



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA
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May — July 2019

Department Four Chaplains Ceremony

by Karen Semple, Department Chaplain



On February 1st, The American Legion Department Officers and members from around the area paid tribute to the Four Chaplains of World War II in a ceremony hosted at Touchmark Assisted Living Facility in Helena. Department Chaplain Karen Semple worked with

the facility leadership to present a moving ceremony for their residents replete with WWII re-enactor, Kenley Zylaw, a Coast Guard veteran and member of Lewis and Clark Post 2 in Helena. Post 42 Commander Jen Dalrymple narrated the ceremony which included Department Commander Richard Klose and different participants reading the individual biographies of the four chaplains who perished in the waters of the Pacific during the War.

For the story of the Four Chaplains, see page 3, Chaplains Corner.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOUCHMARK PHOTOGRAPHER, MR. HOWARD HAINES



Lewis and Clark Post No. 2 Commander, Justin Carpenter, reads a biography while Jennifer Dalrymple, Townsend Post 42 Commander looks on.



WWII veteran widows line up to greet WWII re-enactor Kenley Zylaw following the ceremony. Many expressed their delight to see him. "You look just like my husband did when he got off the train after the war" was a frequent refrain of the ladies.



Flathead High School Senior Wins The Montana American Legion Oratorical Contest

BELGRADE, MT – MARCH 9, 2019



The Montana American Legion High School Oratorical Competition sponsored by The American Legion of Montana and its 125 Posts located throughout Montana concluded in Belgrade on Saturday March 9. **Sierra Dilworth** of Kalispell who attends Flathead High School prevailed over six other contestants for the right to represent Montana at The American Legion National Finals April 5-7, 2019, in Indianapolis IN. The American Legion pays the expenses of the state winner and a parent to travel to the National Contest.

The American Legion established the annual oratorical contest in 1939 as part of its multi-faceted Americanism Program. The focus of the competition has always been the United States Constitution.

Dilworth won the local competition sponsored by Kalispell Post 137 and then went on to take the District contest in Polson a week later for the chance to compete in the state finals. Emmy Martin of Two Dot took second place followed by Michael Romney of Big Sky for third followed by Norris Blossom of Helena in fourth.

The subject of the prepared oration portion of the contest must be about some phase of the constitution of the United States and should be 8 – 10 minutes in length.

Each state winner who competes in the first round of the National Contest will receive a \$1,500 scholarship.

Participants in the second round who do not advance to the national Final round will receive an additional \$1500 scholarship. The top three youth orators who have won all previous rounds will vie for the top honors in the National contest. In addition to the awards by winners of the various elimination rounds of the National Competition, university scholarships of \$18,000, \$16,000 and \$14,000 will be awarded to the 1st through 3rd place winners in the National Finals.

The American Legion State Oratorical Chairman is Jeff Holmes, Harlowton, Montana.

Important Upcoming Dates

May 1	Certification of AL Officers due to Dept HQ
May 5-8	National Spring Meetings – Indianapolis, IN
May 8	Certification Form, Top Recruiter due to Dept HQ
May 15	Consolidated Post Reports due to Dept HQ
May 15	Dept Officers Convention Report due to Dept HQ
May 30	Dept Convention Delegates Strength date
Jun 1	Natl Convention Registrations due to Dept
Jun 2-7	AL Boys State, Carroll College, Helena
Jun 14	Flag Day
Jun 14	US Army Birthday
Jun 15	Dept Convention Delegate Form due to Dept
Jun 25-30	Dept HQ Closed (Dept Convention)
Jun 26	Dept Finance Committee meeting, Polson
Jun 26-27	Dept Legion College Polson
Jun 27	Dept Executive Committee Meeting, Polson
Jun 28-30	Department Convention in Polson
Jul 1	2020 Membership Year begins
Jul 1	2020 Big K Membership opens
Jul 4	Independence Day
July 19 – 27	Boys Nation
July 23-27	Junior Shooting Sports Natl Championship
Aug 6 -11	AL Baseball Regional Tournaments
Aug 8 – 10	Natl Membership Workshop / Dept Service Officers School
Aug 15-20	American Legion Baseball World Series
Aug 23-29	National Convention, Indianapolis, IN
Sep 2	Labor Day Observed

BIG K WINNERS

The Big K \$400 winner for February 2019 was Duane L Scott of Geraldine Post 102. Duane's number was drawn by Bill Applegate of Hellgate Post 27 Missoula

March drawing was won by Pat Sweeney of Butte Post 1, Pat's name was drawn by Bill Rich of Helena Post 2. The American Legion Birthday drawing was won by Frank Vanek of Judith Gap Post 70. Frank's number was drawn by NEC David Driver of Great Falls Post 3.

Disbursements of Big K dividends to the Districts, Posts, Units and Squadrons will be done at the Spring District Meetings.

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COMMANDER KLOSE

Welcome, as I write, we are in the middle of our District Meetings. Some have been well attended, others a little slim. Going to our District Meetings is a great experience and a great way to meet some of our wonderful American Legion members.



Richard Klose
Dept. Commander

We missed the 90 percent membership target, now we must work twice as hard to get to the 95 percent target. Our DMS list is a lot smaller than this time last year, that is both good and bad. Good, in that we keep working it and most members that we have contacted transferred. Bad, because with the small number of members on the list, we must work harder to find new members. Even though everyone must work on membership, the real responsibility is with the local Post to find new members.

As I write, the Department needs 508 members to get to 95 percent and we need 1066 to get to 100 percent. Every Post needs to read the membership reports, because some Posts only need one or two members to get to goal. Right now, six Districts are behind compared to this time last year. I thank everyone who has worked on membership, it is a never-ending job.

I want to take time now to thank everyone for supporting me as Montana Department Commander. Also, thanks to the great people who stepped up and said that they would be on the various Department committees that it takes to run the Department. A special thanks to our Department Adjutants office for all the hard work they do to keep the train on the track.

I have had many great experiences this past year, starting with our National Convention in Minneapolis, a trip to Calgary to help with the traveling Vietnam Wall, to Stevensville to see the students get a VAVS award for going to Fort Harrison to visit with the patients there, to listening to the students at the Department Oratorical Contest, or the Four Chaplains ceremony in Helena, that's just some of the experiences. Thanks everyone for what you do for The American Legion and our Montana veterans.

We have, here in Montana, many dedicated members who work hard for The American Legion, as well as the support needed for our veterans and their families.

Lastly, our Department Convention is in Polson this year. I encourage everyone to attend; at least part of it. Our Department Vice Commander has a great program laid out for the convention. See you there.🍷

V. COMMANDER NELSON

The Spring District Meetings have come to a close and winter has finally melted the last remnants of a long winter. It has been great to visit the different Districts around the state once again. The best part of the meetings is meeting members I've never met before. There is always new information put out by the Department officers and questions being asked. The one thing that I take away from these meetings is, they have been going on for 100 years, different faces, different names, but the reason we meet is the same today as it was at the first District Meeting. To bring information to veterans and their families on how they can access help when times become tough and a helping hand is needed.



Jeff Nelson
Dept. Vice Commander

I recall the first Department Convention I went to and there were probably 400 members in Bozeman in attendance. It was there that I met some of the most memorable characters you could imagine. They were there to learn more about The American Legion and also have a fun time while there. They were almost all WWII or Korean veterans and they knew how to tell stories and lies that had you rolling on the floor. I look back on those Legion-

naires and the memories that were shared with a new member and it just reinforces why I stayed in The American Legion.

I never aspired to be a leader moving up the ladder, I just wanted to be around other veterans whom I had something in common with. The rest just happened. So, when you think about should I go to a Convention or District Meeting, there's more than just hearing new information put out by Department officers. I guess some people might call it an experience, all I know is the memories of the good times you had with somebody you just met, had a couple refreshments and the whoppers that were told is what draws me to keep coming year after year.

So, make this the year to attend our 100th Anniversary Convention and share some of your memories with a stranger and find out how much in common we all have. The friendships, stories, and lies are priceless. Since my first convention a lot of the characters I met along the way have gone to their eternal resting place, only to be replaced by new characters with stories to tell. I encourage you to make that decision to make a Convention or at least a District Meeting this next year

As this year winds down, we are so close to sitting in the front row at the National Convention because of membership. I am asking everyone to find one new member or get a member that dropped out in the last few years to rejoin and explain to them about all the good times you've had over your time involved in The American Legion. With this I close and look forward to our Centennial Convention in Polson.🍷

From the Desk of the Adjutant

GARY WHITE

April 15 was tax day for many of us, and for most of our Posts as well. Remember it is a requirement that our Posts file a Form 990 to the IRS each year (date determined by your Post fiscal year). For the majority of our Posts you can file online using the 990N which requires you to answer only six questions. Regardless of when you file and what form of the 990 form you use, it is imperative that you file annually. If you fail to file, after the third year your Post will lose its nonprofit status, and it is a bureaucratic nightmare and costly to get it reinstated.



We are at the time of year when many of our awards and deadlines for some of our programs are due. None of these awards or programs can be complete without the involvement and input of our Post members. I would ask that the membership take an active part in the selection process for our awards. Unlike in the past, in an effort to save on postage costs the Department is no longer sending copies of all awards to the Posts; however the awards are available on the Department website (mtlegion.org), and in the Department publication "Post Leadership & Planning Manual," which each Post receives two copies of at Department Convention or upon request.

Remember your *recruiting awards*, there are individual and Post recruiting awards which require submission – most due by May 15.

Post Data Reports were mailed in February. This form is used to generate dues renewal notices. If your Post doesn't submit a Post Data Form, then all dues renewal notices could be wrong for the 2020 membership year (which starts 1 July 2019). The Post Data Form includes information on dues amounts, the address dues are to be sent to and other information on the Post. The Post Data Forms were due to Department Headquarters by April 14. Please ensure your Post has submitted theirs.

The Consolidated Post Reports (CPR) were mailed in February for the 2018 - 2019 year. At first glance, the CPR may appear complicated and something you don't want to be troubled with, but perhaps it is the most important document your Post can complete and submit. This information will be combined with

that of other Posts, which submit forms to be put into the report annually sent to Congress. Your Post is encouraged to send a photocopy to our own U.S. Representative, Senators and your local Legislator. This summary is "US" when the National Commander and others testify on Capitol Hill on behalf of the American Legion and all veterans. Each Post has a story to tell, and when we speak collectively, our strength is magnified...your Post needs to be a part of that united force. If you have volunteered or done some other service, make sure your Post Commander and Adjutant know so they can include your efforts on the CPR. Consolidated Post Reports are due to Department Headquarters by 15 May 2019, if your Post uses MyLegion.org they may do an online submission, if done online there is no need to send the paper copy.

The Department is accepting applications for students to attend the National American Legion College, November 3 - 8, 2019 in Indianapolis, Indiana. All costs are paid by the Department and National; to be eligible you must be a graduate of the American Legion Extension Institute and a veteran of Lebanon or Grenada or later (a candidate from any earlier war era may be considered based upon the Departments successful submission of a candidate with service during or after Lebanon/Grenada period). Applications are available on line or from Department Headquarters. Submission date to Department is no later than 15 June 2019.

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VICE COMMANDER - JEFF NELSON
ADJUTANT - GARY A. WHITE

DEADLINE

July 1, 2019
Aug. - Sept. issue
Submit all articles by above date.
Send copy to :
lmtprpub@gmail.com
or AL Dept. of Montana
Armed Forces Reserve Cntr
PO Box 6075
Helena MT 59604-6075

See page 15: How to Submit Articles or Photos.

Chaplain's Corner

KAREN SEMPLE, DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN

The Four Chaplains

On February 3, 1943, the US Army Transport DORCHESTER was tragically sunk. Of the 902 young men on board, only 230 survived. Many of those survivors owe their lives to the courage and leadership exhibited by the heroic Four Chaplains, who, in sacrificing their own lives, created a unique legacy of brotherhood.

At 12:30 am, on February 3rd, 1943, the bell on the troopship DORCHESTER rang twice and never sounded again. The DORCHESTER was torpedoed by an enemy submarine and 672 young men paid the supreme sacrifice. Included in the 672 were Four Army Chaplains: a Dutch Reformed minister, a Jewish rabbi, a Methodist minister and a Roman Catholic priest.

These Four Chaplains gave their life jackets to save four soldiers and, in doing so, gave up their only means of survival. They were last seen on the deck of the ship with their arms linked together, and their heads bowed in prayer as they went to their watery graves in the North Atlantic off the coast of Greenland. Each chaplain received the Purple Heart and Distinguished Service Cross posthumously.

Chaplain George L. Fox, Chaplain Alexander D Goode,
Chaplain Clark V. Poling and Chaplain John P. Washington.

Since 1951, the Chapel of the Four Chaplains has spread the message of their interfaith cooperation and selfless sacrifice, each year touching the lives of thousands of people across this great country.

Each year there are thousands of Four Chaplains Interfaith Memorial Services held across the nation on or near February 3rd. This service is a tribute to those courageous Chaplains part of the 672 brave young men who lost their lives on that fateful night. Furthermore, this service honors all those who have served, and whose courage and faith have sustained our country.

It is important that we also teach our nation’s children and youth about these great events and great sacrifices, for they are our future. It is vital for them to understand what selfless service on behalf of others can accomplish.

2019 Chaplain Conference is for ALL Legion Family Chaplains

This may come as a surprise to many: the Department Chaplain Conference to be held on June 27th prior to the Department Convention is for ALL Legion Family Chaplains! Like the National Chaplain Conference, it is an opportunity to gather, meet other Legion Family Chaplains, learn and share best practices with each other. Additionally, you will go home with a 150 page “Chaplains How-To Manual” packed with ideas and resources! If you are an Auxiliary, District, Post or Squadron Chaplain, or if you aspire to become a chaplain, this conference is for you.

Chaplains are not ministers, pastors or priests, although they can be when not acting as a Legion Family chaplain.

Chaplains reach across all faith tradition lines to assist and help every Legion Family member: like military chaplains, they are inclusive in their ceremonies and prayers and do not advocate or push their own particular faith agenda when acting as a Legion Family Chaplain. Also like military chaplains, Legion Family chaplains can offer specific spiritual services separately to members of their faith group or tradition. If you struggle with the issue of inclusivity, information provided at this conference will help you!

This is a great opportunity to expand your chaplain education to advance the Legion Family’s “God and Country” focus. Among the many topics to be covered: how to “be there” for others outside your faith comfort zone, visiting the dying and those who are ill, understanding the VA’s Administrative Rules pertaining to faith that apply to chaplains (or any visitor) who visits Legion members in VA facilities and much more all crammed into the three short hours given to us.

The conference will begin promptly at 1pm, Thursday, June 27 at the KwaTaqNuk Resort in Polson and last until 4 pm. You do not have to register for Department Convention to attend this informative and spiritually inclusive training opportunity. You are not required to be currently appointed or ordained as a chaplain to attend; however, you must register by May 31st so there will be enough materials and seating for everyone. Submit form to the right

A refundable \$10 fee (refunded upon completion) will hold your seat. Please register soon.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Polson!...*May you be well.*

Post Everlasting



Jan/Feb/Mar 2019

- ☆ ALBERTSON, DAVID, 9/15/2018 – Vietnam – US Army
- BATEMAN, ROBERT E., 1/3/2019-Korea – US Army – 21-year member Post 3, Great Falls, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ CARUSO, RICHARD, 2/12/2019 – WWII – US Navy – 74-year member of Post 23, Livingston, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ COMBS, HAROLD, 3/8/2019 – Vietnam – US Army – 29-year member of Post 100, Park City, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ CULVER, RUSSEL, 12/5/2018 – WWII – US Army – 33-year member of Post 35, Baker, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ DAVID, DONALD D., 1/17/2019 – Korea – US Air Force – 18-year member of Post 138, Ronan, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ DYGERT, ERNEST, 1/4/2019 – WWII – US Army – 28-year member of Post 2, Helena, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ FARRINGTON, EDWARD A, 12/9/2018 – WWII – US Navy – 68-year member of Post 26, Fort Benton, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ HINTON, JAMES, 1/21/2019 – Korea – US Army – 24-year member of Post 56, Scobey, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ HOLTON, GEORGE, 1/21/2019 – WWII – US Army – 15-year member of Post 2, Helena, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ KINZLE, OSCAR, 12/21/2018 – Korea – US Army – 10-year member of Post 27, Missoula, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ LABREE, LARRY, 2/10/2019 – Vietnam – US Army – 18-year member of Post 35, Baker, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ NOBLE, CHARLES A., 1/3/2019 – WWII – US Navy – 71-year member of Post 16, Lewistown, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ PLOUFFE, THOMAS, 1/15/2019 – Vietnam – US Air Force – 8-year member of Post 106, St Ignatius, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ SHEPARD, DALE, 1/12/2019 – Vietnam – US Army – 38-year member of Post 36, Valier, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ SINCLAIR, ROY L., 2/25/2019 – Vietnam – US Army – 3-year member of Post 138, Ronan, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ VEIS, MARVIN, 3/9/2018 – WWII – US Army – 74-year member of Post 56, Scobey, 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.



Chaplain Conference Registration

Thursday, June 27, 1-4 PM



(Please Print Legibly)

Name _____

Legion Family Affiliation: ALA Legion SAL
(Please circle one)

District / Post / Squadron / Unit: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____ (Email needed to confirm receipt of registration)

Appointed as Chaplain for 2019-2020 Year? (Please circle one) Yes No

If so, which District / Post / Squadron / Unit? _____

Please enclose a check for \$10 made out to Montana American Legion with your registration.

Please mail your registration NOT LATER THAN May 31st to:
Chaplain Karen Semple, 34 Mergenthaler RD, Montana City, MT 59634

Ronan Post 138 presents Post Everlasting Plaque

Post 138 Commander Sharbono was asked if he had any use for an old plaque or it was going to be thrown out. Commander Sharbono took the plaque and refurbished it. He then contacted fellow Legionnaire, Lucky Larson, about having some plates made with the names of the Comrades transferred to Post Everlasting along with their branch of service, war era and year they were lost. It was then that this became a special task for Lucky Larson. Lucky is a Coast Guard Veteran and former Lake County Sherrieff and is currently the Athletics Director for the Ronan High School. With great care and attention to detail, Lucky made all the name plates and the large heading plate that denoted they were the Legionnaires of Ronan Post 138 who had transferred on to Post Everlasting. Lucky’s brother, Steven Larson, a Vietnam Veteran, is the most recent name to be added to the list. On behalf of myself and Ronan Post 138 I thank you for your generous donation and time. Lucky was also presented a Certificate of Appreciation. Pictured with the plaque from left to right is Commander Sharbono and Lucky Larson.



Sheridan Post 89 Provides Santa for K-6 Christmas Concert



Children visiting with Santa. Legionnaires from left to right are Cliff Morgan, Santa (Tony Simonsen) and Charlie Rossiter.

The next day the Post Adjutant (Mike Morgan) visited the Tobacco Root Mountain Care Center to distribute fruit/candy bags to the 34 residents and provided a check from Post 89 to the Program Manager (Gail Nelson) for assistance in purchasing Christmas gifts for the residents.

Santa arrived at the Sheridan Elementary School's K-6 Christmas Concert with the help of Sheridan's American Legion Post on 13 December 2018. Post members Cliff Morgan (Commander) and Charlie Rossiter (Past Commander) were Santa's Elves for the event while other Post members handed out oranges at the front door of the school for departing concert-goers. Over 80 young children visited with Santa to let him know what they wanted for Christmas and each left with a bag of fruit/candy and a HO-HO-HO from Santa!



Sheridan Post 89 Veterans Day Celebration

SUBMITTED BY MICHAEL MORGAN

Members of Sheridan's Post 89 of The American Legion started the Veterans Day celebration by joining in the "Bells of Peace" bell tolling on 11 November in both the towns of Sheridan (Methodist Church) and Laurin (Catholic Church) at 11am local time. The next day, Post members attended Sheridan Elementary School's Annual Veterans Day Tea which the Elementary School children host to recognize the many Ruby Valley Veterans who proudly served our country in their respective military branches of service. This year the "Patchwork Pals" quilters presented Nationally registered "Quilts of Honor" to Vietnam Veterans who served in the 1960's. Previously they had recognized WWII and Korean War Veterans. Following the Tea, a dozen Post members with spouses went to the Tobacco Root



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHERIDAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
National Honor Quilt presented to Bill Tate (Post 89 member) at the Veterans Day Tea: from left are Joe Tate (son), Bill Tate, and Kelsie Tate (grand daughter and Post 89 member).



Post 89 building display for Veterans Day

Mountain Care Center in Sheridan to conduct a flag ceremony followed by a short program on Veterans Day which they shared with the Care Center residents (seven Veterans currently reside at the home with three being Post members). Post members then spent time visiting with the residents.

Post 89 National Vietnam Veterans Day Lunch

On Friday 29 March 2019, National Vietnam Veteran Day, Sheridan American Legion Post 89 hosted a Veterans' Lunch to not only honor our Vietnam Veterans but all Veterans in the Ruby Valley. Past Commanders Charlie Rossiter and Chris Mumme served up an Italian Sausage Tortellini Soup with bread to eighteen Veterans who attended this inaugural Monthly Soup/Sandwich gathering for local area Veterans. It was an opportunity to show off the Post Building improvements, share Veteran Camaraderie and share information on VA and American Legion Programs. The Post looks forward to future Luncheons as a way to expand Community involvement while supporting our Veterans' needs.



Veterans from left are Bob Reimard and Past Commanders Charlie Rossiter and Chris Mumme.

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Sheridan Post 89 Americanism & Constitution Essay Winners

BY MIKE MORGAN, POST ADJUTANT

In March, Sheridan's American Legion Post 89 completed The American Legion Americanism and Constitutional Essay contest at the Sheridan High School. The Eighth Graders were asked – 'Propose a need in our government and solution to this problem as a necessary Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the Constitution'.–The High School students were asked – 'What protections are American Citizens guaranteed under the Fourth Amendment in relationship to advanced technologies such as computers, cell phones and AI home

devices?'–The first place winners in each category had their surveys forwarded for consideration at the State Level.

At the Eighth Grade Level: Myckena Clark took first place, Clairra Haag second place, and Jacob Dvorak third place. All received a Certificate of Participation and the first place winner received a cash prize.

At the High School Senior Level: Moxon Lee took first place, Tyler Haag second place, and Jack Gilman third place. All received a Certificate of Participation and the first-place winner received a cash prize."



8th Grade Winners: Greg Granken-Vice Commander, Jacob Dvorak (3rd place), Clairra Haag (2nd place), Myckena Clark (1st place), Cliff Morgan-Commander.



High School Winners: Greg Granken-Vice Commander, Moxon Lee (1st place), Jack Gilman (3rd place), Tyler Haag (2nd place). Cliff Morgan-Commander

Dept. Service Officer

TIMOTHY R. INGRAHAM

Department Service Officer

Since the beginning of the year, changes in direction or course in day-to-day processes are happening at record speed. Veterans need to seek out their Service Officers for correct guidance or real-time information to ensure claims and/or appeals are filed accordingly.

Remember the saying “Growth comes from disarray.” It is imperative that everyone wholeheartedly embrace the changes together to ensure continuity and easing of pain with processes that hampered us. Flexibility is key as the Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA) are making mid-stream changes to processes; such as increased net worth for pensions that should help previously denied Veterans and the Appeal Modernization Act (AMA) which is designed to expedite the backlog of appeals. Recently the VBA was given an undaunting logistical task of coordinating with other agencies for an effective date to review ship logs/deck logs in concert with the twelve nautical mile rule to service connect tens of thousands of “Blue Water” Veterans claims.

We are on the cusp of changes to major processes just since this year began so please stay in touch with your Service Officers for a win-win situation.

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
Miles City	(406) 232-1203
Missoula.....	(406) 542-2501

Thank you for your service
to our great Country!

American Legion Department of Montana Seeks to fill the Position of: Department Adjutant

The Department Adjutant is a term hire position for 3 years and serves as the Chief Administrator for The American Legion of Montana of approximately 11,000 members. The Adjutant supervises one paid person at Department Headquarters in Helena, Montana and is responsible for the efficient performance of their duties. Applicants will be considered by the Department of Montana Adjutant search committee and advanced to the Department Commander for approval by the Department Executive Committee.

The Adjutant reports directly to and through the Department Commander and Department Executive Committee. The Adjutant is subject to the policies, rules and regulations/guidelines contained in the Employee Handbook, The American Legion manuals and guides, the National Constitution/By-Laws, the Department Constitution/By-Laws, and the Department Executive Committee.

Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- Honorably discharged United States Military Veteran, copy of DD214 required
- Must be a United States Citizen
- Must be a member of The American Legion in good standing
- Undergraduate degree from an accredited University/College, work experience could be substituted
- Proficient in Microsoft Office

- Working knowledge in QuickBooks or related financial software
- Good oral and written skills
- Excellent personnel and stress handling skills
- Supervisory and Management experience required
- Possess professional work interaction with American Legion members/Officers and Politicians at Local/State/National levels
- Must live in Helena 90 days after job acceptance
- Possess valid Montana driver’s license
- Applicant must submit copy of driving record prior to use of The American Legion Vehicle
- Air and Vehicle travel required
- Must pass background check, credit check, and drug screening
- Must have a passport
- Must be able to travel to all District meetings (Spring and Fall approximately 10 week-ends a year) attend Fall Conference (end of October), Department Convention (end of June), National Convention (end of August) and any other meeting that may come up

Send résumé and contact information by September 1, 2019 to The American Legion Department of Montana, Po Box 6075, Helena MT, 59604 or amlegmt29@mtlegion.org. Also provide a short essay explaining your interest in the position and a brief salary history.

Reflections on The Legion & National Defense

by Ed Sperry, Past Department Commander 2001-2002

National Defense is one of the four pillars of The American Legion. As with the other three pillars, it identifies a complex arena of policies and thought which require constant attention as changes occur. It is likely that a new Legionnaire may ask which pillar is worthwhile getting involved in. My answer would have to be that three of the pillars are grade A while one warrants a resounding D-; that being National Defense. This article will attempt to explain what I mean by that statement.

It bears reminding my comrades reading this that warfare is ever-changing and at this moment the changes may well be revolutionary. I’m referring to issues such as the influence of the electromagnetic spectrum (EMS), the increasing strength of peer nations, the need to update the TRIAD, defense of space assets and the desperate need for faster acquisition of new technology: to name but a few. At this point I suggest the reader ask a simple question---What is the Legion’s role, if any, in helping to assure we have an adequate National Defense? The answer of course is not simple, but I think it’s time it be addressed.

You might wonder what in the world The American Legion can do or if it should do anything. So, let me express what I think about this vital subject and hopefully engage your brain about it as well. Be forewarned some of my comments may make a good many Legionnaires unhappy but what the hell. I’ve given the Legion over 30 years of service during which we stormed the Congressional Hill in DC and got approval at National Conventions of various Montana resolutions concerning National Defense. Frankly, I wrote most of them. I have sat in the resolutions process at conventions and listened to arguments and proposals. I have also looked for and never found several Montana resolutions which disappeared in that great void called our National Defense Committee. On the other hand, a dozen or so got approved. In either case, it made no

difference. Approval, disapproval or shelved, all met the same fate. Nothing was accomplished!

You may want to test me on this negative statement and if so, ask your buddies at random what the Legion has done that improved our defense capability. Don’t let them waiver and discuss the other pillars which have great records of accomplishment. I predict you will end up with the answer ‘Uh’ which is the answer I constantly receive. Yep, my honest opinion after many seasons of concern over national defense is that we have a serious problem.

First off, let’s put away the idea that we have nothing to offer or that we should not attempt to affect legislation. If that is so, then don’t ever brag about the first GI Bill again. Or more recently the new statutes allowing CHOICE for Vets needing medical help. These are wonderful examples of our power as the largest wartime Veteran organization in the nation. It is commonly accepted that the Legion wrote one of the two most important legislations in the past century. Ours was the GI Bill; the other was Social Security. That power, that dedication, that courage is not being exercised by the National Defense Committee. What follows is my offer of proof that we are in urgent need of reexamining the National Defense Committee.

Over approximately the last 20 years, Montana has addressed thru resolutions the following issues. In each case below the basis was input from 4-star generals, Defense Secretaries, or national defense publications. Many are pertinent even today. This is by no means a complete list:

Modernizing our nuclear warheads — maintaining an adequate balanced TRIAD — supporting a balanced budget amendment — procurement of an adequate number of F-22s — setting a constant minimum percent of gross domestic product (GDP) for the defense budget — defense of our space assets---recognizing the impact of cyberspace on our committee structure — desperate need to develop our follow-on

bomber (now the B21) — new tanker procurement — and perhaps the most important of all, an adequate defense budget by overcoming the disaster called sequestration.

To my knowledge the only thing ever done was to publish the resolutions that were approved after the convention. The positions never appear in the Legion Magazine, in the National Commander’s briefings to Congress or in actions by the Washington Office. I remember when the National Commander made a pitch that we could not allow the defense budget cuts under sequestration. After that not a word seemed to appear for eight years during defense budget devastation. At least a trillion dollars were lost to defense. Hey, if that’s it, why bother? Who could care less or even know about the position taken by the Legion?

Finally, the Department of Montana has earned a hit regarding the Montana Department committee on National Security. The committee has a chairman but no membership. I guess it gets manned up only for conventions. Doesn’t that tell you something? I think it clearly tells us that National Security just does not have an active place in our four Pillars. This comment is in no way a criticism of the chairman; but it may explain why there is never a resolution or input other than a briefing from the committee.

In conclusion, if it’s worth all the travel, expense and education about resolutions, then it seems we ought to do something with some of them that is meaningful. A basketful of vital defense issues exists. Some are extremely time sensitive. We are in every state to meet and talk with our legislators and we definitely have talents we never marshal. Have we lost our guts? Surely we can do more!

I think it may be past time to offer this article for the good of the Legion and our national defense, urging reevaluation of the nature of The American Legion’s activities contributing to this vital pillar we call National Defense.

Still Serving!

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.....30.....	35.....	69.77%
41 ☆	GLASGOW.....	82.....89.....	91.....	108.54%
45	HINSDALE.....	58.....45.....	49.....	77.59%
49	HOMESTEAD.....	10.....9.....	12.....	90.00%
55	POPLAR.....	35.....21.....	34.....	60.00%
56	SCOBAY.....	60.....49.....	48.....	81.67%
58 ☆	PLENTYWOOD.....	50.....56.....	49.....	112.00%
61	BROCKTON.....	49.....21.....	28.....	42.86%
81	CULBERTSON.....	95.....83.....	105.....	87.37%
85	BAINVILLE.....	30.....23.....	24.....	76.67%
104	NASHUA.....	14.....7.....	15.....	50.00%
122	OPHEIM.....	34.....27.....	29.....	79.41%
229	WESTBY.....	15.....14.....	16.....	93.33%
	TOTAL.....	575.....474.....	535.....	82.43%

11	HAVRE.....	127.....91.....	98.....	71.65%
48 ☆	CHINOOK.....	46.....48.....	47.....	104.35%
50	BIG SANDY.....	26.....22.....	27.....	84.62%
57 ☆	MALTA.....	91.....104.....	102.....	114.29%
67	ROCKY BOY.....	33.....19.....	14.....	57.58%
79 ☆	SACO.....	11.....18.....	17.....	163.64%
88	CHESTER.....	38.....33.....	35.....	86.84%
109	TURNER.....	28.....23.....	22.....	82.14%
110	FORT BELKNAP.....	12.....10.....	12.....	83.33%
	TOTAL.....	412.....368.....	374.....	89.32%

36	VALIER.....	55.....52.....	56.....	94.55%
37	CONRAD.....	56.....48.....	53.....	85.71%
40	CUT BANK.....	62.....41.....	50.....	66.13%
43	SHELBY.....	55.....37.....	55.....	67.27%
69	GALATA.....	36.....24.....	27.....	66.67%
73	SWEETGRASS.....	74.....64.....	74.....	86.49%
127	BROWNING.....	30.....21.....	27.....	70.00%
CN20 ☆	CALGARY.....	47.....48.....	47.....	102.13%
	TOTAL.....	415.....335.....	389.....	80.72%

52	THOMPSON FALLS.....	61.....57.....	59.....	93.44%
72 ☆	COLUMBIA FALLS.....	98.....105.....	117.....	107.14%
74 ☆	EUREKA.....	47.....53.....	53.....	112.77%
86 ☆	BIG FORK.....	57.....63.....	56.....	110.53%
97	LIBBY.....	198.....185.....	189.....	93.43%
106	ST IGNATIUS.....	58.....50.....	54.....	86.21%
108 ☆	WHITEFISH.....	66.....69.....	66.....	104.55%
112 ☆	POLSON.....	125.....128.....	120.....	102.40%
113	ARLEE.....	32.....27.....	25.....	84.38%
126 ☆	CHARLO.....	14.....20.....	14.....	142.86%
129 ☆	PARADISE.....	67.....77.....	60.....	114.93%
137	KALISPELL.....	225.....205.....	208.....	91.11%
138 ☆	RONAN.....	57.....68.....	68.....	119.30%
	TOTAL.....	11105.....1107.....	1089.....	100.18%

13 ☆	ST REGIS.....	53.....61.....	54.....	115.09%
27	MISSOULA.....	361.....313.....	378.....	86.70%
47 ☆	HAMILTON.....	121.....121.....	120.....	100.00%
63 ☆	CONDON.....	46.....47.....	48.....	102.17%
68 ☆	MISSOULA.....	37.....46.....	35.....	124.32%
83 ☆	CLINTON.....	16.....16.....	15.....	100.00%
91 ☆	CORVALLIS.....	162.....182.....	168.....	112.35%
94	STEVENSVILLE.....	216.....178.....	220.....	82.41%
101	MISSOULA.....	54.....36.....	58.....	66.67%
124 ☆	FRENCHTOWN.....	67.....67.....	70.....	100.00%
125 ☆	DRUMMOND.....	51.....52.....	50.....	101.96%
134	FLORENCE.....	61.....56.....	64.....	91.80%
135	LOLO.....	136.....129.....	139.....	94.85%
	TOTAL.....	1,381.....1,304.....	1,419.....	94.42%

1	BUTTE.....	193.....160.....	194.....	82.90%
2 ☆	HELENA.....	748.....775.....	804.....	103.61%
9 ☆	LINCOLN.....	54.....57.....	61.....	105.56%
10	DEER LODGE.....	72.....61.....	63.....	84.72%
20	DILLON.....	185.....148.....	167.....	80.00%
21	ANACONDA.....	245.....223.....	237.....	91.02%
24	WHITEHALL.....	91.....66.....	92.....	72.53%
31	TWIN BRIDGES.....	43.....31.....	37.....	72.09%
33 ☆	PHILIPSBURG.....	10.....10.....	10.....	100.00%
42	TOWNSEND.....	117.....98.....	119.....	83.76%
46 ☆	BOULDER.....	23.....25.....	25.....	108.70%
89 ☆	SHERIDAN.....	68.....84.....	78.....	123.53%
115	BUTTE.....	104.....81.....	105.....	77.88%
	TOTAL.....	1953.....1819.....	1992.....	93.14%

AT LARGE				
105	HELENA.....	172.....97.....	101.....	56%

114	BOZEMAN.....	350.....349.....	371.....	99.71%
19	BIG TIMBER.....	189.....152.....	173.....	80.42%
23	LIVINGSTON.....	169.....168.....	179.....	99.41%
25 ☆	WHITE SULPHUR.....	63.....65.....	68.....	103.17%
30	BELGRADE.....	254.....207.....	254.....	81.50%
65 ☆	ENNIS.....	40.....67.....	52.....	167.50%
78	W YELLOWSTONE.....	29.....27.....	30.....	93.10%
87	MANHATTAN.....	169.....154.....	157.....	91.12%
93	THREE FORKS.....	42.....39.....	44.....	92.86%
99	BIG SKY.....	56.....45.....	59.....	80.36%
118	GARDINER.....	35.....30.....	34.....	85.71%
	TOTAL.....	1396.....1303.....	1421.....	93.34%

3	GREAT FALLS.....	259.....218.....	261.....	84.17%
6	CHOTEAU.....	102.....98.....	106.....	96.08%
26	FORT BENTON.....	49.....34.....	39.....	69.39%
51	AUGUSTA.....	49.....39.....	40.....	79.59%
64	DUTTON.....	61.....51.....	49.....	83.61%
80	FAIRFIELD.....	33.....27.....	35.....	81.82%
102 ☆	GERALDINE.....	114.....116.....	115.....	101.75%
103	POWER.....	32.....29.....	32.....	90.63%
130	VAUGHN.....	48.....41.....	43.....	85.42%
133 ☆	CASCADE.....	31.....33.....	33.....	106.45%
341	MALMSTROM.....	156.....130.....	162.....	83.33%
	TOTAL.....	934.....816.....	915.....	87.37%

15	HARLOWTON.....	104.....97.....	105.....	93.27%
16	LEWISTOWN.....	405.....384.....	467.....	94.81%
18	ROUNDUP.....	71.....59.....	64.....	83.10%
53	STANFORD.....	26.....22.....	21.....	84.62%
62 ☆	DENTON.....	23.....26.....	24.....	113.04%
70	JUDITH GAP.....	67.....63.....	65.....	94.03%
76	HOBSON.....	47.....34.....	43.....	72.34%
96 ☆	ROY.....	20.....21.....	23.....	105.00%
120 ☆	WINIFRED.....	31.....31.....	32.....	100.00%
	TOTAL.....	7794.....737.....	844.....	92.82%

5	MILES CITY.....	81.....69.....	74.....	85.19%
12	SIDNEY.....	43.....32.....	36.....	74.42%
28	GLEN DIVE.....	123.....93.....	101.....	75.61%
29	CIRCLE.....	18.....12.....	17.....	66.67%
32	TERRY.....	101.....90.....	101.....	89.11%
35	BAKER.....	136.....101.....	111.....	74.26%
39	FORSYTH.....	97.....85.....	89.....	87.63%
44 ☆	COLSTRIP.....	30.....38.....	40.....	126.67%
60 ☆	EKALAKA.....	15.....15.....	17.....	100.00%
77	LAME DEER.....	11.....4.....	6.....	36.36%
114	FAIRVIEW.....	37.....33.....	37.....	89.19%
128 ☆	BROADUS.....	13.....17.....	14.....	130.77%
	TOTAL.....	705.....589.....	643.....	83.55%

4	BILLINGS.....	484.....394.....	459.....	81.40%
8	HARDIN.....	46.....43.....	54.....	93.48%
17 ☆	RED LODGE.....	56.....58.....	63.....	103.57%
34 ☆	COLUMBUS.....	58.....60.....	65.....	103.45%
71 ☆	FROMBERG.....	18.....21.....	19.....	116.67%
84	BELFRY.....	39.....33.....	34.....	84.62%
92	HYSHAM.....	26.....17.....	18.....	65.38%
100 ☆	PARK CITY.....	56.....60.....	58.....	107.14%
111	CUSTER.....	59.....56.....	66.....	94.92%
117	BILLINGS HGTS.....	190.....159.....	198.....	83.68%
119	BILLINGS HGTS.....	174.....172.....	183.....	98.85%
123 ☆	LAUREL.....	113.....122.....	115.....	107.96%
	TOTAL.....	1319.....1195.....	1332.....	90.60%

☆ Post or District has reached or surpassed its incentive Goal

2019 INCENTIVE GOAL.....	11,161
2019 MEMBERSHIP TO DATE.....	10144
2018 TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.....	11054
TOTAL PERCENTAGE.....	90.89%



THE NEW MONTANA LICENSE
PLATE AVAILABLE AT THE DMV.

For more information please contact: al@veteransmonument.org



TEN LARGEST POSTS

Post.....2.....	HELENA.....	774 MEMBERS
Post.....4.....	BILLINGS.....	394 MEMBERS
Post....16.....	LEWISTOWN.....	384 MEMBERS
Post...14.....	BOZEMAN.....	349 MEMBERS
Post.....27.....	MISSOULA.....	312 MEMBERS
Post.....21.....	ANACONDA.....	223 MEMBERS
Post.....3.....	GREAT FALLS.....	218 MEMBERS
Post.....30.....	BELGRADE.....	207 MEMBERS
Post...137.....	KALISPELL.....	205 MEMBERS
Post.....97.....	LIBBY.....	185 MEMBERS

DISTRICT STANDINGS

DISTRICT.....	PERCENTAGE.....	COMMANDER.....
4.....	100.18%.....	Glen Sharbono
5.....	94.35%.....	Greg Marose
7.....	93.34%.....	Jim Howe
6.....	93.09%.....	Josh Clement
9.....	92.82%.....	Brad Marking
11.....	90.60%.....	Jim Lish
2.....	89.32%.....	Vincent Schmoeckle
8.....	87.26%.....	Kim Kay McCarty Martin
10.....	83.55%.....	David Ofalt
1.....	82.43%.....	Joe Yeoman
3.....	80.72%.....	Randy Flammond

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
Feb. 13, 2019

SQUADRON.....	GOAL 2019.....	TO DATE
WOLF POINT #22.....	10.....	0
GLASGOW #41 ☆.....	10.....	43
PLENTYWOOD #58 ☆.....	10.....	14
CULBERTSON #81.....	23.....	19
NASHUA #104.....	10.....	2
HAVRE #11.....	16.....	15
CHINOOK #48 ☆.....	19.....	20
MALTA #57 ☆.....	10.....	16
SACO #79 ☆.....	10.....	11
GALATA #69.....	42.....	19
LIBBY #97 ☆.....	10.....	17
POLSON #112 ☆.....	10.....	13
MISSOULA #27.....	17.....	13
HAMILTON #47.....	10.....	3
CONDON #63.....	10.....	3
CORVALLIS #91 ☆.....	10.....	11
STEVENSVILLE #94 ☆.....	21.....	26
LOLO #135.....	34.....	24
BUTTE #1.....	29.....	0
HELENA #2 ☆.....	76.....	106
ANACONDA #21.....	33.....	18
TOWNSEND #42 ☆.....	18.....	18
BUTTE #115.....	19.....	4
BOZEMAN #14 ☆.....	51.....	78
BIG TIMBER #19.....	22.....	0
LIVINGSTON #23 ☆.....	10.....	38
BELGRADE #30.....	64.....	40
MANHATTAN #87 ☆.....	27.....	27
BIG SKY #99 ☆.....	12.....	20
GREAT FALLS #3 ☆.....	16.....	22
CHOTEAU #6 ☆.....	16.....	27
GERALDINE #102 ☆.....	53.....	53
VAUGHN #130 ☆.....	17.....	21
HARLOWTON #15 ☆.....	22.....	23
LEWISTOWN #16 ☆.....	128.....	145
MILES CITY #5 ☆.....	11.....	13
BAKER #35.....	34.....	29
FORSYTH #39 ☆.....	45.....	51
BILLINGS #4.....	27.....	13
BELFRY #84.....	23.....	0
CUSTER #111.....	11.....	9
BILLINGS #117.....	10.....	0
LAUREL #123.....	10.....	8
HQS POST #9999.....	0.....	0
TOTALS.....	1046.....	1021
☆ SQUADRON GOAL MET		





Disaster Emergency Response

Spring has Sprung!

All over Montana snow is melting or has melted. Thankfully, as of this writing, flooding has been minimal as temperatures have been moderate. That does not mean the threat of flooding is over – spring storms can bring flooding to city streets and posts all across the state and tornadoes have destroyed at least one Legion member’s home in the past five years.

After the temperatures warm and threat of flooding ceases, it will be wildfire season once again.

Are you and your post/squadron/unit members prepared? Do you have an emergency plan if disaster strikes up close and personal? Do you have an emergency supply kit ready to grab with important papers, medications, water and other important items if you need to evacuate quickly to save your life? What about your pets?

How do you know what is going on, other than looking out your window? Have you downloaded the FEMA app to your smart phone? It gives you real-time alerts from the National Weather service for up to five locations for over 20 types of disasters – and it’s free! If you do not have a smart phone, do you know which AM radio station in your area carries emergency information? You can also get a weather radio – aside from getting the daily forecast, emergency alerts are sent out on it. Full disclosure: You may be awakened in the middle of the night from severe thunderstorm or tornado alerts, so be careful when setting the coverage area.

Psychological distress during a disaster is decreased significantly and recovery following a personal encounter with disaster is enhanced if you take a few simple steps to prepare:

1. Make a kit: Start now by going to www.ready.gov for info on what to have, collect the items, get it packed and ready.
2. Create a plan: Where are you going to go if you are evacuated? How are you going to contact other family members if you are separated and phone towers are down? Where are you going to meet? These are all important things to plan for. Do you have a designated out-of-state contact to call to let them know you are all right? The American Red Cross (ARC) Safe and Well site is an excellent tool to use during a disaster to let loved ones know you are ok. Register at any ARC shelter (you do not have to be staying there) or on your phone at:

<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/contact-and-locate-loved-ones.html>

3. Get involved. Your Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) warmly welcomes Legion Family members at its monthly meetings. You will learn about what is being done in your community to prepare for and respond to all kinds of disasters. You may even get to participate in an exercise to check the effectiveness of emergency plans. To learn where and when your LEPC meets, go to your county government website and look for the Disaster and Emergency Services or Public Safety tab.

Finally, have you donated to the Legion or Auxiliary National Emergency Fund (NEF) lately? They were severely depleted last year with the hurricanes, fires and flooding nationwide. Will you help them rebuild this valuable resource?

Donating to these funds are opportunities for you, as a Legion Family member, to directly help other Legion Family members. Your post/squadron/unit leadership will be more than happy to send your donation in. Even better, consider holding some sort of NEF fundraiser to get even more funds. All NEF grants are just that – a grant of emergency funds to assist with expenses caused by a member’s home becoming uninhabitable due to disaster.

Please be generous and give often. Thank you.

May you all be safe and well!

Veterans Coalition of Northwest Montana

The Veterans Coalition of Northwest Montana is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization of Veterans for Veterans. Our goal is to eliminate Veteran suicides! Our organization was formed to honor and serve the needs of military Veterans and their families by facilitating timely access to current information, assistance and resources, and by identifying emerging issues and offering solutions by creating new collaborations and community partnerships, providing suicide awareness and prevention trainings in the community specific to Veterans, and when barriers exist, requesting administrators, community leaders, and elected officials to intervene. The Veterans Coalition will build partnerships in the community to identify services which are Veteran specific and help bridge gaps between the Veteran and community service providers and Veteran organizations.

The Veterans Coalition of Northwest Montana (VCNWM) is comprised of a seven (7) member board of Directors and Executive Assistances and they are listed as follows:

Michael Shepard, President/Director; Terry Baker, Vice President/Director; Doug Gilbertson, Treasurer/Director; L.D. Gross, Interim Secretary/



Director; Mike Stone, Director; John Wise, Director; Nan Wise, Executive Assistant

The Veterans Coalition of Northwest Montana programs will include, but not limited to: Providing Veterans and their families with information about benefits and referrals to the Veteran Administration; Working in partnership with Together with Veterans in identifying at risk veterans specifically regarding suicide and PTSD. Our objective is to end Veteran suicides in Montana and nationwide. We will work towards eliminating suicide by identifying risk factors related specifically to Veterans, providing training to Veterans and community partners to identify Veteran suicide risk factors, intervention and assistance by Veterans to help at risk Veterans in our community; Assist Veterans and their families in finding help with transportation, care-givers, equipment, lodging and other essentials related to services through the Veteran Administration; Motivating Veterans and families of Veterans to participate in recreational, therapeutic and economic activities in order to facilitate the healing process. More information on the Veterans Coalition of Northwest Montana can be found at their website www.VCNWM.org or call (406) 407-8423.

Ronan Post 138 presents Continuous Membership Awards

BY GLEN SHARBONO, COMMANDER

Ronan Post 138 presented continuous membership awards at The American Legion’s 100th Birthday party hosted by The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 138. Thank you to the following members for their dedication and commitment to The American Legion and Post 138 without whom many of our programs would not be possible. With five continuous years: Burton C. Cannon, Gary Hoffer, Melvin Quakenbush, Patrick Reagan, Ronald Newton, Vern Cheff Jr. and William E. Olson. With ten continuous years: Donald Hill, George Salovich and William C. Hocker. With 15 continuous years: Daniel D. Kramer and Wyman J. McDonald.



Gary Hoffer, Melvin Quakenbush and CDR Sharbono

Post 72 Launches Successful Restoration of Historic Doughboy Statue

BY MICHAEL SHEPARD



Dedication main speakers: LD Gross and Past Commander Shepard

On November 11, 2018 at 11am, the Visquenay Doughboy Statue was re-dedicated for the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. This project was done by Past Commander Michael Shepard, as one of his outgoing chosen projects. Funding was secured from the Vietnam Veterans of America Post 1087, with funds leftover from the Travelling Wall of Sept 2017. After the original manufacturing company refused to help, Shepard secured the help of Acutech, a custom metal and powder coater, to assist. Jeff Harker, Bob Haessley, Duane Hagen and Shepard removed the statue and delivered it to Acutech. Shepard then secured samples of coatings that closely matched the real uniform color of the era and allowed one of the Veterans at the home, who is an actual military historian, to choose the color. A lot of work went into the custom sand blasting and cleaning of the COPPER statue. Repairs were made due to the years of abuse to include being hit by autos several times while it was at the Flathead County Courthouse lawn in Kalispell. The re-dedication ceremony was held 90 years to the day. L.D. Gross gave a half-hour history of WWI and Past Commander Shepard discussed the importance of this Statue and of Visquenay himself. 150 people were present for the ceremony which concluded with military honors and taps. Note the plaque...it is brass, but with years of copper oxidation running down the front face, it looks copper coated. This ceremony marks the beginning of our Post’s commemoration of 100 Years of The American Legion.

NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION 100TH BIRTHDAY EVENTS ACROSS THE STATE

Terry Post 32

COURTESY OF TERRY TRIBUNE REPORTER LIZZY ROBERTSON.

Lucille Revell, an Auxiliary member for over 60 years, looks at the cake that has her husband's picture in his uniform from WWII. The cake was decorated with pictures of local Veterans; some dated back to WWII and Vietnam.



Townsend Turns Out for St Patrick's Day and The American Legion Post 42 100th Birthday Celebration

BY JEN DALRYMPLE, COMMANDER



Traditionally the Legion Auxiliary has hosted a Legion Birthday celebration for Post 42, but last year's hit of a combined St Patrick's Day dinner and Legion celebration was all the rage, so we repeated it again this year. On a bright, cool

Sunday, March 17th, Post 42 Legion Family hosted 60 attendees for a wonderful corned beef and cabbage St. Patrick's traditional dinner donated by many members, and a beautiful 100th Birthday cake donated by the Auxiliary. Cheering up the crowd again this year with music were Fergie and Friends; long-time member and whistling cowboy, Gary Ferguson, with fellow Legionnaires Bill Gillespie and Virgil Henke and a special guest, John Larson and his daughter, Laura Stevenson singing old Irish favorites. Food, drink, fellowship and merriment were had by all! A hearty 'Thank you' to the Post 42 Auxiliary, Legion members, Van's IGA and Townsend community for your assistance in making the National American Legion 100th Birthday and St Patrick's Day a memorable celebration.



Stevensville Post 94 Hosts AL 100th Birthday Open House

BY JERRY ESMAY

Fort Owen Post 94 celebrated the 100th birthday of The American Legion by holding an open house at the Post Home on March 16th. The Legion members along with the Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion provided an extensive display of scrapbooks and other Post memorabilia, games and activities for visitors and served up a scrumptious lunch of Steakburgers, hot dogs and salads. The Auxiliary Juniors were also involved by running an ice cream bar. The Post's sponsored Boy Scout Troop 1117 participated by conducting a flag retirement ceremony later in the afternoon.



Ronan Auxiliary Unit 138 hosts 100th Birthday for Legionnaires

BY GLEN SHARBONO

Each year in lieu of their March meeting the Ronan American Legion Auxiliary hosts a birthday party for Ronan Post 138 and this year it was held on Wednesday, March 20th. Auxiliary President Lorie Noble and her Unit thought since this was the 100th year of the birth of The American Legion, they would invite the other Posts in Mission Valley to help share the feast and fellowship. Over 50 people were in attendance representing not only the Ronan Post 138 Legion Family but members from St. Ignace Post 106, Charlo Post 126, Polson Post 112 their Auxiliaries as well as several non-Legion family members. Attendees included WWII Veteran Jim Sivel from Polson Post 112, who was in Tokyo Bay when Japan signed the surrender papers, and other veterans from Korea, Vietnam, Kosovo, Panama, Grenada, the First Gulf War and the Global War on Terrorism. Also attending as members of their local Posts and Auxiliaries was Department Vice Commander Jeff Nelson of Polson Post 112, Department Auxiliary Secretary Jamie DeBates of Ronan Unit 138 and Department Auxiliary Historian Chris Nelson of Polson Unit 112. It was rumored that the 4th District Commander may have been there as well. Dinner was a baked potato bar with a large variety of toppings followed by cake and ice cream compliments of Jessie Merwin of Ronan Unit 138 and other members of the Auxiliary who helped served up a great meal. While everyone was enjoying their meal Commander Sharbono thanked President Lorie Noble and members of her Unit for hosting the wonderful Centennial celebration. He then locked the door so no one would escape while he read the National Commanders 100th birthday speech. After reading the speech and just before cake and ice cream were served, continuous membership awards were presented to members of Ronan Post 138. Roger Rasmussen of Polson Post 112 had 50 continuous years joining The American Legion on the day of its 50th birthday. Jessie Merwin presented two Blue Star Banners she made by hand to Robert Shaw Commander of Charlo Post 126 and his son who is currently a Senior Master Sergeant in the USAF. Happy Birthday was sung and everyone seemed to have a good time. Some had expressed that they wished all the students of the local schools could have heard the speech and perhaps have a better understanding of everything The American Legion has done and is still doing. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and attended to make this celebration such a successful and enjoyable experience.



Polson Post 112

Department Vice Commander Nelson, Dept. Auxiliary Historian Nelson, Dept. Auxiliary Secretary DeBates, and Post 112 Dorothy Goodwin



District 7 and Gallatin Post 14 Family Host Legion 100th Birthday Celebration

BY LEN ALBRIGHT

District 7 and Post 14 hosted an American Legion 100th Birthday Celebration on March 15th at 7 pm at the Post 14 Legion Hall. US Senator Steve Daines, Department Adjutant Gary White and National Executive Committeeman David Driver were in attendance along with 60 other guests. We were honored as Senator Daines presented Post 14 with an American flag that was flown at our Nation's Capital in recognition of The American Legion's 100th Birthday. Post 14 Commander Len Albright received the flag from Senator Daines for the Post. Several 100th Anniversary American Legion gifts were given out as door prizes along with a bottle of 50th Anniversary American Legion Kentucky Bourbon. Fun was had by all. Department American Legion Auxiliary President Terry Kemp, Jim Howe and Len Albright organized this District 7 dinner event.



Frenchtown Post 124

Frenchtown Post 124 recently commissioned an American flag replica to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of The American Legion.

The wooden flag will be attached to the back of Post 124 Veteran's Wall of Honor Memorial at Frenchtown Pond State Park.

The replica flag was made by Reclaimed Treasures, a veteran-owned business in Tucson, AZ.

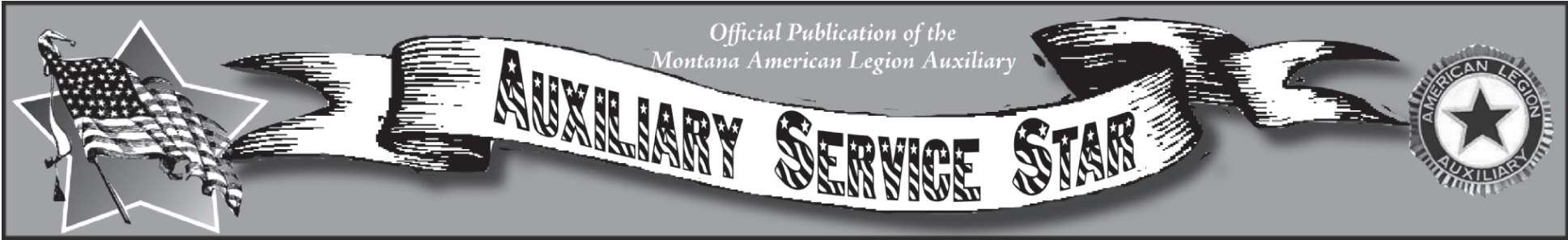


Post/Unit 92 Celebrates Legion Birthday

BY CORA MARKS

On March 11, 2019 The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 92 served cake and ice-cream to The American Legion Post 92 in Hysham to celebrate the Legion's 100th Anniversary. Pictured from left to right are; Roger Bara, Dennis Marks, Bill Cunningham, Morris Spannagel, Joyce Babcock, and Skip White.





President

TERRY KEMP

Well the holidays are behind us. I hope that all of you had a great holiday season. I know that I did. I look forward to hearing from you as to what things you were able to do to help veterans have a better holiday. We have a lot of things coming up in the next few months. One event is the 100th birthday of the American Legion. You need to be thinking about how your District is planning on celebrating this. I will be sending out information on what is being planned at different levels of our organization. Please let me know what you are planning. We need to focus on the goal this year which is fostering Goodwill. We are to be the Ambassadors of Goodwill in our communities and in our state. Our National President Kathy Dungan will be giving out an award to five deserving members who exhibit Goodwill and promote the Auxiliary. There will be one award for each division. Let us not forget that our National President's focus this year is on women veterans. I think that sometimes we tend to think of veterans as only being men, but there are over two million women veterans nationwide. We need to find out about the ones in our area and see what we can do to help them. This falls in line with membership as well. Women veterans are eligible to be dual members of both The American Legion and The Amer-

ican Legion Auxiliary. All of you know how important membership is and you are doing a great job. The next few months we also need to focus on Americanism, Community Service, and Children and youth. These all go hand in hand with the theme of fostering Goodwill. Try to get out in your schools and work with the students. Remember I talked about bullying in the schools. Now is a good time to address this in the school system. See if maybe they would let you do a small program about what The American Legion Auxiliary is all about. You could do a flag etiquette presentation and talk about Americanism. As always, I want to thank each one of you for all that you do in you communities to help veterans. All of you promote Goodwill every time that you thank a veteran for their service. Keep up the good work ladies. You are what make The American Legion Auxiliary great.

⊛ Above & Beyond ⊛



Terry Kemp

CALL TO CONVENTION

TO: Officers and members of the American Legion Auxiliary Units in Montana

GREETINGS

The 99th Annual Convention of The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Montana is hereby called to meet and assemble at Polson, Montana, June 28, 29, 30, 2019 to transact and consider such matters as are included in this call and any other business which may properly come before it.

PURPOSE

The Convention is called for the purpose of electing officers to the ensuing year, electing delegates to the National Convention, amending the Department Constitution, presentation of annual reports, and the transactions of such other business as may be brought before it in conformity with the provisions of the National and Department Constitution.

REPRESENTATION

Representation in the Convention will be by Units. Each Unit in good standing and not delinquent in State and National Dues shall be eligible to representation at the Department Convention. Representation is based up on the paid-up Unit Membership as of the beginning of Department Convention as follows:

Units having up to 50 members are entitled to two (2) delegates; and one additional delegate for each additional 50 members or fraction thereof.

A Unit, to be in good standing must have a minimum of ten paid members and no indebtedness to the Department.

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A regular meeting of the committee will be held on Friday, June 28, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. The first stated meeting of the Department Executive Committee following the Department Convention will be held immediately upon adjournment of the Convention. The term of office of the newly elected members will commence immediately with the adjournment of the Convention.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

All Department Officers and District Presidents will be sworn into office at the conclusion of the session on Sunday morning, June 30, 2019 and will automatically become members of the Department Executive Committees.

Any inquiries for information with reference to the Convention will be answered from Department Headquarters.

Jamie DeBates
Department Secretary/Treasurer

Terry Kemp
Department President



Secretary

JAMIE DeBATES

As I stated in the last issue, I'd like to remind you that we are a big organization. We are diverse, and we don't always agree on issues. But we share the common thread of passion for our Veterans. Don't be rude to each other; look the other way and work beyond your differences. I still receive some pretty terse communication at Department. If you're talking to me that way, and your numbers are down, I have a feeling you're not welcoming your members at your meetings. Remember President Terry's theme? **Above and Beyond to Serving Our Veterans.** Are you?

Conventions are here; if you haven't reserved please do so. The Shadow Dinner cruise and the golf scramble are unique to the Department convention so don't get left behind.

Your convention secretary packets will contain all the information to run the Unit for the upcoming year. I'm amazed at the supply requests when I know you received at least 24 member applications in each years' packet since I took the job. Have you signed up all those members? The materials are free from NHQ but please be respectful when you take responsibility of the packet and distribute the materials accordingly. A great deal of effort goes into providing you with that information. And a special reminder to the District Presidents – please keep track of the Unit representative you're giving the membership materials to. There are always questions.

Thanks for another great year and I hope to see you at Convention.⊛



Jamie DeBates

NEC for the Dept of MT 2018-2019

Kathryn Long



As your National Executive Committee person (NEC), National has asked me to present an idea for our Department to consider. I know that we have had this idea presented before, but National would like all Departments who have not complied with this issue to revisit it. Let us start with some information that needs to be discussed. From start to finish it may take National 3 to 5 years to implement some information into action - not all information takes 3 to 5 years but occasionally it does. Here is the problem: If the NEC position has a different person every year, National must first bring the new NEC's up to speed as to where they are at, in implementing the plan for that particular information. This can take a lot of time and expense that would not occur if the NEC position had more than a one-year term. This means we as a Department need to update how long our NEC can be in office. Other Departments also have looked at this and they said since we (they) have such a hard time finding people for the different positions – let's take the NEC position out of the Lineup for the Chairs. We (they) should not have the NEC position tied to the Presidency. When I went back to Indianapolis for the National Executive Committee meeting in February less than half of the NECs there were the most recent Past Department President.

Here are some examples of how the Departments have chosen to have the term for their NEC: one Department has a term of one three-year term and the same person can run again – infinitely; one Department has 2 two-year terms, but they cannot run again after the second term; one Department has the terms as 2 three-year terms but the person in the position can opt out after the first term, but definitely not run again after the second term; two other Departments that I talked with are in the same position we are in, in the fact that they also should be looking at this issue.

The three examples in the above paragraph than leaves us with the question of who would be eligible to serve as NEC. When I asked that question of different Departments, they said they made it a requirement that only Past Department Presidents could serve as NEC. One Department even went to far as to say that the most recent Past Department Presidents could be in the election for the NEC in their Department who would then serve for two years.

My recommendation, because of the time frame, is that the Department of Montana should address this issue with a resolution sometime in the next 18 months. By the way ladies, this recommendation is only after we have the resolution, we then get to discuss what we are going to do—nothing more than a discussion. We as a Department can do what we think is best for our organization.

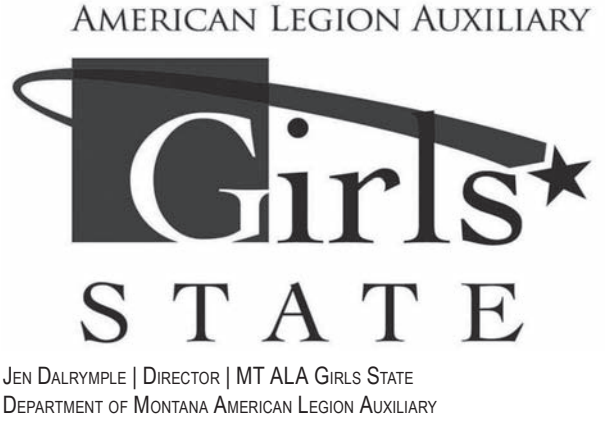


Happy Spring, Ladies:

If you are like me, we all are looking forward to no more snow and ice. We are “Still” trying to find my backyard under all the snow and ice. I am dedicating my post this time to a very special Post 25 Veteran. Reidar Johnson, a member of the greatest generation, a World War II Veteran, passed away on March 21, 2019. He was a Commander of Post 15 for several years; then he became the Commander of Post 25 for many years after moving from Harlowton to White Sulphur Springs. He served twice as District Commander. He was a PUFL member and served The American Legion for 45 years, earning his certificate and pin last year. Because of his dedication to The American Legion, he encouraged many of our members to join including Bill Cummins to become our Commander. He was well respected throughout the District and Department of Montana. Reidar opened his Red Barn so annual festivities such as Flag Day and Fall Post and Auxiliary gatherings could be held. Reidar and Marga rarely missed monthly meetings. He loved to share his U.S. Naval experiences with the Veterans and always had a good joke or story to share. Reidar was known for his teasing whenever he met someone. Our wonderful Veteran will be missed by one and all. A Celebration of Life will be held in May when his family from Norway arrive. Please keep his wife, Marga, and her family, and Reidar’s family, daughter, Jamie, and Son-in-law, Jock Doggett, son, John and his wife, Barbara Johnson, Jeff Johnson and his children, Brittney, Jordan, and Jessica, in your prayers.

In closing, Ladies, remember your prayers, pictures for our President Terry’s Prayer Book need to be sent to me as soon as possible, so please remind your Chaplains. As always, try to “Go Above and Beyond” to help our Veterans and their families whenever we can.

☀ *God bless you and God bless America!* ☀



JEN DALRYMPLE | DIRECTOR | MT ALA GIRLS STATE
DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Hello Ladies and Happy Spring! I wanted to share some good news on the fundraising front for our ALA Girls State. We received a wonderful \$1,000 donation from the Northwest Energy Foundation and generous \$2,000 from the Montana Justice Foundation. There are still a few more applications that I’m waiting to hear back from and keeping my fingers crossed that we’ll be successful. Remember if you are not sponsoring any girls this year but still want to help out, any donation to the program is greatly appreciated. Thank you to the Billings ladies and Sue Davidson who again stepped up to buy us a new printer to use during the sessions.

As of press deadline (5 April), we were at 45 Delegates with two weeks of application period left to go. 150 girls is still a long way off so please get out to your schools or if you are holding applications, send them in to the Registrar Colleen as soon as possible. I have visited a few of the District meetings in both the Legion and Auxiliary gatherings and fielded many calls from our Units so I know you are working hard to get the word out. Keep it up! If you have more Delegates than you can sponsor or are looking to sponsor girls out of your area, let Colleen or myself know. We will work with you to see that as many girls as qualified and desiring to go, can participate.

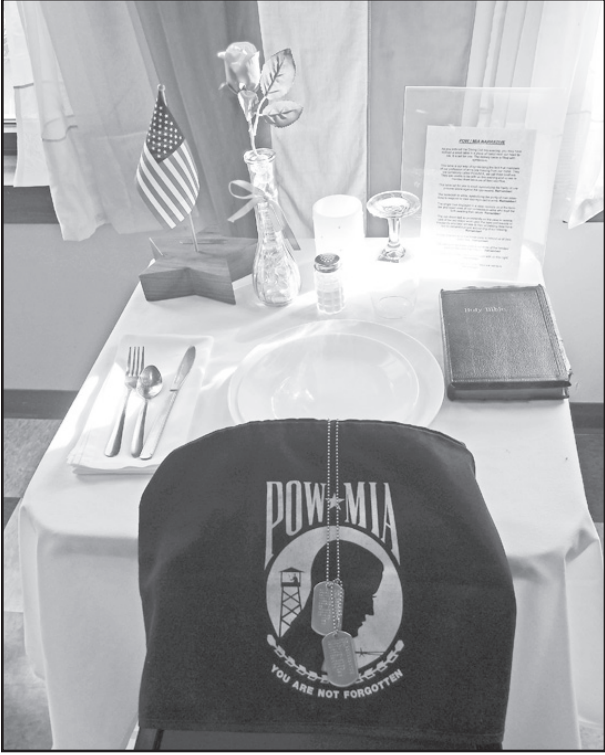
If you would like to volunteer your time during the day as an activity escort for the Capitol tours, Mock Legislation, VA trips or Mock/Moot trials, please call me at 406-949-3660 and we will gladly welcome you for the day. A reminder that this year’s session is Sunday, 9 June through Saturday, 15 June. Come on out and experience ALA Girls State with the wonderful youth we have here in Montana!

District 7 100TH Birthday Celebration

REPORTED BY TERRY KEMP, DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

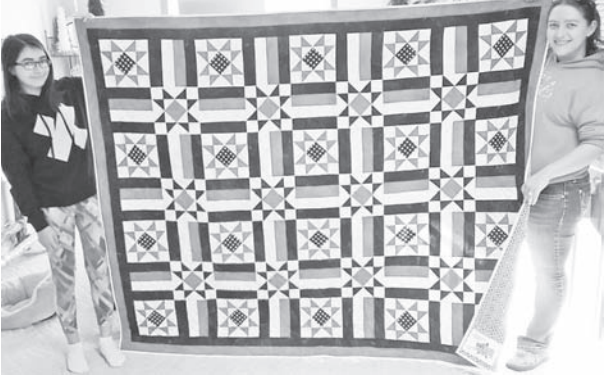


On March 15th, District 7 held a 100th birthday dinner celebration upstairs at the Legion Post 14 in Bozeman. There were 60 people in attendance. We were happy to have Gary White, Department Adjutant and David Driver, Department NEC in attendance. Also, Patty Gunderson was in attendance. It was so nice to see her. Senator Steve Daines presented a flag that had been flown over the capital to The American Legion (see color center section). Door prizes were given out. Tom Pratt prepared the food and it was amazing. Thanks to everyone who helped put on this dinner.



Quilt RAFFLE

SUBMITTED BY CHRIS NELSON, DEPARTMENT HISTORY & CAVALCADE CHAIR



ALA Junior Member Lexi Diaz and ALA Senior Member Krista Nelson of Unit 112 Polson

Tickets for this handmade patriotic quilt will be for sale at District meetings and at Convention to support veterans in the Polson area.

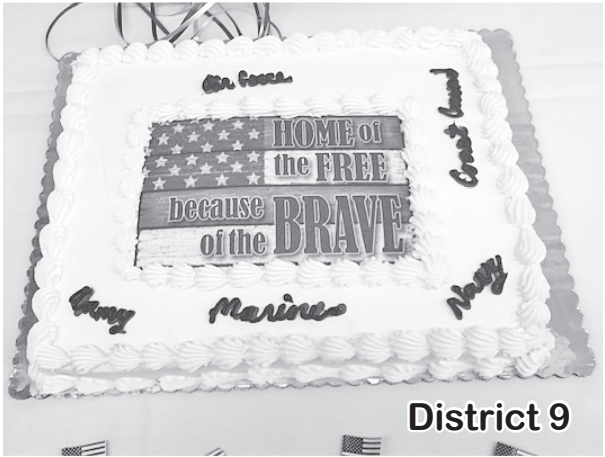
\$5 each or 5 for \$20

5' x 7' quilt made by Sue Henderson, member of the public.

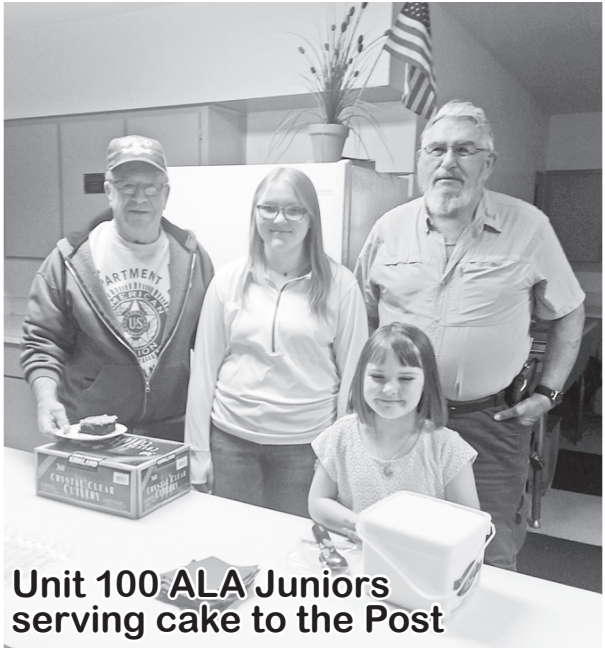
Raffled at 2019 Department Convention at Commander's Banquet.

If you cannot make it and still would love to get in on this project please call Chris Nelson at 406.471.3303 for more information.

With the 100th Anniversary of The American Legion this year, Units and Districts around the Department of Montana have been celebrating this momentous milestone. Let's take a look at the different areas of Montana that held their own celebrations.



District 9



Unit 100 ALA Juniors serving cake to the Post

Post & Unit 73 Sweet Grass



MONTANA MERCI CAR TURNS 70

French 40 & 8 Box Car Gifted by the People of France as Part of The French Gratitude Train of 1949

Gifted to Montana on February 16, 1949

BY RAYMOND K. READ, MUSEUM CURATOR/DIRECTOR | 02/16/19 | FORT HARRISON, MT

Not so well known is the fact that a very special gift known as the MERCI CAR or 40 & 8 Box Car is on exhibit at the Montana Military Museum at Fort William Henry Harrison just west of Helena available for all to see.

During the year 1947, the people of France and Italy were still struggling to recover from the devastation of World War II. After seeing this hardship first hand, noted columnist and journalist Drew Pearson spearheaded a fundraising campaign to provide the French with food, clothing and other necessities. Americans contributed generously to the purely grass-roots effort, filling the ‘American Friendship Train’ with an estimated \$40 million in relief supplies to be sent to France.

Touched by the Americans’ response to their needs, the French answered with a special project called the ‘French Gratitude Train of 1949’, an idea originating with Andre Picard, a veteran and railroad employee. He suggested that a 40 & 8 Boxcar be filled with gifts from every part of France and sent to the United States as a gesture of gratitude. Picard’s idea led to the creation of a committee to solicit enough gifts to fill one boxcar, but the French citizens’ response exceeded all expectations and it soon became obvious that a single boxcar could not hold all the items. The French War Veterans Association assumed control of the project and filled 49 of the 40&8 Box Cars; one for each state then in the Union and one boxcar to be shared by the District of Columbia and territory of Hawaii. Eventually 52,000 gifts weighing 250 tons were collected during 1948 filling all 49 cars which were then loaded on the freighter MAGELLAN at Le Harve, France for their transatlantic journey.

The freighter with “MERCI AMERICA” adorning its sides, received a royal welcome in New York

Harbor on February 3, 1949 and the U.S. Congress passed a resolution allowing the gifts to enter the country duty-free. Longshoremen volunteered their services to bring the cars to shore and the French boxcars being of too narrow a gauge for American railways were loaded onto flatcars and delivered to state capitals across the country at no charge.

Montana's 40 & 8 Car was presented to the people of Montana on February 16, 1949, at a ceremony in the State of Montana Capital House of Representatives in front of a Joint session of the legislative assembly. The Car and its contents were presented to the people of Montana represented by Governor John Bonner, on behalf of the French people by Paul Lenier, French Vice-Counsel.

Since being received by Governor Bonner in the ceremony, the French 40 & 8 Box Car has had a long and sometimes tepid history. After the ceremony and distribution of the contents to the various counties of Montana as well as the Montana Historical Library, Montana's Merci Car sat unceremoniously in the North Pacific railway yards for nearly ten years largely forgotten and rusting away. In the 1950’s, Montana’s La Société des 40 Homes et 8 Chevaux or the 40 & 8 Society established in 1922, became the advocate for Montana's Merci Car. In 1956 after working on generating interest among the membership, the 40 & 8 Society leadership approached then Governor Hugo Aronson asking to have the Car donated to the State’s 40 & 8 Society and further to have the Car placed on display in the State Capital area as a tribute to the veterans and people of Montana.

In 1957, a verbal contract was struck with Governor Aronson turning the Car over to the 40 & 8 Society. The State Board of Examiners, caretakers of the Capital complex and State property, authorized



the Car to be set behind the Veterans and Pioneers Building in a park for all to see. Eventually after necessary repairs Montana MERCI Car was returned to its place in a much smaller area behind the Veterans and Pioneers Building.

In 1976 that area was re-designated as the Veterans Plaza and flags and symbols of the Lewis and Clark Expedition were added by the veterans of Montana under the direction of Mr. Chet Shore. Shore also finished the Trophy Room on the third floor furnishing it with many donations of Montana veterans of all the Wars.

In 2001, Montana's MERCI Car was moved to its present site at the Montana Military Museum at Fort William Henry Harrison where it is now a premiere exhibit at the Museum's outdoor Veterans Plaza. Because the Montana MERCI CAR continues to be a resolute symbol of the patriotism, dedication and sacrifice of many Montana Veterans of World War I and World War II and has stood the ultimate test of surviving and being relevant to their memory; the Montana Military Museum wants to recognize the efforts of the Greatest Generation and the caring people of Montana by asking all citizens to recognize February 16, 2019 as the 70th Anniversary of this French gift in gratitude for the joint recognition of the importance of freedom.

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Sr. Mortgage Consultant
NMLS# 262695

MARK DELORME, JR
Mortgage Consultant
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KYLE LEDUC
Mortgage Consultant
NMLS# 1575253

‘Long Overdue’: Ceremony Recognizes Vietnam Veterans at Montana’s Capitol

COMPILED FROM AN ARTICLE BY CURT SYNESS | HELENA INDEPENDENT RECORD REPORTER

On March 29, 2019 about 55 people – most of them Vietnam vets – marched around the Capitol building before attending the fourth annual ceremony commemorating the 50th anniversary of those who returned home from the Vietnam War.



The American Legion Department Historian Ray Reed, “Appreciation Day” master of ceremonies, along with fellow Vietnam veteran Pat McCann, worked with the 62nd Montana Legisla-

ture to get House Bill 255, titled “The Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day,” passed into law in 2011. In 2016, Reed and McCann were instrumental in organizing the inaugural Appreciation Day at the state Capitol.

Reed noted that 268 Montanans were killed in action or died from non-hostile causes in Vietnam during the war, and that there are currently about 32,300 Vietnam veterans (men and women) residing in the Treasure State. The event, which was sponsored in part by the local Daughters of the Revolution group, was kicked off by The American Legion Department Chaplain Karen Semple, who gave the invocation and read the prayer Chief Seattle gave at the dedication of the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial in 1982. Charmaine Lindgren sang the National Anthem, followed by Brigadier Gen. Jeff Ireland’s reading of the Appreciation Day proclamation.

“We cannot change the past,” said Ireland, referring to the mistreatment of our armed forces returning from Southeast Asia 45-plus years ago.



“But we can learn from the past, and we can make sure it never happens again.” Keynote speaker Command Sgt. Major Bob Bennett, U.S. Army (retired), related a brief profile of his combat service with the 336 Assault Helicopter Co. in Vietnam (1968-69), and subsequent 37-year career in the Montana Army National Guard Aviation. “Coming home to Medicine Lake and Dillon, I never experienced any putdowns or ridiculing for serving in Vietnam,” recounted Bennett, who served the final nine years of his career as the State Command Sergeant Major. “Sure I saw it on TV, but never did I personally experience any of that; which I think is a credit to the great state we live in, and the quality of people who live here.

Post CN20 Initiates Members

SUBMITTED BY JAMES A. GROSSET, PAST COMMANDER AMERICAN LEGION OF MONTANA, ADJUTANT POST CN20



Post CN20 held an Initiation Ceremony and Membership awards night at the Calgary Military Museum. Four new members were initiated at the ceremony, they were James Carrigan, Greg Amey, Dana Urban and Don Beamer. Continuous membership pins were handed out and Monte Coles was handed his 50-year pin, he has been a member of the Legion longer than the Post has been in existence. Pins were also handed out to all the Vietnam Veterans in the audience and to those member in the Post who are Vietnam Veterans.



JULIE VINCENT PHOTOS

ADJUTANT continued from pg. 2

I would like to thank all members who have donated to the Department address label fundraiser, your generous donations are much appreciated by the Department Leadership. The 2019 Department Convention in Polson is fast approaching, and I hope every Post has made arrangements to send a delegate. Remember delegates are apportioned according to the paid membership of your Post thirty days prior to Convention, **May 30th**, for this year. Each Post is entitled to two delegates and two alternates, plus an additional delegate and alternate for each one hundred members or major fraction thereof (51 or more). Therefore, a Post with 151 members would be entitled to 4 delegates and four alternates. The Department Convention is the governing body of the American Legion of Montana (the Executive Committee when not in convention), if your Post is not represented at convention then your Post will have no voice in the operation of the Department. If your Post only sends one delegate, but is authorized four, then the one delegate will cast all four votes. Remember you must elect your delegates at your Post meeting and then submit your delegate list to Department Headquarters no later than **June 15**, 2019. Your Post must be in good a standing in order to seat a delegate; good standing means at least ten members and owes no money to the Department. You need not be a delegate to attend convention, any 2019 paid members can attend and voice their opinion at any committee meeting or general session, however they will not be allowed a vote. At convention there will be votes on resolutions,

committee reports, the 2022 Department Convention site, National Convention delegates and election of Department officers. As you can see there are many votes that will be required, if you want a say in how the American Legion of Montana operates, it is imperative that you attend convention and let your voice be heard and your vote count. The 2020 Post packets will be available for pick up at the Department Headquarters office at the hotel in Polson starting June 26. If you will not be at Convention your new District Commander will get your packet and is responsible for delivering it to the Post. Post packets will contain your new 2020 membership cards and roster, and all publications and printed material for Post operations. If you want to make other arrangements for delivery contact me at Department Headquarters in Helena prior to June 18. At Convention this year there will be Chaplains training, Service Officers Training and Online Transmittal / MyLegion training. New District Commanders will receive training and material at this Convention as well. The Department Education Committee is offering a **Legion College training** session to anyone who wishes to attend June 26, 5:00 PM-9:00 PM, continuing June 27 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. at the Convention hotel. For more information on Department Convention contact Department Headquarters at 866-793-1257 (toll free). **Department Headquarters will be closed for Department Convention June 25 – June 30** 🇺🇸

WELCOME ALL WOMEN VETERANS

2019 WOMEN'S VETERAN FORUM

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO WOMEN'S WELL-BEING

Come join other women veterans for a day of comradarie!

0900 to 3 p.m.

I WILL BE ATTENDING:

☐ 11 May Missoula, at 825 Ronan ST (American Legion Post)

☐ 8 June Billings, at 934 Lewis Ave (Elks)

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Email: IDIDinND@hotmail.com

Or mail to: PO Box 2081 Great Falls, MT 59403



I AM A UNITED STATES MILITARY VETERAN

Enjoy a Day with other women veterans in your area or come over and meet new friends. This is a day for us to relax, enjoy each other’s company, and find ways to help ourselves with our current health issues. We will be recognizing All WWII, Korean, and Vietnam War Women for their valiant service. Each year I try as the Women’s Veterans Coordinator to find more women veterans in MT and in The American Legion. It is a struggle to say the least as the areas I travel to I am a visitor. I enjoy my visits around MT, meeting everyone at the District Meetings and talking to those present. I don’t live there though and usually leave shortly afterwards to travel to the next meeting. This makes it more difficult for me to find other women veterans. I would like to ask every woman veteran in MT to join The American Legion. I would like to invite them to functions that are available to them as women vets in MT as some events are free to the vet and some may cost to travel there but carpooling is an option. I find events and forward them on to as many veterans as I can but if I don’t have an address or phone number much less a name, I cannot make contact. I Need your help. I moved to MT in 2010 from a small town in ND with a population of 3,000. Before that, in a smaller town of 350 (if you counted the cows too, I swear) so knowing the majority of the folks or knowing of the folks in town via the grapevine was pretty easy compared to living in a place of over 15,000 (population of Dickinson when I was growing up). Comparing this to Montana’s population and demographics it’s easy to say that there are a lot of similarities. This is where Your help comes in. ASK people you meet in your communities if they are a veteran. TELL them about The American Legion, especially what you do for local veterans and your community. ASK them to join. IF they are a female veteran, Give them my number to call me And get permission to call me with their information so I may invite them to opportunities for further comradeship. YOUR help is and will be greatly appreciated.

CALL TO CONVENTION

TO: Officers and members of the American Legion Posts in Montana

GREETINGS

The 101st Annual Convention of The American Legion, Department of Montana is hereby called to meet and assemble at Polson, Montana June 28, 29 , 30 2019 to transact and consider such matters as are included in this call and any other business which may properly come before it.

PURPOSE

The Convention is called for the purpose of electing officers to the ensuing year, electing delegates to the National Convention, amending the Department Constitution, presentation of annual reports, and the transactions of such other business as may be brought before it in conformity with the provisions of the National and Department Constitution.

BASIS OF REPRESENTATION

Representation in the Convention will be by Posts. Each Post in good standing shall be entitled to two delegates and two alternates and in addition shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate for each one hundred members, or major fraction thereof, whose dues have been received by the Department thirty days prior to the date of the Convention, or May 29, 2019. A Post, to be in good standing must have a minimum of ten paid members and no indebtedness to the Department.

CREDENTIALS

Posts shall submit to Department Headquarters in Helena prior to June 10, the names of delegates and alternates. Cards for voting delegates will be in the Convention office. Each Post delegation should select a Chairman prior to departure of delegates for the Convention.

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A regular meeting of the committee will be held on Thursday, June 27, 2019 at 4:00 P.M. The first stated meeting of the Department Executive Committee following the Department Convention will be held immediately upon adjournment of the Convention. The term of office of the newly elected members will commence immediately with the adjournment of the Convention.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

All Department Officers and District Commanders will be sworn into office at the conclusion of the session on Sunday morning, June 30, 2019 and will automatically become members of the Department Executive Committees.

Any inquiries for information with reference to the Convention will be answered from Department Headquarters.

Gary A. White
Department Adjutant

Richard KloseRichard
Department Commander

Butte Post 1 Hosts Veterans Valentine’s Day Event

SUBMITTED BY STEPHEN ALLEN,,Post No. 1 BUTTE, MT

Members of Butte Post No. 1 and the Auxiliary visited local rest homes and assisted living facilities in the Butte area for Valentine’s Day. Approximately 100 veterans received heart shaped boxes of chocolates along with a thank you note for their service.

The facilities visited: The Bee Hive, Copper Ridge Health Center, Continental Gardens, Crest Nursing Home, Genesis Healthcare, Big Sky Senior Living, and The Springs assisted Living.

A long time member and past officer Shirley Rand was acknowledged.



Post 1 members: Dean Neary, Roger Knoell, Harold Crowley

Auxiliary Unit 1 members: Anne Newton, JoAnn Piazzola, Bobbie Whelan, Jeanette Knoell, Letty Crowley, and Helen Denton



This is a very special event for our veterans and it’s our privilege to deliver greetings.

Steve Daines

United States Senator for Montana

Montana Hero Receives Medal of Honor

What’s New:

I recently had the privilege of standing with Staff Sergeant Travis Atkins’ mom, dad, and son as President Trump posthumously awarded him our nation’s highest distinction - the Medal of Honor. Staff Sgt. Atkins grew up in Bozeman and reenlisted with the Army during the height of the Iraq War.

On June 1, 2007 Atkins tackled and pinned down a suicide bomber who detonated a bomb, effectively shielding his fellow soldiers from the blast. To learn more about Staff Sergeant Atkins



selfless acts of heroism, I invite you to read President Trump’s full remarks at this week’s ceremony.

Why it Matters:

An American hero, Staff Sgt. Atkins saved the lives of three of his fellow soldiers on that day. America can never forget the men and women, like Travis, who make the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom and in defense of our flag.

What’s Next:

A Montana native, Travis’ extraordinary valor and sacrificial service are now a part of our state’s great history. Every effort should be made to preserve his legacy. That is why this week I introduced legislation to rename the VA Clinic in Travis’ hometown of Bozeman in his honor. I will work with Senator Tester and Congressman Gianforte in swiftly passing this bill.

THE AMERICAN LEGION OF MONTANA

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

POLSON, MONTANA

JUNE 26- 30, 2019

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

(All Events Will Be At The KwaTaqNuk Inn Unless Otherwise Noted)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2019

2:30 PM – FINANCE COMMITTEE -

5:30 PM – MONTANA LEGION COLLEGE –

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019

8:00 AM – MONTANA LEGION COLLEGE –

10:00 AM – FORTY & EIGHT PROMINADE –

12:00 PM – GOLF SCRAMBLE – Polson City Golf Course

1:00 PM – CHAPLAINS TRAINING –

1:30 PM – SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (SAL) MEETING –

3:00 PM – SERVICE OFFICER’S TRAINING

4:00 PM – DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –

6:00 PM – DINNER CRUISE – Flathead Lake

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2019

7:30 AM – PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER’S BREAKFAST

8:45 AM – CALL TO ORDER – DEPARTMENT COMMANDER RICHARD KLOSE

INTRODUCTION OF HEADS OF MONTANA VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS.

OTHER DISTINGUISHED GUESTS –

10:00 AM – CONVENTION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS – GARY WHITE, DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT

10:20 AM – AWARDS

12:10 PM – CHILDREN AND YOUTH LUNCHEON – Deck

1:30 PM – CONVENTION COMMITTEES MEET –

2:30 PM – POST ONLINE TRANSMITTAL TRAINING –

3:30 PM – DISTRICT CAUCUS (IF NEEDED) –

3:20 PM – COORDINATED CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE –

4:00 PM – HOSPITALITY ROOMS –

4:00 PM – NATIONAL CONVENTION ATTENDEES MEETING –

6:00 PM – COCKTAIL HOUR – AUXILIARY BANQUET

7:00 PM – AUXILIARY PAST PRESIDENTS BANQUET; OPEN TO ALL –

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2019

7:00 AM – GO GETTERS BREAKFAST –

9:00 AM – BUSINESS MEETING – REPORTS –

1:15 PM – PARADE

3:30 PM – DISTRICT and ZONE COMMANDER TRAINING –

3:30 PM – LEGION RIDERS

4:00 PM – HOSPITALITY ROOMS

6:00 PM – COCKTAIL HOUR –

7:00 PM – JOINT BANQUET –

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019

7:45 AM – JOINT SERVICE TO GOD & COUNTRY –

9:00 AM – FINAL BUSINESS SESSION –

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTION OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

COMMANDER

VICE COMMANDER

ZONE COMMANDER 4, 5 & 6

ZONE COMMANDER 7, 9 & 11

NEC

ALT NEC

ELECTION OF NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES

SELECTION OF YEAR 2022 CONVENTION CITY

INSTALLATION OF NEW DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

12:00 PM – MEETING OF NEW DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Drive Carefully On Your Way Home

Bozeman Post 14 Family Share Comradery & Corned Beef Dinner

BY LEN ALBRIGHT, COMMANDER

Post 14 celebrated their 71st annual St. Patrick’s Day fundraiser dinner Sunday March 17th. The traditional corned beef, cabbage, and red



Head chef Jim Marchwick prepares the corned beef potatoes were served to 134 hungry guests. Head chef Jim Marchwick prepared the beef with his special rub as he has been doing so for 30+ years. Randy Kemp, his daughter and granddaughter help to sell dinner tickets at the door. A grand thank you to all who attended and helped make the evening special.



Sun River Post 130 Veteran's Day Pot Luck

SUBMITTED BY MIKE MEHEGAN

Guest of honor: Boy's state participant Jordan Aliperto, and Girl state participant Maddie Huston and winner of \$1,500 Samsung Scholarship. Girls state participant Maddie Bloom was unable to attend. Distinguished Guest: Hal Rice, Alternative NEC, Monica Rice, Auxiliary 8th District President and District 8 Commander Kim Kay Carol McCarty Martin.



Mike Mehegan, Adjutant Post 130; Jordan Aliperto Boys State; Madie Huston Girls State; and Post Commander Dave Capps, Commander Post 130

Post 74’s Kins receives Commendation

SUBMITTED BY STONEY FUGATE, COMMANDER POST 74, EUREKA

Congressman Greg Gianforte presented Post 74 member Charles Kins with the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran’s Commendation at the Senior Center in Eureka on March 4, 2019. Congressman Gianforte also presented Charles with the certificate that he read into the Official Congressional Record, as well as a United States flag that was flown over the Capitol in Charles honor.

The commendation is presented to veterans after evaluation of their military service record and current volunteer work within their community.

Post 74 member Dan Stewart nominated Legionnaire Kins for the award.



ShopVCS.com Offers New Online Shopping Program

Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) is excited to announce a new benefit. On November 13, 2018, VCS launched ShopVCS.com, an online shopping site exclusively available to Veterans and their families.

Veterans enrolled in VA Healthcare are able to shop VCS online at ShopVCS.com. This new exclusive shopping experience offers deals on thousands of products from hundreds of top brands with the ability to easily and securely shop from any device. The site features an expanded catalog of products to include: Veteran-Owned brands, Made-in-USA items, military items, sportswear, jewelry, health and beauty, home goods, electronics, outdoor gear, travel options, event tickets, and much more.

Registration is free and Veterans enrolled in VA and their family members eligible to register at ShopVCS.com as authorized customers. Proceeds from your purchases are given back to the Veteran community in support of VA programs such as: National Rehabilitation Adaptive Sports Games, Vets Crisis Suicide Prevention, Fisher House, Women Veteran Programs, National Disaster Relief, Homeless Veterans programs, and much more.



2019 AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION
INDIANAPOLIS, IN
AUGUST 23 – 29, 2019
INDIANAPOLIS MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN
350 W MARYLAND STREET
National Convention Reservation form for Legion, SAL & Auxiliary

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

Please reserve the following accommodations for _____ person(s). I will be sharing a room with: _____

Enclosed is a check to cover one night's room deposit, plus others as noted.

_____ King (1 or 2 persons) \$174.43 (this includes tax of 17%)	\$ _____
_____ Double (1 or 2 persons) \$174.43 (this includes tax of 17%)	\$ _____
_____ Commanders Banquet @ \$50 each	\$ _____
_____ Parking Rate – Self \$44 / Valet \$49 per day	\$ _____
_____ Hospitality Room - \$16	\$ _____
_____ Registration (nondelegates only; delegates are paid) \$25 ea.	\$ _____
_____ Parade Transportation - \$10	\$ _____

(Note: ALL Convention attendees must be registered and have a Convention badge to ride busses, attend convention functions and enter the convention hall. If you are attending the Commander's Banquet please advise Department by 25 February, 2019.

TOTAL \$ _____

I / We will arrive (DATE) _____ (TIME) _____ **Do not leave blank**
I / We will depart (DATE) _____ (TIME) _____ **Do not leave blank**

LEGION ONLY – I would like to be a delegate and would serve on the following Committee, (official delegates must be nominated and elected at the Department Convention in Polson June 28 – 30, 2019).

1st Choice _____
2nd Choice _____

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: JULY 1, 2019, early receipt will guarantee staying with the Montana Delegation

Please send check payable to **The American Legion of Montana** and this form to:

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT
PO BOX 6075
HELENA, MT 59604-6075



WELCOME TO INDIANAPOLIS
MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA
CONVENTION 2019
JUNE 27-30, 2019
Hosted by Polson Post 112



Name(s) _____ ☐ Legion ☐ ALA ☐ SAL
_____ ☐ Legion ☐ ALA ☐ SAL

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

Registration	\$20 X _____	= \$ _____
40 & 8 BBQ Includes 2-hour Shadow Cruise	\$35 X _____	= \$ _____
Past Dept. Commander's Breakfast	\$17 X _____	= \$ _____
Children & Youth Luncheon	\$17 X _____	= \$ _____
Auxiliary Banquet	\$25 X _____	= \$ _____
Past Dept. President's Luncheon	\$17 X _____	= \$ _____
Incoming President's Luncheon	\$17 X _____	= \$ _____
Joint Banquet	\$30 X _____	= \$ _____
Total	\$	_____

Convention Hotel

KwaTaqNuk Resort and Casino
US Highway 93 East
Polson, MT 59860 406-883-3636
Port Polson Inn..... 406-883-5385
Bayview Inn..... 406-883-3120
Flathead Lake Inn..... 877-276-5766
125 Anchor Way, Polson

Send Registration Form & Payment To

Post 112 Convention
PO Box 515
Polson, MT 59860

Everyone who registers for the Convention by March 1st will be entered into a drawing for \$250 CASH

Questions
Jeff Nelson
C# 406-249-9383
nelsondairy2003@yahoo.com



How to Submit Articles or Photos?

Deadline: July 1, 2019

Preferences: (always include Post & City in Email Subject Line)

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, 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!

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA
CONVENTION 2019



June 27, 2019 at 1 pm
Hosted by Polson Post 112



Name(s) _____ ☐ Legion ☐ ALA ☐ SAL
_____ ☐ Legion ☐ ALA ☐ SAL

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____



Entry fee is \$55
for best ball scramble 9 holes 2-person team
Cart and Prize Included





Send Registration Form & Payment To

Post 112 Convention
PO Box 515
Polson, MT 59860

Questions
Jeff Nelson
C# 406-249-9383
nelsondairy2003@yahoo.com



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: _____

Buddies in Business



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

2 inch ads: \$75 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



Owners
Chuck & Kim Ballard
Veteran-Owned & Operated
8:00AM to 5:30PM Mon - Fri
8:00AM to 4PM Sat
610 Custer Ave • Helena
442-9589

 MEMBER POST #2



Fences • Handrails • Deck Rails
• Planters • Welding Jobs
Doug 406.252.8659
Skip 406.672.4188

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



Sons Of The American Legion

Detachment Of Montana



FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
MEMBERSHIP CALL:
(406) 324-3989
or (406) 324-3990
Or Write to P.O. Box 6075,
Helena, MT 59604.



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
Open at 10 a.m.
7 Days a Week

Legion Meets 2nd Thursday
SAL Meets 3rd Thursday



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



**406-586-8400**

We Salute Our Servicemen & Women

Welcome To American Legion Club 30

**We invite all veterans to stop
in and support YOUR club.**



31 W. Main • Belgrade • 388-3430



Jerome's Band & Violin Repair



Jerome Faith
Owner

Located at Quality Piano
617 Central
Great Falls, MT 59401
w: 406-761-5507
h: 406-965-3176





AMERICAN LEGION POST #4

OPEN DAILY AT 2:00 PM

HOTTEST MACHINES IN TOWN

1540 BROADWATER AVE.
BILLINGS, MT

Montana Legionnaires!
Visit the **Montana Military Museum**
At historic Fort Harrison,
Just west of Helena.
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



**24-hour Towing
7-Days-a-Week**

