



Commander's Corner



Michael Hobbs, Commander

Greetings Legionnaires!! I have so much to tell you but only a small space in this paper. I have learned so many things over the last few months as commander. I will tell you that I have a few things that I would like to focus on in the coming months leading up to the start of the new year. Recently, I attended the fall meetings in Indianapolis. I learned that Wyoming is over half-way to the commitment that was made a few years ago for the Veterans and Children's Foundation. I would like to reach this goal since we are so close. I will be sharing

our progress during all the district meetings and while I travel to all the post events that I can. I would like to thank everyone for inviting me to your events so far. I also wanted to take this time to make sure that everyone knows to have a safe holiday season. The holidays can be very hard for all veterans. While spending time in Indianapolis, I was blown away by the different programs that other departments are participating in to help prevent veteran suicide. National Commander Troiola's program this year is BE THE ONE. Nothing could be truer this year. This program reminds us that we are the only ones that can help each other. BE THE ONE that helps prevent veterans' suicide. Make sure to use buddy checks to ensure that others are safe this holiday season. As many already know, IPDC and current Detachment Adjutant Jerry Clark passed away on November 1st, 2022. I would like to donate in his honor to the Veterans and Children's foundation that was stated earlier. This will ensure that his name gets added to a plaque at National Headquarters. To make this happen the family has asked that

donations be made to The American Legion. I want to make sure that we respect their wishes. If we meet our goal, and are awarded anything by National, I will personally deliver it to his family. I think this will be the perfect way to honor IPDC Clark for everything that he has done as a member of our department.

Another item that I would like to discuss is the issues we have with phishing emails. Recently, we were victim to a lot of emails pretending to be me asking members to purchase gift cards. I want to reiterate that I would never reach out to anyone about purchasing items like that. If I ever decide to do something like that, I will purchase them myself. I would hate it if someone fell victim to that and purchased gift cards or anything else. We will be taking steps as a department to prevent this from happening in the future. From now on, all communication using large groups on email will be blind copied to protect current email addresses. I know that this has created some confusion in the past, but these groups are getting smarter on their approach. I received a few emails myself, and I was impressed to get

an email from myself asking for me to purchase gift cards. I could easily see how someone could believe that I sent an email like that. Please don't fall victim to phishing scams. When they do it again, I will make sure that Adjutant Gina notifies everyone immediately.

I also wanted everyone to know that the Mid-winter meeting has been set. It will be the 14th of January at the armory in Casper, WY. Since districts were not wanting to manage this meeting there will be a few things that are different this year. There will not be a department hotel. Everyone will be responsible for finding their own accommodations. Most of the hotels in the area are on the opposite side of town. I promise that I will coordinate with the Sons and Auxiliary on scheduling to give ample time for lunch and start times. There will not be any registration fees or lunches! I will make sure to schedule a long lunch to accommodate everyone going to get lunch on their own. The side effect of this might make our meeting run longer than previous years but I will do my best to finish at a decent time.

1st Vice Commander's Corner



**Doug Johnson,
Vice Commander**

**Revitalizations,
Buddy Checks,
Mid-Winter
Conference**

I just returned from District 4 revitalization held in Cody on November 4th and Worland on November 5th. On November 6th we held a training session at Post 44 in Worland. We had a great 3 days in Cody and Worland. I would like to give a big thank you to Russell Stafford District 4 Commander and Katie Jones District 4 Vice-Commander for helping in putting on this revitalization. I would also like to give a big thank you to Ken George from our National office in Indianapolis and Doug Uhrig our National Vice-Commander for helping with this revitalization. While we were doing the revitalization, we also did buddy checks on members in Cody and Worland. Revitalizations and buddy checks are a very important part in retaining our members. Remember we must sell our product not only to new

members but our older members. We must be like a car salesperson and sell the Legion to all veterans. You don't buy a car without talking to the salesperson and asking questions about the car you are interested in. He will know everything about the car and not say yes it has 4 wheels. He will tell you everything about the car. We as Legionnaires we must know our product and sell that product. One way to do this is ask yourself why did I or you join the American Legion. The American Legion has great programs that we can sell to new members along with our current members. I know that there are approximately 26 programs within the 4 pillars of the American Legion. Let's go out and sell these programs.

Right now, our membership is growing, and we are currently in 25th place nationally at 62.60 %.

Our November 9th goal will have come and gone by the time the paper will be published. But as you can see, we are awfully close to our 65% goal on the 9th of November. I would like to thank all the District Commanders along with the Post Commanders and Post Adjutants for all their arduous work. We can get this done if we all work together. Remember Mid-Winter Conference will be coming up in January on the 13th and 14th in Casper. With this letter I would like to wish everyone a very happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas.

Thank You For All That You Do, For God and Country

Doug Johnson
Department 1st Vice Commander



2nd Vice Commander's Corner

District Conventions, Same and New District Commanders



Bill Barnes
2nd Vice Commander

Greetings, fellow Legionnaires! The Post 6 American Legion Honor Guard and Unit 6 Ladies Auxiliary put on the annual Labor Day Pig roast. Lots of good food and everyone had a good time. On September 11th, Adjutant Gina and I went to Pine Bluffs Post 60 for their Patriot Day celebration. Can't beat home cook food, desert and companionship. Boy, I hate to it, but I made a pig of myself. If you've never been

to Pine Bluffs, please do so! Make sure you visit the Military Complex that they have there. It is AWE-SOME! My favorite is the Arlington National Cemetery mural on the side of the building. WOW! On Tuesday, October 4th, we went to the Archer Complex in Cheyenne to watch the Post 6 Junior Shooting Sports in action. Terry Harbick (Post 6 Honor Guard Commander), Russ Telander (past Post 6 Commander) and myself made up the small group of Post 6 representatives. Terry and I made monetary contributions to them from our respective organizations/units. After watching the kids set up and practice for a while, all I can say is: Thank God their on Our side! Those kids are very impressive.

As Commander Hobbs has said, if you wish for a Department Officer to attend one of your functions, please let us know. In my case, I'll need at least 24 hours or more notification



Penny Merryfield/Historian
Post 6 Commander Bill Barnes speaks to the Legion members, Veterans and families during Veterans Day program.

due to medical conditions.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy New Years and Happy Holidays!

Bill Barnes

Post 6 Commander
Department 2nd Vice Commander
National For God and Country,



Adjutant's Corner



Gina Mayhan
Department Adjutant

It is a pleasure to serve the American Legion, Department of Wyoming as your Department Adjutant. As most of you know, I started with the American Legion November 1, 2014 as the Administrative Assistant. In 2016, I was promoted to Office Manager, and held that role until August of this year, when I was appointed by Commander Mike Hobbs as Department Adjutant. With the DEC's vote, and the blessing of National, I accepted this appointment

and took the job and ran with it.

I have had the pleasure in the past year of attending Department Convention in June, National Convention in August, Fall Workshop in September and National Fall Meetings in October. To say it has been a busy few months would be an understatement. I have had so many firsts, but have learned from every one of them.

Attending Fall Meetings in Indianapolis has been the highlight of my job so far. I came away from those meetings with 15 pages of notes that can only benefit me and the job I have been appointed to. I learned things that should have been happening within our Department that have fallen through the cracks, but with the great Commander that we have in place now, those cracks are getting filled in and we are going "back to basics." Changes are coming, and they will only benefit our Posts and our members.

Membership is the main objective of any officer within the department.

Learning to Be Your Adjutant

If our membership fails, then so does department; it is that simple. But we also have to look at the big picture. It is not just about the numbers, but making sure our Veterans know that we are there for them. That is why our National Commander has started the "Be the One" campaign. He cannot stress enough the importance of Buddy Checks and making sure that we are in constant contact with our Veterans. Suicide among our veterans has to be stopped. We need them to know we are here for them. Please get the word out:

If you are a veteran in crisis, resources are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- Call 988 and press 1
- Text 838255
- Visit the VA Crisis Line website

My office hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The office phone number is 307-634-3035, which transfers to my personal cell phone, so please keep this in mind when I am returning a call. Your phone will not show the office number, it will show my cell phone number, which starts out with 307-679-xxxx.

If there is anything I can do as your Department Adjutant, please feel free to reach out to me. If I don't have the answer, I will get it for you. I have a lot of resources to go to, to get the assistance I need.

BE THE ONE
TO ASK VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.
TO LISTEN WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.
TO REACH OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.

AMERICAN LEGION IN THIS ISSUE

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Post Everlasting 2022

District 1

Post 36 Ft Bridger
Ralph Erickson (27)

Post 49 Afton
Charles Sutter (16)

District 2

Post 5 Torrington
Louis Collar, Jr (17)

District 4

Post 20 Cody
John Dodge (63)

Post 26 Powell
Jerry Clark (12)

Post 44 Worland
Donald Conway (16)

District 6

Post 6 Cheyenne
David Cummings (32)
Sylvester Ross (25)

Felix Carrera, Jr (17)
Sidney Setbacken (2)

Post 54 Saratoga
Jesse James (23)

Post 93 Cheyenne
Phillip Tafoya (30)



AMERICAN LEGION

“the numbers in parenthesis designate years as a Legion Member.”

Jerry Clark



District 4 sadly announces the passing of Past Department Commander, Jerry Clark.

Jerry was definitely a strong American Legion supporter and held positions as Post 26 Adjutant and Commander. He was also a founding member of the Yellowstone Chapter of The American Legion Riders.

Jerry went on to be District 4 Commander, Department Historian, Department Vice Commander, and finally Department Commander.

He was beginning his rise as Department Squadron Adjutant when he passed away.

To say that Jerry was American Legion through and through would be an understatement. He loved The American Legion and all that it stood for. Jerry supported his fellow Veterans in any way that he could and made sure that they knew what The American Legion was all about and how it supports them.

Jerry will be missed by many and his imprint on The Department of Wyoming American Legion is huge and his passing has created a hole within the Department.

God's speed, Jerry.



Jerry Clark, Commander



Honor Guard folding the Flag



Honor Guard performing 21 Gun Salute



Presentation of the Flag to his daughter

O God,
by whose mercy
the faithful departed find rest,
look kindly on your departed veterans who

gave their lives in the service
of their country and later.
Grant that through the passion, death,
and resurrection of your Son

they may share in the joy of your
heavenly kingdom and rejoice in you
with your saints forever.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.



Chaplain's Corner



Service to God and Country

As Chaplains of the American Legion, we are here for all member and their spiritual needs, and are not required to be clergy. We must be dedicated to the office and to serve with a strong caring spiritual self.

I have learned so much and would like to share some of the prayers I have said.

A Chaplain's prayer,

Father, I sit here in the dark contemplating the news of another friend and Brother being called home to your divine place in heaven.

I study your Word in hopes of being a good Chaplain and follower of Christ our Savior. From my reading, I know I should be happy they are with You and other loved ones. For they will be in your loving embrace, and they will never know pain or suffering again, only your love.

I pray you will continue to guide me with words to comfort others in their loss and grief. I pray you will give me the strength and grace to meet their needs and to help start their healing process. I pray you will ease the suffering of those that have lost a friend or loved one. I ask this in your Son's name. Amen

In memory of our friends, Brothers, and Sister; Jerry Clark, Garry Clifford, Donald Leeman, and Vickie Jasmann.

Prayer for the new Casper College Veterans Resource Center,

Our glorious heavenly Father, I pray you will guide all who enter the new Veterans Center here at

Casper College. That you bless all students as they grow their minds in their paths. I pray our Veteran students continue to grow their bonds with their military Brothers and Sisters, and they also connect with staff and other fellow students. I pray you continue to bless Nick Whips and all the good he does for the students here at Casper College. I ask this in your Son's Name. Amen

Happy Veterans Day, my Brothers and Sisters.

Let us pray,

Heavenly Father, we are grateful for our Veterans and their dedication to our great Nation and their sacrifices. We thank you for watching over the families when our Veterans were away from home.

We pray you will provide your healing power, grace, and strength to our Veterans with visible scars and those who carry their scars inside on seen by others. We pray for the day when we will no longer have any wars or conflicts, a day we are all united. In your Sons name. Amen

God is the light

The Bible says, "And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not" (John 1:5). God can shine His light to guide our path. Like a lighthouse with its beacon of light protecting nearby sailors, warning them of danger at night or on a foggy day. God is our beacon of light on our darkest days. Pray for His love & protection, and let Him guide you to calm waters.

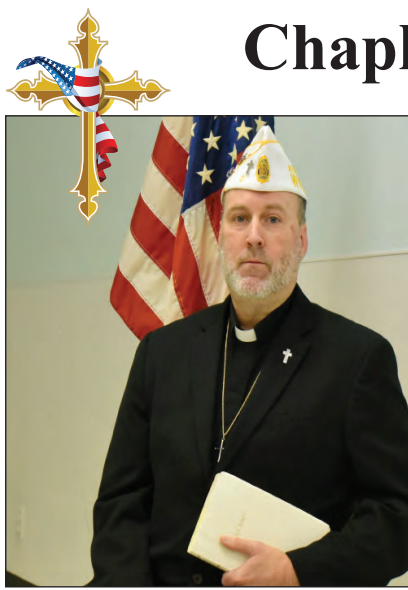
Whether you are a District Chaplain or a Post Chaplain, I believe we are all serving through our hearts and spirit.

As spiritual leaders, post chaplains see that the Legion's "Service to God and Country" program is carried out at the post level. This includes encouraging regular public worship, daily family prayer and the religious education of children, all in an effort to bring Americans closer to the Creator. In addition, they promote individual citizenship, service to the community, and our obligation to uphold and defend the Constitution.

In addition to post officers, the chaplain should be in regular contact with local ministers, school and hospital officials, funeral directors and community organizations, so they will know what services and programs the American Legion post offers, including direct assistance to veterans and their families.

I offer my thoughts and prayers to all, and if needed I am but a phone call away.

**God Bless,
Brian Higgins
Chaplain
Department of Wyoming
The American Legion**



**Brian Higgins,
Department Chaplain**

To many members, I am only seen at meetings, or Legion events offering an opening and closing prayer. However, the soul of this position is so much more. It is a strong caring, and definitely a spiritual position that embodies "Service to God and Country" belief of the American Legion.

As Chaplains, we are here to not only serve the Department, and Post, but we are here for all the members as well. For instance, comforting a member who has lost a loved one, or has had an illness or accident.

Many times, being a listener for someone who is hurting, whether physically or mentally from events in their military life. It is times like this, where we can offer to say prayers, or offer prayers up for a particular event. events such as Four Chaplains Sunday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Independence Day or installations, initiations, dedication, funerals and memorial services.



Courtesy Photo

Left: Department Chaplain Brian Higgins with Wyoming Senator John Barrasso at the Dean Morgan Veterans Day program. Above: Certificates handed out to Veterans.

A Veterans Day Program at Dean Morgan honors Veterans

Dean Morgan Middle School held a Veterans Day program honoring our Veterans.

When arriving at the school, Veterans, families, and friends were met with 60 beloved American Flags waving a familiar hello as they came to the school. They were greeted with a warm welcome by students who directed them to their seats. Following Principle Hartl's heartfelt remarks, three gifted Morgan Mentors students led the Pledge of Allegiance and took on the role of Master of Ceremonies. They called on the speakers, Dean Morgan Jazz Band, NCHS Color guard, Dean Morgan Advanced Orchestra & American Sign Language,

and Dean Morgan Choirs & ASL.

Wyoming Senator John Barrasso, Casper Mayor Ray Pacheco, and Principal Tyler Hartl had patriotic and heartfelt comments for our Veterans, past, and present. They reminded us of the importance of remembering our military and veterans' sacrifice. For freedom, we enjoy including the ability to have a different opinion. Senator Barrasso proudly told us about his father being in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II.

During the Air Force Song by the Dean Morgan Choirs, a Veteran teared up as memories surfaced of the tight bonds formed during service and the

times proudly singing the Air Force song during his 20 years of faithful and honorable service to our Great Country and the U.S. Air Force.

Veteran's names were called to receive the Certificate of Appreciation and Senator Barrasso's coin. It was a beautiful program honoring our Veterans.

Thank you, Dean Morgan Middle School, and the speakers,

Brain Higgins, Chaplain
Department of Wyoming
The American Legion

DISTRICT AND POST NEWS



District 1



Our Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43 has been very busy since the last issue of the Legionnaire was distributed. Our monthly meetings have continued at our historic Post Building and on Zoom, and we have continued to have featured speakers at each meeting. In October, our Post was pleased to celebrate the 102nd anniversary of its charter, making us one of the oldest American Legion Posts in the country.

Post Membership: Our membership currently stands at 133, including 112 paid up members for 2023, and we hope to reach our state goal of 129 members in the next few months. Several new members have joined our Post this summer, including one Korean War veteran who recently turned 98 years old. We also were able to celebrate the 105th birthday in October of our member, Fred Miles, who is one of the oldest living American Legion members in the country. Fred was a pilot in WWII in the Army Air Corps, and he flew for the U.S. Air Force in Korea. He was the recipient of numerous awards and decorations during his 27 years of service, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, and he was one of the instructors of the famous Tuskegee Airmen. Our Post also currently has 24 members in our SAL Squadron who are all welcomed at Post meetings and functions. We hope to recruit many more new SAL Squadron members during the coming year.

Scholarship Awards: Our Post participated again in the annual Old Bill's fundraiser in Jackson, and we received more than 40 donations and a large matching amount that primarily will be used for awarding our annual scholarships to graduating Jackson Hole area high school students for use toward continuing education.

Repair and Renovation of Post Building: During the summer months, our Post building underwent significant work to repair several important areas needing maintenance. These included replacement and painting of the outside

walkway and deck timbers, new fascia surrounding the entire building, repairs to external storm window frames, and removal of an old unneeded chimney. The entire building was also washed and re-stained, and additional insulation was added. Additional minor repairs were made to our Post's 50 year old roof. This work has put our building in excellent condition going forward.

Honor Guard Ceremonies: Our Post conducted an Honor Guard service for Army veteran Earl Lutz in August. The ceremony took place outside the Lutz home beside the Snake River, where a large tent had been provided for the many friends and family who came to honor Earl's life. Following our rifle salute and the playing of Taps by a family friend, Post members folded the American Flag and presented it to Earl's widow with the thanks of a grateful nation for his service. Two more similar Honor Guard ceremonies were held on the same afternoon in October at the Aspen Hill Cemetery in Jackson. These were to honor the burials of two different U.S. Navy veterans.

Reopening of Post 43 Kitchen and Bar for Lunch: After a long period of closure due to Covid, our Post reopened in August for lunch on Thursdays and Fridays from 1100-1400. This has provided a great place for members and guests to socialize and enjoy some good food and drinks, and to play some pool. In conjunction with the Elks Club, the Post recently welcomed three different groups of combat veterans at the Post lunches from the "Honoring Our Veterans" organization, and those who attended were very appreciative and enthusiastic about the food and the chance to relax and join conversation with our members and other guests. We also had the pleasure of welcoming one of our oldest members, Harry Baxter, along with his wife and son, to the Post for lunch in September. Harry has been a Legion member for 67 years.

Ceremony at Grand Teton Park Visi-

tors' Center: On Friday, August 5, our Post provided a flag detail at the Grand Teton Park Visitors Center for a special session of the U.S. District Court for Wyoming, where U.S. Magistrate Judge Rankin swore in and welcomed over 20 new U.S. citizens from several different countries. New inductees included people from Russia, Ukraine, Mexico, Canada, Jamaica, and several other countries. The program included our presentation of the colors, singing of the National Anthem, introduction of each of the new citizens, remarks by the Judge on the meaning of U.S. citizenship, and comments from the deputy Superintendent of Grand Teton National Park, whose family had immigrated to the U.S. from India when he was an infant. Each new citizen then swore allegiance to the United States, and each received a certificate from the Judge attesting to their acceptance of the obligations of citizenship. Judge Rankin then invited the new citizens to give personal remarks of their own choosing, and several people came forward to do so. Finally, the Judge invited all the children in the large audience to the stage to join everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. This was a very moving and emotional ceremony for everyone involved.

Presentation by Jason Anderson: At the Post meeting in August, our Post member, Jason Anderson, gave us a presentation on his organization PreVeteran, and what they are doing to assist veterans and active duty service members in preparing for and transitioning to life after the service. Jason is a native of Jackson, who attended the U.S. Air Force Academy, and returned home after many years serving in the Air Force and in other government and civilian employment. He described both a 501(c)(3) Foundation that has been formed recently, as well as a for-profit entity that both provide various educational, training and other help to support

service members to get a good start in the civilian world.

Presentation by Robert Gill: Robert Gill, grandson of two of our founding Post members, and the son of Ralph Gill, also a former Post member, spoke to us at our meeting in September about his life growing up in Jackson. He briefly described his family's history in Jackson, and how they came to run the Jackson Hole Hereford Ranch. His descriptions of the early layout of the town, and the subsequent changes to the downtown area brought out many questions from the members. Robert also discussed some of the interesting facts related to the formation of the Grand Teton National Park, and he told us stories of his father's write in victories as town mayor. He also brought with him many photos of the town from the early days, when the downtown was totally different from today. Commander Burke sincerely thanked Robert for sharing his great memories of our town, and Post Adjutant, Dave Hill presented Robert with a gift of a membership as a new SAL Squadron 43 member.

Veterans Day Plans: On Veterans Day, November 11, our Post will take part in the traditional ceremony on the Jackson Town Square to honor all our veterans. The Jackson High School is planning to bring 900 students to the ceremony, including the school chorus, who will sing patriotic songs prior to the start of the event. Our Post will present the colors, provide a rifle salute and the playing of Taps, and our Post member and Commander of the local VFW Post, Ed Leibzeit, will provide comments to the assembled audience. The ceremony will be followed by an 11.11 miles Ruck march for all interested people. The participants can carry donations of nonperishable foodstuffs that will be collected at our Post both before and after the ceremony for transfer to local charities.



Courtesy Photo

Above: Veterans Day Ceremony, Jackson, WY - 2021



Courtesy Photo

Above: Jackson Hole Post 43 members at a luncheon they held for the combat veterans from the Honoring our Veterans Organization.

District 3

George W. Vroman Post #2 Casper



In 2015 George W. Vroman Post 2 decided to participate in the Wyoming Vietnam Welcome Home Reunion along with the other organizations in Casper.

We purchased 130 flags and placed 123 flags at the Veterans Cemetery one for each Wyoming loss in Vietnam.

After the reunion we at the Post decided that we would use the flags to decorate Veterans Park on holidays and also the Veterans Cemetery with

Thank All Veterans past and present and then we added a picture of our Wyoming Fallen Veterans memorial just erected in Casper to honor every Wyoming Veterans that was lost in Combat.

The Wyoming Fallen Veterans Memorial will display the names of every combat loss that was born in Wyoming or joined the service while living in Wyoming.

We started with the Spanish American War once Wyoming became a

one that was more visible and easier to access. The City donated the land at 3800 West 13th Street the location of Patterson - Zonta Park.

American Legion went to work trying to raise the funds needed in 2021 and started asking local business's for financial, material and skilled labor support.

The Post sent out numerous applications for Grants and fortunately the AARP - Community Challenge Grant was the only one to be accepted.

ated and we asked all the Veterans organizations what they thought should be incorporated into the creation of the new memorial.

It was determined that it needed to be highly visible to honor those that are on the walls, accessible to young, old and disabled, easily readable, included every veteran that died in Combat that was a Wyoming native or was a citizen of Wyoming when he died.

We had a dedication and ribbon



Courtesy Photo

Above left: Front of the trailer with all military branches. Above center: Back of the trailer honoring Wyoming Fallen Veterans. Above right: L-R Post 2 Adjutant Dean Welch, Post 2 Vice Commander Larry Winzenried, Senator John Barrasso Aid Patrick Sheenan, Senator Lummis Aid Jackie King, MC Dr. Nicholas Whipps, Post 2 Commander Larry Seems, and American Legion National Vice Commander Doug Uhrig.

50 flags each Memorial Day.

Since then, we have joined with Dean Morgan middle school students by placing flags around the school for their Veterans Appreciation program each Veterans Day. We also place flags at Casper Veterans Park and the Mills Memorial Park. Now the new Wyoming Fallen Veterans Memorial will be added to the list.

The Post was working to purchase a box trailer to store all our flags and tools we need to install the flags. It would also make it easier to put them out and advertise The Casper Legion at the same time.

One of our members made a magnanimous donation of a box trailer for us to use as our flag trailer.

We converted the inside to safely store all our flags, banners and utilities and has made life a lot easier.

We then formed a committee to design the trailer and after we picked out a design we consulted with Tim Carey with ProFilms vinyl wrapping for a final design. We wanted the nose of the trailer to be a Bald Eagle with each military branch leading the way. We incorporated the new suicide prevention logo since we truly believe that this issue needs more awareness.

On the back we made sure to

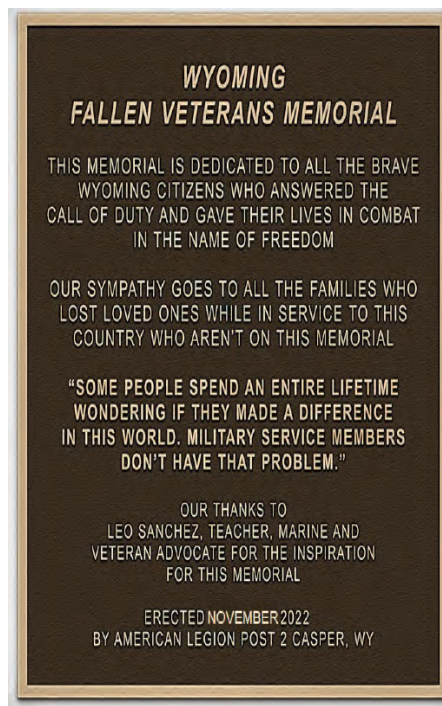
State and included every war we lost someone in up to the last wars on terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Post 2 Commander Dean Welch had been asked several times back in 2016 why we didn't move the memorial on the river to some place more accessible since where it is now is difficult for disabled to get to and few people even know it is there so the Post decided to look into it. Since the Legion Post didn't own the memorial some research had to be done.

The river memorial was the original idea of Marine Corps Reserve member Leo Sanchez, Leo was a teacher and a Korean War Veteran and established the memorial in 2013.

After Leo passed away then the memorial became the responsibility of the City of Casper. The Post contacted the City about moving the memorial to a more visible location. They weren't aware of the memorial as many others didn't know it was there due to it's hidden location. The City agreed to the move but after some inspection of the panels it was determined that it would be to destructive to the memorial to move it.

After some discussion the City and the Legion Post decided to leave the existing memorial and build a new



AARP were so touched by our desire to make a memorial to the brave men who gave their lives for this country, state and people.

AARP decided to give us a \$30,000 grant for our memorial and it was the largest grant ever given by them in Wyoming.

The Memorial Committee was cre-

cutting for the memorial on November 12th. Our guest speaker was The American Legion National Vice Commander Doug Uhrig from Rock Springs, WY.

We had local Gold Star Families do the ribbon cutting and Governor Gordon sent a proclamation honoring the day for the dedication. We also were honored to have WW2 Navy Veteran and Post 2 member Dr. Harold Hubbard attend.

It was great to see so many different Veteran organizations attend and we received many compliments on the memorial.

The weather slowed our completion, but we will continue on the landscaping through the winter as weather allows.

It is our hope that every Wyoming Citizen as well as all tourists that come through Casper will take time to visit the Wyoming Fallen Veterans Memorial to help us honor every name on this memorial.

There is an old saying the goes "A man dies twice, once when he stops breathing and finally when they stop saying his name."

American Legion Post 16 Annual Veterans Club Ball



Courtesy Photo

Above left: Col. Ed Lewis, Wyoming Army National Guard's Chief of Staff, Wyoming Army National Guard State Command Sergeant Lindsay Schmidt, Tim Sheppard, Veteran's Commission Exec. Dir, Caleb Lindsay - President Casper College Veterans Center, and others visit during the meal. Above right: Jane Curtis and Brian Higgins - Department Chaplain at the Annual Veterans Club Ball where he offered prayers and took photos



District 4

Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 - Powell



Russell Stafford
Post 26 Commander

additions to our bingo on Fridays and Sundays, Poker Saturdays, and all the other activities that we host. We have sponsored the annual baseball signups and continue to grow our Scouting program.

The post sponsored two raffles throughout the fall, one being a trip for a 3 night stay to Las Vegas and the other is a rifle package which includes a \$2,000.00 custom MSR rifle build, a rifle case, and a hand made damascus knife with sheath.

In September we conducted our honoring of all first responders and the others who gave their lives on 9/11/01. We were able to hold a ceremony at the post with our Honor Guard and Chaplain providing a dignified ceremony.

October was active with our annual Fall Frenzy Craft Fair. We also conducted our annual Halloween party for the community with our entire American Legion family. Thank you to our Sons Squadron and Auxiliary for participating and putting on these events.

November began with our participation in the District 4 revitalization and training provided by the national training personnel. We are also proud to announce the addition of 3 trustees, Nathan Splitstone, Randy Rempfer, and Danielle Rempfer. With these additions our trustees have really been able to make strides in the post and its operations.

Our Oratorical contest will be

held on December 3, 2022 at 10 am, at the post hall. We expect a fantastic turnout and participation and plan on winning the District and Department Oratorical contest for the 5th year. (Challenge issued to all other posts)

We also have the distinct honor of announcing the National American Legion College candidate is from our post, Russell Stafford. We know that he will bring back knowledge and information for not only our post, but for the Department as a whole.

Please stay safe and enjoy the onset of winter. Have a safe holiday and a Merry Christmas

Russell Stafford - Commander

Greybull Post 32 - Greybull



Starting in June and ending in August, we provided a Color Guard and played the National Anthem at the opening ceremony of the monthly Cloud Peaks drag races held at the Greybull airport.

Commander Bobby Werner welcomes community members to the ceremony.



“911 Post 32 Flag Detail” Post 32 members from Left to Right, Post Commander Bobby Werner salutes as post members Josh Wennberg, Michael Laird (behind speaker) and Robert West raise the flag and then ceremoniously lower it to Half Staff as members of the Greybull Volunteer fire Department look on.



Post 32 members from Left to Right Josh Wennberg, Michael Laird, and Robert West salute during the playing of TAPS
Bobby Werner, Commander

“Color Guard - Cloud Peak Drag Race”, members from left to right are Josh Wennberg, Post Commander Bobby Werner, Post Adjutant Tommy Kershner, and Tom Farr.

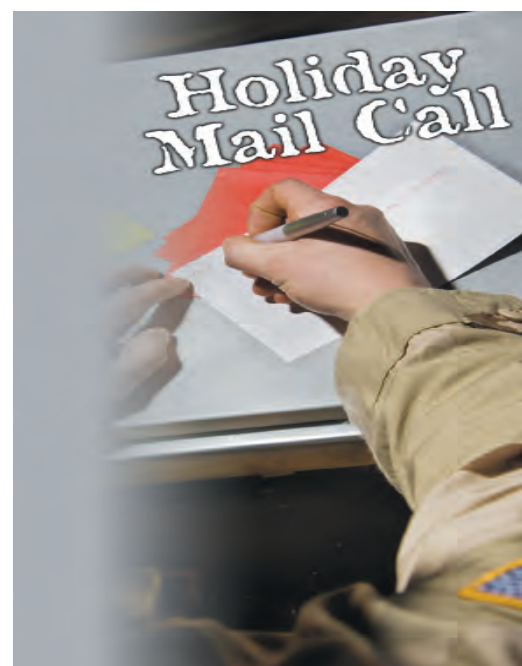
On September 11, 2022, we partnered with the Greybull Volunteer Fire Department, Elks Lodge BPOE 1431 to conduct a 9/11 Remembrance ceremony.



“911 Post 32 Opening Comments” Post 32



“911 Post 32 Adjutant Bugle”, Post 32 Adjutant Tommy Kershner plays TAPS as audience members pay respect.



Remember our Active Duty Service Men and Women for the Holidays

BE THE ONE
TO ASK VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.
TO LISTEN WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.
TO REACH OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.

AMERICAN LEGION ATTENTION WYOMING VETERANS

If you are looking for a job, please contact your nearest Department of Workforce Services office. Our trained staff will assist you in all aspects of the job search. Remember, all of our services are free. You served our country, now let us serve you.



District 4 Continued

Floyd Minch Post 44 - Worland



Courtesy Photo

Above: Shown at the Sunday training session in Worland are, standing from left to right, SAL PDC, PSC Squadron 44 Jim Andersen, District 4 Commander Russell Stafford, Post 44 Commander Ryan Decker, National Headquarters Member Engagement Coordinator Ken George, John Maye, Post 85; PPC Post 44 Larry McGonigal, National Vice Commander Doug Uhrig, Department Vice Commander Doug Johnson, Katy Jones, Post 26 and Bobby Warner, Post 32. Seated in front is Post 44 Second Vice Commander and PPC Justin Pfeiffer.

POST 44 Revitalization a success

WORLAND – Early November was a busy time at Floyd Minch Post 44 in Worland. The Post hosted the District 4 Revitalization program on Saturday, Nov. 5, celebrated the U.S. Marine Corps 247th birthday on Thursday, Nov. 10 and conducted its annual Veterans Day Breakfast, plus a flag retirement ceremony on Nov. 11.

With 11 transfers into the post, two Legionnaires renewing on the spot and an out-of-town Post member committing to renew, The District 4 Post Revitalization event on Saturday, Nov. 5 at Post 44 was a resounding success.

The Worland session was the second day of the District-wide program. On Friday, Nov. 4 representa-

posts of the northern Big Horn Basin -- Cody, Powell, Lovell, and Heart Mountain.

Ken George, National Headquarters Member Engagement Coordinator, Legion National Western District Vice Commander Doug Uhrig of Post 24 in Rock Springs, Department Vice Commander Doug Johnson of Post 8 in Douglas and District 4 Commander Russell Stafford of Post 26 in Powell conducted the event, giving tips on membership recruitment and retention to Legionnaires from Post 44, Basin Post 29, Greybull Post 32, Thermopolis Post 18 and Meeteetse Post 85.

Personal contact was the basic message of the training session. Current legionnaires should be con-

directly if possible, or by phone, George said. He added recruiters should be familiar with Legion principles and programs to help explain the value of legion membership.

After the initial training session, members of the other posts returned to their areas to work membership, while the Post 44 crew got to work in place. One of the most effective tools the leaders brought to the Revitalization was a member list of Wyoming Headquarters Post 17 in Cheyenne. Post 17 is a holding post for Wyoming Legionnaires not assigned to a particular post in the state.

Department headquarters wants Legionnaires to belong to local

has really given us a boost in memberships work.”

Post 44 as always had a great affection for its Marine Corps members and yearly helps the Leathernecks remember how long they have been around. Sons of The American Legion Squadron 44 prepared a meatloaf and mashed potatoes dinner for the Devil Dogs and their families

Following the reading of the Marine Corps Commandant's annual message and the meal, the Marines present conducted the traditional birthday cake cutting ceremony with the youngest and oldest Marines using the sword of the late Marine Major Wayne Voss to do the honors.

A few short hours later, Post 44



Courtesy Photo

TRADITIONAL MARINE CEREMONY – Marine Mark Hinkel displays the 247th U.S. Marine Corps Birthday cake at the Post 44 USMC Birthday Party. With him, from left, are marines Jordan Striff, Brad Jameson and son, and John Borgan.

posts, and to that end, Johnson suggested working to transfer Post 17 members to local posts. On Saturday they were prepared to process the transfers on the spot, and Worland took advantage of this opportunity.

Working from the Post 17 list, Post 44 Commander Ryan Decker, Second Vice Commander and PPC Justin Pfeiffer, Trustee and PPC Terry Bankert, Adjutant and PPC Don Hall, Chaplain and PPC Frank Ley and legionnaires PPC Larry McGonigal and Gary Mitchell worked the phones and successfully transferred 11 Post 17 members into Post 44.

Post 44 provided an Italian sandwich and minestrone soup lunch on Saturday and chili and cornbread for lunch on Sunday. “We appreciate the help and guidance we received from the Legion at all levels,” Hall said. “The revitalization program

and SAL 44 members were back in the kitchen preparing food for the Veterans Day Breakfast. Menu: pancakes, biscuits and gravy, bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs and breakfast potatoes,

Outdoor temperatures in the single digits Friday morning kept the number of breakfasters lower than normal, around 100, but did include one of our Post 17 transfers and his wife. Official activities were over in the early afternoon following the flag retirement ceremony and the bugle call “To The Colors” by Post 44 bugler Dave Wood.

Out-of-town Post 44 members traveled from as far as Thermopolis and Cheyenne for our Veterans Day Breakfast and to visit with their friends from deployments with the 2-300 Artillery.

All in all, it was a very satisfying week at Post 44.



Courtesy Photo

Veterans and their families enjoy a full ‘Grand Slam’ style breakfast at the Post 44 Veterans Day thank-you breakfast.

tives of the District, Department and National levels of the Legion led a revitalization event in Cody for the

tacted directly when seeking renewal, and prospective members also should be invited to join the Legion





District 5 Legion Riders



American Education Day with WC ALR

In celebration of American Education Week, the Weston County American Legion Riders Post 3 of Newcastle honored and recognized all those who work in the Weston County School District #1 public school system by providing 27 dozen cookies to the Elementary School, Middle School, High School and Bus Barn. The American Legion Committee on Youth Chairman, Michael Westergren said, "American Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every student receives a quality education." (The American Legion) The WC ALR thanked the WCS D#1 staff on November 18th for supporting today's youth.

Quotes from Principals to Staff:

"On this chilly morning the American Legion Riders have brought us cookies in celebration of American Education Week. They will be put up in the lounge if you would like to have some. If you want to thank a Rider personally, Ann Will is a part of that organization. :) This is also the crew who donated all of our wonderful flags last school year!

Thank you to the Riders."

Bryce Hoffman, Newcastle High School Principal (Pictured in HS Lounge eating cookies - Oatmeal Raisin were his favorite)

"In honor of American Education Week, and in appreciation for all you do for our students, the Newcastle American Legion Riders have brought lots of sweet treats for you to enjoy. The Riders want you all to know how much they appreciate what you do for public education." Tyler Bartlett, Newcastle Middle School Principal

On November 17th, the WC American Legion Riders set up a Fallen Comrades Table for the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Celebration of Customers at the local car dealership, Newcastle Motors.

On November 11th, we helped sponsor a dinner for Veterans and their families in honor of "Veterans Day" with the Monroe/Bland American Legion Post 3 and VFW at the local VFW Post.

Kirk A. Will
Director
Weston County American Legion Rider Post 3 Newcastle



Courtesy of Deb French

Above left: Bryce Hoffman - HS Principal. Above right: Cookies from the WC American Legion Riders to schools. Below left: John Sandoval (Rider) and Galen Stafford (Rider) delivering cookies to Dawn Williams, Secretary at Middle School. Below right: Fallen Comrades Table.



District 6

Francis E. Self, Post 6 Cheyenne



Courtesy Photo

Above: Attendees get ready at Post 6 for the start of the Veterans Day ceremony.

Veterans Day Ceremony held at Post 6, Cheyenne

Veterans Day is celebrated all over the United States, and especially here in Wyoming, where we are rich with military history. This Veterans Day Francis E. Self American Legion Post 6 held a Veterans Day ceremony with guest speaker Col. John F. Hundley, vice commander of the 90th Missile Wing at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, along with U.S. Senator Cynthia Lummis - R-Wyo.

Post 6 Past Commander DJ Johnson was the emcee for the ceremony, and first up to speak was Post Commander William (Bill) Barnes. "Veterans never

stop serving, even though they have hung up their uniform it truly is a life-long commitment, it is a deep sacrifice through their hearts and souls in the volunteering to serve in the U.S military service." He spoke about the diverse group of men and women from every ethnic, economic and religious backgrounds. "They come from every state and territory, and are bound by one commitment - to defend the United States of America with their life, if called upon." He said. Barnes went on to explain that military service is not for the faint of

heart, possibly risking life and limb, whereas in civilian life that is not the case.

He touched on the subject of Veterans and homelessness, which is becoming a very common problem across America. Barnes stated that currently there approximately 60,000 homeless Veterans. "Sad when Veterans make up 7% of the U.S. population yet 11% of the nation's unhoused population! The best way to prevent this is to hire a Veteran, who values skill, discipline and patriotism." He said in closing.

At this time Col. Hundley spoke to the full house of over 250 in attendance for the ceremony. "The majority of Veterans we honor today no longer serve actively by wearing a uniform, but they continue to serve their communities in this great nation. Many have gone on to become our public and private sector leaders: teachers, police officers, fire, community volunteers, and they are all our leaders. Whether they wear the military uniform today or wore it decades ago, Veterans represent an unwavering dedication and exemplify the highest ideals of service to our nation." He said. "Today, we honor the living Veterans who answered the call and served our nation - those in war, and in peace time. Since World War I, more than one mil-



Courtesy Photo

Above: Dept. of Wyoming 1st Vice Commander Doug Johnson, Robert "Bob" Dill WWII Veteran and Bill Barnes - Dept. of Wyoming 2nd Vice Ccommander and Post 6 Commander after the Veteran's Day Program.

lion Veterans have been wounded while serving. Many continue to receive treatment for battlefield injuries and mental trauma suffered decades ago." Hundley added, "From Belleau Wood to the mountains of Afghanistan, and hundreds of places in between, our nation rose to greatness on the strength of their service, and their stories are woven into the fabric of the nation's history.

Following Hundley was U.S. Senator Cynthia Lummis. She spoke about her

District 6 Cont. Francis E. Self, Post 6 Cheyenne



Above left: Post 6 Commander Bill Barnes welcomes everyone before speaking about Veterans Day. Above right: U.S. Senator Cynthia Lummis talks about Veterans and Veterans Day.

Post 6 Continued from page 8

nephew, who served with the U.S. Marine Corps. Lummis stated, "It is obvious that it is challeng-

ing to transition from military life to civilian life and he was someone who didn't serve in combat." Lummis asked her nephew whether his service on the Corps' silent

drill team in Washington, D.C. was "the greatest role" he had while serving? She remembered his reply was "Absolutely not." He went on to tell her that he volunteered

every chance he got to "be at Arlington to honor the families of a deceased Veteran as they were laid to rest. Lummis reflected on his answer - "That's where he preferred to

be, because it gave him meaning and "the opportunity to honor and respect a family that served, that gave, that sacrificed, that loved their country so much that their loved one would give their life for it and did give their life for it."

In closing, Lummis stated, "So I just want to say how very honored I am to be among you today and how very grateful I am to those of you who served, how please I am that you continue to support each other and lift each other up."

During the ceremony Commander Barnes escorted a Gold Star Mother- Carol Tabor up to the wreath. A formal salute was done and then she was escorted back to her

seat. The Gold Star Mothers support each other as well as do community service for our Veterans. Tabor has been a member since her son, Dick Tabor was killed in action in Vietnam. He was a member of the United States Army, 173rd Airborne Division.

Also in attendance was Department 1st Vice Commander Doug Johnson and Department Adjutant Gina Mayhan. Also in attendance was Robert Dill, Post 6 member - a Navy Veteran from World War II who is 98 years of age. After the ceremony Gold Star Son Jim Wilkinson performed in the lounge from 1-5 p.m.

Bill Barnes
Post 6 Commander

New Patriotic Mailbox for Flag Disposal at Post 6

Penny Merryfield

Many citizens of the United States of America fly the "Red, White, and Blue" or the "Stars and Stripes" as the American Flag is also known by in their front yards of their homes. We fly it proudly!

There is something so breath taking about looking out the front window and seeing "Our Colors" wave gently in the breeze. It reminds us of all our freedoms, and the stripes our Country has gone through to remain FREE.

With all the day to day flying, the wind and weather will take its toll on our Flag and she will begin to shred. When this happens, it is time to retire her and erect a new one in her place.

There are many places one can take a Flag to be properly retired, for example the American Legion Post 60 in Pine Bluffs will take Flags to be retired in a proper retirement service. This service will take place at a later date, when there are several Flags

to be retired.

The Flags are delivered to Frances E. Self American Legion Post 6 in Cheyenne. A proper and formal retirement service will be held with full honors.

The Flags are brought in to the Posts from Veterans, and non-Veterans as well.

Recently a place to collect the Flags at Post 6 took on a new project. An idea was brought up at Post 6 to have a central Flag collection station. This idea came from Russ Telander, a Trustee, Past Post Commander and a Veteran at Post 6. Then came Mike Ault who said he could obtain this container for Post 6. With all that in motion, Ricky Ramos, 1st Vice, stepped up to assist by getting an artist to paint the container in a fashion, where one would know it was for Flag collection. The container was a mail collection box - the big blue ones found outside of the post offices.

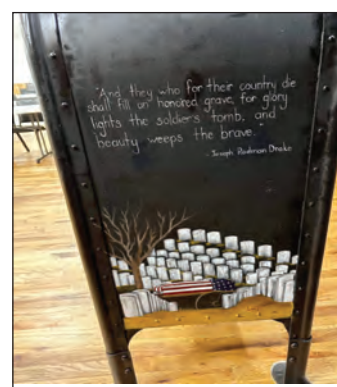
The artist selected to paint the container was Kerry Jo Simpson, who is a native to



Wyoming. She was born and raised in Rock Springs, but has resided in Cheyenne for the past seven years.

As a child she was fascinated with drawing and began sketching when she was five. Her love of drawing continued to grow through the years, and she obtained a Minor degree in Visual Art along with her Bachelor of Science degree.

The sketching of her designs for the container were stunning and the excitement grew for the finished contain-



er. Simpson donated her materials and her artistic work for this project for Post 6.

Once the container was ready to be unveiled, it was brought to Post 6 and during



the October monthly meeting it was presented to the Post.

Simpson's artistic work was praised and she was given a Certificate of Appreciation for her beautiful artistic work on the mailbox. This was done



Courtesy Photo
Ricky Ramos 1st Vice, Bill Barnes, Commander, and Kerry Jo Simpson

during the dedication of the mailbox.

The mailbox is there for anyone to put their Flag in for proper retirement and disposal.

2023 Mid-Winter Conference Agenda National Guard Armory Casper, WY

Friday, January 13, 2023
Time 6:30 p.m. Department Finance Committee, Armory
7:00 p.m. Department Executive Committee, Armory
Saturday, January 14, 2023
Time 9:00 a.m. Welcome and call to order Department Commander Mike Hobbs
Invocation—Department Chaplain Brian Higgins
POW/MIA Empty Chair—Department Chaplain and Sgt-at-Arms Richard Dansereau
Pledge of Allegiance—Vice Commander Doug Johnson
Preamble of the American Legion Constitution—2nd Vice Commander Bill Barnes
Opening Remarks and Introduction of Guests—Department Commander
9:15 a.m. Roll Call of Posts—
Department Adjutant Gina Mayhan
9:20 a.m. Department Officers Reports

(5 Minutes EA.)
Department Vice Commander - Doug Johnson
Department 2nd Vice Commander - Bill Barnes
Department Finance Officer—Deanna Hurlless
Department Adjutant - Gina Mayhan
Department Service Officer - Dwight Null
Department Historian - Penny Merryfield
National Executive Committeeman - Keith Davidson
Department Commander's Report - Mike Hobbs
10:00 a.m. Department Committee Reports (5 Minutes EA.)
Constitution - Vice Commander Doug Johnson
American Legion Baseball - Jack Simms
Children & Youth - PDC Ken Persson, Sr.

High School Rodeo - PDC Ken Persson, Sr.
Americanism - Ken Persson, Jr.
Boy Scouts - Ed Morrow
High School Oratorical Contest - Don York
10:45 a.m. Break
11:00a.m. Wyoming Veterans Commission Kelly Ivanoff
11:45 a.m. State Convention Update - Post # 1 - Van Tassell
12:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. Walrus meeting
1:45 p.m. Reconvene
Membership - Vice Commander Doug Johnson
S.A.L. Detachment Update - Detachment Commander Donavon Dusel
Boy's State - Joel Defebaugh/Brett Kahler
Legislative Update - Keith Davidson
2:30 p.m. Break
2:45 p.m. Walrus Report - Director Shane Harris
Awards - Commander Mike Hobbs,

Adjutant Gina Mayhan
Unfinished Business
Constitution and Bylaws - Vice Commander Doug Johnson
New Business
Mid-Winter 2024 Location and sponsoring District/Post
District Meetings dates and times
***District 1 -**
***District 2 -**
***District 3 -**
***District 4 -**
***District 5 -**
***District 6 -**
Good of the Legion
Benediction—Chaplain Higgins
POW/MIA Table Sgt at Arms Richard Dansereau
4:00 p.m. Adjournment—
Department Commander



Wyoming Veterans Commission

The Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

We, the VA, recognize the important role of family caregivers in supporting the health and wellness of Veterans. Find out if you may be eligible and how to apply for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC).

Family caregivers of eligible Veterans of all eras can now apply

As of October 1, 2022, this program is now open to family caregivers of eligible Veterans of all eras. This includes eligible Veterans who served after May 7, 1975, and before September 11, 2001.

Family caregivers of eligible Veterans of all eras can now apply.

Am I eligible for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers?

You may be eligible if you and the Veteran you're caring for meet all of these requirements.

Eligibility requirements for the family caregiver

You must be at least 18 years old. And at least one of these must be true for you:

You're a spouse, son, daughter, parent, stepfamily member, or extended family member of the Veteran, or You live full time with the Veteran, or you're willing to live full time with the Veteran if we designate you as a family caregiver

Eligibility requirements for the Veteran

All of these must be true for the Veteran you're caring for: The Veteran has a VA disability rating (individual or

combined) of 70% or higher, and; The Veteran was discharged from the U.S. military or has a date of medical discharge, and; The Veteran needs at least 6 months of continuous, in-person personal care services

What are personal care services?

These are services the eligible Veteran needs from another person. They include care or assistance to support the Veteran's:

Health and well-being; Everyday personal needs (like feeding, bathing, and dressing); Safety, protection, or instruction in their daily living environment; How many caregivers can the eligible Veteran appoint?

The Veteran can appoint:

1 Primary Family Caregiver (the main caregiver), and; Up to 2 Secondary Family Caregivers (people who serve as backup support to the primary caregiver when needed); eligible Primary and Secondary Family Caregivers can receive: Caregiver education and training; Mental health counseling; Travel, lodging, and financial assistance when traveling with the Veteran to receive care

Eligible Primary Family Caregivers may also receive:

A monthly stipend (payment); Access to health care benefits through the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA)—if you don't already qualify for care or services under another health care plan; At least 30 days per

year of respite care for the Veteran

How do I apply for this program?

You and the Veteran will need to apply together and participate in an application process to determine if you're eligible for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. You'll both need to sign and date the application, and answer all questions for your role.

You can apply online right now using this link: <https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/apply-for-caregiver-assistance-form-10-10cg/introduction>

Note: Each time the Veteran wants to add a new family caregiver, the Veteran and the new caregiver will need to submit a new application. Remember, there can only be 1 Primary and up to 2 Secondary Family Caregivers designated at any one time.

You can also apply:

By mail; Fill out a joint Application for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (VA Form 10-10CG). <https://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/10-10CG.pdf>

Mail the form and any supporting documents to:

Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers
Health Eligibility Center
2957 Clairmont Road NE, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30329-1647

In person; Bring your completed VA Form 10-10CG to your local VA medical center's Caregiver Support Coordinator.



Tim Sheppard
Wyoming Veteran's
Commission Exec. Dir.

To find the name of your local coordinator, you can:

Go to the VA Caregiver Support Coordinator directory at caregiver.va.gov/support/new-csc-page.asp, or

Contact the Caregiver Support Line at 855-260-3274, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. ET, and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET

Please don't send medical records along with your application. We'll follow up after we receive your application. If you need help with completing the application or if you'd like to check the status of your application, call us at 855-488-8440, option 3. We're available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF WYOMING NEWS LETTER, SEPTEMBER 2022

Past Detachment Commander and Squadron 44 Commander, Jim Andersen
HOWDY LEGION, AUXILIARY AND SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERS!!!!



Courtesy Photo

Above: The photo above was taken in June of 2022 at the summer Convention, Green River WY. Left to right, Jerry Clark, Adjutant, Greg Bushman, Green River, Levi Dusel, 1st Vice Commander, Donavon Dusel, Commander of the Detachment and Brian Higgins, Chaplain

A tribute to Jerry Clark:

With a heavy heart I will say goodbye to a very good friend, Jerry Clark who passed away unexpectedly last week. Jerry was our Adjutant for the Detachment of WY, Sons of The American Legion. He was appointed Adjutant by our Commander, Donavon Dusel, this past June at the summer Convention in Green River, WY. As you will recall, Jerry was the outgoing Department Commander for Wyoming, but Jerry had a desire to help our

Detachment by serving as our Adjutant which he had discussed with me and Commander Dusel. As Jerry stated he had lots of ideas to better our organization and promote our organization.

I first met Jerry in 2013, he was at the time a dual member and wanted to get his "foot" in the door with our Detachment and later become an officer with the Department of Wyoming, which he did. Upon my election to be the Detachment Commander in 2013 and after discussing some things and goals, I

decided to elect Jerry as my Adjutant. That proved to be a wise choice, as he performed his job to the highest degree. He was always thinking about how our organization could be improved. He was a team player, working with our organization. As he worked his way through the chairs with the Department, Jerry and I would maintain our communications by discussing issues and how we could improve both organizations, for the "good of the Legion" and our veterans. Jerry was very much interested in the History of our veterans in Wyoming and as we discussed some ideas over a "couple of toddies", we discovered that we had a common bond for the history of the Christmas in July for the Veterans living in the home in Buffalo, WY. Since squadron 44 first organized the event in the late 1980's, we decided to do some history research of this event. I turned to Jim Bailey, squadron 44 member and past Post 44 Commander and Detachment Commander for WY. Jim explained he and his entire family, plus all members of squadron 44 had originally established Christmas in July for our veterans, spend time visiting with them, sharing stories and of course fishing in the pond below the Veterans home in Buffalo. The veterans loved the interaction between Jim's boys and other squadron 44 members. Many thanks to you Jim Bailey, family and squadron 44.. This tradition has been carried on to this day and will continue by the Detachment of Wyoming. While Jerry



Jim Andersen
Squadron 44 Commander

and I continued to prob the history we decided to do a book on the history, combine pictures and events and present the book to the Veterans home. Jerry, the historical buff, had taken the lead on this adventure. I will try to complete that mission to honor him regarding the history of the Christmas in July event and further promote and recognize our veterans that have served our country.

As most of you know, Jerry would take on many tasks, and different positions and especially if that position required another "cap". He often told me he had numerous caps that would be displayed on the wall at home, reflecting his many officer positions.

Jerry, you had many irons in the fire and I will try to accomplish these ideas and goals of the Adjutant in your behalf for the Detachment of Wyoming 2022-2023, supporting our veterans and achieving our goals just as you did. Thank you for all you have accomplished for both the American Legion and Sons of The American Legion. Good by my friend, I will never forget you and our many times of working together and sharing our views.

For God and Country,
Jim Andersen



Membership TAL Membership Report

Post		2023 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
24	Rock Springs	378	248	65.61%	36
28	Green River	261	141	54.02%	55
36	Ft. Bridger	110	85	77.27%	0
40	Cokeville	10	1	10.00%	7
41	Evanston	39	24	61.54%	5
43	Jackson	129	123	95.35%	0
46	Alpine	43	23	53.49%	9
47	Pinedale	40	30	75.00%	0
49	Afton	18	13	72.22%	1
55	Kemmerer	40	24	60.00%	6
78	Big Piney	22	17	77.27%	0
88	La Barge	14	11	78.57%	0
D-1		1104	740	67.03%	88
75% - 12/14/2022					
Post		2023 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
2	Casper	250	165	66.00%	23
16	Powder River	12	4	33.33%	5
19	Riverton	70	52	74.29%	1
31	Dubois	20	11	55.00%	4
33	Lander	260	172	66.15%	23
61	Pavillion	12	3	25.00%	6
81	Ft. Washakie	25	17	68.00%	2
96	Arapaho	20	2	10.00%	13
D-3		669	426	63.68%	76
75% - 12/14/2022					
Post		2023 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
3	Newcastle	74	46	62.16%	10
7	Sheridan	203	130	64.04%	22
13	Buffalo	155	121	78.06%	0
25	Moorcroft	26	20	76.92%	0
42	Gillette	345	231	66.96%	28
45	Sundance	19	6	31.58%	8
80	Hulett	43	30	69.77%	2
90	Kaycee	14	6	42.86%	5
307	Gillette College	28	1	3.57%	20
D-5		907	591	65.16%	89
75% - 12/14/2022					

current as of: 18-Nov-2022

"For God and Country"

To all American Legion Post Commanders and Adjutants

re: Veterans and Children's Foundation

The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation feeds and houses children of military personnel and veterans facing urgent, unexpected hardships. It prevents eviction, keeps the power on and fulfills basic needs to hold a family together through difficult times.

The foundation also covers rigorous training and accreditation costs for American Legion claims experts who provide free representation for veterans and families applying for disability benefits, survivor assistance, GI Bill opportunities and more.

Since its inception in 1925 as the American Legion Endowment Fund, the foundation has assisted millions of veterans, their families and children in need. The fund was renamed American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation in 2019 to more clearly state who benefits from tax-deductible donations to the separate non-profit 501c3 element of the nation's largest veteran's organization.

The foundation relies entirely on charitable donations from individuals, like-minded associations and corporate allies.

At anyone time, more than 3,000 trained and accredited American Legion service officers are handling the needs of 750,000 or more U.S. military veterans who have become disabled through service to our nation, as well as their families, who may be caregivers, surviving spouses or dependent children.

The American Legion Tempo-

rary Financial Assistance program ensures that qualified military and veteran families with minor children at home can pay for food, shelter, clothing or other necessities when sudden, unexpected financial hardships strike. The program distributes between \$250,000 and \$1.2 million each year in one-time cash grants of up to \$1,500 each.

The American Legion, Department of Wyoming is obligated to donate \$11,000 to this foundation. At the present time, Wyoming has donated \$6500.00, but we are seeking assistance in donating the remaining balance.

When a department donates half the amount, an urn is placed on the desk of the NEC (National Executive Committee) room. Wyoming has already earned one of the urns.

National is requesting each post donate 25 cents per member over the next 7 years, which is around \$11,000.00. Wyoming would like to be able to earn that second urn; however, we would like to dedicate it to Past Department Commander and Detachment Adjutant Jerry Clark, who passed away on Tuesday. We would like to honor him for his years of commitment to the Legion and for all the hard work he has done, and so we are asking for donations now.

Please send your Posts' donation to:

The American Legion Department of Wyoming 1320 Hugur Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82001

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Michael Hobbs
Commander

Post		2023 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
1	Van Tassell	31	19	61.29%	4
4	Lusk	32	18	56.25%	6
5	Torrington	136	94	69.12%	8
8	Douglas	183	126	68.85%	11
9	Glenrock	47	35	74.47%	1
10	Wheatland	83	54	65.06%	8
15	Glendo	26	25	96.15%	0
56	Veteran	10	5	50.00%	3
63	Lingle	22	12	54.55%	5
70	La Grange	10	9	90.00%	0
75	Chugwater	13	13	100.00%	0
95	Guernsey	34	16	47.06%	10
D-2		627	426	67.94%	44
75% - 12/14/2022					
Post		2023 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
11	Lovell	30	27	90.00%	0
18	Thermopolis	15	16	106.67%	0
20	Cody	45	33	73.33%	1
26	Powell	167	121	72.46%	4
29	Basin	44	33	75.00%	0
32	Greybull	24	19	79.17%	0
44	Worland	188	123	65.43%	18
85	Meeteetse	24	17	70.83%	1
91	Heart Mountain	16	15	93.75%	0
D-4		553	404	73.06%	11
75% - 12/14/2022					
Post		2023 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
6	Cheyenne	1202	806	67.05%	96
14	Laramie	306	231	75.49%	0
21	Burns	10	5	50.00%	3
54	Saratoga	81	58	71.60%	3
60	Pine Bluffs	42	36	85.71%	0
64	Medicine Bow	30	20	66.67%	3
77	Albin	10	5	50.00%	3
93	Cheyenne	11	3	27.27%	5
122	Rawlins	49	33	67.35%	4
D-6		1741	1197	68.75%	109
DISTRICT TOTALS					
17 HQ.		5601	3784	67.56%	417
		174	32	18.39%	99
DEPARTMENT GOAL					
NATIONAL GOAL		5775	3816	66.08%	515
75% - 12/14/2022					

Dear Legionnaires,

I'm sure that everyone has been getting all the notifications about making sure that justice is served for those of you who were affected by the issues at Camp Lejeune! I just wanted everyone to know that National Headquarters has chosen a Law firm that will properly represent every veteran and not charge an enormous fee to benefit and take advantage of veterans. Here is an insert from an email that I received regarding this issue.

My name is Liz Hartman and I'm a spokesperson for Bergmann & Moore - The law firm that The American Legion has been under contract with since 2017.

I live in New Bern, North Carolina - a stone's throw distance from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. As a Marine Corps veteran, I am aware of the incessant advertisements that have been targeting veterans and their families in the wake of the passage of the PACT Act/Camp Lejeune Justice Act (CLJA).

Many of these firms are charging veterans and their family's exorbitant amounts - at times in excess of 60 percent, not including costs. Additionally, they have failed to notify potential clients of the offset provision in the CLJA leaving claimants with less money.

For these reasons and more, the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Commission announced at the 2022 Fall National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting that the contract with Bergmann & Moore be included to provide assistance with the CLJA. Bergmann & Moore has successfully represented more than 4,000 Legion veterans and their families in federal court before the

U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and continue to actively serve as the Legion's training partner - leading Department Service Officer (DSO) schools. They presently represent more veterans before the Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims than any other law firm in the country.

The relationship with Bergmann & Moore ensures veterans and family members have CLJA representation that not only deeply understands the appeals process but has transparent/capped fees (33.33 percent inclusive of all costs).

To ensure veterans are educated on the complexities of the bill, I will be educating veterans on the complexities of the CLJA, answer any questions, and ultimately support them through their potential claims process.

I have asked Liz Hartman to attend our Department of Wyoming convention next year to share all the information they have about helping veterans navigate this process. I am encouraging everyone to attend the Department convention next year to learn about CLJA. I will also include any website information in future articles and emails to all the posts in the Department. Don't fall victim to the law firms that are preying on our veterans who are struggling with the side effects. If you would like to contact Liz Hartman her email is lhartman@vetlawyers.com. Please check out this website as well: www.camplejeunelitigationteam.com/AL

Please get the right help from the right people. I look forward to seeing everyone at Department Convention in June!

Sincerely,
Department Commander
Mike Hobbs





THE FALL WORKSHOP OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING SEPTEMBER 16-17 2022, CASPER, WYOMING





High School Oratorical



Donald L. York
Chairman

Oratorical Contest
Since 1938, the contest has developed knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students.

High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest

"A Constitutional Speech Contest"

The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program, "A Constitutional Speech Contest" is one of the most influential programs The American Legion has to offer. Through the work to prepare their presentations, contestants learn the responsibility side of the Constitution and how that responsibility plays out in the duties

of citizenship. Students that involve themselves in the program are some of the finest youth there are in Wyoming.

The program, open to students grades 9-12, consists of two parts; The Prepared Oration and the Assigned Topics. The Prepared Oration consists of an 8-10 minute prepared speech on any part of the Constitution given without notes or script. The Assigned Topic delivery should be 3-5 minutes on the topic's relevance in today's news.

Assigned Topics for 2023 Oratorical Contest

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or *to the people*.

Amendment XIV, Section 1

All persons born or naturalized

in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Amendment XVI

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

The Registration Form is available on the Wyoming Legion website: www.WyoLegion.org/oratorical

CONTEST DATES:

Post Contests: Not later than February 5, 2023

District Contests: Not later than February 19, 2023

Department of Wyoming: March 5, 2023; 2:00pm; Douglas, Wyoming

National: April 21-23, 2023; Indianapolis, Indiana

Awards:

National: 1st \$25,000; 2nd \$22,500; 3rd \$20,000. Certifies State winners that deliver in the first round receive \$2,000. Those that advance to the Second Quarter re-

ceive an additional \$2,000

Department: First place: \$500 and goes on to represent Wyoming at the National Contest; Second place: \$400; Third place: \$200

District: 1st place: \$200; 2nd place: \$100.00; 3rd place: \$50.00

Post Awards are the responsibility of the sponsoring Post.

The National and Department Awards have an eight year shelf life.

The [CONTEST RULES] and [CHAIRMAN GUIDELINES], along with other information and resources may be found at www.Legion.org/oratorical under the {RESOURCES} tab.

Committee Contacts:

District 1; Thomas Dean, VC, 307-858-5054

District 2; Edward Tirado, VC, 307-340-1420

District 3; Nancy Eustice, VC, 307-851-7280

District 4; Kathleen Jones, VC, 307-586-4122

District 5; Brian Yeager, VC, 307-941-2662

District 6; Travis Jones, VC, 307-461-1151

Donald L. York, Chairman

The American Legion
High School Oratorical
Scholarship Contest

The American Legion,
Department of Wyoming
739 East Antelope Road
Douglas, Wyoming 82633
307-358-5421 (o)



Patio Party/Cornhole Tournament Post 14

On 24 September, Post 14 held its final patio party of the year along with a Corn Hole tournament. Dept Cdr Mike Hobbs and his family, Dept Auxiliare President Tammy Harris and her family, Dept Adjutant Gina Mayhan and her grandson attended as well as several post, SAL, and Auxiliare members and members of the community. Local musicians, John Gargilesky and Brian "Goose" Giesinger performed for the crowd. - Written by Vanessa Stuart D6 Commander



American Legion Auxiliary News

“Cowboy Up for Our Veterans”

Tammy Harris, Department President

(Be Courageous and Do What Has to Be Done)

Howdy! As I sit and write this, the snowflakes are falling—and sticking—to the ground. Ready or not, winter is coming and its time to gather in, buckle down and get work done. As ALA members, it is time for us to be courageous and to do the work we need to do in order to grow and be prosperous as an organization.

One of the things I have heard consistently through my unit visits to date is the concern for low numbers in participation, dwindling memberships and high levels of burnout from those who are active. What can we do to address the concerns and work

to strengthen our units? We cannot continue to do things the way we have always done them and need to think outside of the box to start addressing the concerns that many of our units have expressed. Change is difficult--it is so very easy to keep on doing the same things the same way we have always done them; however, if we keep on doing things in the same old way, we are going to continue to see declines in our membership. Change is uncomfortable. Growth is uncomfortable but with change and growth we will come out on the other side stronger than ever.

The other common refrain I've heard is that the younger generation either doesn't want to be involved or doesn't have

time to be involved. It is up to us to demonstrate, through solid leadership, who we are, what we do and why we matter. It is up to us to invite people to join us.

I encourage you all to find ways to meet your younger members, and prospective members, where they are (do family friendly activities), find other community stake holders to partner with (they can be a great resource when you are short-handed), put yourselves and your unit out in the public eye in your community, go through your membership applications and find the members who indicated a desire to help, and work with your Post and Squadron (if you have one) to encourage Legion Family involvement.

Get the word out. Invite the press, post your stories and activities on social media and do what you need to do to get the word out that you are in your communities. Make sure to tell the Department what you have done through your year end report to the program chair. Who knows, something you do may spark an idea for another unit.

You will note from the Mid-Winter schedule that we are going to be changing things up a little bit again. We are going to work together to find ways to meet our members where they are and share our ideas for program delivery in our communities. I hope you can all make it to Casper on January 14, 2023.

Be courageous and try



*Tammy Harris
President*

something new. Together, we can get the work done.

In the spirit of service, not self.

Tammy Harris

News from your Secretary

*Peg Sullivan
Department Secretary*



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our Auxiliary members. Also, a good time to tell all Membership Chairmen thank you; you are awesome!

Thanks to you, your Department Office continues to be a steward of finances, membership, and correspondence. Remember

as a member you have the right to ask questions and expect answers. I welcome all questions.

Please mark your calendar and watch for your District Assessment (will include poppies if you didn't include it with your order). They will be emailed to save postage. IF you

would like it mailed, please let me know before March 15, 2023.

What do you think of your newspaper? Do you like the layout? Please tell your President or email to deptaux@wylegionaux.org with suggestions or comments.



Poppy



*Linda York
Poppy Chairman*

love to hear from every unit letting me know how you are promoting the Poppy Program, please include pictures when you can. My e-mail is lindayork2@yahoo.com. My hope is that every unit will hold a poppy poster contest this year. The rules are on the national website, and I am available for questions. It is not too early to start, as the posters must be to your District Presidents prior to Spring Conference. Other resources available on the national website are the Poppy Program Guide, and the poppy coloring book. Please feel free to reach out to me with any poppy questions or suggestions.

Poppies are the official flower of the American Legion Family, and each unit should be promoting the Poppy Program. I would

Merry Christmas



Card of Thanks



Thank you so much for your generous donations to my National President Special Project and all the beautiful gifts from everyone.

Your hospitality was so much appreciated.

I had so much fun!

I am loving not only getting to see this beautiful country of ours, many places I have never seen before, but having the opportunity of meeting all our hard-working volunteers in our wonderful American Legion Family.

God Bless

Vickie Koutz

American Legion Auxiliary

Nation President

2022-2023



"In the Clouds"

In Memoriam

Janet Uttech 27 years a member Unit 44
 Twila Palu Unit President District 4
 President Unit 44
 Joan Summers 33 years a member Unit 44
 Mae Pulver Member 3 years Unit 15
 Diane Taylor Unit 15
 Virginia Wood Member 18 years Unit 29

Sympathy

Sheila Stricher Death of Sister Unit 26
 Cheryl Stroman Unit 6
 Family of Twila Palu Unit 44
 Margie Sanborn Unit 15
 Patricia Stange Unit 6
 JoAnn Consior Unit 6
 Jack Wood Unit 29
 Jessica Pandullo Unit 6
 Dora Jones Unit 6

Connie Martinez Unit 26

Sandy Clark Death of husband Unit 26

Get Well

Andrea Schuck Unit 28
 Jane Miller Surgery Unit 6
 Mary Schuck Unit 28
 Joyce Marschman Unit 26
 Kami Scott Unit 26

Thinking of You

Bobbie Gertsch - Unit 6

Thank You

Gail Keeler Unit 6
 Sage Bridger Unit 15
 Diane Meidinger Unit 26
 Anne Metzler Unit 26



From the Chaplain's Desk



Judith Killion
 Chaplain

Code of the West

- 1) *Live each day with courage.*
 - 2) *Take pride in your work.*
 - 3) *Always finish what you start.*
 - 4) *Do what has to be done.*
 - 5) *Be tough, but fair.*
 - 6) *When you make a promise, keep it.*
 - 7) *Ride for the brand.*
 - 8) *Talk less and say more.*
 - 9) *Remember that some things aren't for sale.*
 - 10) *Know where to draw the line.*
- The sun is glistening off snow-

Live Each Day With Courage

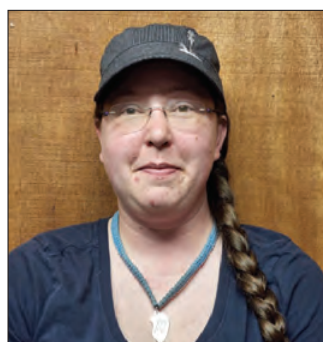
covered hills and the tiny flashes of light that reflect remind me of each of you scattered across the state sharing the light of the mission of the American Legion Auxiliare. We are reminded in Matthew 5:14 that we are a light on a hill, whereas Matthew 5:16 reminds us that we should let our light shine that others may see our works, and Luke 11:33 reminds us that if we light a lamp, we do not hide it but proudly-gladly-supportively, put it up for others to see. Light helps illuminate missions and projects from start to finish and helps us all recognize what must be done. We should never be afraid to shine the light on any facet of our life or our organization. You are each light that can shine forth in your community and help increase the mission and message of serving God and Country as you serve veterans in your communities.

Take pride in the work set before you-the task you are commissioned to complete, and do not fret if it looks and feels different than what

you may have expected or envisioned it to be; there are many ways to serve those who have served us. The pride you take is not haughty or exalting; rather it is humble and full of gratitude that you have an opportunity to give back in some way to those who have given so much. It is a pride of service, not of self. A pride of love not of exaltation. This kind of pride is completely acceptable and yes even honored by others and by God. It is not built on furthering yourself but on finding ways to make a difference for others. Let us take pride in this kind of work-this kind of service-this kind of love for it is not arrogance or boasting but service and sacrifice.

When we take pride in what our task, goal, mission, or program maybe we are more likely to always finish what we start (2 Corinthians 8:10-12). Finishing what we start is very different from finishing where we start (Ecclesiastes 7:8). A program or idea may develop in a meeting or over coffee or through a text

thread; however, to finish it effectively we must take it to the people. Every effective ministry, regardless of what it is, takes its program to the people, it does not expect the people to come to them. One of the most important elements missing in today's culture is the human connection. Sure, there are lots of other connections through social media and technology, but the actual human contact makes a world of difference. Do not be afraid to take that light out into the community, to other groups, to ask for support and assistance from those around you. Remember that Jesus called people from all walks of life to help him in his ministry. Take pride in your work and finish what you start. Keep your light shining. Remember light attracts life. Make a trail of light and life in your community. I will be looking for those twinkling lights blazing paths for veterans across Wyoming.



Jessica York
 Department Historian

Department Historian

Historian Report for Auxiliare November 2022

Please send in pictures of your Unit activities, rate what our Department has been up to. They can be emailed to countrygirljdy@gmail.com. I'm putting together a power point to commemo-



We

Support Our

Veterans



Department of Wyoming Education Program



Susan Sironen
*District 4 President
Department of Education
Chairman*

grams and scholarship planning. As we heard at Fall Workshop, no mid-year reports are required again this year. That said, please feel free to forward photos, articles from newspapers and descriptions of your activities as they happen. Please send these to sironen2013@outlook.com. I would love to hear about your various projects and would like to post them on the National Facebook page.

Scholarships are available on both the State and National levels. Some are paper applications to be submitted to the Units and some are on-line only, which are routed back to the Department for review. Please watch the deadlines and criteria. Information is avail-

able on our Department of Wyoming website www.wylegionaux.org and click on the Scholarship tab. Some require membership in the ALA, but some do not. There is a spreadsheet that gives a quick review of criteria and due dates.

One to consider is the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship. While this is a scholarship awarded by National, there are three given out in each Division for \$5,000 each. Applicants do not need to be members and it is open to daughters, sons, grandson, granddaughters, as well as great-grandsons and great-granddaughters of veterans who served in Armed Forces during eligibility dates. Please let your schools and members know the various

scholarships are available.

When submitting applications, please remind the participant to attach everything that is required. If a document is not complete or missing, it makes that application ineligible. For essays, it might be helpful to have someone else (teacher, parent, etc.) proofread the essay for grammar and spelling and don't forget to use the spell check and grammar check on the computer, along with the word count feature.

Please let me know if I may be of any assistance to you with your Education Program. Sincerely, Susan Sironen, Department Chairman

Happy Fall to everyone. With the fall weather comes the beginning of the various school pro-



Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Veteran's Affairs & Rehabilitaion November 2022



Linda Orr
*Veterans Affairs and
Rehabilitation Chairman*

make their holidays more festive? What about doing some errands or provide babysitting so that parents can do some shopping? Or maybe wrap packages so the children don't realize that gifts have been gotten?

Ribbon cutting was held at the Veterans Home in Buffalo for the New Wyoming Skilled Nursing Home Building. They are planning on habitation after the first of the year. Governor Gordon was in attendance along with members of the Buffalo unit. They represented the Auxiliary wonderfully.

The PACT act has been passed into law. One of the major points is that those service folks that were in the area of the hazardous burns while deployed, will now have many medical

issues considered service connected. Flu shots and COVID shots/boosters are available for our veterans. Now is the time to talk those special veterans in our lives and have them use our VA's and clinics for their physical and mental needs.

Now for a total 180. Have you been keeping track of your volunteer hours and connected expenses? It is so much easier to do it at the least monthly so as not to forget anything. The hours kept are split into the categories following: 1) those volunteered and expenses at a VA or VA Clinic (VA also does this), 2) Veteran time for hours spent in your home or the veteran's home or a nursing home, etc., and 3) the new "Cargiver" title for the time, etc., spent

providing care for the veteran within your personal family. "In Time Donations" are a guestimate for items donated and miles are a cost. Also note military families so we can count the hours spent on children. It is better to overestimate time and expense as we all underestimate what time we expend and how many dollars we spend. Please, please, please keep track no matter how nasty a chore it seems to be - Congress requires it.

You are a continued strong supporter of the veteran and active service personnel. You are very SPECIAL. Please keep up the good work.

Linda Orr and Susan Sironen, Chair

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

Coming home may be the end of one journey for many veterans; it is also the beginning of a new journey to transition to a "new normal." Helping them get there is at the core of the purpose and service of the American Legion Auxiliary. Members are passionate about providing care and comfort to

our heroic U.S. service members who are so highly deserving of everything we can possibly do for them.

At VA facilities, Auxiliary-sponsored gift shops and holiday parties have become a revered tradition and valued program. Members, units, and departments also purchase essential equipment and supplies for these facilities.

SAVE THE DATE

At the 2022 National Convention a dues increase was passed on the floor beginning in the 2024 dues year.

Senior dues will increase by \$6.00 but Junior dues will not increase at this time.

Units will not need to vote on this increase. With this increase the unit will send in \$31 for each member.

National will receive \$18.00 and Department will receive \$13.00. If your unit decides to increase their portion of the dues, this will require a vote.

When these changes are made at the unit level, you will need to update your Constitution & By-Laws. Once any changes are made to a Constitution & By-Laws, a copy needs to be sent to the Constitution & By-Laws Chairman.



Membership



Cathey Raymer
Membership Chairman

Unit Membership Poem

Ten little members standing in a line, one disliked the President and then there were nine;
 Nine ambitious members offered to work late, one forgot her promise and then there were eight;
 Eight creative members had ideas as good as heaven, one lost enthusiasm and then there were seven;
 Seven loyal members got into a fix, they quarreled over programs and then there were six;
 Six eager members wanting the Unit to thrive, one dropped out and then there were five;
 Five happy members, not one a bore...they fought over Bingo and then there were four;
 Four cheerful members who never disagree, till one complained of meetings and then there were three;
 Three members left, all of them blue...one joined a bowling league and then there were two;
 Two tired members - our rhyme is nearly done, one joined a bridge club and then there was one....
 One faithful member feeling rather blue, she met with a neighbor and then there were two; Two earnest members each enrolled more, doubling their numbers and then there were four; Four determined members just couldn't wait, they each found another and then there were eight;
 Eight excited members signed up sixteen more (in another six verses there will be a thousand and twenty four)! Author unknown

Campfire Chat

With winter showing its face, we need to cozy up around the campfire. As you know, we are in the beginning of our membership renewal season. By the time you read this, the first deadline for 50% by Veterans Day has come and gone. At the beginning of November, Wyoming was at 41.59%. The Northwest Division was in 1st place. How is your Unit doing?
 Membership has two R's: Recruitment and Retention. Recruitment is only part of the success of the American Legion Auxiliary's mission and growth of our Units. The consequences of not working on retention along with recruiting new members is dreadful for our Units. We can not control people leaving, we can strive to offer them good reasons to stay. Always remember that members need to feel valued and re-

DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING MEMBERSHIP							
Monday, November 07, 2022							
Unit #	Unit Name	Goal	Total	Unit #	Unit Name	Goal	Total
District 1				District 4			
24	Rock Springs	247	116	26	Powell	116	66
28	Green River	129	52	29	Basin	52	28
36	Ft. Bridger	51	42	32	Greybull	15	0
40	Cokeville	31	1	44	Worland	76	38
46	Alpine	31	24		Total	259	132
47	Pinedale	31	18	District 5			
78	Big Piney	27	16	3	Newcastle	26	0
88	LaBarge	17	0	7	Sheridan	93	61
	Total	547	269	13	Buffalo	144	77
District 2				17	Department	13	10
1	Van Tassel	14	7	25	Moorcroft	81	52
5	Torrington	135	3	42	Gillette	187	42
8	Douglas	65	44	80	Hulett	55	31
9	Glenrock	54	38	90	Kaycee	36	27
10	Wheatland	39	23		Total	635	300
15	Glendo	87	66	District 6			
70	LaGrange	37	18	6	Cheyenne	264	131
75	Chugwater	15	2	14	Laramie	82	24
95	Guernsey	44	25	54	Saratoga	50	14
	Total	490	201	60	Pine Bluffs	31	26
District 3				64	Medicine Bow	36	12
16	Powder River	9	4	77	Albin	26	22
19	Riverton	25	4		Total	489	229
33	Lander	72	51	Dept Total			
81	Ft. Washakie	14	4	Nat'l Goal			
	Total	120	63	2540 1194			
		2540	1194	2724			



spected. Listening to members who voice their ideas and opinions. This applies to your Unit's long-time members, as well as the newly recruited ones. We must let members know that they are the Auxiliary's most valued asset. Some suggestions for reaching out to members.

Host a casual gathering so Unit members can get to know one another.

Make sure they know how to contact one another.

Regularly thank all Unit members for joining.

Not all members can make it to the meetings. Share with them the upcoming events, monthly newsletters or share the minutes from the meetings.

Send out invites or personal reminders for upcoming meetings.

Remember Jrs. are members too. Invite them to meetings and find opportunities for them to participate.

I'm sharing with you a poem sent by National.

PONDER THIS IS THIS YOUR UNIT? DEPARTMENT?

Ten little members standing in a line, one disliked the President and then there were nine;

Nine ambitious members offered to work late, one forgot her promise and then there were eight;

Eight creative members had ideas as good as heaven, one lost enthusiasm and then there were seven;

Seven loyal members got into a fix, they quarreled over programs and then there were six;

Six eager members wanting the Unit to thrive, one dropped out and then there were five;

Five happy members, not one a bore...they fought over Bingo and then there were four;

Four cheerful members who never disagree, till one complained of meetings and there were three;

Three members left all of them blue...one joined a bowling league and then there were two;

Two tired members - our rhyme is nearly done, one joined a bridge club and then there was one...

One faithful member feeling rather blue, she met with a neighbor and then there were two;

Two earnest members each enrolled more, doubling their numbers and then there were four;

Four determined members just couldn't wait, they each found another and then there were eight;

Eight excited members signed up sixteen more (in another six verses there will be a thousand and twenty four)!

(Author unknown)
Cathey Raymer
Department Membership Chairman



Children & Youth Committee

CHILDREN & YOUTH/CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION KEY PROGRAM STATEMENTS:

1. The Children & Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for, and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families.

2. To recognize and reward the positive actions of our children and youth, the American Legion Auxiliary has two special national awards bestowed to youth nominated by units: the Youth Hero Award and the Good Deed Award.

3. Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDH2) is an initiative honoring military children who may be experiencing a separation from one or both parents, whether deployed to a war zone, having a short tour, on an extended temporary duty assignment.

4. The American Legion Auxiliary Children & Youth program strives to support and promote the Children & Youth program of The American Legion including the Child Welfare Foundation.

LOOKING FOR IDEAS: The ALA Committee Facebook Groups are spaces on the social media network for ALA members to discuss or

share about broad or narrow topics related to each committee. Groups provide an arena for organic discussion about your local programs or services and present the opportunity to cultivate brand awareness. This is a place to share activities and events, ask questions, obtain information, and promote Children & Youth activities. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALACHildrenandYouth/> All ALA members are eligible to become part of this group.

NATIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH AWARDS:

1. Unit Award – Most Outstanding Unit Children & Youth Program (per division)

2. Department Award – Best Department Children & Youth Program (per division)

KEY CHILDREN & YOUTH RESOURCES:

Youth Hero/Good Deed Award Form; Youth Hero/Good Deed Award Media Release;

Youth Hero/Good Deeds Award Page

Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2; I'm a Hero 2 Stickers

Proud Parent of a Military Child Button Order Form

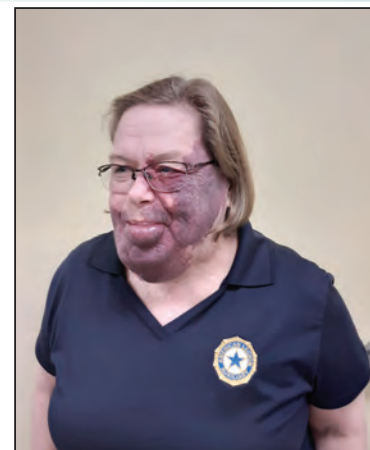
ALA Halloween Coloring Book
Military Child's Table Setting Ceremony

Youth Programs Brochure

LIAISON TO CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION: To educate members and the general public about the Child Welfare Foundation (CWF), its mission, and to provide financial assistance to The American Legion in their efforts to award grants to youth-serving nonprofit organizations. Note: Donation Can labels are available for download.

Additional information about the C&Y program will be available at the Fall Workshop meeting in Casper. Please plan on attending. If you are unable to do so, please reach out with any questions you might have.

Shareen Johnson,
Children & Youth Chairman
P O Box 1321 Lander WY 82520
307-349-9749
shareen.lander@gmail.com



Shareen Joohnson
Children & Youth
Chairman

Children & Youth

To recognize and reward the positive actions of our children and youth, the American Legion Auxiliary has two special national awards bestowed to youth nominated by units. The Youth Hero Award recognizes someone less than 18 years of age who performs a heroic act of physical bravery. The Good Deed Award is for youths 18 years of age or younger who have contributed in a special way to society through community service.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



up and contacted your local high school to find out how many junior girls are in each school. Thank you! If you haven't turned in your quota sheets yet for your local high schools, it is not too late! You can email me and I can get you the correct information. I have heard from 15 units so far.

For Mid-winter, I will be holding a training for all who are helping as unit chairman. We will be covering the application/interview process, how to prepare your delegate, how to raise funds to send your delegate, and how to navigate Girls State mail (what to send with your delegate to Girls State). We still need a lot of help recruiting and getting the word out. Try to get at least One (1) more delegate than your unit got last year. Together we can change the lives of these young women and make a difference in their communities.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or want to get involved:

Dawn Kenneda,
wygdirector@gmail.com

Dawn Kenneda
Unit 7 Sheridan
Wyoming Girls State Director



Greetings from Girls State. We have some exciting things happening. So many of you have stepped



Legislation Report

As we embark our right to vote and empower individuals to make decisions that impact us all, we need to remember that we may or may not agree with them, but respecting each other is above all is the best decision.

Exciting news New signed Laws:

The Pact Act was signed by President Biden on August 10, 2022. This is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances.

For more information: PACT Act - Public Health (va.gov)

Solid Start Act of 2022 signed by President Biden that derived from language R. 6411- Strong Veterans Act of 2022. This bill addresses mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), including by requiring the VA to update training for the VA workforce and Veterans Crisis Line staff.

- Calling each veteran, regardless of separation type or characterization of service, three times within the first year after separation of the veteran from the Armed Forces;

- Prioritizing outreach to veterans who have accessed mental health resources prior to separation from the Armed Forces

- Providing women veterans with information that is tailored to their specific

health care and benefit needs;

For more information: Text of S. 1198 Solid Start Act of 2022 (Passed Congress version) - GovTrack.us

Pending Legislation:

S.344- Major Richard Star Act. This bill allows a Veteran with a combat-related disability and fewer than 20 years of creditable service to receive retirement pay, without reduction, concurrent with disability compensation.

Take Action Now- less than 5 minutes Scan the QR code:



or copy and paste URL below in your browser: <http://govtrack.us/congress/bills/117/hr1282/comment>

Step 1: Call or Write Congress About H.R. 1282: Major Richard Star Act - GovTrack.us

Step 2: Type in zip code

Step 3: Follow the instructions to copy and paste email message to your representative page



Merry Christmas...



District and Unit News



District 1 News

It has been a very busy few months. I have visited most of my Units and what a pleasure it has been meeting so many wonderful members. I've been inspired by all their programs and work that they do.

Unit 46, Alpine – The Unit has been helping with Bingo that is held once a month. The ladies liked the idea of the Blessing Bags and decided to put together some for their local VA clinic in Afton. On November 5th they hosted a pancake breakfast for their Veterans. They are attending the school events on November 10th. The Unit is working on sponsoring a wreath program for the cemetery in their community and they pack and distribute Christmas baskets. They have published their first Unit 46 Bulletin. Ladies, it looks amazing. This bulletin will help keep their members and community up to date on their activities.

Unit 78, Big Piney – A Veterans

luncheon is being held at the Senior Center and the Unit is paying for the Veterans lunch. They are hoping to have Boys/Girls State Delegates to help serve. The members will be decorating the tables. Each Veterans will receive a pin and the Unit is organizing a slide show. They are planning a Christmas party for their members and plan on inviting Pinedale and LaBarge ALA members to their party.

Unit 47, Pinedale – Natalie Sorenson is the new chairman for their scholarship program. President Nancy and Natalie met with the guidance counselor at the high school and received a lot of good information. They have changed their application to ensure that students from military families have priority. They are planning their December quarterly meeting, luncheon, and white elephant gift exchange.

Unit 36, Ft. Bridger – In Septem-

ber, they had a picnic for their Girls State delegates, and they awarded their Girls State Scholarship to one of the delegates. Their annual Craft Fair and Santa's 2nd Hand Workshop had a good selection of vendors, and they sold lunch. The members will be selling popcorn and sodas at the Music Bingo night hosted by the Legion. The Veterans Dinner is being catered by Maryann Bluemel and the Unit will be serving. Every year the Unit members bake lots and lots of cookies to send the VA hospital in Sheridan.

Unit 28, Green River – The Unit hosted their first Paint Night. Lots of orange pumpkins painted and lots of laughter. Oh, don't forget the wine. The Purses and Poppies Auction was held in October as a fundraiser for the Auxiliary. Food, Poppy-ritas and wonderful purses. The Legion Family sponsored a float in the Halloween Parade and had loads of candy to



Cathey Raymer
District 1 President

throw out. The Unit is hosting Bingo after the November meeting. Sherry Bushman is organizing a Sweaters and Sweatshirts Drive. The members are helping sort and handing them out in November. The annual Christmas party will be held at the December meeting with a potluck. Invitations were mailed out to all members.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!



Jessica York
District 2 President



District 2 News



November 6, 2022

Unit 1 Van Tassel is busy planning the 2023 Department Convention. They will be handing out poppies to all of those who attend the school's Veteran's Day program this year.

Unit 8 Douglas held their annual bake-a-thon, and baked over 90 dozen cookies for the Cheyenne VA. They will be helping the Post & Squadron with the annual Veteran's Day service & breakfast.

Unit 9 Glenrock held a luncheon for their 2022 Girls'

State delegates, and is preparing for their Christmas boxes for the troops. They will be doing a Veteran's Day program at the High School.

Unit 15 Glendo will be serving coffee & sandwiches for Veteran's Day.

Unit 95 Guernsey will be raising the Avenue of Flags for Veteran's Day, along with taking cookies to Camp Guernsey & the local convenience stores, & helping the VFW with their dinner. They are planning to donate snacks to the staff during National Education Week.



District 4 News



Marion Tanner Unit 29 of Basin takes the summer months off for the most part. In August we shared a table with the Post at the county fair on Patriotic Day. The Auxiliary had poppies for donation and the Post sold flags. Our Education Chairman took treats to the school staff and teachers wishing them a good year. We draped the charter for Virginia Wood who recently passed away. One of the Americanism essays from our local school won first place at the Department level and Varissa Olsen was presented with her certificate and award money. The school has been given information about the contest for this year and the six Junior class girls have been notified about Girls State. Our Poppy Day will be Nov 4 and the Veterans Day program at the school will be Nov 11 with our Veterans Day dinner following on Nov 12. Susan Sironen, President.

Floyd Minch Unit 44 of Worland in July, a couple members visited The Wreaths Across America truck when it was in town. In September, we invited the Girls State delegates to come to our meeting to report on their experience at Girls State. Cynthia Pfeiffer reported on Fall Workshop and new year committees were established. In October, we Draped the Charter for Janet Uttech, Jo Summers, and Twila Palu. We also helped with the Early Bird Dinner at the Legion and sold drawing tickets to raise money for the Veterans War Memorial at Sanders Park repairs. In November, we are having a Patriotic Sip and Paint to raise money and awareness for Veterans and Veteran projects. Wendy Fredricks, President

Hughes-Pittinger Unit 26 of Powell in August we assisted the Post with the Family Picnic. September

we attended the Post's 911 remembrance ceremony. We held a benefit for a young girl needing a kidney transplant over \$5000 was raised to assist the family. Then October brought about our annual community Halloween party. It was a safe night for kids to eat, receive toys, treats, and prizes. We had 353 kids and parents attend our party. Now we are putting together Thanksgiving baskets for November. We are also doing a food drive for our commodity program with the assistance of the Boy Scouts of Post 26 and Cub Scouts of Unit 26. We strive to make a difference in our community in stomping out hunger. We would like to wish all units throughout the state Happy Thanksgiving. Patty Paulsen, President

Greybull Uni 32 of Greybull Our Unit has been struggling to maintain membership and be active in our lo-



Trudy Zaffarano
District 4 President

cal community. The other Units in the District have offered to help with whatever we need, which is very much appreciated. We've started the Girls State process. Currently there are 8 Junior girls in Burlington and 19 in Greybull. We hope to have a good turnout from our Unit. Deanna Werner, President





Robyn Ruff
District 5 President

GEORGE MONROE Unit 3 sent no updates. I do know they attended Fall Workshop and provided items for the Cheyenne Stand Down Project. Editors note – fund raising pictures were sent to the Office.

JOHN DONALD GARBUS Unit 7 attended Fall Workshop. They played Plinko at the Sheridan VA's 100th Celebration. They passed out brochures and membership applications. Several members participated in the Fall Festival in

downtown Sheridan. Dressed in costume, they handed out candy and membership information to trick or treaters. They provided gift cards to the Sheridan Police Department, the Foster Care program and the VA to be used for assistance as needed. \$150.00 dollars was given to the Post to help with the cost of the Veteran's Day meal. A cake will also be provided. A gift basket will be presented to the first baby born on Veteran's Day. Raffle baskets are used to raise funds for our Children and Youth programs. Our meetings are now being held at Ole's Pizza on the 3rd Tuesday. Meal at 6 with a meeting start at 6:30 pm. President Robin Ruff will visit the Post Meeting to share our activities and offer our assistance in any possible way.

POWDER RIVER Unit 13 they started their year with a carry in dinner for Girl State delegates and families. The Stand Down project collected coats, clothing, blankets and

sleeping bags as well as personal items. Cookies, Ice cream, brownies and BINGO continue to be served to our Veterans. They will deliver a baby bag to the first baby born on Veterans Day. Breakfast, dinners and Veteran's Day meal continue to be served.

MOORCROFT Unit 25 members attended fall workshop and provided items for the Stand Down They donated money for the Halloween Treat Street and Veteran's Goodie Bags. They are planning a Veteran's Day dinner. Members continue to donate time to the local food pantry and thrift store. Their mission now is to recruit new members and celebrate existing members.

CAMPBELL County Unit 42 they are celebrating the arrival of their cookbook...now available on Amazon! Friday night meals, funeral dinners, the upcoming bazaar, and Veteran's Day activities keep everyone busy. Their Hometown Grati-

tude program is also a big success. ROY MONTGOMERY Unit 80 they are in the process of deciding which programs they will be working on...there are so many to choose from!

HOLE IN THE WALL Unit 90 these hard working members sent treats for the Stand Down. They hosted their fall blood drive with 19 units of blood donated! They gave Halloween Coloring Books to kindergarten and first graders as well as children at the Library Story hour. They will be doing a Veteran's Day presentation to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classes.

As District President, I have been able to visit 4 of my Units. Hopefully the weather will enable me to reach the other 3 soon. Membership is going well. Kaycee is over 75% and our District is at 45 % with more coming in daily. AWESOME



Martie Harbick
District 6 President

Veteran's Rock was opened in 2020, and has been successfully assisting Veterans in need. Whether it be clothes, food, furniture or household items, a bicycle or more, Veteran's Rock is there for the Veteran and their family.

"Our mission is Rock solid support for homeless Veterans, Veterans in need, and their families. We will be their foundation on which to build a new household and a new life." stated Cindy Stockdale, one of the board members.

Stockdale explained the need for aid for our Veterans. "With changes being made, and COVID-19 we needed to establish a help center for our Veterans." she said.

"We are strictly volunteer and are looking for anyone willing to donate time to help those who have served our country, and not just time in our center. We also need volunteers who can write grants, fix up the place, organize donations that have come in, and spend time with the Veterans and assist them getting items they need." Stockdale said.

Not only can the Veterans receive items for newly set housing, but they will receive items to live a healthy life and nourishment. "They can come in, have a beverage, sit in our meeting area and converse." Stockdale stated. "Part of what we do is not only provide essential items for setting up their new housing, but we also provide guidance

to help them through tough times of being homeless, or just going through a tough time." she added.

Veterans Rock is located at 605 South Greeley Highway, in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Their hours of taking item donations is Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Items that can be donated for the center are: Washer and dryer, kitchen sink with cabinet, kitchen cabinets with drawers, two electric soup pots, large coffee pot, at least 32 cups, hot plates, folding tables 6' and 8', two small office desks, chairs, clothing racks, plastic storage bins, shelving, computers, all sorts of cleaning supplies - brooms, mops etc., coffee, sugar, coffee creamer, paper products - tissues, plates, bowls, napkins, plastic ware, cups.

Monetary funds are accepted for the monthly expenses, utilities, rent, phone, security cameras, office supplies etc. "While we are in our early stages, yes we are open, and Veterans may come in for assistance." Stockdale confirmed.

Items accepted for Veterans are: clothing, small household furniture, coffee pots, crockpots, toasters, kitchen items - cups, bowls, pots and pans, everything you can imagine for helping a homeless Veteran set up home.

Non perishable snack foods, towels, gift cards for food, gas, car repairs etc. are also needed. The center has an area of items that are for sale to bring in more money for monthly expenses.

In the aid for Veterans, Veteran's Rock is putting on a Veterans' Stand Down. This event took place on October 25, 2022 at the "Forum 619" 619 S. Greeley Hwy., Cheyenne, WY, a couple of doors down from Veteran's Rock. The purpose of a stand down is to help Veterans and their families who are struggling, at risk of becoming homeless, or who are homeless.

District and Unit News

District 6 News



Unit 6 and Unit 60 assist with Stand Down



There was lunch, haircuts and gear provided. Services and information available for the event are: Health Care, Housing, Employment, Vet Center Counselling, Education, Chaplain, Bike repair, Veterinary Assistance for Service Animals (please bring your pup with you!)

Unit 6 and Unit 60 both gathered items for the Stand Down and then both Posts assisted with the Stand Down serving Veterans and their families with goods they had gathered.

For more information contact Veteran's Rock at 307- 514-0035.



Courtesy Photo

Above: Linda Hollingsworth and Martie Harbick for flu clinic.

district 6 units were invited to come and greet Tammy. Tammy was able to attend the Veterans stand down put on by the Veterans Rock and seemed very impressed.

Presently, I am told District 6 is at 50 percent of their membership. Wow let's keep up the good work.

Saratoga Unit has been very busy and meets every month. It is good to see them work together as family. Saratoga



Above: Beverly Webb, Debra Gray, Martie Harbick and Department of Wyoming Auxiliary President Tammy Harris. Below: Auxiliary Unit 60: Julie Butler, Diane Wise - President, Department of Wyoming Adjutant - Gina Mayhane, and Penny Merryfield, Aux/Legion and Department Historian (Legion).



Courtesy Photo

District 6 was very happy for our Department President visit in October, as she celebrated her birthday as well. All

has found other alternatives for fund raising since their fishing derby is put on

District 6

Continued from page 21

hold for a bit. They also work together with other units and strive to increase their membership. I personally thank Saratoga for put myself up as well as my vice president for the evening. It is a very welcoming, comfortable unit to visit.

Medicine Bow is doing as well as they can. Membership is looking for avenues to help them increase members as well as getting them involved. Our Department President was able to visit their unit. I know Medicine Bow really appreciated her visit and suggestions.

Laramie is starting up with new officers and changes. They also are working on membership and trying to involve

members for participation. They work well with the community, parades, Veterans Day, cemetery visits, placing flags on graves and clean up. They also involve the community with Thanksgiving.

Cheyenne Unit has been working with Veterans Days fundraisers for scholarships and Girl State. The president of Unit 6 participated in welcoming and

thanking the Veterans in coming to Post in observance of Veterans Day. They helped the Post with a Thanksgiving dinner. Like all units trying to increase members and more involvement.

Albin Unit is working hard behind the scenes.

It is very impressive to see the units work together for the betterment of our Veterans.

Cheyenne Community Living Center

MARCH 2020 The covid virus came to Wyoming. The Cheyenne V.A. Medical Center was quarantined. The Community Living Center (CLC) was not allowed to have volunteers or family members. We were concerned that our veterans would become discouraged and depressed. We wondered what we could do to let them know they were not forgotten. We decided to send a card each week, but as the pandemic continued the postage would be quite costly. Why not encourage them to collect picture postcards from each of the states and Washington D.C.?

I got out our atlas and chose two places of interest (museums, National Monuments, parks or scen-

ery) in each state. Betty Moore got on the internet and found telephone numbers and addresses of these places for me to contact. I chose two in case the first one said no I could have another contact to ask to contribute 24 postcards, assorted or all the same. Almost all of them said yes. I also found a few in magazines and t.v. that sounded interesting. Friends would bring back from states they travelled to. Martie Harbick brought cards back from 5 states!

After many months of searching and many phone calls and a few letters we reached our goal of all 50 states and D.C! Our own Senator John Barrasso sent 80 postcards that included 4 Washington Memorials!

September 26, 2022 the project ending after sending postcards out once a week for 112 weeks. That's over two years. The reason we have so many extra postcards is that some states sent from 2 or 3 different places! We usually had 20-22 veterans, but for now only 18. This has left us with a surplus, so we are sharing them! Martie took 324 cards to Fall Workshop.

I wrote a thank you to each of the contributors. A note was written and a veteran's name personally acknowledged each one. Hope your veterans enjoy them as much as ours did.

Gail Keeler, Unit 6



Courtesy Photo

Above: Unit 6 members Gail Keeler, Kathy Kelly, and Steve Gnam serve up food at a Post 6 dinner.



Auxiliary Emergency Fund

In my plan of action I asked that everyone continue to support the drawing for their dues in 2024, in addition I asked that each Unit would pick a fund raiser for AEF.

I have contacted the District Presidents and asked them in turn to contact their Units and report back to me. I have heard from 2 district

presidents and would sure like to know if the rest got my email.

If anyone would like some suggestions I would be glad to share what I have heard from other Departments.

I missed our first zoom meeting for AEF but have posted my schedule so I shouldn't miss anymore. I visited with Peg and she said we

have had some very generous donations and more are arriving in the form of chances for the drawing.

Thank you all for being so generous and helping those of us Auxiliary members that have a special need.

If anyone has any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me either by phone or email.

Thank you for allowing me to be of Service,
Melba Bennett
Melbaben44@gmail.com
307-461-1435



Melba Bennet
Dept. Chairman AEF

Cheyenne VA Rep. News



Martie Harbick
Cheyenne VA Rep.

We have had the stand down with

veterans rock. It was really good turn out. All auxiliary units in Wyoming contributed many, many items. Couple of men and women were so thankful they were crying. Way to go auxiliary. They had showers and haircuts for the veterans. Continental breakfast and lunch was served. Va baby shower was awesome. Twins week old and other babies, oh my the mothers were overwhelmed. Thank you auxiliary of Wyoming. Snacks for rttp and clc are plentiful. Items for clc clients were bought for them to decorate their private rooms. Dept is purchasing small Christmas trees and decorations for their nightstands along with individual gifts that Santa's elf will give out at Christmas party December 16th. Many many thanks to everyone placing veterans first.

Sheridan VA Rep. News



Linda Orr
Sheridan VA Rep.

November 2022

Activities are continuing to pick up as our patient numbers increase. It is good to see life is coming back post pandemic. Thanks to the Buffalo unit for providing root beer floats the 4th Tuesday of each month.

We also want to thank all the Auxiliary and Legion members that assisted in the VA's 100 year anniversary of using the fort for medical care of veterans. The facility was open to the public on a Saturday with different community entities

having booths and several food trucks were on site. Voluntary/food trucks provided meals for all patients attending.

Recreation bought a pair of virtual reality goggles for both recreation use as well as treatments. Thanks to you, the Auxiliary bought six months of the library service for different programs they plan to use. Monitoring use during this time will decide if we will assist additionally to finance the service.

Three entries into the Creative Arts Festival won 1st place on the local level and so have been forwarded for divisional judging. We'll have to wait and see how they do. Exciting.

Items currently requested at the VA are tennis shoes sizes 9-12 (both men's and women's), dark socks, winter clothing and both men's and women's deodorants. Remember products can not contain alcohol.

If you have items for the VA, please contact Eric or Brad at 307-675-3225 or 3226. This includes cookies and clothing. With low numbers of patients, many of the donations have exceeded current needs.

Again, thanks for all you do. Keep up the good work.

Linda Orr, VA Rep



Pictures from the Districts



100 year anniversary- at Sheridan VA



2022 Stand Down PDP Dora Jones and President Tammy Harris



NW Public Relation Chairman Micheline Nelson and President Tammy met for coffee when Micheline was in Green River to watch her granddaughter play volleyball



Newcastle Cotten Candy makers. Notice the brand.



Newcastle Unit Fundraiser



Tom & Margarite Sanders receiving certificates for 4,000 Volunteer Hours at Cheyenne VA

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Wyoming
Mid-Winter Conference
Agenda
Times Subject to Change

Finance Committee Meeting—TBA

Friday, January 13, 2023

7:00 p.m. Department Executive Committee Meeting
—Location TBA

Saturday, January 14, 2023

National Guard Armory 5905 CY Ave. Casper WY 82604


- 9:00 a.m. Opening
- Invocation - Judith Killion, Chaplain
- Pledge of Allegiance - Cathey Raymer, Americanism Chairman
- Preamble to the Constitution - Vicki Paddock, C&B Chairman
- Welcome – Trudy Zaffarano--District 4
- Response – District 5 Representative
- Introduction of ALA District, Department, & National Officers
- Introduction of Past Department Presidents
- Roll Call - Units and Officers
- Finance Committee Report
- Department Executive Committee Report
- 9:30 a.m. Girls State Presentation
- 10:30 a.m. Break Greetings to Legion
- 10:45 a.m. Mission Possible—Small Group Sessions on program delivery (planning through reporting)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch on your own
- 1:30 p.m. Mission Possible --Membership recruitment and retention brainstorming sessions/

Junior Activities


- 2:15 p.m. Compliance Matters/Junior Activities
- 2:30 p.m. Break
- 2:45 p.m. ALA Family Feud
- 4:00 p.m. Tidbits and AEF Drawing
- 4:20 p.m. Chaplain Remarks & Benediction
- 4:25 p.m. Closing Remarks



Purse and Poppy Auction



Card of Thanks



Thank you



Unit 2 Casper
PAST PRESIDENT PARLEY

The Past President Parley closed out their bank account and donated the funds to Department Programs.

The monies were divided between

- Creative Arts
- Children and Youth
- Girls State.

Thank you for your generosity.

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

The Department is in search of pins. We replaced the District pins plus ribbons a couple years ago and we are missing several. Please check your jewelry box and see if you have District pins. The ribbon is white and navy.


Pins are sentimental, do you still wear your pin, or have you told your family what you want done with your Auxiliary pin(s)? Remember you wear the pin of you highest office.

AMERICAN LEGION Buddies in Business




**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING**

Headquarters Office Hours
Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed all Holidays
1320 Hugur Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-634-3035 Fax 307-635-7093
Email: adjutant@wyolegion.net web: wyolegion.org



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING**



Headquarters Office Hours
Monday-Wednesday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Tuesday 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday and all Holidays
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307-620-5697
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On Facebook and at: ALPWY6@GMAIL.COM



**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT
SERVICE OFFICER**

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday by appointment Closed all Holidays
Dwight Null
2360 E. Pershing Blvd D107
Cheyenne, WY 82001
w 307-433-2750 Fax 307-433-2790
Dwight.null@va.gov

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Serving Veterans in the Southern Big Horn Basin since 1920
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Monday through Saturday

Legion Family members welcome

Private Floyd Minch
Killed in Action 10-8-1918

129 South 7th Street, Worland, Wyoming



Bryan "Alf" Grzegorzcyk
1622 E. 19th St. Cheyenne, WY 82001
C 307-421-5714; W 307-635-3171
alfspubcheyyenne@aol.com



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