



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER
P.O. Box 6075
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PAID
Permit No. 189
Helena, MT 59601

Volume 98, No. 1

August — October 2020

Department Commander Jeff Nelson and Vice Commander Glen Sharbono prepare for 2020/2021 Term

Jeff served with the 172nd Light Arctic Infantry Brigade at Fort Richardson, Alaska from October 1973 to May 1976 as part of a Combat Support Company that specialized in Redeye air defense missiles. Jeff attained the rank of Sergeant at the time of his discharge. While still on active duty in Anchorage, Alaska, Jeff joined Spenard Post #1 of The Alaska American Legion.



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

Jeff is a 43-year member of The American Legion and at Hardwick Post 112, Polson, held all Post positions, including Post Commander twice, then District 4 Commander, Zone 4-5-6 Commander, and Department Sgt.-at-Arms. His travels have taken him to many of the leadership workshops when they were held throughout the northwest region of the United States. Jeff has chaired the Department Oratorical Committee for three years, the Department Finance Committee for three years and served as a member of the Americanism Committee at National for four years. He will continue as Department Commander due to the COVID-19 outbreak, for a second term for the state of Montana.

In addition, Jeff has been serving on the board of directors for the Mission Valley Mariners American Legion Baseball team since its beginning in 1989, and has been a part of the Montana American Legion delegation at nine National Conventions.

Jeff's family has many members belonging to The American Legion Family, including his father, stepson, three SAL members and eight Auxiliary members. Jeff is married to Christine Nelson, Department of Montana Auxiliary 2019-2021 President-Elect.

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

In 1990, Jeff started his own business, Nelson Dairy Service, which supplies and sells dairy equipment to dairy farmers in three states.

He and his wife reside in Polson and have four children and eight grandchildren.

Glen Sharbono was born in Missoula, Montana where he attended Target Range School. He also went to schools in Deer Lodge, Florence, and graduated from Ronan in 1979. During High School and after, he became a sort of Jack of all trades. Working on farms changing pipe, stacking hay, milking cows, roofing, drywall, Sawmill, mechanic, welder and in the restaurant industry as Chief Cook & bottle washer, baker, and bartender. Glen is a 5th generation Montanan on his



father's side and 4th generation on his mother's side. He is a direct descendant of George Van Ness who served in the Continental Army at Valley Forge with General Washington. His family has served in every war since. So, Glen decided to try his luck in the Army. Being told his ASVAB scores were high he took the DLAB (Defense Language Aptitude Battery Test) and scored in the top two percent of the Nation. He enlisted to be a 98G (Golf) Cryptologic Linguist. During Basic Training he was told he needed to change his MOS. he asked to reclassify as Airborne Infantry and was told there were no openings. His only options were cook or truck driver. Having had enough of cooking he chose the latter and that panned out as he was able to tour most of Germany at the Governments expense.

Glen served in the Army from 1984-1989 with the 1st Armored Division, Furth, Germany, as a Tractor Trailer Operator driving over 100,000 accident free miles hauling tanks, ammo, and other hazardous materials. He was chosen as Bravo Company 4th Support Battalion's Driver of the month. Attended the NCO Academy in Katterbach, Germany in 1987. He was then stationed from 1989-1991 with the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center, where he was promoted to Corporal and served as Platoon Sergeant in Bravo Company, Support Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Group and as Truck Master for Special Forces Assessment and Selection and Phase 3 training segments at Camp McCall later renamed Camp Rowe, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Glen is a Benefactor Life Member of the National Rifle Association, a member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, a Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans, Commander of the Veterans Honor Guard, Member of The Sons of The American Legion. He completed the ALEI course in 2014, the LEAD course in 2015, the 54th National Membership Workshop in Indianapolis in 2017, Basic Training Course in 2017. Glen is also a 2017 Alumni of the first ever Department of Montana Legion College, 2017 Alumni of the National American Legion College and 9-year member of The American Legion.

More SHARBONO Bio page 4

Important Upcoming Dates

Sep 7 Labor Day Holiday
Sep 11 Patriot Day
Sep 9 Renewal Notice Cutoff Date
Sep 10 . 50% Membership Target Date (Early Bird)
Sep 12 ..First District Mtg, Dist. 6 Butte
Oct 11 Last District Mtg, Dist. 5 Hamilton
Oct 23-25Fall Conference, Helena, Location to be determined.

The American Legion of Montana 2020 Fall District Meetings

12 Sep District No. 6 Butte
13 Sep District No. 7 WSS
19 Sep District No. 1 Plentywood
20 Sep District No. 2 Havre
25 Sep District No. 3* Shelby
26 Sep District No. 8 Geraldine
27 Sep District No. 9 Judith Gap
3 Oct District No. 11 ..Park City
4 Oct District No. 10 Colstrip
10 Oct District No. 4 Kalispell
11 Oct District No. 5 Hamilton
23-25 Oct Fall Conf. Helena

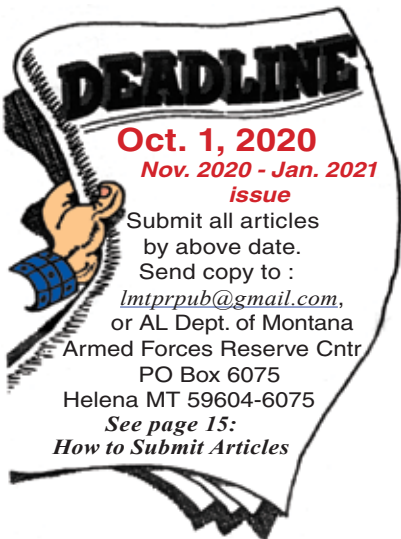
BIG K WINNERS

The Big K winners for June were Peggy Ellison Post 10 Deer Lodge, drawn by Kelly Ackerman Helena Post 2 for \$400, and the grand prize of \$1800 for the year presented at Department Special Executive Committee Meeting went to Jim Bossen of Park City Post 100 drawn by Denny Lenoir of Helena Post 2.

The American Legion Districts received \$373.50, The American Legion Auxiliary Districts \$139.50, Sons of The American Legion \$44, Posts \$2065.50, Units \$765, and the Squadrons \$161.50 in Big K disbursements.

The Big K for next year (2021) is now open for membership until December 31, 2020. You may purchase as many memberships as you desire until 1000 are sold throughout the Department. Posts, Units and Squadrons may also purchase memberships in the Big K.

The first drawing for \$200 will be an Early Bird Drawing at Fall Conference in October 2020.



Oct. 1, 2020
Nov. 2020 - Jan. 2021
issue

Submit all articles by above date.
Send copy to :
lmtprpub@gmail.com,
or AL Dept. of Montana
Armed Forces Reserve Cntr
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Helena MT 59604-6075
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How to Submit Articles

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Commander Nelson



Jeff Nelson

Department Commander First off, I want to thank everyone for making Montana one of the top five in the country in membership. Your hard work has been recognized again and National certainly knows where Montana is on the map. We received almost \$5,000 in awards by reaching goals this year and it will help replace office equipment that is badly needed. This year National is only asking us to increase our goal by one and I believe without a doubt we can do it again. So let's roll up our sleeves and continue having Montana be the lead in the nation for membership.

The subject I want to address this year is having a vision for our Posts. Where do we see ourselves in five years or 20 years? Are we just doing the same things year after year or are we changing with the times and making our Posts more inviting to our younger members. Congratulations to Butte Post 1 on their new building. It is a remarkable accomplishment when a goal is set and created.

Sometimes a member comes along and sows a seed in our thoughts, and we take off on it. George Blackard from Billings had a vision of creating a new Post and acquiring a Post home for the future generations of veterans and Legionnaires. He talked about this vision and created a seed in the minds of many about having a new facility that The American Legion in the Billings area could call home. I hope George continues planning that vision and it comes to fruition. We in Polson have moved in that direction as well and are in the process of acquiring a new Post home to meet, hold functions and serve as a place for veterans to associate with other veterans. Sometimes as Legionnaires we express an idea and others are there to grab hold of that idea and run with it. I do not know what the future may hold for our Post, but the investment for future generations of veterans that come after us will be our legacy for them. Just as past generations of Legionnaires have left behind a Post that provided a place to meet; whether it was a church basement, senior citizens center or the use of a VFW hall, maybe it's time to look at having your own Post home. Even Posts that may have outgrown their present facilities might want to look at expanding or relocating to a larger facility. Of course this doesn't apply to everyone, but what are we leaving for the future veterans in our community? To accomplish any goal takes thought and hard work and raising the funds is no easy task. If you are a Post that meets in someone else's facility think about what a Post home might mean to the future Legionnaires in your community and the opportunities it would provide.

No matter what your goals are for your Post, think about where we want to be in 20 years and what will we leave behind for future Legionnaires in our communities. Perhaps like George, somebody will sew some seeds and who knows what will grow from them.

VICE COMMANDER SHARBONO

Let me begin by reminding everyone about the hardships and contingencies that we as Legionnaires along with our families had to endure. Resolution #3 called for the cancelation of the National Convention, and its programs, and the closing of National Head Quarters. Setting the course for many Departments to follow suit and cancel their conventions and programs as well. Department and National Officers were locked in place to serve a consecutive year. District meetings that were relegated to a conference call and the logistics needed to perform these, mass emailings that hopefully kept our membership informed, High School Oratory, Junior Shooting Sports, Boys Nation, Boys State, Legion Birthday celebrations, fundraising events, school and restaurant closures, the orders to stay home all in the name of "Social Distancing" along with the never ending quest for toilet paper. The importance of membership has never been higher, and I am afraid that many may not see it. Our membership does more than get us a subscription to a monthly magazine. It is our strength not only on Capitol Hill but to help fellow Veterans in times of need with programs like Veterans & Children's Foundation and the National Emergency Fund, which are being heavily taxed from previous disasters including the COVID-19 epidemic. Allowing your membership to expire prevents you from receiving much needed benefits. Your help now is ever more vital and the "Buddy Check" program has never been more important than it is this day and age.

I would like to thank all those who supported me in becoming the Department Vice Commander.

My motto is "Inspire, Train, Learn" we should always endeavor to **Inspire**. Inspire other Legionnaires by our behavior, direction and as their mentors. We should always **Train**. Train for the future not only our fellow legionnaires, but ourselves as well, by enrolling in American Legion Basic Training, Montana Legion College and National American Legion College. **Learn**. Above all else that no matter how long we have been around there is always something new we can learn.

By default, membership falls on the Vice Commander at all levels from the Post up. So that means they are the only ones responsible for Recruiting new members and overseeing Retention. Right? No! That job is the responsibility of every single Legionnaire. Montana has somewhere around 98,000 Veterans. We have only tapped just over 10 percent of our potential. As we enter the second century of The American Legion, my hope is to inspire the nearly 11,000 Legionnaires of the Department of Montana to become proactive in Recruitment and Retention, by Renewing when the first dues notice is received. Also, by renewing early, more time could be invested in American Legion programs, community activities and above all else serving our fellow Veterans. Does that mean we want everyone to be "Super Recruiters"? No! But I'm quite sure everyone knows at least one Veteran. All we are asking is "Ask Them". If they are not interested so be it. If they do however seem interested, then by all means, tell them "Why You Belong" and what they could benefit by investing in the Nation's largest Veterans Service Organization. Motivate and encourage them with the reasons why you belong and what it means to you. Be able to answer basic questions, when asked "Why" or "What's in it for me". The Preamble that is printed on the back of every membership card gives the basic principles of what we stand for. Know what the "Four Pillars" of our founding are. Convince your VFW comrades to "Come over to the Dark Side". With the passing of the "Legion Act" the task should be an easier one. And then consider yourself their sponsor and check on them from time to time. You took the time to convince them to join, please don't ignore them and leave it up to a cold renewal notice in the mail once a year. And if you are ever in doubt as to "Why" you are a member and what The American Legion means to you, please take The American Legion Basic Training Course and hopefully you will come away with a fresh new perspective. If you have already taken the course remember it is ever evolving and constantly updated. A refresher from time to time will be good. A higher-level option would be to attend the annual Montana Legion



Glen Sharbono
Dept. Vice Commander

College conducted at every Department Convention. Seriously consider this as a must do for anyone seeking a leadership position from the Post up! National American Legion College is the next step in advanced training of a Legionnaire. This however does not mean you have learned all there is to learn. It is a never-ending process as we the Legionnaire need to develop to keep up with the changes as they arise throughout our careers in The American Legion.

My personal goal each year, at the minimum, has been to earn the National Commanders Incentive Pin, for recruiting 3 new members. Imagine if that was the goal of all our members!

Better yet and more realistically imagine if every one of us were to bring in one new member each year. Our clout on Capitol Hill would be staggering! Not to mention we could possibly prevent an increase in dues for perhaps the next several years.

Commanders and Adjutants should be the first in their Post to renew. They are the first to receive the membership packets. They are the leadership, they have been around long enough to know, and should lead by example. This will also set the tone for the rest to follow. Avoid the hassle by registering at MyLegion.org and either become a PUFL (Paid Up For Life) or sign up for Automatic Annual Renewal.

For all the new members who have joined The American Legion through Direct Market Solicitation (DMS) thank you for your service, (*that goes to everyone else as well*) welcome to The American Legion and The Department of Montana. Congratulations, you now reside in a holding Post for the Department and have been added to what we call a D99 or MT105 list. You will soon be receiving a call from either your local Post Commander, Adjutant, your District Commander, Department Vice Commander, or the Department Membership Chairman asking you to transfer to your local Post. This costs nothing if you are already a paid up to date member. Once transferred your dues may be lower than the holding Post, your money will also work for your local community and Post in the programs they sponsor annually. Transferring will also put you in touch with Veterans in your area giving

More **VICE CDR** page 3

From the Desk of the Adjutant

Gary White

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic we have had to do a lot of things different this past year. Some new methods were used to accomplish our mission in conducting business to support our Four Pillars. Cancellations of many programs, meetings and our conventions proved to be a challenge but our members and officers met it and succeeded. We used teleconferences for our Spring District Meetings and elections and YouTube for our Department Oratory finals. What we learned is we can use those platforms to complete our business but neither would be a preferred method. Most of our officers and committees stayed the same, however we did have some resignations and the Districts did conduct their elections for new officers as did many of our Posts.

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

More **ADJUTANT** page 3



PUBLISHED BY THE
AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER,
P.O. BOX 6075, HELENA, MT 59604-6075
TELEPHONE 406-324-3989/3990
TOLL FREE 866-793-1257
E-MAIL: LMTPRPUB@GMAIL.COM
SUBSCRIPTION: \$5.00 PER YEAR.
\$3.00 OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES GOES TO
MONTANA LEGIONNAIRE SUBSCRIPTION.
NOW PUBLISHED 4 TIMES PER YEAR
IN THE MONTHS OF:
FEBRUARY, MAY, AUGUST AND NOVEMBER
COPY DEADLINE IS THE 1ST DAY OF THE MONTH
PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.
COMMANDER - JEFF NELSON
VICE COMMANDER - GLEN SHARBONO
ADJUTANT - GARY A. WHITE

Chaplain's Corner

Extend a helping hand to others.

I pray this finds all reading this well.
I recently came across this quote: *“Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy but much better when others are happy because of you.”* POPE FRANCIS

After being cooped up during the COVID-19 restrictions, it's easy to still be out of the habit of extending a helping hand to others as we did before our life as we knew it out in the community came to a screeching halt.
Many Legion Family members are still deemed by the medical community

CHAYA SEMPLE, DEPT. CHAPLAIN
as being at high risk of serious complications if they catch it. If you're one of them, it doesn't mean there's nothing to do to improve the lot of our fellow veterans.
It's easy to pick up the phone to check in on someone or jot a note of caring. You can also pray for others. That is REAL help few even think to do. Multiple scientific studies where people prayed for total strangers on the other side of the country (who had no idea anyone was praying for them) have proven that prayer makes a difference in decreasing pain levels and in expediting healing.
If all the TV shows have left you feeling your life lacks meaningful purpose, try praying for others! Not only will it help someone else, it will also give you strength and purpose.
May you be well.

VICE CDR

you the opportunity to share in the camaraderie of like-minded individuals as well as access to Service Officers that can assist you. However, many who join this way have not provided a phone number or only a post office box number making it very difficult to contact you. Please help us by contacting any of the above mentioned and letting us know that we can, with your permission transfer you to a local Post. It would be greatly appreciated, and on behalf of the Department of Montana I thank you.
Another aspect of membership is Reinstatement. Bring back those who for whatever reason failed to renew the past year. Letting them know you and the Post still care for their health and welfare. Explain the loss of benefits they are no longer eligible for. Post Commanders and Adjutants need to be more active in working the D99 and MT105 lists. The majority of which are already paid for the current year and just need to be invited into the local Post and Community. *(This should not*

be left up to the District Commanders, Zone Commanders, Department Vice and Department Membership Chair to work this list. They should however oversee its progress). This would allow them to feel more welcome and prevent frustrated Adjutants from wondering how all the people got added to their roster. Our main goal is not just to acquire more members for membership sake, although it is important, for without a strong membership we cease to exist. Our focus on membership should be to establish camaraderie by coming together with all our “Brothers and Sisters in Arms” creating a strong foundation for National Defense and preserving the future of our next 100 years and beyond. Remember we as Legionnaires are not just working for the Post but the District, Department and National as well. We are a TEAM! It is “Us, We and Our”, not “They and Them”. So again, thank you, and I look forward to working for you!
For contact information go to www.mtleion.org Department Directory.

ADJUTANT

I am still retiring on April 1, 2021 and applications for Department Adjutant are still being accepted. The application period for Department Adjutant has been extended to September 1, 2020. Anyone desiring more information may contact Larry Dobb the chairman of the selection committee or go to page 4. Additionally the Department has a vacancy for our Judge Advocate if member who is an attorney is interested in the position, please contact Department Headquarters.
With the start of the new membership year it is time to get to work on new members and renewals. The longer we wait in the membership year the harder it will be to make membership targets and goals. Our first target is the 50% target for September 10. All Post packets with the 2021 membership cards and rosters have been distributed to District Commanders for Post distribution. If your Post has not yet received your packet contact your District Commander to make arrangements for delivery. We have five new District Commanders;

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they will have your packets not your old Commander. Remember Adjutants - you may now submit your transmittals online through the MyLegion website. If you need assistance the first-time, call Department Headquarters and we can walk you through it.
Of course, with the new membership year comes new membership goals for Posts and Districts. The earlier you make your membership targets and goals, the easier it becomes to focus on programs and building strength in your Posts. Good programs and publicity about what your Post is doing in your community will build membership. Do not be afraid to brag about your accomplishments within your community, to your community.
The first District Meeting is District 6 in Butte hosted by Post 1, September 12. I hope to see many of you at the District Meetings and if you have never attended one, let this year be a first for you. Remember any member may attend; the District Meetings are not just for officers.

Post Everlasting



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.



April / May / June 2020

- ☆ BACHMANN, GERALD, 10/19/2019 – Vietnam – US Navy – 11-year member of Post 27, Missoula, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ CUMMING, HUGH, 4/16/2020 – WWII – US Marine – 75-year member of Post 2, Helena, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ HUBER, FREDRICK A., 4/4/2020 – Korea – US Army – 69-year member of Post 118, Gardiner, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ JUVIK, DICK, 4/30/2020 – Vietnam – US Navy – 30-year member of Post 2, Helena, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ KENT, RODGER “CUB”, 4/23/2020 – Korea – US Army – 12-year member of Post 65, Ennis, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ LUCAS, JAMES, 4/13/2020 – WWII – US Army – 68-year member of Post 5, Miles City, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ LYMAN, WILLIAM, 4/6/2020 – Korea – US Navy – 34-year member of Post 2, Helena, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ MELLEM, RONALD, 4/12/2020 – Vietnam – US Army – 15-year member of Post 86, Big Fork, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ MILLER, EDWARD C., 5/1/2020 – WWII – US Army – 16-year member of Post 2, Helena, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ MILLER, EDWARD, 5/1/2020 – WWII – US Army – 16-year member of Post 2, Helena, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ PRYOR, ROBERT, 4/17/2020 – Korea – US Air Force – 22-year member of Post 9, Lincoln, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ STEELE, DON, 4/10/2020 – Korea – US Navy – 23-year member of Post 27, Missoula, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ WIGGINS, DONALD, 5/9/2020 – Korea – US Marine – 27-year member of Post 2, Helena, Interred with Military Honors
- ☆ WOLPERT, JOSEPH, 5/30/2020 – WWII – US Army – 9-year member of Post 21, Anaconda, Interred with Military Honors

Department of Montana Service Officer

KATE HAHN, DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER



Service Officer Kate Hahn

MVAD/AL offices throughout the state:

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Billings	(406) 248-8579
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Great Falls	(406) 452-2265
Havre	(406) 265-4225
Helena.....	(406) 495-2080/2081/2082
Kalispell.....	(406) 755-3795
Lewistown	(406) 538-3174
Miles City	(406) 232-1203
Missoula	(406) 542-2501

Hugh C. “Tony” Cumming 1926-2020

Montana's Legionnaires say goodbye to Hugh C. “Tony” Cumming (1926 - 2020) who transferred to Post Everlasting April 16, 2020. Tony was a WWII Veteran, US Marine, Purple Heart and Bronze Star recipient from Iwo Jima and 75-year member of Helena Post 2. Listed in our Montana Legion History book as a “Great Montana Legionnaire,” many fondly remember Tony when he served as Montana's Department Adjutant for 18½ years (1973-1991) and in 1987 was the second Montana Adjutant to receive the coveted “Ye King Dreyas LXI” crown as King of the Ye Stevios, a fun and frolic organization of current and former Department Adjutants. Tony served in an extensive capacity during his 75 years of American Legion membership; from humble beginnings in Drummond Post 125 to District, Department and National Executive offices. In addition to his American Legion loyalty, he also participated in the Montana Legislature, twice being elected as a State Representative and two terms as State Senator. He was a true patriot who belonged to so many service organizations which spoke of his compassion for fellow comrades and service to God and Country. Fair winds and clear sailing, Marine!



Memorials		
Donor	Fund	In Memory of:
L&C Post 2	Veterans & Children Foundation.....	Hugh “Tony” Cumming
L&C Post 2	POW / MIA Association.....	Hugh “Tony” Cumming

Helena Post 2 Winner Department Government Survey



Jenna Smith, 7th Grader from East Valley Middle School took 1st place in both the local and Department level 7th grade Government Survey. Jenna received cash scholarships in the amounts of \$175 from Post 2 and \$200 from the Department of Montana.

Kalispell Post 137 Essay Contest Winner

BERT BLYTH, POST 137

Eva Bruce, a Junior at Flathead High School in Kalispell, is presented with a Plaque and a Scholarship Award for \$150 for placing 3rd in the statewide Americanism and Constitutional Essay Contest. This contest is open to all high school students and is designed to increase the knowledge of the U.S. Constitution among our young adults.



(L-R) Post 137: Bert Blyth, Eva Bruce, Post 137 Commander Bob Lehman

Helena Post 2 Essay Contest Winner



Hailey Carpenter, a Junior from Capital High School in Helena took 1st place in the Lewis and Clark Post 2 Constitutional Essay Contest and 2nd place at the Department level. Commander Bill White of Lewis and Clark Post 2 presented the awards at the June meeting.

SHARBONO BIO

Glen has been married to Lorie for 25 years. He has four sons from two previous marriages, two are currently serving as Army Combat Medics. He has seven grandchildren four girls and three boys. All his children and grandchildren are members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion.

Since Joining Ronan Post 138 in 2013 Glen has been the Post Vice Commander for six years, a 100% Post Adjutant for seven years, 100% Post Commander for three years, during which the Post was awarded The American Legion Family Ribbon six times, Post Honor Ribbon twice and The Post Excellence Award three times, He oversaw a more than 200% increase in Post Membership since 2014. In 2015, Glen obtained the permanent Charter for Post 138 after 13 years in temporary status. In 2017, he obtained Articles of Incorporation and a Supplemental Charter as an LLC. In 2016, Glen located the original Post flag from 1926, it now resides at the Museum of the Rockies in Ronan. That December he wrote and got passed the Post's first

ever Constitution and Bylaws, enforcing term limits for Elected Officers. Also, in that year he created a Post Newsletter which has won best in Department for a small Post for 2018, 2019, and 2020.

He has also been the District Adjutant and Vice Commander for two years and District Commander for three years. In 2019, Glen revised and had passed the District 4 Constitution and Bylaws and implemented a Post Surcharge that for the first time has the District budget operating in the black. Glen has received 100% District Commander two times and the Merv Gunderson award for Top District Commander three times.

The National Achievement Award for exceeding the previous year's District membership 2019, 2020. He has been the Oratory Chairman for both the Post 138 and 4th District. as well as Public Relations and Membership Chairman. At the Department level Glen served on the Membership, Credentials, Education and Training Committees and was the interim Dean of the Montana Legion College in 2019, 2020.

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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 weekends 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, 2020 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.

Department Constitutional Essay First Place 7-8 Grade Winner & Lolo Post 135 Essay Award

SUBMITTED BY DEBORAH HANCOCK, CHIEF JOSEPH POST 135

On May 5 Lolo Chief Joseph Post 135 Essay Chairman, Buzz Kennedy, had the honor of presenting the Department of Montana First Place Constitutional Essay Award to Kylie Hart who attends Lolo Middle School. Kylie's essay topic was on the Fourth Amendment: search and seizure of your cell phone without a search warrant. She received a plaque, letter of her accomplishment and a \$400 check. Due the COVID-19 distancing, the award was presented in front of the memorial and flag pole at Lolo Community Center. Post judges

were Debbie and Roger Hancock, David Young, Elmer Palmer, and Bud Clinton. A special thank you to Dave Christensen, faculty member from Lolo School in encouraging his students to participate. Also in the photo are Kylie's family, parents Lori and Derek Hart, and brother, Kellen. Post members in attendance were Elmer Palmer, Bud Clinton, Alex Vogel, Debbie Hancock and Karen Sanders. Representing Lolo Middle School were Principal, Kerrie Schreiter, and teacher, Dave Christensen. Buzz also commented that this is the 4th first place award that Post 135 has sponsored since the program began.





National Preparedness Month

CHAYA SEMPLE, DISASTER RESPONSE COORDINATOR

September is National Preparedness Month (NPM) first established in the shadow of 9/11, it’s sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), within the Department of Homeland Security. NPM encourages all Americans to take actions to be prepared for disasters and emergencies in their businesses, homes, schools and communities. And, yes, even in your Post. You can learn much more at Ready.gov.

One thing your Post can do in September is to host a “Preparedness Party” – invite Legion Family members and Veterans in your community to bring their family members or just open it up to your community. Be sure to get the word out ahead of time so people can plan to attend. You can invite a qualified guest speaker to teach a short interactive class on some aspect of personal/family preparedness. The Disaster and Emergency Response Coordinator, American Red Cross, fire department or law enforcement personnel are all capable of talking about preparedness.

Preparedness-type door prizes are also a draw. A case of bottled water costs less than \$5 – perhaps a local business would donate it. Something as simple as a flashlight would also make a good door prize for attendees. Your event is limited only by your imagination and it can be listed on your Consolidated Post Report, too!

If you do host a preparedness event, please take some photos and document your event. Please send them to the Legionnaire with a short write-up to inspire other posts! It’s entirely up to you as to exactly what you do to encourage preparedness in your Legion Family and community. Please do something! When disasters or emergencies strike, there’s no time to gather necessary medications, paperwork or supplies if you need to evacuate. Get prepared!

What about your pets? Do you have at least three days (preferably more) emergency food and water set aside for them? How about arrangements for your large animals, if you have them?

Now is a good time to take that CPR or first aid class you’ve been meaning to take. Now is the time to gather and set aside supplies for yourself and family. Now is the time to develop a family communication plan in case phone service isn’t available – where will you meet – how will you know you are all ok? Now is the time to reach out and help a disabled neighbor or elderly veteran to prepare. Ready.gov can help you get organized as there are a variety of checklists available.

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

May you be well.

SAL Detachment Commander's Update



EDDY WHITE, COMMANDER, SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT OF MONTANA

The Sons have been accomplishing great things the last three plus years. We have grown, and continue to grow, as Posts ramp up new Squadrons and existing Squadrons grow their membership. I want to thank all those who have been working so hard to expand our membership and our involvement with The American Legion.

Over the last decade plus, The American Legion has been subsidizing the Sons of The American Legion financially. National S.A.L. recognized this and last summer they approved an increase of their portion of membership dues to be \$5.00 to become more fiscally independent for 2021 membership year. In addition, last summer the Detachment of Montana increased theirs to \$6.00 for the 2021 membership year with a vote to increase dues by 50 cents.

So, with that it is imperative that your Squadrons review what you are collecting for dues for 2021 to see if your dues are less than \$11. If they are, your squadron will be losing dues funds.

At the Fall Conference meeting it was recommended for Squadrons to increase their dues to \$15 for those that have dues less than \$11. This is only a recommendation however since Squadrons can set their dues as they deem necessary.

We are asking all squadrons to complete the 2020 Squadron Data Report. That form needs to be turned in to Department as soon as possible.

Thank you for everything you do for the Sons and The American Legion!

Tips for Preserving Veterans' Artifacts



CANADIAN LEGION MAGAZINE MARCH/APRIL 2020 ISSUE

- Store photos, letters, and papers flat inside a sturdy box
- Use polyester sleeves to protect papers so they can be handled
- Do not use glue, tape, rubber cement, or self-stick adhesive albums
- Keep photos and papers out of light to slow deterioration
- Store and display treasures away from heating and air conditioning vents
- Do not store artifacts in sheds, garages, attics, or basements where temperature changes and humidity will damage them
- Keep up with technology changes to ensure access to items stored digitally
- Donate items for display at local museums, Legion Halls, historical

“Families do benefit, and so do veterans, knowing that their story will remain long after they are gone.” – Bob Patrick, director of the Veterans History Project, U.S. Library of Congress

Helping Those Who Helped Them

Post 99 Supports Area Business and Frontline Workers

BY JANA BOUNDS REPORTER@LONEPEAKLOOKOUT.COM | LONE PEAK LOOKOUT NEWS SUBMITTED BY JACK HUDSPETH

American Legion Post 99 and the Sons of the American Legion have undertaken a tremendous effort to help area businesses and show appreciation to frontline workers.

Jack “Captain Jack” Hudspeth said with his legendary dry humor: “I had a brain wave.” He woke up one morning with the idea and passed it along to The American Legion Post 99 Commander and Sons of the American Legion commander – Big Sky School District teacher Tony Coppola on “1 Apr. at 1730.”

The commanders agreed it could be a valuable project. The Legion phone tree was activated the following day and votes showed overwhelming approval.

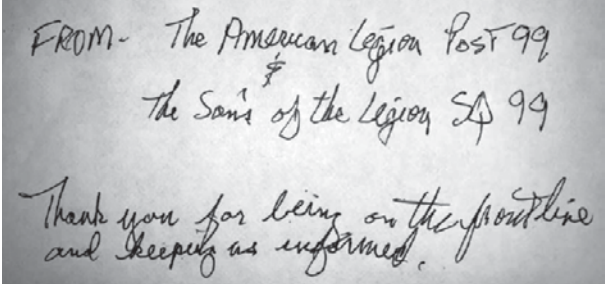
“Our purpose was to help businesses that have supported us in the past. We’ve added to groups we’re giving to based on suggestions from our members,” he said.

Twenty-one businesses made the initial list and the group purchased \$200 worth of gift certificates from each business. More businesses will be helped as they get closer to their opening days.

“Right now we have given on average 10 certificates to 14 separate groups that include frontline workers,” he said. The Legion has shown their appreciation to employees of the hospital, fire department, sheriff’s department, the post office, Country Market grocery store, gas stations, banks, newspapers, Big Sky County Water and Sewer, 3 Rivers, Big Sky School District and the Food Bank.

Last week, Hudspeth reported they had another 25 gift certificates to give away. With five more businesses left to support, more gift certificates will be available. While they have received several thank you cards and everyone has been appreciative, Hudspeth said no one has been more so than Tyler Lura of 3 Rivers.

“He was especially appreciative because nobody thinks to say thanks to them,” he said.



Above a handwritten note of appreciation to the Lone Peak Lookout from Jack “Captain Jack” Hudspeth placed on an envelope containing gift certificates.

The address for The American Legion Post 99 Big Sky is P.O. Box 160144, Big Sky, MT 59716

2020 Department Convention Raffles and Drawings

Department Raffle:

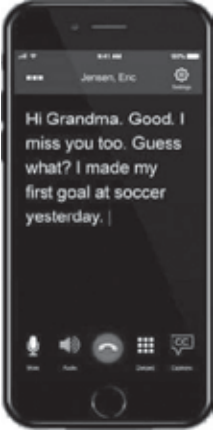
- First Place –Tom Thompson, Missoula; sold by Post 68 Missoula.
- Second Place - Rusty Hagadone, Forsyth; sold by Post 39 Forsyth.
- Third Place – Justin Furhmann, Glasgow; sold by Post 41 Glasgow.

Membership Drawing:

- \$50 to Pat Collins, Helena Post 2, name drawn by Denny Lenoir, Post 2 Helena
- \$50 to Gayle Doney, Lewistown Post 16, name drawn by Denny Lenoir, Post 2 Helena.
- \$50 to, John Pellegrini Post 21 Anaconda, name drawn by Erin Carpenter, Auxiliary Unit 2, Helena.

2020 Big K Grand Prize \$1,800 to Jim Bossen, Park City Post 100 drawn by Denny Lenoir, Post 2 Helena.

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DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA

MEMBERSHIP GOAL ROSTER

2021



	Year end Goal 2021	Year To Date Total	Year End 2020	percent of Goal
DISTRICT #1				
22 WOLF POINT.....	33.....	0.....	31.....	0.00%
41 GLASGOW.....	86.....	0.....	91.....	0.00%
45 HINSDALE.....	50.....	0.....	46.....	0.00%
49 HOMESTEAD.....	10.....	0.....	10.....	0.00%
55 POPLAR.....	27.....	2.....	25.....	7.41%
56 SCOBAY.....	50.....	1.....	49.....	2.00%
58 PLENTYWOOD.....	58.....	0.....	57.....	0.00%
61 BROCKTON.....	37.....	0.....	28.....	0.00%
81 CULBERTSON.....	92.....	0.....	94.....	0.00%
85 BAINVILLE.....	24.....	0.....	23.....	0.00%
104 NASHUA.....	10.....	0.....	9.....	0.00%
122 OPHEIM.....	27.....	0.....	27.....	0.00%
140 FORT PECK TRIBES.....	17.....	0.....	0.....	0.00%
229 WESTBY.....	14.....	0.....	14.....	0.00%
TOTAL.....	535.....	3.....	504.....	0.56%

DISTRICT #2				
11 HAVRE.....	122.....	0.....	94.....	0.00%
48 CHINOOK.....	46.....	0.....	48.....	0.00%
50 BIG SANDY.....	25.....	1.....	23.....	4.00%
57 MALTA.....	92.....	0.....	106.....	0.00%
67 ROCKY BOY.....	26.....	0.....	19.....	0.00%
79 SACO.....	11.....	0.....	18.....	0.00%
88 CHESTER.....	37.....	1.....	35.....	2.70%
109 TURNER.....	26.....	0.....	23.....	0.00%
110 FORT BELKNAP.....	11.....	0.....	12.....	0.00%
TOTAL.....	396.....	2.....	378.....	0.51%

DISTRICT #3				
36 VALIER.....	52.....	2.....	52.....	3.85%
37 CONRAD.....	53.....	0.....	52.....	0.00%
40 CUT BANK.....	60.....	0.....	46.....	0.00%
43 SHELBY.....	51.....	1.....	44.....	1.96%
69 GALATA.....	33.....	0.....	25.....	0.00%
73 SWEETGRASS.....	73.....	0.....	68.....	0.00%
127 BROWNING.....	27.....	0.....	25.....	0.00%
CN20 CALGARY.....	45.....	1.....	50.....	2.22%
TOTAL.....	394.....	4.....	362.....	1.02%

DISTRICT #4				
52 THOMPSON FALLS.....	59.....	1.....	62.....	1.69%
72 COLUMBIA FALLS.....	107.....	1.....	115.....	0.93%
74 EUREKA.....	50.....	0.....	56.....	0.00%
86 BIG FORK.....	60.....	0.....	63.....	0.00%
97 LIBBY.....	185.....	1.....	187.....	0.54%
106 ST IGNATIUS.....	50.....	1.....	51.....	2.00%
108 WHITEFISH.....	66.....	1.....	71.....	1.52%
112 POLSON.....	132.....	6.....	136.....	4.55%
113 ARLEE.....	25.....	0.....	27.....	0.00%
126 CHARLO.....	19.....	0.....	21.....	0.00%
129 PARADISE.....	72.....	0.....	86.....	0.00%
137 KALISPELL.....	233.....	2.....	228.....	0.86%
138 RONAN.....	64.....	10.....	71.....	15.63%
TOTAL.....	1122.....	23.....	1174.....	2.05%

DISTRICT #5				
113 ST REGIS.....	61.....	0.....	67.....	0.00%
27 MISSOULA.....	356.....	1.....	335.....	0.28%
47 HAMILTON.....	126.....	3.....	128.....	2.38%
63 CONDON.....	45.....	2.....	50.....	4.44%
68 MISSOULA.....	46.....	2.....	53.....	4.35%
83 CLINTON.....	15.....	0.....	17.....	0.00%
91 CORVALLIS.....	166.....	1.....	203.....	0.60%
94 STEVENSVILLE.....	202.....	2.....	193.....	0.99%
101 MISSOULA.....	36.....	0.....	43.....	0.00%
124 FRENCHTOWN.....	69.....	1.....	69.....	1.45%
125 DRUMMOND.....	52.....	2.....	52.....	3.85%
134 FLORENCE.....	63.....	0.....	60.....	0.00%
135 LOLO.....	157.....	5.....	146.....	3.18%
TOTAL.....	1394.....	19.....	1,416.....	1.36%

DISTRICT #6				
1 BUTTE.....	195.....	2.....	194.....	1.03%
2 HELENA.....	796.....	37.....	818.....	4.65%
9 LINCOLN.....	57.....	0.....	57.....	0.00%
10 DEER LODGE.....	65.....	0.....	65.....	0.00%
20 DILLON.....	175.....	0.....	156.....	0.00%
21 ANACONDA.....	235.....	1.....	231.....	0.43%
24 WHITEHALL.....	85.....	2.....	68.....	2.35%
31 TWIN BRIDGES.....	40.....	0.....	35.....	0.00%
33 PHILIPSBURG.....	0.....	0.....	10.....	0.00%
42 TOWNSEND.....	115.....	0.....	108.....	0.00%
46 BOULDER.....	23.....	0.....	27.....	0.00%
89 SHERIDAN.....	82.....	0.....	88.....	0.00%
115 BUTTE.....	95.....	1.....	88.....	1.05%
TOTAL.....	1963.....	43.....	1945.....	2.19%

AT LARGE				
105 HELENA.....	168.....	0.....	101.....	0.00%

DISTRICT #7				
14 BOZEMAN.....	360.....	4.....	374.....	1.11%
19 BIG TIMBER.....	178.....	2.....	166.....	1.12%
23 LIVINGSTON.....	170.....	0.....	173.....	0.00%
25 WHITE SULPHUR.....	63.....	0.....	68.....	0.00%
30 BELGRADE.....	247.....	15.....	231.....	6.07%
65 ENNIS.....	60.....	1.....	68.....	1.67%
78 W YELLOWSTONE.....	29.....	3.....	27.....	10.34%
87 MANHATTAN.....	165.....	0.....	163.....	0.00%
93 THREE FORKS.....	42.....	0.....	42.....	0.00%
99 BIG SKY.....	55.....	0.....	48.....	0.00%
118 GARDINER.....	35.....	0.....	32.....	0.00%
TOTAL.....	1404.....	25.....	1392.....	1.78%

DISTRICT #8				
3 GREAT FALLS.....	261.....	22.....	223.....	8.43%
6 CHOTEAU.....	104.....	0.....	102.....	0.00%
26 FORT BENTON.....	34.....	0.....	34.....	0.00%
51 AUGUSTA.....	36.....	0.....	39.....	0.00%
64 DUTTON.....	46.....	1.....	52.....	2.17%
80 FAIRFIELD.....	31.....	0.....	28.....	0.00%
102 GERALDINE.....	112.....	1.....	116.....	0.89%
103 POWER.....	28.....	0.....	30.....	0.00%
130 VAUGHN.....	40.....	0.....	43.....	0.00%
133 CASCADE.....	32.....	0.....	36.....	0.00%
341 MALMSTROM.....	162.....	1.....	137.....	0.62%
TOTAL.....	886.....	25.....	840.....	2.82%

DISTRICT #9				
115 HARLOWTON.....	104.....	0.....	100.....	0.00%
16 LEWISTOWN.....	409.....	0.....	398.....	0.00%
18 ROUNDUP.....	67.....	1.....	60.....	1.49%
53 STANFORD.....	26.....	0.....	22.....	0.00%
62 DENTON.....	26.....	0.....	27.....	0.00%
70 JUDITH GAP.....	69.....	0.....	69.....	0.00%
76 HOBSON.....	37.....	0.....	36.....	0.00%
96 ROY.....	22.....	0.....	22.....	0.00%
120 WINIFRED.....	31.....	0.....	31.....	0.00%
TOTAL.....	791.....	1.....	765.....	0.13%

DISTRICT #10				
5 MILES CITY.....	79.....	1.....	75.....	1.27%
12 SIDNEY.....	40.....	0.....	35.....	0.00%
28 GLENDIVE.....	107.....	1.....	95.....	0.93%
29 CIRCLE.....	18.....	2.....	13.....	11.11%
32 TERRY.....	101.....	0.....	97.....	0.00%
35 BAKER.....	117.....	0.....	102.....	0.00%
39 FORSYTH.....	95.....	0.....	85.....	0.00%
44 COLSTRIP.....	30.....	0.....	38.....	0.00%
60 EKALAKA.....	15.....	0.....	17.....	0.00%
114 FAIRVIEW.....	37.....	0.....	35.....	0.00%
128 BROADUS.....	0.....	0.....	17.....	0.00%
TOTAL.....	639.....	4.....	609.....	0.63%

DISTRICT #11				
4 BILLINGS	473	9	406	1.90%
8 HARDIN 47	0	49	0.00%	
17 RED LODGE	57	0	59	0.00%
34 COLUMBUS	62	0	60	0.00%
71 FROMBERG	21	1	22	4.76%
84 BELFRY	39	0	34	0.00%
92 HYSHAM	26	0	18	0.00%
100 PARK CITY	59	3	60	5.08%
117 BILLINGS	236	0	161	0.00%
119 BILLINGS HGTS	174	7	177	4.02%
123 LAUREL	114	2	124	1.75%
TOTAL	1308	22	1170	1.68%

★ Post or District has reached or surpassed its incentive Goal

2021 INCENTIVE GOAL.....	11,000
2021 MEMBERSHIP TO DATE.....	171
2020 TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.....	10,656
TOTAL PERCENTAGE.....	1.55%

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TEN LARGEST POSTS

POST.....2.....	HELENA.....	68 MEMBERS
POST.....4.....	BILLINGS.....	55 MEMBERS
POST.....3.....	GREAT FALLS.....	31 MEMBERS
POST ..112.....	POLSON.....	18 MEMBERS
POST.....30.....	BELGRADE.....	15 MEMBERS
POST...135.....	LOLO.....	15 MEMBERS
POST.....47.....	HAMILTON.....	12 MEMBERS
POST...123.....	LAUREL.....	10 MEMBERS
POST...138.....	RONAN.....	10 MEMBERS
POST.....65.....	ENNIS.....	8 MEMBERS

DISTRICT STANDINGS

DISTRICT.....	PERCENTAGE.....	COMMANDER.....
11.....	6.04%.....	Larry Tipton
8.....	3.84%.....	Larry Otis
6.....	3.82%.....	Pat Sweeney
4.....	3.48%.....	Dorothy Goodwin
5.....	2.94%.....	Greg Marose
7.....	2.35%.....	Bill Cummins
2.....	2.27%.....	Vincent Schmoেকে
3.....	1.02%.....	Dusty Bailey
10.....	0.63%.....	David Ofalt
1.....	0.56%.....	Joe Yeoman
9.....	0.13%.....	Bruce Luhrsén

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
July 7, 2021

SQUADRON.....	GOAL 2021.....	TO DATE.....
GLASGOW #41.....	46.....	16
PLENTYWOOD #58.....	18.....	1
CULBERTSON #81.....	21.....	0
HAVRE #11.....	18.....	0
CHINOOK #48.....	23.....	0
MALTA #57.....	18.....	0
SACO #79.....	13.....	0
GALATA #69.....	27.....	0
LIBBY #97.....	18.....	0
POLSON #112.....	15.....	0
MISSOULA #27.....	18.....	0
HAMILTON #47.....	10.....	0
CONDON #63.....	10.....	0
CORVALLIS #91.....	15.....	0
STEVENSVILLE #94.....	48.....	0
LOLO #135.....	32.....	0
BUTTE #1.....	28.....	0
HELENA #2.....	129.....	0
ANACONDA #21.....	20.....	0
TOWNSEND #42.....	22.....	0
BUTTE #115.....	10.....	0
BOZEMAN #14.....	81.....	0
BIG TIMBER #19.....	15.....	0
LIVINGSTON #23.....	46.....	1
BELGRADE #30.....	46.....	0
MANHATTAN #87.....	35.....	0
BIG SKY #99.....	23.....	0
GREAT FALLS #3.....	23.....	0
CHOTEAU #6.....	27.....	0
GERALDINE #102.....	59.....	0
VAUGHN #130.....	23.....	0
HARLOWTON #15.....	27.....	0
LEWISTOWN #16.....	149.....	0
MILES CITY #5.....	14.....	0
BAKER #35.....	30.....	0
FORSYTH #39.....	52.....	0
BILLINGS #4.....	14.....	0
BILLINGS #117.....	12.....	0
LAUREL #123.....	13.....	0
HQS POST #9999.....	0.....	0
TOTALS.....	1248.....	18
★ SQUADRON GOAL MET		





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YOUR TEAM:



MARK DELORME
Branch Manager
NMLS# 96766



KRIS HILL
Sr. Mortgage Consultant
NMLS# 262695



MARK DELORME, JR
Mortgage Consultant
NMLS# 1027436



KYLE LEDUC
Mortgage Consultant
NMLS# 1575253

Women Veterans

BY KIM KAY MCCARTY MARTIN, WOMEN VETERANS COORDINATOR

I want to thank the dozen ladies across MT whom sent in their questionnaire. I greatly appreciate your help and participation. With this information I hope to interact more with everyone. If you didn't receive a questionnaire from your District or Post Commanders please contact me and I will send you one. Based on some of the answers from the questionnaires, I contacted the women vets to see how many would be interested in an overnight hike and the response was overwhelmingly positive. I contacted a Marine veteran from Montana Veterans Project (MVP). Tim was happy to assist in being our guide for a hike near Cave Mountain campground



Clara Santopietro, Jan Dobb, Buddy, and Jen Dalrymple.

in the Lewis and Clark Forest. Due to COVID, an overnight hike ended up not possible but five of us women and a 'young man' joined Tim on the 25th of June to participate in the day hike. This was a great opportunity for us and between the camaraderie and the scenery we had a wonderful time. I would like to put together another hike and Tim has agreed to be our guide. I am also looking into a day float on the Yellowstone River for late July or early August. I will respond to each woman vet I receive a questionnaire from to see how you are doing and to answer any questions you may have.

Post 42 - Townsend's Senior Scholarship Award winner

SUBMITTED BY JEN DALRYMPLE

Congratulations to Taylor Noyes, this year's American Legion Post 42 Senior Scholarship Award winner! Taylor will be attending MSU Bozeman seeking a degree in embryonic studies to help ranchers better their herds. Thank you to Nathan Hill and Anna Berg who also applied for the scholarship. It was a tough decision to make with these three outstanding students. To the class of 2020, our Legionnaires wish all of you the best in your future endeavors. Go forth and do good work!



Post 19 Big Timber Honors Veteran

PHOTO CREDIT TO ELIAS BAER | BIG TIMBER PIONEER

On Friday the Big Timber American Legion honored Jim Devinny, former mayor of Big Timber and a former member of the fire department, for his 41 years of service in the US Army and National Guard, presenting him with the official flag of the US Army.



(L-R) Dan Smart, Gary Mosness, Tara Stephens, Nate Fisher, Lola Devinny, Becca Stephens and Jim Devinny.



(L-R) Dan Smart, Jim Devinny, Tom Shriver and Gary Mosness.



RICHARD KLOSE

LAUREL POST 123 AVENUE OF FLAGS AT YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL CEMETERY



RICHARD KLOSE



HELENA POST 2 MEMORIAL DAY FLAG CREW

Hailey and Ashley Carpenter, Lone Scouts with Scouts BSA



PHOTOS FROM POST 2 NEWSLETTER, JUNE 2020



MEAGHER COUNTY POST AND UNIT 25 held their annual Memorial Day Service at Mayn Cemetery on Monday, May 25, 2020. Four American Legion Members spoke on "What Memorial Day Means to Them." The 4x6 ft. flags were flown around the perimeter and up the entry road, a total of 333 in all. The Auxiliary placed small flags on all the Veteran's graves.



Despite COVID, Legionnaires and Montanans Find Ways to Render Honors on Memorial Day

POST 21 members placing of the flags for Memorial Day at the Anaconda's New Hill Cemetery. Pictured are Pat Tracy, Commander Post 21; Bill Matthew, World War II Veteran, and member Phil Watt. Over 600 flags were placed at all the cemeteries in Anaconda by The American Legion Post 21 and Auxiliary Unit 21, DAV, and volunteers of veterans. Photo by Maureen Watt, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 21.



ANACONDA POST 21 Honor Guard presented a short private ceremony for Memorial Day at the Kennedy Common in Anaconda.



BOZEMAN POST 14 Hosts Memorial Day Ceremony and Honor Walk and Ride

LEN ALBRIGHT, COMMANDER

Our Memorial Day events started at 9 am with a fly over by pilot Troy Downing in his jet trainer. Six Veterans in Color Guard formation- Dan Ritter, Paul Robitaille, Joe Hoffman, Gabriel Martin, Sarah Stafford and Steve Holland, each dressed in their uniforms, walked a Silent March down the north sidewalk on Main St in downtown Bozeman. The small squad stopped at Post 14 where they posted Colors and then dispersed. Ten Montana Military Vehicle Club autos led by Hank Adams, Commander Post 30, paralleled the squad along with several Veterans and walkers on the south side of Main St. Grateful adults, children and dogs lined both sides of Main St. waving, cheering and displaying flags.

Honors continued at 11am when Post 14 hosted their annual Memorial Day Services with Commander Post 14 Len Albright as emcee and Chaplain Major Brian Daum presenting the invocation. Ali Hinckley sang the National Anthem followed by a Roll Call of 2 fallen Veterans from each war that are buried in the Cemetery. At 11:15 am, led by pilot Everett Wierda, seven local planes flew over in two groups to honor our fallen comrades. A special speaker, SAL Squadron 14 member, Senator Steve Daines spoke on his perspective as a Veteran's son, about this day. Combat Veteran Troy Downing then spoke of his view of what Memorial Day means to him. As the 350+ crowd along with Gold Star family members spoke the names of their fallen heroes, Post 14, MCL and VVA Honor Guard prepared to finish the services with the traditional three-round volley and Taps played by Post 14 member Melissa Smith. The day is done.



HOBSON POST 76 performed services for four Montana cemeteries on Memorial Day, May 25, 2020: Moccasin, Moore, Philbrook, and Utica. Pictured, left to right are: Lear Flanagan, Andy Heap, Bing Von Bergen, Kyle Carr, Irene Welch, Bob Waite, Cdr. Clay Hillham, Don Derks, and John Skarda.



Department of Montana Celebrating Memorial Day 2020



Wreath hung at the WWI Memorial Ronan Cemetery.

New Flags adorn the gates of the Ronan Cemetery. Members of American Legion Posts of Charlo and Ronan set out for Memorial Day at the Ronan Cemetery approximately 550 crosses and flags on the graves of our Veteran Comrades.



RICHARD KLOSE

BILLINGS POST 4 member Gil Floyd and the Legion Riders at the Yellowstone National Cemetery on Memorial Day 2020



Riley Cline #12 of the Mavericks at the Eastern Montana State Veterans Cemetery.

The Miles City Mavericks American Legion team, came out May 20th to help Post 5 place flags on Veterans graves at the Eastern Montana State Veterans Cemetery and the Custer County Cemetery.



Charlie Lang #14, Jackson Watts, Julian Link, and Assistant Coach Wacy Arndt of the Mavericks.

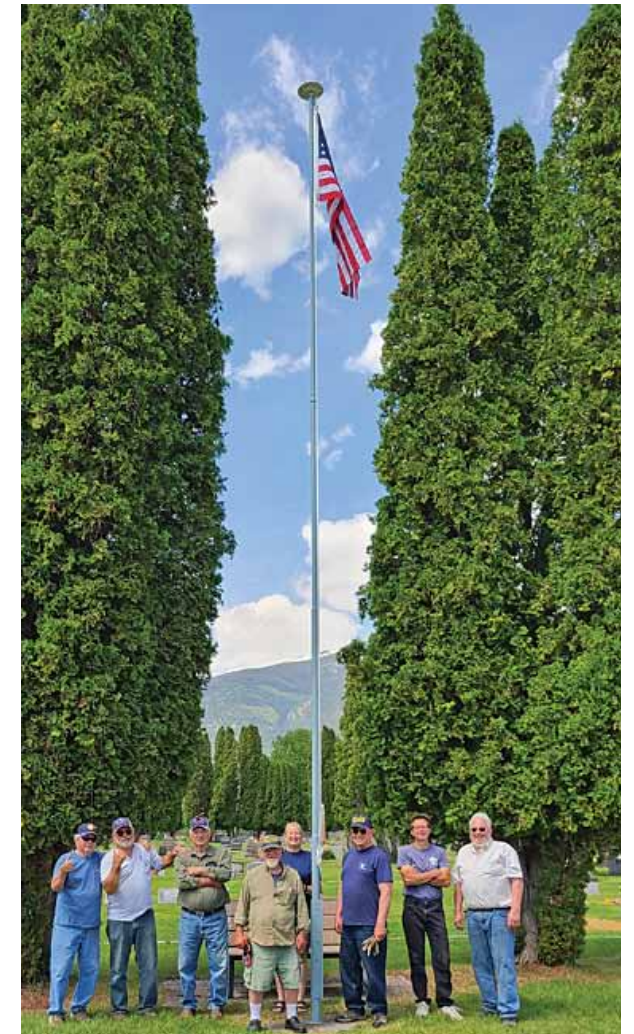
RONAN MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES 2020

The Honor Guard led the procession to the Ronan City park for the ceremony at the Gold Star Monument. Jim Pettit played the bagpipes as we walked down Main Street followed by the VFW Army Jeep the Honor Guard Bus, The American Legion Department Commander and everyone else headed in the same direction to honor our fallen comrades.

TOWNSEND POST 42 thanks Legion Family members and volunteers who came out to Honor the Fallen through the ceremony at Billings Clinic Broadwater, flags in all the cemeteries across the County and comradery at the Post on Memorial Day..



FORT OWEN POST 94 helps Maplewood and Riverside Cemeteries have permanent flags and lights now. Thanks to a donation by retired Montana State Patrolman Mike Rhodes, and the workforce of the Fort Owen (Stevensville) American Legion Post 94.



(Left to right) Ron Peebles, Chuck Burgmeier, Wayne Price, Dorsie Decker, Wendy and Dennis Lenahan, Bob Adams, and Commander Brad Smith.



President

SUE DAVIDSON

A new start to our Auxiliary year. To all our new members, welcome to the best organization ever and to the American Legion Family. To our ever-loyal members, thank you for helping us keep this fantastic family going ever strong. Since we could not hold our State Convention and elect a new President and officers, I thank all of you for agreeing to keep your offices and Chairmanships for this new year.



President Sue Davidson,
Billings

Needless to say, this has been a very different last half of our year. It has stretched our technical learning capabilities by having to figure out how to do conference calls instead of our meetings. Discovering new ways to do things is always good, but the reason we are having to do them is not. We as an organization need to make sure we are personally safe and to keep our families safe. If we choose to have meetings, we need to make sure we keep with the new safety guidelines. Wearing masks, keeping stretched out so everyone has their safe space and keep everything disinfected. Many of us are in the time of our lives that make us at risk, and then our own immune systems that are compromised make it even more necessary to keep safe.

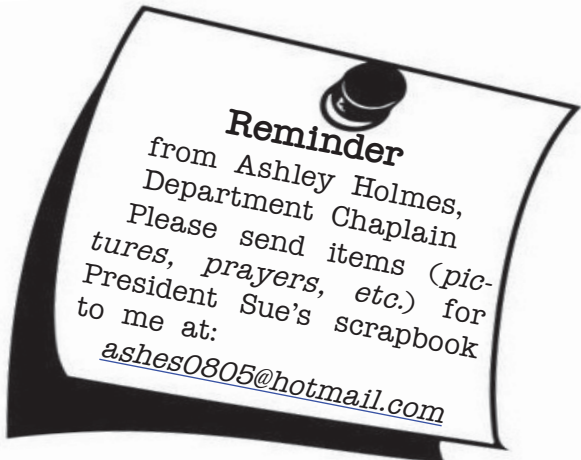
We have our new schedule out for our proposed District meetings coming up. Everyone still needs to plan on having the meetings and still be in the safety requirements, but ready to also host the virtual meeting also. We will not know until shortly before the scheduled dates which it will be. I so miss seeing all of you and miss all the hugs! Even if we have our meetings in person, we will not be able to get our hugs, which makes me so sad.

We are planning our Fall Conference differently this year. The Legion has graciously agreed to pay for our room a day early so our Conference will start

Friday afternoon at 1pm and go until 5pm. This will give us time to go through the new programs and items for our Programs Action Plan 2020-2021, which will need to include changes on how we do our programs with not being able to conduct them as we have done. We will learn new ways to do our membership drives, fundraisers and any other items that we still need to do. We will also get together for a fun time Friday night. Saturday will be for all the new changes to our Constitution and By-laws. This new virus has made us really think outside the box on the way we hold meetings from the National level down to the Unit level. We also have to set our laws to meet our State laws of Montana. Jennifer Herman will be working with us on what changes need to be included or just changed. Make sure you have your District Constitutions and By-laws gone over before you get there so you know what needs to be done. We did not get to vote on last year's changes because we did not hold a State Convention, and now we will be changing even more. Come ready to work. Just make sure if you, our District Presidents, are not able to come to the Conference you have someone there for the District. Last year we had two Districts absent with no representative there. That puts your District and Units at a disadvantage. If we have to have a conference call to hold the meeting, the same applies – make sure you have a representative. There will be more information on our Conference to come including fun times. We will keep you posted.

Blessings to each one of you and your families. I pray for you and our American Legion Family every day and hope we can have a wonderful year to come.

*Taking care of the business
of our Veterans and our members. ⚡*



1st Vice President

CHRISTINE NELSON

In the past several months I have spent a lot more time than I used to on the laptop, for personal communication (such as restaurant takeout!) and entertainment. I am also able to use the organization's ALAMIS system to assist members and track membership activity. When you have a few minutes, regularly check out the ALA website alaforveterans.org. Here is a sample of the articles available to give you ideas on how to share our organization with new and prospective members:

"I am proud to be an ALA member. Through its programs, the Auxiliary gives me the opportunity to educate myself about how to help veterans, the troops, their families, and my community."

Another great resource is ALA E-News. I just signed up to receive monthly editions in my email. It is easy to get to by clicking on **Media** on the subject bar at the top of the **Home** page. Or, select **Programs** and read other short descriptions. Our enthusiasm for programs spills over into our everyday lives and sends a positive message that belonging to The American Legion Auxiliary is worthwhile. ⚡

Secretary

JAIMIE DeBATES

What an interesting time this is for all of us and it seems to change frequently, so flexibility is our new norm rather than all the negative terminology. I think it sounds much better, don't you?

We did not reach our membership goal as a Department, however, join me as we offer our congratulations to The American



Jamie DeBates

Legion of Montana. They were able to reach that wonderful milestone. I smell a challenge...Your new goals are set to be released through NHQ in August. As of this writing I am preparing envelopes for each Unit. I will mail the membership cards, your Unit roster, the Fall District Meeting schedule, the bond payment form and the poppy order form. Everything else will be delivered when I visit your Districts this fall. This is an effort to keep the postage expense to a minimum. Your cooperation in getting your Unit represented at the District Meeting is more critical than ever.

Please remember that any new members you sent in after the first week in April will not appear on the roster. You have already been provided with their member ID numbers and should have blank membership cards that can be used to provide them with accurate information. If not contact me and we will take care of it. You can hardly require membership cards be present at your meetings if you are not getting them into their hands. Let's polish this piece a little in the coming year.

For now, we are still on track for Fall Conference October 24 in Helena. More information will be coming as it develops. Remember our new norm? Flexibility!

Because of our inability to meet as a convention body and vote on the necessary changes to our governing documents, I am going to remain as Secretary-Treasurer for the coming year. Our DEC lacks the authority to make those changes. Therefore, my duties cannot be divided or restructured until our next convention. The Department as you know it will remain the same for the coming year. If there are any changes in office or chairmanships, you will be notified in the fall. ⚡



American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Montana Fundraiser



"Dimes and Time"



Our goal is to raise enough dimes to stretch 100 miles for our programs to help veterans, and for each Auxiliary Unit to spend 100 hours in personal time to better the lives of our veterans and their families.

This is to take place November 2019—May 2020 in honor of our
American Legion Auxiliary 100th Birthday celebration.

Thank you for your donation!

2nd Vice President

YVONNE KOSTELECKY

Hope everyone is surviving well during the COVID-19. Because of COVID-19 National has advised us all that everyone will remain in the same offices, so I am continuing as 2nd Vice President for The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Montana.

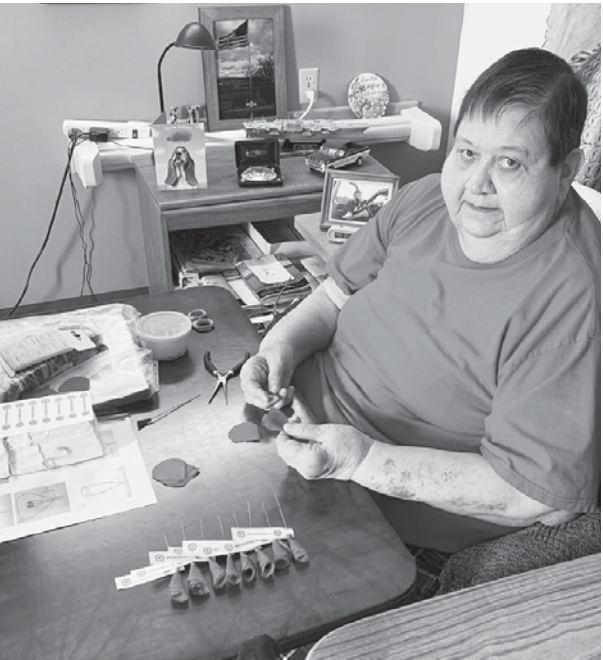
Our Community Service will be a continuous from last year so I will need everyone to keep up the amazing work you have done. I do have letters to be handed out at Fall Conference for those who sent in the paperwork to me and special awards to those who I felt did above and beyond. No awards from National this year because of COVID-19, so I will be combining what you all did this last year and what you will do in 2020-2021 and give out that Award/Awards during hopefully State Convention in 2021.

Remember to continue to do what you can for your veterans, your local community and, keep track of your hours and money spent to add it to your Impact Numbers Report. I am hoping that all of the Units will do an Impact Numbers Report this next year. I know that all of you are doing something be it volunteering somewhere or donating money. Otherwise you are showing you are not even meeting or being involved with your Legion and Community. I am sure every Unit's Legion has Veteran's Day and Memorial Day activity that I hope you are involved with. If you are not able to have anything, please get in contact with one of our Department Officers maybe we can help you to get your Unit more involved. Remember we are here to help our Veterans and our Posts.

Please stay safe and hope to see you all at Fall Conference.

God Bless You and God Bless Our Country

WSS Unit 25 40-Year member dedication to Poppy Project



SUBMITTED BY JOANNE CUMMINS MEAGHER, MEMBER UNIT 25 WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

A 40-year member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 25 in White Sulphur Springs, Montana was reading the National magazine this spring and saw an article about people making poppies. Two years ago, Sandy Gratz told us she did not want to continue her membership because she felt she could not benefit the Unit now that she is living at the Mountainview Medical Center Nursing Home. Because the Unit did not want to let her give up her membership, they continued it for her. When she read the Poppy Article, she phoned the Unit Secretary/Treasurer and asked where she could get a kit to make them. The Unit purchased a kit for her, as it would give her a past time, let her be productive and help the Unit. Sandy Gratz is shown in the above photo with her poppies. She has completed over 700 so far. Sandy's Unit is very proud of her for her dedication to this project.

Editors note - This article was submitted to ALA Magazine as well.

1st Vice President Nelson addresses Legionnaires in Helena

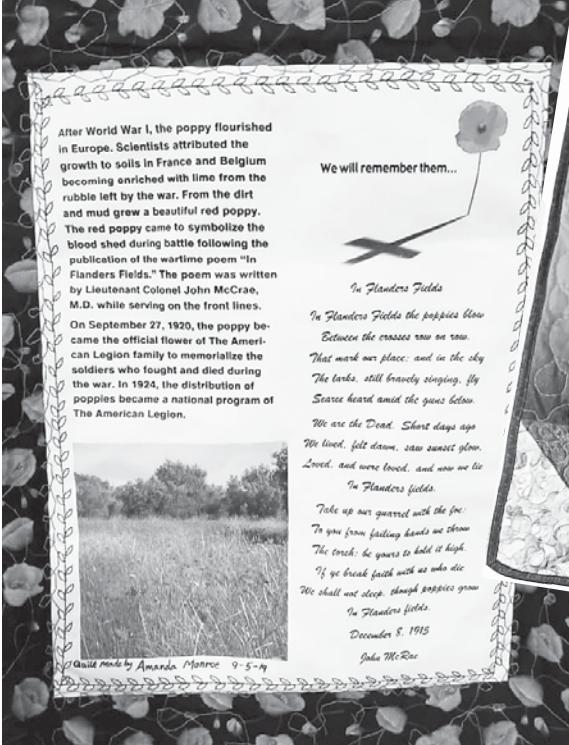
SUBMITTED BY CHRIS NELSON, MEMBER UNIT 112 POLSON



Department of Montana 1st Vice President and Membership Chairman Chris Nelson, is addressing Legionnaires on June 27, 2020, encouraging them to have their spouses and relatives join Auxiliary.

SUBMITTED BY SUE DAVIDSON, DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

This beautifully crafted Poppy wall hanging of variegating reds with blue and green corners and is backed with red poppies on black fabric to accent the story and the poem *In Flanders Fields*. This stunning quilted work was made by Amanda Monroe and was auctioned at the Fall District 3 & 8 meeting in Sweet Grass.



District 3 & 8 Fundraiser Poppy Quilted Wall Hanging



Meagher Unit 25 Tend to Veterans Graves

SUBMITTED BY JOANNE CUMMINS, MEMBER UNIT 25 WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS



Meagher Unit 25 puts flags on all the Veterans graves. Two of our newest Junior Members Hadassah and Madalyn Nolan assisted with placing flags as well putting a flag on the grave of Medal of Honor Recipient William Leonard.

Congratulations
Grace Smith
2019-2020 Children of
Warriors National Presidents'
Scholarship recipient.
Grace was submitted by
Corvallis Unit 91.

Deceased Members

APRIL 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2020

Unit	Unit City	Name
Unit 23	Livingston	Cheryl Pompper
Unit 35	Baker	Gwendolyn Setinc; Joan Beach
Unit 51	Augusta	Dee Freeman
Unit 73	Sweetgrass -	Lola Kelleher
Unit 76	Hobson	Mair Reedy
Unit 81	Culbertson	Elva May Knudsen
Unit 94	Stevensville	Elsie Manning
Unit 103	Power	Linda Pugh

Commemorative Flag for Past Commander Allen H. Saboe

BY CINDY ROBERT TOVEY



My name is Cindy Roberts Tovey and I am the daughter of Allen H Saboe, the Montana Department Commander of The American Legion from 1961-1962.

I grew up steeped in the American Legion and the values it represents. My father joined in 1946 at the age of 22. He had served in the Navy during WWII and as a reserve was sent to Korea in 1951, the year I was born. Saboe and my mother, Carol Saboe threw themselves into the Legion family and I remember them being gone for functions and conventions as well as local Post 55 (Poplar) activities. As a pilot, dad flew to districts as part of the membership drive. His membership was still active at the time of his death in 1992, though life had taken him in other directions. At the time of Saboe's death, The American Legion presented an American Flag and Bible in a wooden box to our family in his honor.

My older brother Rick served in the Army during Vietnam and I married David Roberts from Billings who did two Navy tours in 'Nam. It is not surprising that one of our sons followed the call. My middle son Brian Roberts has made the Air National Guard his career and has done deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria in addition to being full time at Gowen Field in Boise, ID. When leaving for Syria last year he requested to take his grandpa Al's flag with him. We were proud to comply and watch him fold it into his backpack--and it is huge! He kept it near him the entire tour and it flew over the Tanf Garrison in Syria when not accompanying him on a mission or vehicle. (He also carried small American Flags that were given to his brothers and sisters and nieces and nephews



(blonde without a hat) and his group with the flag when they first arrived in Syria.

upon his return to keep them aware of America's actions throughout the world).

For Mother's Day this year Brian and his wife returned my dad's flag in a display case along with a certificate signed by the base commander noting it had flown in the vicinity of At Tanf, Syria during combat operations in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. Both his grandpa Al and his dad have died, but my current husband Dwight Tovey (a Coast Guard veteran) and I were very honored.

I wanted to share this where it will be appreciated. I hope it makes someone smile and know that seeds of honor are always being planted. I have included a few pictures of the display at our home. There is also a picture of my son Brian

Bozeman Post 14 receives unexpected gifts



On June 11, 2020, Post 14 had two special guests that together donated \$1,000 to our Post to be used towards programs that assist Veterans, their families, youth and our community. Randy Kemp (l) received the gifts from Anna Deal (owner of Lockhorn Cider House \$808), and Mary Pham (VP) and Carol Gruetter (Pres. Gallatin County Republican Women (GCRW) \$102). Len Albright (r). Other GCRW members in attendance were Stacey Jacobs and Hill Mescal.

POST MEMBER RICK GALE AND POST HISTORIAN DALLAS THOMPSON WERE BEHIND THE CAMERAS.

Laurel Post 123



Laurel American Legion doing color guard at the Laurel Dodgers first game on June 2, 2020. From left: Post Commander Ray Southworth, Edward Holmes, Norman Popiel, and Terry Fox.

Department Sponsored Insurance Programs

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust has been Your Department's sponsored member benefits program for over 50 years and continues to fulfill members' needs while being the only such program to benefit Your Department every year.

From Your American Legion Department of Montana

For more information on the products and services provided by The Legionnaire Insurance Trust, Call: 1-800-235-6943 Or visit us on the web at: www.theLIT.com

2020 National Box Car Fundraiser

Grande Du Montana has been limited to 100 2020 National Box Car Pins. To qualify to apply for the annual maintenance fund our Grande must raise a minimum of \$150 in pin sales and other donations. This year's fundraiser includes the Box Car pin and the National Crew Card, both of which can be purchased for \$5 each from any Voiture (Post), Grand Officer or by contacting Ray Read at 406-458-9847, myfun51@msn.com.

A 2020 Crew Card makes you eligible for cash drawings of \$100, \$75 and \$50 respectively. Odds are good with only 100 cards available! Of the funds generated, \$100 will be returned to National to pay for the cards, \$225 will pay the prizes and the remainder will be placed in support of the maintenance and upgrade of the Montana MERCI CAR located at the Montana Military Museum on Fort Harrison, Helena. Montana's Car will celebrate its 71th Anniversary in 2020.

The drawing will be held 30 Oct 2020 During the 40&8 Cheminot/Promenade at Fall Conference. Need not be present to win!

Nurses Training and Child Welfare

The Grand du Montana is also selling these pins for \$5 each to support the 40&8 Nurses Training Program and Child Welfare Program. As of July 30, 2019, our National Nurses Training Program begun in 1955 has expended over \$33.4 million assisting 4,900 nurses in obtaining their nursing degrees. If you have a desire to, or know someone who is pursuing a nursing degree, contact a 40&8 member for scholarship opportunities.

The Voyageurs Militaire (Military Travelers) founded a Child Welfare Program in 1923 to ease the pain and suffering of those children whose fathers never returned or who were unable to care for their needs after the "Big War." Today, this program has grown to include all children with emergent needs and our efforts amount to over \$8 million annually.

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VICE COMMANDER	Glen Sharbono 122 Buchanan St Sw Ronan 59864 gasharbono@gmail.com	210-2607 (C) 676-5533 (H)	
ZONE COMMANDER South Central	Demorise Allen 1782 Garneill Rd Garneill 59453 ozfarms@hotmail.com	374-2398 (H)	
ZONE COMMANDER Western	Elmer Palmer 346 Cumberland Lolo 59847 elmerwpalmer@gmail.com	273-0077 (H) 239-3604 (C)	
ZONE COMMANDER North Central	Lowell Long PO Box 1144 Chinook 59523 crazymarinevet@outlook.com	357-2387 (H) 945-4209 (C)	
ZONE COMMANDER Eastern	Clancee Collins 701 Woodbury St Miles City 59301 clancee@midrivers.com	234-8941 (H) 360-4254 (C)	
N.E.C	David Driver 3247 5th Ave. S Great Falls 59405 davidandshirley@hotmail.com	761-0994 (H) 564-9705 (C)	
ALT. N.E.C.	Peter “Hal” Rice PO Box 354 Geraldine 59446 hordesertstormvet@gmail.com	737-4368 (H) 899-4368	
PAST COMMANDER	Richard Klose 511 Cottonwood Ave Laurel 59044 kloserichard@yahoo.com	671-1814 (C) 628-7806 (H)	
HISTORIAN	Ray Read 470 Ronda Rd. Helena 59602 myfun51@msn.com	458-9847 (H) 235-0290 (C)	
ADJUTANT (physical)	Gary White Helena 59604 PO Box 6075 Helena Armed Forces Reserve Center - Fort Harrison Toll Free (866) 793-1257 amlegmt29@mtlegion.org	324-3989 (O) 226-7462 (F) (O)	
Adjutants Assistant	Erin Carpenter amlegmtsec@gmail.com	324-3990 (O)	
CHAPLAIN	Chaya Karen Semple 34 Mergenthaler Rd Montana City 59634 chaplainsemp@gmail.com	443-3376 (H) 465-0163 (C)	
SERVICE OFFICER	Kate Hahn 1911 Tower St Missoula 59804 khahn@mt.gov	542-2501 (O) 543-2360 (F)	
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Ken Simon 202 Grant St Plentywood 59254 2scotty568@gmail.com	765-2083 (C)	
FINANCE OFFICER	John Joyce 324 Best Place Rd Helena 59602 john.joyce1226@gmail.com	459-3813 (H)	
JUDGE ADVOCATE	Joe Leavengood PO Box 35 Winifred 59489 leavengood@gmx.com	462-5432 (H) 366-2611 (C)	
SERGEANT AT ARMS	Jared Flammond 225 5th Ave SE Cut Bank 59427 paintballer59427@hotmail.com	845-4849 (C)	
EDUCATION & TRAINING CHAIR 2021	Jeff Holmes PO Box 723 Harlowton 59036 broncojeff7@hotmail.com	350-1347 (C)	

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DISTRICT 2	Vincent Schmoeckel PO Box 957 schfarm@mtintouch.net	Malta 59538 oscar1@mtintouch.net	654-2777 (H)
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DISTRICT 7	Bill Cummins PO Box 610 willjocummins@gmail.com	White Sulphur Springs 59645	861-7796 (C)
DISTRICT 8	Larry Otis 2953 5B ST NE mtotis@gtfalls.com	Great Falls 59404	564-0356 (C)
DISTRICT 9	Bruce Luhrsen 624 W Erie St lodenchute@hotmail.com	Lewistown 59457	350-0923 (C)
DISTRICT 10	David Ofalt PO Box 1229 forsythwelding@gmail.com	Forsyth 59327	351-1578 (H)
DISTRICT 11	Larry Tipton PO Box 1368 tpeddler@hotmail.com	Columbus 59019	698-1079 (C)

Manhattan Post 87 Gov’t Survey Winner for 8th Grade

Charlie Jones of Manhattan won 1st place in 8th grade Government Survey.



(l-r) Post Commander George Devries, Charles Jones of Manhattan Junior. High, and Tom Shellcross, Youth Chairman.

JON TESTER

Tester Secures Vote To Provide Benefits To Vets Exposed To Agent Orange

U.S. Senator Jon Tester successfully secured his landmark Fair Care for Vietnam Veterans Act in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)—a must-pass annual defense bill that the Senate will vote on later this month. Tester’s bill requires the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide benefits for veterans suffering from diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange during the Vietnam War.

Currently, thousands of Vietnam veterans living with chronic health

conditions developed as a result of their service are being denied critical benefits and health care from VA. Tester’s amendment would provide a presumption of service-connection—based on scientific review by the National Academy of Medicine (NAM)—for Bladder Cancer, Hypothyroidism, and Parkinsonism. Under a presumption of service-connection, veterans suffering from these three conditions would be eligible for essential benefits and care under VA.



A good soldier never quits.



Endorsed by Your Department of the American Legion

You’ve done a good job. You’ve served America during the times when freedom and liberty were threatened. You’ve served when the bulwarks of defense needed to be fortified to preserve peace. You were there. But America needs you still. Your American Legion Department supports worthwhile national and local community causes. It looks after your interests by championing your case in Congress. It supports your efforts to get involved in the running of America. It offers affordable insurance to over 1,700,000 Legionnaires nationwide. You’re entitled to the best for what you’ve done for your country. Renew your Legion membership promptly when you receive your dues notice, and you can activate your No-Cost-To-You Accidental



Death Insurance Offer when it’s mailed to you in August. Remember to pay your dues early. That way you can activate your No-Cost insurance at www.TheLIT.com. The Legionnaire Insurance Trust continues to serve your country by uniting us together

for the benefit of one and all. We’re inspired by the community of veterans still serving in America. For over 50 years, the Legionnaire Insurance Trust has been delivering peace of mind and financial support for veterans, their families, and the Departments of The American Legion. We craft benefit programs that help veterans protect what they value most.



LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST PROGRAM

USS Montana Cookbook Project

SUBMITTED BY JOY MARISKA, BILLINGS MT

The USS Montana is scheduled to be commissioned in early 2021. A cookbook is being developed, a copy of which will be provided to each of the crew members. Extra copies will be printed and available for sale for the anticipated cost of \$25, all of which will also go to support the crew of the USS Montana. Private funds will pay the cost of printing the cookbook.



Because this book is for the USS Montana, the idea is to include special recipes that certain communities are known for, such as Cornish Pasties from Butte or the famous Monte Cristo from the Northern Hotel in Billings. Also to be included is information about our unusual and historic sites, important military people and historical events, and other information that is significant to communities around our great state; for example, the

Great Montana Sheep Drive in Reed Point, possibly associated with a fantastic lamb recipe. Fort Benton has a number of local people who have risen to the level of General and Admiral. Short summaries of their service could be included and hopefully include recipes from their individual families or the area. Information and recipes from significant historical families or public servants, such as our Congressional delegation, would also be welcome. The intent is to have a paragraph or two about the place/person/event with each of these informational bits accompanied by a relevant recipe from the area. The plan is to offer the "flavor" of our state to anyone who opens the cookbook.

The key to the success of this book is for people from individual communities to send in their relevant information and recipe. The hope is to have information that represents all parts of our state. What makes a particular community unique? Is there something special the community is known for? Why should someone come to visit? There is no expense to anyone other than postage and minor printing costs for those who send items through the mail. There is no advertising. Again, the plan is to develop a cookbook that represents as many of our local communities as possible. Editing of the information might be necessary to aid in formatting as well as for brevity and content as there will be a limit to the number of pages to be contained in the book.

Articles and recipes would be attributed to whomever provided them.

Send information, inquiries, or orders for the cookbook to: Joy Mariska, P.O. Box 3513, Billings, MT 59103 or jamariska2@gmail.com



Historian

70th Anniversary of the Invasion by North Korea of the Republic of South Korea signaling the Beginning of the Korean War

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Montana, a Proud Partner with the U.S.A. Commemoration Committee of the Korean War, is recognizing the 70th Anniversary of the invasion of the Republic of South Korea by the North Korean Peoples Army (NPKA) forces on June 25, 1950.

North Korea invaded South Korea across the international treaty boundary established in 1945 with 135,000 troops, spearheaded by a Soviet style tank brigade, initiating war. The United Nations' Security Council immediately demanded cessation of hostilities and withdrawal of the North Korean forces to the 38th Parallel.

On June 27, the UN Security Council asked its members to help carry out the demand and President Truman ordered General of the Army, Douglas MacArthur to aid South Korea. He ordered the 7th U.S. Fleet to protect Formosa (Republic of Taiwan) against possible aggression and keep the Chinese National forces from attacking the mainland. Requested by the U.N. to name a commander of U.N. forces, President Truman so designated General MacArthur on July 8, 1950.

North Korean Forces took Seoul, the South Korean Capital, on June 29. U.S. Forces entered the conflict on June 30, termed a "police action" by President Truman. At the time, U.S. Intervention consisted of Detachment X (35 men of the 507th Anti-Aircraft Weapons Battalion (Bn)) that shot down a North Korean YAK aircraft. The Unit sustained eight Wounded In Action (WIA), the first U. S. Casualties of the Korean War. From June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953 thousands of Montanans were in a war again.

The United States was greatly unprepared for even a limited war that was thrust upon our nation. The USA was destined to furnish the bulk of men, women, and war material at a time when our military services were short of personnel and supplies. Among American military units the biggest problems were those of insufficient personnel numbers, inadequate training, and equipment shortages. Even to fight an undeveloped nation in Asia, America had to

Townsend Post 42 Flag Retirement

SUBMITTED BY JEN DALRYMPLE

THE UNITED STATES FLAG CODE (4 USC SEC 8 PARA (K) AMENDED 7 JULY 1976) states: "*The Flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.*" "*It should be done in a respectable way.*"

American Legion Post 42 Townsend MT respectably disposed of community Flags that have been collected throughout the year on Monday, June 15, 2020. Besides the extensive number of US Flags, there were five POW Flags, two MT State Flags and two Knights of Columbus Flags. There is a receptacle at the Post on Broadway Street in Townsend year-round for damaged Flags. Photos courtesy of our stellar Unit 42 photographer Judy Lund.



fall back upon her citizens. And in this, above all else, lies the resulting trauma of the Korean War.

By July of 1950, President Truman was forced to authorize the calling up of our Nation's military reserve forces. The folly of our sudden reduction of our armed forces after World War II was realized. The result was that the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, the newly created Air Force along with the Coast Guard saw that all their available forces would be involved in this conflict. There would be nothing left for fresh emergencies. The result was that thousands upon thousands of military reservists were mobilized to put on uniforms to fill the ranks of our military organizations.

President Truman called into service four Army National Guard divisions, hundreds of lesser units, and thousands of individual volunteer reservists at the Pentagon's request. The result; over four thousand Montana reservists were called into Federal service and were soon in combat thousand miles from home. To lessen the adverse impact at the time, this Cold War conflict was termed a "Police Action."

The Korean War was the first military conflict in which Montana had no large identified military unit in action, but Montana individuals fought gloriously on the battlefields, on the sea, and in the air in that difficult war.

Montana had 19,915 men and women in service during the Korean War period 1950-1953 with over five thousand in the Korean combat zone. A total of 193 lost their lives in the Korean War conflict with many hundreds being wounded or traumatized as Prisoners of War. Many more have served in Korea from 1953 today as peacekeepers and forces to deter further aggression by North Korea.

Today there are 27 Montanans listed as Prisoners of War and /or Missing In Action (POW-MIA) from this 'Police Action' on the 70th Anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

Watch for more stories on our U.S. and Montana veterans in the next months. Information is from MONTANA IN THE WARS compiled by Chester K. Shore for the American Legion of Montana as a program of the USA Bicentennial. 1971-72.

Townsend Post 42 Flags on Main

SUBMITTED BY JEN DALRYMPLE, POST 42 COMMANDER

Post 42 Legion Family members and a few others, all respecting COVID-19 distance restrictions, spent the morning of Saturday, March 28th putting up flags along Main St Townsend to show Unity, Patriotism and help emphasize Montana Strong! Legion Post got a lift as well with new brackets, poles and flags.



Sheridan Post 89 Honor Wall

Sheridan Post 89 Commander Cliff Morgan shows off the brick project of the Post home’s Honor Wall. Each engraved brick honors a Veteran with their name and service symbol purchased by donors for \$75.





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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 fundraiser 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, 2020 with the first of 6 monthly drawings for \$400 beginning January 2021, \$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: _____

How to Submit Articles & Photos?

Deadline: OCT. 1, 2020
(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 & get them focused.**
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 the body of 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!

2020 RESOLUTIONS TRACKER				
#	RESOLUTION NAME	SUBMITTED BY	PASS	FAIL ASSIGNED TO CMMT.
Sp20-02....	American Legion Discrimination of Viet Nam Vets	District 5.....	x	
SP20-03 ...	Permanent Dues Waiver for 1st Time Active Duty, NG & Reserve	District 4.....	x.....	
SP20-04 ...	Addressing the Existential Threat of Electromagnetic Pulse.....	District 5.....	x.....	
SP20-05 ...	Is Our National Defense Pillar Effective.....	District 5.....	x.....	
SP20-06 ...	Gaining and Maintaining Air Dominance	District 5.....	x.....	
SP20-07 ...	Long Range Strike	District 5.....	x.....	
SP20-08 ...	Uniform Cap for incoming and Past Commanders.....	District 4.....	x	
SP20-09 ...	Amend Constitution & Bylaws of The American Legion, Department of Montana, Revised June 27, 2018	District 1.....		Conv. Cmmt.
SP20-10	Recognizing the Department Training Director.....	Education Ad Hoc.....		Conv. Cmmt.
SP20-11	Reorganization of the Education and Training Chairman Duties.....	Education Ad Hoc.....		Conv. Cmmt.
SP20-12	Change the Publication of The Montana Legionnaire			Pulled by Author
SP20-13	Responsibility for Selecting Viable Candidates for Department Vice Commander		x	

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For More Information About
Membership Call:
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Helena, MT 59604

**Silver Bow Post #1
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AMERICAN LEGION OF MONTANA

Welcome

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