words:

“Girls State has been a very enriching and exciting experience. It’s full of fun activities with new people and life-like exercises in government and law. I would recommend any girl who is willing to challenge herself to go to Girls State.”

“I loved listening to great speakers. They inspired me to become a leader and learn more about government.”

“Girls State has been one of the best experiences I’ve ever had. I didn’t know what to expect, but this has certainly taught me a lot about myself and what I want to pursue in life.”

“The entire week, I’ve never before been surrounded by such smart, positive people in my entire life. The education I received about government was unlike anything I expected, especially when we got to ask first-hand questions to Senators, Governor, etc.”

Won’t you consider joining us next year to help put on this valuable education event for Montana young women? The dates for the next American Legion Auxiliary Girls State are June 9 - 15, 2019. More information on how you can help will be available in the Winter Legionnaire.

The 4th on The 5th

SUBMITTED BY JAMES A. GROSSET, PAST DEPT. COMMANDER, THE AMERICAN LEGION OF MONTANA



US Consul Gen Tom Palaia

On the 5th of July, Post CN20 was invited to celebrate Independence Day with the US Consulate General at his residence. There were many people there from Canadian businesses to politicians and celebrities. We did have the honor of meeting the US Ambassador to Canada Kelly Knight Craft, and Montana Lt Governor Mike Cooney. The weather was great, and the drinks and food were supplied in abundance.



US Ambassador Craft



MT Lt Gov Mike Cooney and Jim Grosset



Post CN20 members: Robert Knuppel, Mike Male, Chong Studie, Commander Dar Frizzell, Shawn Ranahan, John Andrews and Post Adjutant Jim Grosset

Unattended Veterans Ceremony pays final tributes to the forgotten

Quarterly, the Friends of the Yellowstone National Cemetery hold a ceremony for veterans who’s cremains have not been claimed by family. Some have been left on the shelves at the undertakers. Since it became Yellowstone National Cemetery, by VA direction, the Director also includes veterans who did not initially have a ceremony but have been placed in the cemetery.



Commander Klose reflects on the purpose of the day - to pay tribute to the forgotten

GO AHEAD – RELAX...

LET THE LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST PROGRAM HANDLE ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS.

Don't waste your time shopping for insurance – the best deals are right here. Thanks to the group buying power of millions of Legionnaires like you, we have negotiated with leading insurance companies to bring you the best rates and coverage. Get the insurance you need at a price you can afford. Even if you are over age 65, you can protect yourself and your family from today's soaring premium costs and increasing risks. It's easy. Just choose what you need from the Legionnaire Insurance Trust's full range of plans endorsed by Your Department and tailored to the needs of Legionnaires and their families.

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Fill in your name, address, phone number and date of birth. Then check off the plans that interest you, and we will do the rest!

☒ Yes! Please send me complete details about the Legionnaire Insurance Trust Program.

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ Evening () _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

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| ☐ Homeowners | ☐ Accident Protection | ☐ Identity Theft Protection |
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THE AMERICAN LEGION Boys STATE



Model City awarded to Tomahawk



Boys State General election Gov/Lt Gov Candidates
(L-R) Jeremy Boatman and Jaeger Held versus Norris Blossom and Reed Miller (winning team).



Attorney General Tim Fox receives the 2018 John Louk Distinguished Alumni Award. L to R: Greg Pohle, Tim Fox, Jeff Louk (John's son)



SAMSUNG Scholarship winner John Jennings (Three Forks HS) and Chairman Don Jones.



L-R: Lt. Gov Mike Cooney, BS Lt Gov Reed Miller (Kali spell HS), BS Gov Norris Blossom (Helena High), Governor Steve Bullock



Director Greg Pohle with John Louk Scholarship winner Jaeger Held (Billings Senior HS), and SAMSUNG Scholarship winner John Jennings (Three Forks HS)




AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY Girls STATE



Girls State-flag raising on Carroll College Campus



Girls State 2018 Elected Officers



Violinist Nicole Deiehl, delegate from Billings Senior High School, entertains the crowd at the 70th Anniversary Inauguration and Alumnae Banquet.



Girls State-Delegates 'LIVE' on tour at KRTV Helena



ALA Girls State 2018 — Montana State Capitol Steps



Girls Nation Senators Andee Baker and Abby Lowry with Director Jen Dalrymple.



Exceptional door art by Aurora Reesman from Corvallis High School.



Girls State Mock "murder" trial-Instructors & Players



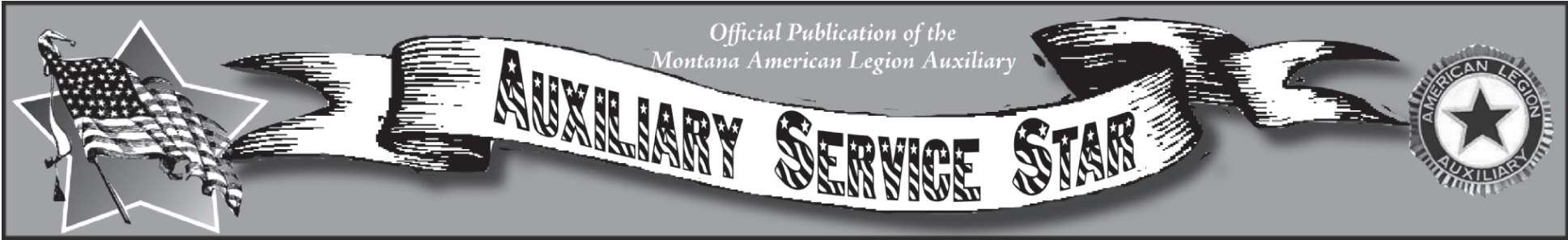
Girls State Mock "murder" trial-Swearing in witness



Girls State-Appellate Court



Girls State-In The House



President
TERRY KEMP

Just want to open this by telling all of you what a great convention we had in Great Falls. Thank you to everyone for having the faith in me to elect me your Department of Montana President for the 2018-2019 year. What an honor to be the President of such a great organization.



Terry Kemp

This year my theme is “Above and Beyond.” This stands for above past differences and on to serving our veterans. This goes hand in hand with National’s theme of “Service Not Self.” This year we want to promote goodwill. As always membership is a major goal. We have talked a lot about what we can do to bolster up our membership. In my opinion we need to make sure that we are making members, both new and old, feel welcome and needed. I’m sure that goodwill towards them will go a long way in attaining this. Everyone wants to feel needed.

Remember, when you get a new member that you invite them to a meeting. At that meeting, make sure that you explain what is going on and what we are doing so that they feel like they are a part of the meeting and not an outsider. It is also very important that we let the community know who we are and what we do. Promote an atmosphere of goodwill to everyone. Always remember when you see a veteran to thank them for their service. It only takes a minute, but it can make someone’s day.

I look forward to working with all of you this coming year. If you have any questions or anything that you want to discuss with me, just give me a call. I may be the President, but this is your organization. We all need to work together in harmony to accomplish all that we need to do for our veterans. Make sure that you are always on the lookout for ways that we can serve our veterans.

Veterans are the reason we exist. Let’s take care of them. It can be as simple as cookies at the VA clinics to driving them to appointments. Whatever the need is we need to make sure that we are doing all that we can to help. Thanks again to all of you.

⊕ Above & Beyond ⊕

Secretary
JAIMIE DeBATES

Happy Summer Department of Montana! Our convention in Great Falls was dynamic. We were treated to a visit from our American Legion Auxiliary National President, Diane Duschek. She spent four years in Montana attending college so was familiar with much of our state. She definitely enjoyed her visit with us. Thank you to the committee who kept her busy and entertained.



Jamie DeBates

The Unit packets went out at convention; the remainders were mailed in late June. I don’t have them so if you don’t, check with your district president. The message in my annual letter reminds you to SHARE the contents. There are benefit brochures for the current members, and enough applications for you to sign up 30 new members. The normal annual forms are also included, so for example, based on this year’s Poppy drive reports, I’m asking you to do a little better job of sharing. Thanks in advance.

The District Fall meeting schedule is out so get started planning now. September will be here before you know it and some meetings are scheduled in communities where we don’t have active units. It presents a small issue, but I know you can handle it.

Congratulations to our new officers. Thank you for stepping up and helping lead this great organization. ⊕

Congratulations
Parsa Ahmadpour
2017-2018 National
Scholarship Recipient
“Children of Warriors
National Presidents’
Scholarship of \$5,000”
Parsa was sponsored by
Custer Unit 5 from
Miles City.

Unit 70 Judith Gap Recognized for Flags on Main Street

SUBMITTED BY FRAN ALLEN, JUDITH GAP UNIT 70

To mark Flag Day 2018, Montana Congressman Greg Gianforte recognized American Legion Auxiliary Unit 70 of Judith Gap for its Flags on Main Street program.

The Judith Gap Unit lost four Auxiliary WWII members and the Judith Gap Legion lost a WWII Legion Veteran the same year. Memorials were given to the Auxiliary and Legion. They purchased flags to place on each residence and business on Main Street. The flags are flown on all patriotic holidays.

Gianforte’s Spirit of Montana is a weekly recognition of Montanans for their accomplishments, dedication or service. Gianforte highlights the recipient in the U.S. House of Representatives and personally contacts the honoree. The Congressman read a statement into the Congressional Record about the honored Auxiliary Unit.

Editor’s Note: If you wish to read this statement please go to <https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record/2018/6/14/extensions-of-remarks-section/article/E839-3>

Department Raffle Winners

Stained Glass Flag...

Betty Saxbury, Laurel

Wooden Cat figurines...

Marga Johnson, White Sulphur Springs

Dream Catcher...

Jeannette Cain, Park City

Hennessey Mirror...

Chris Nelson, Polson

\$200 Gift Card...

Barbara Monroe, Kevin

\$500 Prize...

Mrs. Harold Hagan, Anaconda

\$500 Prize...

Paula Bentle, Belgrade

\$500 Prize...

Ray Southwork, Billings

2018-2019 American Legion Auxiliary Department of Montana Officers

(L-R) Jamie DeBates-Polson, Secretary/
Treasurer; Ashley Holmes-Billings, 2nd
VP; Terry Kemp-Bozeman, President;
Sue Davidson-Billings, 1st VP; Christine
Nelson-Polson, Historian; Yvonne
Kostecky-White Sulphur Springs,
Chaplain. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY PATTY
CAPPS



Northwestern Division National Vice President visits Montana

BY SANDY RUNKEL, LEWIS & CLARK UNIT 2, HELENA

Montana was treated to a visit from NW Division National VP Peggy Miller of Wyoming (center). Her visit to Montana included a speech and luncheon with ALA Montana Girls State Delegates, a tour of Fort Harrison VA hospital, and ending with a trip to the shelter at the Fort Harrison VA cemetery where she enjoyed seeing all the quilts that have been donated for use in winter weather. Auxiliary members accompanying her were 2017-2018 Department President Kathy Long (right), and Sandy Runkel, President Unit 2 (left).



National Auxiliary President Diane Duscheck gets a hug from Great Falls Voyagers Mascot during the June 21, 2018, American Legion Baseball Night military appreciation game.



White Sulphur Springs Unit 25

WSS Unit 25 President Yvonne Kostelecky & Secretary/Treasurer Joanne Cummins had the honor to meet National Auxiliary President Diane Duscheck (center) at Department of Montana State Convention in Great Falls, Mont.



Unit 1 Butte-Silver Bow

Members of The American Legion Auxiliary, Butte-Silver Bow Unit 1 attended Memorial Day Celebrations held at the Butte-Silver Bow Courthouse. The sculpture, called the “Jungle Fighter,” was erected in 1943 to honor those fighting in World War II.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MARGIE SCHENK, BUTTE SILVER BOW UNIT 1
Members of Butte Silver Bow Unit 1: (l-r) Helen Denton, Jeanette Knoell, Bobbie Whelan, Margie Schenk, Georgia Ann Quilici, and BarBeth Orphan

Memorial Day honor — Big Flat Unit 109

SUBMITTED BY KIRSTI CEDERBER

Decorating deceased Veterans and Auxiliary Members graves has been a very special part of the Big Flat Unit 109 Auxiliary for many years. Unit 109 members consider it an honor to decorate over 100 graves in three cemeteries.



(above) Eleanor Warren by her husbands resting place, already decorated for Memorial Day

(right) Junior Member Laci Maloney and 94-years-young Senior Member Eleanor Warren placing flags on Veterans gravesites.





National Preparedness Month

KAREN SEMPLE, DISASTER RESPONSE COORDINATOR

In the shadow of 9/11, September is National Preparedness Month (NPM). NPM encourages all Americans to take actions to prepare for disasters and emergencies in their businesses, homes, schools and communities. And, yes, even in your post. You can learn more at Ready.gov

One enjoyable event your post can hold in September is to host a “Preparedness Party” – invite Legion Family members and Veterans in your community to bring their family members. You can invite a qualified guest speaker to teach a short interactive class on some aspect of personal/family preparedness. (Local Disaster and Emergency Service Coordinators, fire departments or Red Cross love these opportunities to speak!)

Perhaps your American Legion Auxiliary Unit can assist with treats to serve those attending.

You can also contact local businesses for door prizes related to personal preparedness: flashlights, emergency water, emergency food, emergency pet supplies, etc. Remember to get the word out well ahead of time.

It’s not too late to make it happen!

Pet preparedness was a definite need during the flooding in May and June – many weren’t prepared to have extra food or even a place for their pets to go as most emergency hotel accommodations and shelters won’t accept them unless they’re certified service animals. What about your pets? Do you have at least three days (preferably more) emergency food and water set aside for them? Kennels, cages, litter box supplies?

Then, October is Earthquake Preparedness Month – if you can’t hold an event in September, you can still hold one in October. Did you know Montana is the fourth most seismic state? The people in Lincoln and Helena sure do! The 5.8 magnitude earthquake in July of last year (with many aftershocks) got a lot of people’s attention. While it was centered in a fault near Lincoln, there are faults all over the State of Montana that haven’t had a major shake in many years.

It’s entirely up to you to decide what you do to encourage preparedness in your post and community. Please do something! When disasters or emergencies strike, there’s no time to gather necessary medications, paperwork or supplies if you need to evacuate.

Now is the time to collect and set aside supplies for yourself and family. Now is the time to develop a family communication plan in case phone service isn’t available – where will you meet if everyone isn’t together? Now is the time to reach out and help a disabled neighbor to prepare. You can go to: <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/3234> to get a free comprehensive Earthquake Safety Checklist to help you cover all the bases.

If you do decide to hold a preparedness event or training, please let me know about it so I can share it with others.

While we’re on the subject of disasters, please give to the National Emergency Fund to help victims of disaster whose homes or posts become uninhabitable. Grants are available even if you have insurance. You can learn more at Legion.org/emergency if you want to give or apply for a grant. Your home or post must be uninhabitable due to disaster damage to apply.

Please contact me: karensem1@gmail.com if you have questions or just need more information.

95% of all immediate response in any disaster or emergency is conducted by bystanders or the victims, themselves. Are you prepared? *May you be well!*

Malta Post 57 & Centennial News

SUBMITTED BY KEN RUZICKA

Due to a long winter, the annual Post 57 Garage Sale was delayed to May 12. However, approximately \$3000 was realized from the donated items from the members and the community. This allows the Post to continue donating to the Close-Up trip to Washington D.C. for students, Boys State, Boys & Girls Club, Memorial projects, and many other community projects.

The long winter apparently affected many people with health problems or old age, as there were way too many military and other funerals for the population of Phillips County.

As Malta held the 1st convention, the State Historian and this Post would like to find any pictures, info, or the whereabouts of the 29-inch tall Malta Trophy which was presented to the top Drill teams at the 1st and 3rd Conventions. Contact Ken at (406) 654-7243 with any response.

MONTANA JOINS THE 40&8 IN 1922

Grande Voiture Du Montana 1922-2017: La Société des Qaurante Hommes et Huit Chevaux 40&8 Society.

BY RAYMOND K. READ, GRAND CORRESPONDANT

Part 4 of 4-Part Series

In 1947, American newspaper columnist Drew Pearson was so moved by the conditions in war torn Europe that he called on Americans for donations of food, clothing, medical and other supplies to aid the plights of France and Italy. He proposed a plan for a train to cross America collecting car loads of donated supplies as it went. The “Friendship Train,” as it was called, left Los Angeles on November 7, 1947, with eight empty boxcars. The response from across America was overwhelming and 1 day later, on November 18, 1947, the “Friendship Train” arrived in New York with some 700 Box Cars loaded with donated goods worth \$40 million. The supplies were then shipped to the region. As the aid began to pour in, a French veteran of WWI and railroad worker named Andre’ Picard was so grateful for America’s outpouring of generosity that he formulated a response and joined with the French Veterans Association to reply with a 49 car “Merci (thank you) Train” of WWI era boxcars, each filled with mementos from the French people and sent to America. The boxcars arrived in New York Harbor February 3, 1949, and as the “Gratitude Train,” as came to be called in America, crossed the Nation one boxcar with its contents was donated to each of the 48 States with one shared by the District of Columbia and the territory of Hawaii. Today these “Box Cars” stand in their respective States as a testament to these incredible displays of goodwill and have evolved through the efforts of “La Societe de 40 and 8” and the National

Boxcar Association to annually raise funding to support the many charitable programs of the 40&8 in support of our communities across this great Nation. The National Box Car Association (NBCA) was founded in 1965 as an affiliate of “La Societe’ de Forty & Eight” with the primary purpose of preserving the Box Car as the symbol of the 40&8. Over time, locomotives were added to the symbolic



rolling stock of the NBCA since they were connected and needed to haul the Box Cars. The National Box Car Association set goals of making contributions to Hospitals, Children’s Homes and Orphanages. Expanding its efforts, the NBCA supports special projects at the annual Promenade Nationale (National Convention). A party for special children is held in the host city where the children and their escorts are treated to lunch, train rides on visiting locomotives and entertainment by the NBCA HOBO Clowns, bands, etc.

Also, a monetary donation is made to the host city’s local VAVS Hospital or Clinic. Other donations go to the *National Boland Nurses Training Trust Fund*, the *Charles Ardery Child Welfare Trust Fund* and other programs requiring assistance, such as the National 40&8 Membership Committee, 40&8 Magazine, Law Officer of the Year program, and many others. All funding raised by the NBCA is distributed in the same year it is raised. Funding comes through the sales of Box Car Pins, Crew Cards, and Associate Cards. Crew cards are sold only to members of the 40&8 and anyone wishing to donate to the NBCA. The Box Car Program is currently in its fifth year of a five-year series of NBCA Commemorative Coins. When completed, the series will represent a locomotive pulling three Box Cars and trailing a Caboose. Each coin signifies, in some way, a connection to the symbolic Railroad image of the 40&8, the service to Veterans, and the programs of the 40&8. The sale of these items represents an integral part of the



financial success of the National Box Car Association. Funds remaining in the State support the maintenance of Montana’s MERCI CAR located at the Montana Military Museum, Fort William Henry Harrison, just west of Helena, Montana.

Membership information:

Grande Du Montana currently has five Voitures. They are: Voiture 262, Anaconda/Butte; Voiture, 467, Missoula; Voiture 569, Billings; Voiture 718, Helena; and Voiture 922, Montana Highline. If you are interested in joining this 95-year-old honor society dedicated to justice, freedom and democracy, please call 406.458.9847 or e-mail myfun51@msn.com.



THE AMERICAN LEGION Centennial Update

Montana Department of The American Legion Centennial Celebration 1919-2019; the Department 100th Anniversary Committee and Post One Year narrative and Post One Year yearbook (pictorial) history Program.

RAYMOND K. READ, POST 2, LEWIS CLARK POST, DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN MYFUN51@MSN.COM
406-458-9847/ 406-235-0290

Congratulation to Post 23, Livingston, winner of the Department History Book Contest!

Their entry will be forwarded to National Headquarters for the Contest in October 2018. Good luck! The National Historian has asked all Legionnaires to put forth maximum effort to produce Post histories during the 2018-2019 year.

The Centennial Convention Committee [Jen Dalrymple, David Capps, Reese Hailey, J. D. Atkinson and Ray Read] met during the 100th Annual Convention in Great Falls and made the following report/ recommendations concerning the Centennial.



1. Centennial Website located at www.legion.org is accessible by the AL Family and may also be accessed through www.mtleion.org. Twenty-one Posts have taken advantage of the Post History portal located at www.legion.org/centennial. This leaves 110 to complete this connection. The Department goal is to have 100 percent of Posts utilizing this tool. There remains less than 12 months to accomplish this. It may require a dedicated team of Legionnaires to get this accomplished.
2. Discussion of the importance of the Department of Montana and the recording of the same for current and future members of the AL Family. The history is cumulative and incorporates the Post activities as well as the Auxiliary Units, the Sons Squadrons and the juniors of the Auxiliary. The goal is to record the story of the Department from it’s chartering in 1919 to the end of the Centennial period in 2019 and beyond. This story can utilize all forms of media; written, voice, video and social venues.
3. Reviewed the 100 Memorial/100 Cities Program and the availability of grants by the Pritzker Military Museum in coordination with AL’s Centennial Committee. The grant application process ended on July 10, 2017 with two Montana locations receiving a grant; one for the Doughboy Statue in Missoula County and the other a World War I monument in Dillon, Montana.
4. Discussed the National Executive Committee Resolution #10, establishing a program to identify all military monuments, cemeteries or other sites located throughout the State in order to place them on a national database managed currently by the Centennial Committee. This identification process is done at Post level or below. The tenets of the program and forms are available on www.legion.org.
5. Discussed the challenges of providing information on the Centennial program on a timely basis. Utilizing the available communications links of the Department Executive Committee, District Commanders and Post commanders will remain key to the Department’s success. This also requires a commitment of time and talent to this project. The goal is to move the Department into its second century with a viable program record to posterity its achievements.
6. The following items were identified but require further discussion:
 - a. Publishing a Department of Montana Centennial History incorporating previous histories and adding approximately 20 years of new material. The purpose of this book is to provide copies to all communities and interested persons as was done in the previous two histories.

Sheridan 8th Grade Student Americanism & Constitution Program State Level Winner

Jenna Nate, an 8th Grade student at Sheridan Junior High School, took First Place at the State level for The American Legion's Americanism and Constitutional Essay Program, and Second Place in The American Legion's Government Survey Program for her grade level. Jenna had previously taken First Place in both categories during the Post 89 of Sheridan competition. Jenna is shown receiving her State Level Plaques and monetary awards in a presentation at the Sheridan Junior High School.



Cliff Morgan Post 89 Commander, Jenna Nate, Mike Morgan Post 89 Adjutant.

Constitution Changes Errata

Section 10. The Department Membership and Post Activities Committee shall consist of the Zone Commanders and the Department Commander’s appointee and who will serve as the committee chair for the American Legion Department of Montana.

Passed June 25, 2017

Article 1, Section 4. A Department Finance Committee of seven (7) members with terms of five (5) years each, staggered so that the term of one member shall expire each of three years, and two on the remaining two years. The rotation will be such that the years of appointing two members shall never be consecutive. There shall be one member selected from each area or zone with three members at large. The incoming Commander shall appoint one or two member(s) with the approval of the Department Executive Committee. By virtue of his or her position the Department Finance Officer shall also be a voting member of the Department Finance Committee.

(a) The Department Finance Committee shall from time to time direct the Department Adjutant to invest the Department funds not required for immediate use in such securities as will, in their judgment, bring the greatest return consistent with funds security.

(b) At the end of each fiscal year, the Department Finance Committee shall prepare a budget for adoption by the Department Executive Committee for the ensuing year, and no officer shall expend a greater amount than allotted in his or her budget without approval of the Department Finance Committee.

C. The Finance Committee Chairman will, at the first meeting of the committee after the most recent appointment, appoint two sub-committees of three members each, one being the Ways and Means sub-committee and the other being the Endowment sub-committee, and oversee the operation of both sub-committees.

D. The Department Ways & Means sub-committee will develop a plan for raising funds for the general fund of the department. It will examine previous efforts, the outcome of such efforts, and recommend the best items to the finance committee and forward them to the Executive Committee and the department for approval.

E. The Endowment sub-committee will develop means to increase the value of the department endowment, At least one member should be familiar with the establishment of planned giving instruments. The committee is tasked with the growing of the Department Endowment Fund through aggressive solicitation and prudent investment.

Article 1, Sections 10 and 13, the bylaws of The American Legion of Montana be deleted, and Article 1, Sections 11 and 12 be renumbered Section 10 and 11

Passed June 2018

Centennial continued from pg. 12

- b. Creation of a Department Centennial Coin as a part of the National Centennial Coin program. This has been a success with a second order of 300 over the original 500. In addition, discussion continues about creating Department wearable apparel, patches and commemoratives. Your suggestions would be beneficial
 - c. Creating Montana AL travelling displays to tell the Story.
 - d. Working Department Public Relations efforts to tell the story throughout the State.
 - e. Developing strategies to move into the 2nd Century of Service through interaction with the membership.
7. All of the above will require development of a budget and identification of sources of funding.
8. As the Centennial Chair, I will travel during 2018 Fall and 2019 Spring District meetings and attend the 2019 Fall Conference in Helena, Montana to place emphasis at the District and Post level to develop a positive outcome.

In addition, the Department Executive Committee has established a Department Centennial Committee in accordance with the request of the 100th Anniversary Observance Committee. The Department Historian has been designated the Department Centennial Chairman and members are Joyce Babcock (Custer Post 5), Michael Shepard (Post 72, Columbia Falls) Lowell Long, (Blaine Post 48, Chinook). The Committee's task is to engage the Posts in meaningful participation concerning the Centennial.

I continue to encourage all Posts to implement the Legion's Legacy Vision for the Centennial 1919-2019.

“The American Legion wishes to call to the attention of the American People the record of achievements that have been accomplished by The American Legion during the 100 years since its founding, to emphasize the impact the organization has had upon the American society, and the extent of its contributions in national security and the welfare of military veterans, their families and their communities... The American Legion wishes to set forth the objectives and the aims that will motivate its programs and activities during the years ahead and to illustrate the contribution made to the future of the country as intended by these programs.”

Some initial ideas for this very important program for Montana Legionnaires to review and implement.

1. All documents referenced below are available on the National American Legion website. Go to www.legion.org/centennial and follow the prompts. If your Post/Auxiliary/Sons of the American Legion have access to the internet you can accomplish the American Legion Centennial Challenge. Remember look to your strengths and leverage them. Also look to your local community for ideas and support.
2. I am asking all Montana Department American Legion Posts to establish their Local Legacy-Your Post's History. National Headquarters has developed a FREE webpage that will allow each participating Post its own place online where photos, text and videos can be posted and shared. So whether your Post was established in 1919 or just few years ago, you have the opportunity to tell your story in your community and throughout the American Legion.

I want to emphasize all aspects of The American Legion Centennial Program are available on the National website www.legion.org/centennial.

In less than 60 days, the American Legion will celebrate its 100th National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in little more than 300 days the 100th Birthday, March 15-17, 2019 and culminating the Centennial year is the 101st Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana August 2019. Montana's contributions to the American Legion Legacy deserves to placed on the national record.

It is a goal of the Montana Department to update its historical record by incorporating the current written record of the past 100 years in creating a Centennial History. With your cooperation and participation that can happen.

Reference is made to:

1. Letter, dated July 31, 2015, from the American Legion 100th Anniversary Observance Committee announcing the updated 5-year plan for the American Legion Centennial 1919-2019.
2. The American Legion's Centennial Celebration Workbook;
3. The American Legion's Legacy Vision brochure;
4. The American Legion's Post 9/11 Veterans Booklet
5. Resolution No. 31, Spring 2011, National Executive Committee
6. The American Legion 2015 Officer's Guide and Manual of Ceremonies
7. The World War One Centennial 100 Cities/100 Memorials Grant program
8. NEC Resolution No. 10 The American Legion Memorial Project

Persons or Posts may contact the following for more information:
Department of Montana, The American Legion
ATTN: Centennial Committee
P.O. Box 6075
Helena, Montana 59620-6075

2018 RESOLUTION TRACKER

#	RESOLUTION NAME	SUBMITTED BY	PASS	FAIL
18-01	...Reorganize Financial committees of The American Legion of MT	Finance	x	
18-02	...Uniformity in Wearing the Uniform Cap	Dist. 7		x
18-03	...Automatic Transfer of AD0105 Membership to Local Posts within Dist. 4	Dist. 4	x	
18-04	...Urging Bipartisan Multi-Year Logic & Commitment for Nat'l Defense Budget	Dist. 5	x	
18-05	...Urge US Congress to require VA to Establish Care due to exposure of Jet Propellants	Dist. 10		x
18-06	...Appointment of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Committee	VA&R	x	
18-07	...Dues Waiver	Membership	x	
18-08	... Transfer of Team Montana Fund to General Account	Finance	x	
18-09	...Raise the Dues for Montana holding Post 105	Finance	x	
18-10	...Approve the Department of Montana Strategic Plan for Membership	Membership	x	
18-11	...Review Five year strategic plan by the Executive Committee	Membership	x	

What is the Big K and New Changes to the Program

Often, I am asked what the **Big K** is, and since the new Ways & Means Committee has made changes to the Big K it is time to refamiliarize our members with the Big K. The Big K (or **Big 1000**) is a fundraising mechanism for the Department, Districts, and Posts of the Department of Montana. Members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion 18 years and older may join the Big K for \$25 annually.

Membership is limited to 1000 members.

Posts, Units, or Squadron will receive an \$8.50 payment for each Big K member who belongs to their Post, Unit, or Squadron. Districts will receive a payment for each Big K member who belongs to their District.

What are the benefits of membership?

- Early Bird Drawing at the Fall Conference Banquet for \$200 (this is a change)
- Early bird Drawing in January for \$100 (this is a change)
- \$400 per month drawing for six months – first drawing in January, last at Department Convention in June
- \$500 drawing on Legion Birthday in March. (this is a change)
- \$1800 drawing at Department Convention Banquet in June. (this is a change)
- First chance at renewal for subsequent year

Posts, Units, and Squadrons may also purchase a Big K membership. Dividends from the Posts, Units and Squadrons are paid at the Spring District Meetings.

To sign up for the Big K, complete the form below and mail with check to The American Legion of Montana at PO Box 6075, Helena, MT 59604-6075.



BIG 1,000 CLUB

Would you like six opportunities to win \$400, one to win \$500 and one to win \$1,800? Join the Big K (1000) Club and be one of the 1000 members eligible to win. Membership is just \$25 a year and is open to all Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members over 18 years of age.

This is a fund raiser for Posts, Units, Squadrons, Districts and Department; proceeds will be used to strengthen and increase programs such as Oratory, Government Survey Scholarship, Baseball and American Legion Boys State as well as membership programs.

If you are interested in joining contact your Post Adjutant or Department Headquarters. Membership closes December 31, 2019 with the first of 6 monthly drawings for \$400 beginning January 2019, \$500 on the Legion Birthday and \$1,800 at Department Convention.



BIG 1,000 CLUB

Submit completed form with \$25 Membership Fee!
American Legion Dept of Montana
Armed Forces Reserve Center
P.O. Box 6075
Helena, MT 59604-6075

Name: _____

Post/Unit/Squadron: _____

ID Number: _____

Phone Number: _____

A Sons of the Legion experience

BY DEAN GILBERT, HISTORIAN, PARK POST 23

During the month of January, Roy Davis, Sons of the Legion Commander, Park Post 23, received a call from a John Green in Arizona, stating that he was making a visit to Livingston, Mont. to review some of his grandfather’s background in Park County and that his grandfather had been a member of The American Legion, Park Post 23. His grandfather, Leonard Green had been the Historian for the Post and his question was, “were there any records still remaining that his grandfather had created”? Roy told him that he would check into the request. Roy then called the current historian, Dean Gilbert, with the request and “yes, we have his book in the archives.”

Leonard Green, from Park Post 23, had documented the Post from its inception in 1919, at the end of WWI through WWII when he had served. He then joined The American Legion in Livingston, MT. participating in the different offices. He served as Post Commander, finishing his Legion career as Post Historian. He mentioned that in 1919, the Legion purchased a building across the street from the Northern Pacific Rail Road Depot, 113 West Park Street. The office was on the 2nd floor with a meat market housed underneath at ground level. It was easy for the returning military to find and check in. The Legion could help them find a place to live and locate a job. It was also a place to socialize, have dances, and get something to eat on occasions. The Legion also tracked the returning warriors making sure that they could re-establish themselves back into the local lifestyle as a civilian.

The scrapbook, that Leonard had assembled, covered the history of Park County and Livingston Montana from its creation in 1889. The history told of the various wars, whom had reported for duty, and some of those that had not returned. Newspaper accounts of some of the battles that our local boys had participated in after WWII. He covered some of the Korean War, whom served and those that were killed. Some of the Viet Nam War was covered but this is where the book ended in 1983. Regardless, this is an excellent source of information for future scrapbooks and the background it provides.

Leonard received two military ribbons for History during his tenure and these ribbons accompanied his scrapbook but were subject to getting lost or misplaced. On May 3, 2018, John Green arrived in Livingston, had a chance to review the Leonard Green Scrapbook and then Roy Davis presented John Green his grandfathers History Ribbons. John joined the Sons of the Legion, Park Post 23 at that time.



PHOTO BY ROY DAVIS

Meagher County American Legion Post 25

Post 25 members Garry Bears, Bill Cummins, Marvin Kostelecky, Bill Blanchard, Lee Blanchard, Gene Richeson, and George Kirkwood were part of the ground-breaking ceremony of the new public library in White Sulphur Springs. The new library will have a Veterans Wall listing veterans who live/have lived or are buried in White Sulphur Springs.



Steve Daines

United States Senator for Montana



On May 21st, my bill to designate three VA facilities in Honor of Montana Veterans passed the U.S. House of Representatives and was sent to the White House. With President Trump’s signature, these three American heroes’ legacies will be remembered by Montanans for

generations to come. Read more about these heroes in the Missoulian.

On May 23rd, the U.S. Senate passed landmark legislation that expands health care access to veterans across our state by replacing the Veterans Choice program with a more streamlined and efficient Veterans Community Care program. Learn more about the VA MISSION Act at [here](#).



REMEMBERING MONTANA’S FALLEN VETERANS

On May 28th, I had the honor of walking in the Memorial Day parade in Bozeman, as well as speaking at the Sunset Hills Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremony.



It was a great opportunity to honor the men and women who paid the ultimate price for our freedom. Their service will never be forgotten.

Broadwater Post 42 Family to host 2nd Annual Patriot’s Day County First Responders Fundraiser Celebration

Sunday, September 9, 2018

BY JEN DALRYMPLE, COMMANDER

9/11 is a day few of us will ever forget and to honor the first responders who were some of the many heroes that day, American Legion Broadwater Post 42 Family will once again host a Patriot’s Day Fundraiser Celebration to support our very own Broadwater County first responders. On Sunday, September 9th from noon to 3pm, come out to the Townsend School Multi-Purpose Room and back lot to enjoy festivities, food, fun and comradery among the community. We’re having silent auction items, 50/50 raffle, dunk tank, climbing wall, and a myriad of games and food stuffs. We’re asking all Legionnaires to wear their caps to show our patriotism and support of first responders. Last year’s event was a tremendous success and we’re hoping to repeat the feat! Thank you to our sponsors, the Lions and Rotary Clubs of Townsend and Missouri Valley Marketing. If you would like to be a Patriot’s Day Celebration sponsor, please contact committee members, Reba Johnson at rebe42@juno.com or Dee Gannon at deedaleame@yahoo.com.

WSS Post & Unit 25 hold their Annual Fundraiser at the Branding Iron Café

JD & Michele Walker, owners of the Branding Iron Cafe in White Sulphur Springs, give Post 25 Commander Bill Cummins and Unit 25 President Yvonne Kostelecky, a check from the Fundraiser.



Proceeds from this event helps the Post and Unit to send Delegates to Boys and Girls State, buy backpacks for the 1st graders, help veterans and their families, and our community.

U.S. SENATOR FOR MONTANA JON TESTER



Tester Votes to Pass Critical Funding Bill to Hold VA Accountable

Senate Passes Legislation to Invest in VA Infrastructure, Boost Care for Rural and Women Veterans

(U.S. SENATE) – U.S. Senator Jon Tester today advanced bipartisan legislation to improve the VA for Montana veterans and boost the military readiness at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

As Ranking Member of the Senate Veterans’

Affairs Committee, Tester has a lead role in drafting and passing the 2019 Military Construction and Veterans’ Affairs Appropriations Bill through the Senate. This bill funds VA operations and military construction projects across the nation.

“This bill honors the sacrifice of Montana veterans by making sure the VA can provide healthcare and benefits worthy of their service,” Tester said. “Serving our veterans is a cost of war, and we must never back down from that responsibility.”

After including numerous Montana priorities in the bill during the Committee process, Tester made the bill stronger on the Senate floor by adding an amendment that prevents VA leaders from limiting the independence of the Inspector General, the office responsible for investigating misconduct and waste of taxpayer money. Tester offered his amendment after reports that the VA’s Acting Secretary is refusing to comply with requests for documents from the VA Inspector General. “The unanimous support for my amendment to protect the VA Inspector General sends a clear message that the VA is not above the law and must comply with the IG’s request for access to information,” said Tester. Tester also successfully pushed an amendment to force the VA to track and monitor when its accounting mistakes result in debts it tries to recoup from veterans.

Tester also fought to include the following provisions:

- Language directing the VA to develop a plan to address staffing shortages at VA facilities.
- \$1.8 billion for VA construction projects to address aging and inadequate VA facilities.
- A requirement that the VA notify Congress when a government contractor fails to do its job.
- \$861 million for caregiver benefits to help offset costs associated with caring for a veteran.
- \$531 million to ensure the VA is providing gender-specific care and benefits to women veterans.
- \$450 million to help homeless veterans and their families find permanent housing.
- \$270 million to improve services for rural veterans.
- \$30 million to expand veterans’ access to telehealth care.
- A directive demanding the VA and Defense Department establish timelines for rolling out electronic health records.

Tester doubled down on his efforts to strengthen Malmstrom Air Force Base by pushing the Air Force to expedite replacing the storage facility for Malmstrom’s fleet of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles and to prevent the RED HORSE Squadron from getting permanently shipped out of Montana. “This legislation strengthens our military and helps keeps this nation safer,” said Tester. “Our state’s Airmen and members of the Montana National Guard safeguard our freedom and this bill provides crucial resources for their mission.” Tester recently secured resources in the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act to maintain and modernize Malmstrom’s missile fleet and expedite replacement of its UH-1N Huey helicopter fleet. The Senate voted 86-5 to advance the 2019 Military Construction and Veterans’ Affairs Appropriations Bill.

District Commanders

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DISTRICT 11	Jim Lish 3759 Grecian Way burtuckyjim@yahoo.com	Billings 59102	(801) 678-2547(C)

Carlisle receives Defense Superior Service Medal

SUBMITTED BY JIM CARLISLE

On June 18, 2018 the Secretary of Defense, James Mattis, presented COL Heather Carlisle with the Defense Superior Service Medal in recognition of



Secretary of Defense James Mattis with the Carlisle family- Heather Carlisle, Christine Jones, James D.C. , Kenneth Jones; Front Row: Riley & James W. Jones, Evelyn Carlisle – at an awards ceremony at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

and service to their communities. Heather’s family highlights this fact as her parents, Jim and Evelyn, are both retired school teachers and long-time supporters of the American Legion among other community service organizations. All seven Carlises pictured and recognized at the ceremony are members of The American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion.

Post 14 Honors Bozeman City Staff

SUBMITTED BY LEN ALBRIGHT

On April 26, Post 14 presented letters of appreciation to two Bozeman City employees for assisting us and the City of Bozeman in locating more Veterans that are buried in Sunset Hills Cemetery. Historian, Dallas Thompson and Rick Fink, Supervisor of the Cemetery, have been working together to make



Pictured are Len Albright, Rick Fink, Tara Prescott, Dallas Thompson, and Randy Kemp.

Cemetery and registered in the Cemetery Kiosk. Rick and Tara were ‘coined’ in the presence of five other Bozeman employees.

Department of Montana Officers

COMMANDER 511 Cottonwood Ave	Richard Klose Laurel 59044 kloserichard@yahoo.com	671-1814 (C)
VICE COMMANDER	Jeff Nelson 36407 Orchard Ln Polson 59860 nelsondairy2003@yahoo.com	249-9383 (H) 883-2927 (W)
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ALT. N.E.C.	Peter "Hal" Rice PO Box 354 Geraldine 59446 hdesertstormvet@gmail.com	737-4368 (H) 899-4368
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HISTORIAN	Ray Read 470 Ronda Rd. Helena 59602 myfun51@msn.com	458-9847 (H) 235-0290 (C)
ADJUTANT	Gary White PO Box 6075 Helena 59604 Helena Armed Forces Reserve Center Fort Harrison Toll Free (866) 793-1257 (O) amlegmt29@mtlegion.org	324-3989 (O) 226-7462 (F)
Adjutants Assistant	Erin Carpenter amlegmtsec@gmail.com	324-3990 (O)
CHAPLAIN	Karen Semple 34 Mergenthaler Rd Montana City 59634 karensem1@gmail.com	443-3376 (H) 465-0163 (C)
SERVICE OFFICER	Kelly Ackerman Fort Harrison 59636 PO Box 1007 Kelly.ackerman@va.gov	495-2080 (O) 495-2003 (F)
PARLIAMENTARIAN	George Blackard 3381 Racquet Drive Billings 59102 geoblackard@yahoo.com	651-4469 (H) 855-6781 (C)
FINANCE OFFICER	John Joyce 324 Best Place Rd Helena 59602 john.joyce1226@gmail.com	459-3813 (H)
JUDGE ADVOCATE	Joe Leavengood PO Box 3J Winifred 59489 leavengood@gmx.com	462-5432 (H) 366-2611 (C)
SERGEANT AT ARMS	John Kougioulis PO Box 906 Townsend 59644 singinglineman@gmail.com	266-5309 (H) 459-0286 (C)
EDUCATION & TRAINING CHAIR 2021	Jeff Holmes PO Box 723 Harlowton 59036 broncojeff7@hotmail.com	350-1347 (C)

How to Submit Articles or Photos?

Deadline: October 1, 2018

Preferences:

- Text** – No formatting such as, **multiple space and multiple tabs to line up text**
- Set one tab (publisher will format to line up paragraphs and columns) PLEASE do not use multiple spaces as *All formatting has to be removed before placing into paper.*
- Modern formatting is single-space between sentences (after the period)
- Provide Post City as well as Post/Unit number
- Post, Unit & Department are capitalized
- It is better if articles/stories are written in third person – unless you’re talking about quotes from actual people, of course. There really should never be any “we did this” or “I/we think that” written in the body of a good news story – imagine someone else is telling your story at all times, as though the journalist is telling the reader about someone or something else.
- Acronyms.** Always keep new members informed and familiar with programs. For example: *Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS)*. The first time an acronym is used in an article use full title followed with acronym in parenthesis, then following first use, use the acronym.
- Please keep articles to approximately 600 words per article.
- If you are using information in your article from another source be sure to use quotation marks and give credit to the author and/or publication you are taking the information from otherwise this is plagiarizing which has serious legal repercussions.
- DO NOT submit articles in PDF format.
- If you want credit for an article or photo(s), please make sure you let us know.

Photos – send as e-mail **attachments** – PLEASE!!

- JPG format, as an attachment**
- Default setting on a **digital camera** is usually set very high. Set to 1200 x 1725 pixels which is ideal for printing 4x6 with desired output resolution of 300 dpi.
- Cell phone photos are many times too poor quality so take your time taking the photo.**
If the photo is blurry, too far away, tops of heads cut off, shows just the backs of heads we cannot make it look better for you. Send photos in medium resolution.
- Captions should be noted in the e-mail:**
Photo# caption which includes Post/ Unit #, Name, City along with the names of those in the photo and what Post/Unit they are members of.
- Don’t spend time setting up photos and captions in a Word document – PLEASE**
Each time a photo is copied/pasted to edit it loses integrity. Send as an e-mail attachment.
- Do Not embed (insert) photos in an e-mail (use attach)**
See above (if embedded in an e-mail the photo has to be copied/pasted into Word, then copied/pasted into photo editor). Send as an e-mail attachment.

News articles

- Sending a hyperlink to an article via e-mail is best (rather than hard-copy to scan)
Helps ensure article can be found (sometimes older articles are archived and cannot be found) and also to give proper credit to the author and newspaper to avoid plagiarizing.

Corrections to previously-sent articles

- Send an e-mail with the corrections only
Most times the article has already been formatted and grammar-edited, and inserting the correction saves a lot of time in redoing. **Edit and spellcheck your work before you send it the first time.**

ByLine... remember... always include the submitters name for articles.

Send Articles, Photos w/Captions to: lmtpub@gmail.com

Early Submittals Greatly Appreciated!

Buddies in Business



PAID ADS ARE NOT AN ENDORSEMENT
OF PERSON, PRODUCT OR BUSINESS

2 inch ads: \$55 per year
3 1/2 inch ads: \$85 per year



Big Timber American Legion Post #19

Drop in to see us!

110 E 3RD AVENUE, BIG TIMBER, MT

Post Meetings - 1st Wed. 7 p.m.

Open 7 days a week
M-F 1 p.m. to close
S-S 10 a.m. to close

Pizza Every Day – Friday Night Burgers & Sandwiches



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MEMBER POST #2

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Silver Bow Post #1 and Auxiliary

American Legion of Montana

Welcome

MEETINGS:
FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH @ 8:00 P.M.
DINNER: THIRD WEDNESDAY @ 6:30 P.M.
LEGION HALL IS ACROSS THE STREET FROM RAMADA COPPER KING

Liberty County American Legion Post #88

Welcome to our Post Meeting
Every 1st Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Liberty Co. Community &
Senior Center
618 East Adams
Chester, Montana



AMERICAN LEGION POST #4

OPEN DAILY AT 2:00 PM

HOTTEST MACHINES IN TOWN

1540 BROADWATER AVE.
BILLINGS, MT



American Legion Post #3



Meets the 3rd Monday at 7 PM
September thru May
at the Elks Lodge
500 1st Ave South
Great Falls MT
(406) 453-8822

American Legion Post #2

3095 Villard Ave.
Helena, MT



Monday thru Saturday
Open at 10 a.m.

Sunday - Open at Noon
all meetings 2nd
Thursday each month

American Legion Gallatin Post #14

Striving for Legiontown USA

225 East Main Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

Open daily
Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. to Midnight



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Montana Legionnaires!

Visit the **Montana Military Museum**
At historic Fort Harrison,
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Fort William Henry Harrison Museum
Foundation & Montana Military Museum
For more information write to:
ATTN: Museum Director/Curator
P.O. Box 125
Fort Harrison, Montana 59636-0125
myfun51@msn.com • 406-324-3550

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Sons Of The American Legion

Detachment Of Montana



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