TERRY MARR ELECTED DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Sweepstakes Supports Kansas’ Veterans, Youth

The Spring Sweepstakes provides much needed funding for Kansas Department’s state-wide Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation programs as well as Children and Youth programs.

In a partnership with the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Office, the Kansas American Legion employs four Veterans Service Officers and their staff to assist veterans obtaining their earned veterans’ benefits. Under this program, the American Legion maintains an office in each of the three VA hospitals in Kansas. This important service is available to any veteran, free of charge.

Sweepstakes proceeds also go to the Department Children and Youth (C&Y) fund. Department C&Y pays for the State Oratorical Contest, various scholarships, and the Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program. These worthy programs could not exist without the generous support of Kansas Legionnaires.

The drawing was held in Topeka, May 21, during the Department Convention. The Grand Prize of $2,500 went to John Wiebe of Mound Valley.

The second place winner was Earl Brecht from Norton who received $1,000. Don Knoche, Overland Park, was the recipient of the Third Place drawing of $500.

Fourth Place winners of the $250 prize were Charles Hathaway Sr., Spring hill; Valton Jones Jr., Lenexa; John Bonacorda, Junction City; Raymond Nash, Clay Center; and Joseph Dinino, Derby;

CAMPORAMA WITH US

Camporama remains an economical mini-vacation opportunity for all American Legion Family members.

Now in its 45th year, Camporama takes place over the Labor Day weekend, September 1-4. The festivities will be held in the Wakefield City Park adjacent to Milford Lake.

Registration is still $15.00 per adult as it has been for years; for those under 16 and at least 10 years old the charge is $5.00, and for those under ten for price is $2.00. Additionally there is a $16.00 per camper per night Corps of Engineering fee. Registrations must be made by August 15, by calling the Park Manager, Linda, at 785-461-5774.

The Wakefield City Park includes individual pads for trailers and campers, plenty of shade trees, water, shower rooms, rest rooms, telephones, etc. If you have a self contained motor home or a pup tent Camporama provides great entertainment opportunities for the entire family including boating, fishing and Frisbee contests, swimming, card games, horsehoe pitching, and bingo.

Registration begins on Friday, September 1, with free hot dogs available while everyone settles in for a weekend of fun. Registration continues on Saturday and planned activities will include contests, games, supper, and a White Elephant Bingo (please bring prizes).

Sunday will include a pancake feed, church services, more contests and games, a catered supper, prizes and a Camporama Critique. On Monday free coffee and donuts will be available as everyone breaks camp at their leisure.

The Camporama site can be accessed from I-70 by taking exit 295 which is one mile west of Junction City. From I-70 drive north 15 miles on Highway 77 and turn left onto Highway 82 and its just 3 miles to the Registration point.

The Department Camporama Committee members include Chairman Tom Emerson of Garnett, Wiley Simhisler of Lehigh, and Charles Reinhardt of Salina.

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING

The Homecoming Celebration for Department Commander Terry Marr, Auxiliary President Melisa Burton, and SAL Commander Mike Saindon will be held Saturday July 22nd at Wichita Post #4 located at 816 N. Water Street.

The festivities will begin with social hour starting at 5:30PM and dinner at 7:00PM. Dinner includes chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetables, salad, and dessert. The cost for this will be $15.00 per person, or $3.00 for children 10 and under. Everyone is encouraged to bring an item to be included in an auction benefiting Department Children & Youth programs.

The hotels for the event will be the Best Western Plus West, located at 3800 W. Kellogg Dr., (316) 945-4100; Quality Inn & Suites, 658 S. Westdale Dr., (316) 945-2600. Be sure to let them know you are with The American Legion.

See page 8 for registration coupon.
Thank you, I appreciate the support you’ve given me throughout the year as your Department Vice Commander, and again as your Department Commander for 2017-2018. A great time was had by everyone at our Department Convention Topeka.

We learned a lot at Leadership College in Concordia. I’ve received many positive comments about our college this year and many feel that this was the best ever!

I had the privilege of attending the Girls State banquet and putting the cap on the new Girls State Governor. I also attended Boys State, where I and other veterans were honored at their retreat ceremony. I also attended Cadet Law graduation and got to meet every cadet.

These are our biggest Children & Youth programs and we ALL need to attend, see what goes on, and get involved. We are in good hands with our youth of today who attend these programs.

I also rode my motorcycle in the 3rd Annual ALR Legacy Run. I could not ride the entire 4 days because of the above mentioned commitments, but did ride most of it. What a ride it was!

I could not be more proud of our riders who raised over $12,000.00 for the Legacy Fund, which will be presented at National Convention in Reno, NV.

I’m looking forward to attending the 144th Annual American Legion Homecoming on July 22 at Post 4 in Wichita, National Membership Workshop in Indianapolis in July, the National Legacy Run which will start this year at Fort Dodge, Kansas in August, National Convention in Reno, Nevada in August, and District Revitalizations coming up.

Membership is everyone’s responsibility. Our National Commander has challenged each one of us to recruit at least one new member. We are all proud of our organization and welcome new members and ideas. Bring a new member to your next meeting!

Anytime you attend an American Legion Family function, bring a member or non-member who may not have attended any of our functions. Let’s spread the word about what we do!

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Department Homecoming! FOR GOD AND COUNTRY!

**EISENHOWER TRIBUTE**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

The date for this year’s 36th annual Eisenhower Pilgrimage at the Eisenhower Museum and Library in Abilene is Saturday, October 14. All Posts, Auxiliary Units, SAL Squadrions, the Districts and other Legion Family organizations are invited to attend and participate in this year’s event. Saturday’s program will start at approximately 10:30 AM immediately following the Presidential wreath laying ceremony.

Memorial Roses may be purchased for placement on the wall around the “IKE” statue by sending $10 to the Eisenhower Pilgrimage in care of Department Headquarters by October 1. Wreath orders (reserved for Districts and State and National level organizations) also must be ordered by October 1 for $20.

See page 8 for a rose coupon.

**SWEEPSTAKES**

(Continued from Page 1)

Phillips, Jetmore; and David Ellis, Solomon each received $200.

Congratulations to all the winners! Headquarters wishes to thank everyone who participated in this opportunity to help fund American Legion Children & Youth as well as VA&R programs.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH**

DeeDee

Danin
dddalin@hotmail.com

This time of year, seems to be busier than ever before. Working with Boys State in Fifth District has been so rewarding. I now must review the final listing against my last report to determine who dropped out at the last moment then create a contact listing for the upcoming school year. These “Staters” will be become our proponents for the next class. I was honored to be asked to attend both Monday having lunch, watching the Grand Review and then coming back for Graduation on Friday. There was such a difference in the progression of those bonding together, maturing and becoming friends. Many thanks to Troy, Thane, Chastain, Thomas and Jere- mey. Fund-raising efforts are in the planning already. Plan for the financial burden each Post must endure.

Cadet Law Enforcement Academy in Kansas is having some financial difficulties, I hear. We must get the word out more, so we don’t lose the program. Of years passed, girls have been gaining in numbers. Don’t hold back telling the counselors about the program and how the ladies excel in the program. We may earn higher numbers advertising more with our young women. It’s normal for young women to advance faster than the boys. Put out the challenge to the boys but let them know we will not put up with any bullying!

**VICE COMMANDER**

Dan Wiley

24801 227th St.
Leavenworth, KS 66048

(913) 680-7199
dkwiley@yahoo.com

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Department Vice Commander! It’s been a great few weeks loaded with activities including Emceeing the Memorial Day Ceremony in Leavenworth and being the keynote speaker at the Olathe Memorial Day Ceremony. It was great to have my wife, Sonia, travel with me as we were off to Leadership College in Concordia, leaving there Sunday, June 4, for the opening ceremony at Kansas Boys State in Manhattan in the afternoon, and then to Salina in the evening to witness orientation for the Cadet Law Enforcement Academy.

Then we traveled back to Manhattan on June 7 to watch the talent show at Boys State and then to Sunflower Girls State in Lawrence on June 8 for the Inaugural Banquet and Sunflower Ceremony. On Sunday, June 11, the American Legion Riders, on the Kansas Legacy Run, arrived at Newton, where they brought in over $12,000 for scholarships for children of those veterans who have died or are at least 50% disabled since 9/11/01. You can see pictures of these events, and follow my travels, at the Facebook page “The American Legion Department of Kansas Vice Commander.”

As Legion Baseball is in full swing now, it’s just so obvious that The American Legion has so many great opportunities for youth!

My appreciation to Chuck Shoemaker, the Boys State Chairman; Rachel Barnes, the Director for Girls State; Elgin Wahlborg, the Cadet Law Enforcement Academy Chairman; and Terry Harris, who led the 3rd Annual Kansas Legacy Run. All did an outstanding job!

Membership packets, containing the 2018 membership cards were passed out to posts attending Leadership College. If your post was not represented at the College, contact your District Commander to get the packet for your post.

I want to personally invite you to the Vice Commander’s Legion Family Homecoming on October 14, 2017, which also includes Karen Hasting, the American Legion Auxiliary Vice President and Terry Harris, the S.A.L. Detachment Vice Commander. We are hosting the homecoming at the Greyhound Hall of Fame, which is directly adjacent to the Eisenhower Memorial in Abilene. If you have never been to the Presidential Museum or the Greyhound Museum, then this is your special opportunity to visit. Both are world class facilities.

In June, the Department Executive Committee formed an ad-hoc committee to study the realignment of Districts. The first meeting will be July 22, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at Wichita Post 4. This meeting immediately precedes the Department Commander’s Homecoming. Everybody is welcome to attend the meeting.

As always, I am here to listen and serve you. If you would like for me to attend an event at your Post or District, please let me know. Thank you for what you do! For God and Country!
Veterans Choice Program
The Veterans Choice Program provides eligible Veterans
the option to receive non-VA health care from approved
providers in their communities.

- Have you been told by your local VA medical facility that they can’t schedule your appointment within 30 days of the clinically indicated date or if no such date can be determined, your preferred date?
- Is your current residence more than 40 miles from the closest VA medical facility?
- Do you need to travel by air, boat or ferry to the VA medical facility closest to your home?
- Do you face an unusual or excessive burden in traveling to the closest VA medical facility based on geographic challenges, environmental factors, or a medical condition? Staff at your local VA will work with you to determine if you are eligible for any of these reasons.

If you were enrolled in VA Health Care on or before August 1, 2014, or you are eligible to enroll as a combat Veteran, and answered “YES” to any of the questions, you may be eligible.

Gather your information about any other health insurance coverage you may have (i.e., employer, union-based health plans) and call 1.866.606.8198. They will walk you through the following steps:

- You will be asked to enter your ZIP code, and first and last name.
- They will check to make sure you are eligible in this program.
- They will check which of your needs are covered by the VA.
- You will be asked for your address and the name of your preferred non-VA provider. Unfortunately, not all providers will be covered, so if your preferred provider is not available, they will recommend other providers that are in your area.

Quote: “Tis hard for an empty bag to stand upright”
-Benjamin Franklin

Support Legion Baseball
Baseball is alive and well in Kansas. Over the month of July, 70 Kansas American Legion Baseball teams will battle for the title of state champion.

There are three classes of Legion Baseball in Kansas. Class ‘A’ is our junior league for ages 13 to 17. Class ‘AA’ is our junior senior league for ages 13 to 19. ‘AA’ teams can only recruit from a pool of high schools whose sophomore to senior enrollment totals to less than 500. Class ‘AAA’ is also a senior league for ages 13 to 19. ‘AAA’ can recruit from a pool of high schools whose sophomore to senior enrollment totals 5,000 students.

In order to qualify for the state championship, each team has to compete at one of four zone tournaments. Only the top two teams at each zone move forward to the state tournament for their class.

The state tournament for each of the three classes will be an eight team double elimination tournament. Once decided, each state champion will compete at a
Greetings First District Family,

I hope everyone is ready for an exciting year. First, I would like to congratulate all the new Post Officers. If you need anything don’t hesitate to get ahold of either myself or the Vice Cmdr. We are currently in 4th place with membership. By now everyone should have their 2018 cards. If you haven’t done so yet then get your Life members and Officers turned into Department. That will eliminate any Goose Eggs right from the start. If you haven’t done so yet then be sure to get your Post officer list to Dept. I know that there are some that has not updated their Cmdr and Adjutant list. This makes it difficult to get information out to you. Remember we are a Legion family so let’s work together as a family.

First District will be working the State Fair in September on Tues 12th. If you are planning to attend Boys/Girls State this is your last chance to get your tickets. The NA-1 will be held on October 12th at the State Fair. Prior to the NA-1, District Homecoming will be held on September 29-30. District Homecoming will be held on September 29-30. There will be 8-10 permanent campsites for the weekend and many “come and go’s” for an eventful weekend.

September 14 – District booth at the State Fair. September 29-30 – Revitalization and Homecoming October 22 – Flag retirement November 5 – Membership Rally

Let me start by saying thank you for your support in the new leadership for this coming year. One of the first things we are going to do this year is work on increasing communications. District II Adjutants and Commanders can expect emails at least monthly from either Adjutant Tim or myself containing district news. We will try hard to not repeat anything sent out from the Department Adjutant’s monthly letter.

It was great seeing five Posts represented at Leadership College in Concordia. Position specific training for Commanders and Adjutants, as well as the VA discussion panel, brought a new energy to the event. I hope to bring that same energy with new training sessions at District events—starting at our revitalization weekend on September 29-30. District Homecoming will be held on September 29-30th, the 30th, per tradition. I will send out the training topics and times before each district event.

Here are the upcoming district opportunities for the next few months. If you are interested, ask your Commander or Adjutant how to contact District II leadership. Thank you again, and I look forward to a fun and successful new school year. We are all family.

THIRD DISTRICT COMMANDER DENNIS KRAMER PO Box 739 Winfield, KS 67156 (620) 222-1425 VICE CMDR. GEORGE CULBERTSON 883 600th St. Iola, KS 66749 (620) 433-1087

Hello Third District!!

Busy times are here again with conventions, picnics, leadership college, a new year and lots of planning, hopefully to figure out how each post can achieve 100% membership.

This is quite an unexpected honor to be elected your 3rd district commander for the 2017-2018 year. I will do my best to serve you humbly and well. There will be many challenges this coming year and I expect all post commanders and their officers to participate in as many events that their posts, our district 3, the Kansas department and national has to offer. After all, there is no better veterans organization in the US that is able to support our veterans, our Americanism, the security of our nation and programs for our youth. Those youth will someday potentially be our leaders of tomorrow.

The 3rd district held a family camping out June 9-11 at the shady Big Hill Lake. We had 8-10 permanent campsite for the weekend and many “come and go’s” for an eventful weekend. The rainy weather was great fun for all during the day. The raccoon watch at night was the best event for the kids. Seeing the coons eating their graham, chocolate and marshmallows was a hoot! All those present voted to hold a repeat campout next year the weekend before Father’s Day. So, all you Legionnaires, Sons, Auxiliary, and Riders from the 3rd district plus any others with a paid membership, mark that weekend on your calendar.

The next fun event for the 3rd district is the 144th annual bean feed. The Legion Riders are shooting for 150 riders to lead the parade on Saturday morning, July 15. A 3 plane flyover is also part of the parade. The bean feed is all day Friday July 14. There will be approximately 1,500 beans cooked on open fires with wood fuel. All the fixings that go with beans will be provided. Oh, and did I mention, that its FREE!

We are all family. “United we stand, divided we fall.”

FOURTH DISTRICT COMMANDER RANDY FRANK 211 Floral Dr. Hillsboro, KS 67063 (563) 419-1474 VICE CMDR. DAVID BLAIR 403 Dixon Ave. Green, KS 67447 (785) 447-0220

District IV Legionnaires. As humans we are creatures of habit and so we relive our pleasures and enjoyable memories frequently. We honor friendships that were started in comfortable situations and in the battlefields. These memories will endure forever as we continue to talk about them and re-energize the excitement that stirs that particular memory.

Even today as we participate in post activities, we as the American Legion Family Members rekindle those exciting moments in our lives to share with others. Starting new activities in our post and our communities is one of our goals in growth but, there is something missing from our ranks. You know our fellow legionnaires that are on the rosters but never seen at any activities or events. What ever happened to SGT. Cooter Brown the non-Commissioned Officer that kept the troops in line and also knew when it was time to relax?

I ask you to take a stand with our fellow Legionnaires and promote the largest and strongest War Time Organization by telling everyone we meet that The American Legion was founded in 1919 on four pillars, a strong national security, taking care of veterans, mentoring youth and promoting patriotism & honor. It is because of our belief for a strong America that we promote our programs within our community.

Promote our activities and honor our success by participating in the American Legion Celebration on-line http://centennial.legion.org/, reach out to those veterans that we haven’t seen for a long time to bring them back into the fold.

“Be the Voice and not the echo...Echo’s lose their strength”. Legationnaires, we are off and running. Membership is in full swing. All posts have received or shortly shall receive their packets. Our Executive Committee Men. (ECM) will be actively involved with their Posts. Be prepared because Posts and ECms Membership Accountability is crucial. Get your teams together and have their names and contact information ready to give your ECMs. We want this process to be an enjoyable one with great results.

Fifth District will have its District Revitalization Nov 3-4th at Post 81, El Dorado. They are looking forward to showing us just what they can do. I hope to have An- dover, Augusta, Whitewater, Wichita Posts being involved also. Don’t let this hold our other Posts back from performing their own Revitalizations. Officers will always be there to assist and provide whatever tools you may need or ask for. Contact either myself or VCDR Bryan Page for a “Heads Up”. More info to follow. Our ECms will have all scholarship information and we will be able to answer questions. Our intent is to have many more boys/girls attending Boys/Girls State and Cadet Law this coming year. Your high school counselors are much more aware of the programs. Meet with them when school starts and keep them inspired. Larger posts are being asked to support more. We have great programs, let’s not allow them to disappear. State Fair in Hutchinson scheduled for September 11th. Contact me for your time. Great way to enjoy the Fair!
I would like to start by thanking the 15% of the district posts who found time to attend the district convention and elect me as the District Commander.

I really don’t believe that 15% of all Legionnaires are the only ones who care about the American Legion or Veterans. We have got to get back to the principles of our founding and be active at all levels. The first and most important level is at the Post and branch membership.

I understand that having a convention or meeting on the extreme east or west side of the district presents challenges to those who reside at the other end, but conventions are where decisions are made. Think back to last year at the Department Convention when it was decided to do away with Kansas Life Membership. That was decided by 15% of the Department membership, but 85% complained about it. In order to correct this problem, Phillipsburg Post 252 will be hosting next year’s District Convention. Phillipsburg is located in the middle of the District and will be more convenient for everyone. There will be more information coming about what all is planned.

2018 membership notices will start arriving soon, please write your check and return it to your Adjutant within a week of receiving it. Adjutants – transmit your renewals at a minimum of once every two weeks. Membership isn’t just the Vice Commander and Adjutant’s job, everyone should be on the lookout for potential members! Carry an application in your wallet and collect the dues on the spot. If you give someone an application and walk away without their dues, you likely won’t have a new member.

The Department Executive Committee approved a plan at the Leadership College to form a committee to look into the possibility of redistricting the state. Many feel that eight districts aren’t enough and we’re not properly serving our members. I agree with this thought process.

The Kansas State Fair will be here before we know it and we need volunteers to work the Legion booth on Friday, September 15th. You don’t have to spend the whole day in the booth. We would appreciate anyone willing to work it for an hour or two while you’re in Hutchinson at the Fair.

I have set October 21st as the date for our District Revitalization. Each Post should participate. I don’t expect everyone to meet at a central location and help that Post recruit members. I want everyone to participate at their own Post Home location and recruit members. The size of the Post doesn’t matter. If 3 or 4 members show up and help that’s great, but larger Posts need much more help. Feed your workers or figure out some other way to reward them for their work that day. Next year, National will be running the revitalization in our area and will spend a lot of money to do so. Let’s get a head start this year.

It is nearly impossible to communicate with the 3,000+ members in the district. We have a Facebook page that makes it very handy to communicate with our members. You can find it at www.facebook.com/6thdistrictks. I would also like to start sending out a monthly email newsletter. If you would like to receive information that way, email at phewitt@ruraltel.net and I’ll add you to the list.

Vice Commander Lowell and I make ourselves available to any Post needing assistance. Feel free to contact us any time you need us. Unfortunately, the size of the district makes it impossible to visit each Post.

SEVENTH DISTRICT COMMANDER
MARK RADKE
1785 Avenue V
Sterling, KS 67579
(620) 204-8508
VICE CMDR.
KAT SMADES
2408 Gano St.
Great Bend, KS 67530
(620) 282-2422

We would like to thank everyone within District #7 for voting in Mark Radke as Commander & Kat Smades as Vice Commander. We are striving to listen to our fellow Legionnaires as well as all of our American Legion family by voting as they want us to. We carry your voices on with us at the District Convention, Department Convention & on to National Convention. As District officers, we are here to help any of our posts that need our assistance. We need your voices to be heard on every level & we need to know what your wishes are.

We also need to look at our membership counts. We as a Legion family need to get & keep our member numbers up. If you have any thoughts or ideas that you think may help us out or improve this I urge you to get in touch with us. We would love to hear from you & are open to any ideas you all may have!!

For God & Country!!

SIXTH DISTRICT COMMANDER
PAT HEWITT
595 D St.
Phillipsburg, KS 67661
(785) 543-7668
VICE CMDR.
CHAD LOWELL
1811 N. 132nd Road
Concordia, KS 66901
(785) 262-7141

Greetings American Legion Family of Kansas. As the Newly Elected Commander of the Kansas Detachment of the Sons of the American Legion, I look forward to another exciting year for our family.

I am a native Kansan, born in Wichita. I lived in Wichita for 13 years before moving to Plainville. Plainville is a great little farm town in northwest Kansas, north of Hays, Kansas. I married to my wife Kathy of 37 years and am currently living in Derby, Kansas. I retired from Boeing Airplane Co after 28 years of service. We have 2 daughters, Mindy King & Tracy Marley and 2 grandsons, Michael & William King. Michael and William are SAL members and current Co-Historians for the Detachment of Kansas.

I have been a member of the Sons of the American Legion for 23 years. I have held many offices at the Squadron, District and Detachment levels. I’m honored to have been elected the Commander of the Detachment of Kansas.

I enjoy working with the American Legion Family. I will be working with American Legion Commander, Terry Marr, American Legion Auxiliary President, Melissa Burton and American Legion Rider Director, Al Longstaff, throughout this membership year to continue growing our membership and reinforce the family aspect of the Legion, SAL, Ladies Auxiliary and Legion Riders.

I will be supporting the Kansas Children and Youth fund raising efforts on the part of the Sons along with any programs our incoming National Commander designates. I look forward to seeing some old friends and getting to meet many new friends during this coming year.

I will do my best to make myself available as much as I can. Advanced notice would be greatly appreciated, if possible, for scheduling visits.

Oh, One more thing! There is always one more thing we can do to support our Veterans, Children and Youth. Looking forward to a very productive year for our American Legion Family!!
1 Recruit + 1 Member = 2 Active Members.

Enhancing the ALA Experience.

I would like to thank everyone for your support in electing me your Department President for the 2017-2018 membership year. It has been a busy start to the year with wreath laying ceremony at Leavenworth National Cemetery a very beautiful ceremony. Having the honor of pinning the 75th Girls State Governor, it was an incredible honor to attend Girls’ States 75th Celebration the food was delicious, the beautiful voices of the young ladies they performed unbelievable.

Looking forward to the American Legion Family Homecoming July 22, and the boot camp on July 29th in Hutchinson.

Can’t wait to see everyone who was not able to make it to Department Convention. Then of course all the fun we will have together in Reno, NV hearing and learning what others are doing across the United States to support our Veterans, Active Military, and their families.

Remember, the only way this Organization is going to continue is that each person in this great State shares and recruits 1 new member and becomes that persons mentor.

If you need any assistance contact your District Officers or Department Officers and we will be glad to assist you.

Everyone watch out for each other this summer and watch the temperature!!! Stay Safe...

LIBERTY
(Continued from Page 3)

The pastor of Thomas Jefferson said, “the sacred cause of liberty is the cause of God.”

I believe that as the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion states; For God and Country We Associate Ourselves. Together... to support OUR nation is Proclaiming Liberty across America.

EIGHTH DISTRICT
(Continued from Page 5)

Howard Post 9 and Judge Advocate; Dan Stacy Post 47. I hope that we will have a great year ahead.

I want to thank all of the Post’s that have worked hard on our membership, as of last week we were still in 1st place. Keep sending in the renewals and new member’s. We have 3 posts over 100%, Dodge City, Meade and Syracuse. 8 posts that are 90% or better, a few more turn ins and we can make the 100%. It would be nice to say we finished in first place. We have been there for most of the year.

We will be working the Fair booth at the State Fair on September 13th. If you have not been contacted to help work the booth that day and would like to help, please let me know. I have already had several time slots filled. It is very interesting to visit with the veterans that stop by and you may be able to sign them up, the American Legion is a big benefit to them.

As many of you are traveling and taking summer vacations please be safe and hope to see at the next meeting.

GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN AND THE AMERICAN LEGION!

Pay Online To Renew Your Membership Go To www.legion.org/renew

ADJUTANT’S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

Now, that the 99th Department Convention is behind us and WE have a New Slate of Department Officers to lead US into and through the 2017-2018 Membership Year it is time to keeping finding Veterans that want to join our Great Organization.

Delegates of the Convention were given the opportunity to hear their National Leaders from two of the three Entities of The American Legion Family. Legion National Vice Commander Douglas Boldt from Nebraska, S.A.L. National Vice Commander Kenneth Yanke from the Detachment of Nebraska and the Detachment Nebraska leading candidate for National Commander Danny Smith from the Detachment of Nebraska enlightened us with a vast amount of knowledge about their individual Organizations and thanked the Department of Kansas for their support and camaraderie.

National Director Louis Celli of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division from the Washington, D.C. Office of The American Legion updated us on what is new on the Legion side and what his Staff is doing in the City of Disarray to assure that all Veterans are being represented and looked after across this vast land.

Assistant National Membership Director Rolanda Herron from the Indianapolis, Indiana Office updated the Members on what is up and coming regarding Membership and the new programs and incentives to enhance Our Membership. She stressed don’t forget those Members that you already have, don’t let them go out the back door. Engage with them and see what they may be interested in The American Legion and get them INVOLVED. Many are ready and willing to help share the experience that maybe they never had the opportunity to ask before, in a relaxed environment.

At the D.E.C. (Department Executive Committee) Meeting many topics were on the Agenda. The biggest was the presentation and approval of the Department Budgets for the Operation Year 2017-2018 by Department Finance Chairman Jim Buterbaugh.

The Information Letter has been mailed to those that were selected as Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention in Reno, Nevada. National Staff has worked hard to ensure that those attending will be rewarded with informational and fun times. May sure you pay close attention to the submission dates. These dates are non-negotiable by Department and National for contract purposes.
One of the first projects of the American Legion was to establish an office in Washington DC. The purpose was to lobby Congress about activities important to the Legion. The first job was to convince lawmakers to incorporate the new organization.

The Legion continues to maintain an office in DC attempting to get the government to see things our way. The GI bill was one of the results of the lobbying effort of the DC office.

The best way to get the attention of our lawmakers is to let them know of the good deeds the members of the Legion are doing. Write down everything you do in the Consolidated Post Report and send it in. Let them know in Washington, what a heck of a job we’re doing.

A few States are changing the rules on compiling history books. Kansas is not one of them, the rules in the Officers Guide still apply in Kansas.

**AMERICAN LEGION DAYS**

**At the State Fair**

The following is a list of scheduled days that each District is responsible for manning the American Legion Booth at the State Fair in Hutchinson:

- **Sept. 9**...7th District Sun.
- **Sept. 10**...3rd District Mon.
- **Sept. 11**...5th District Tues.
- **Sept. 12**...1st District Wed.
- **Sept. 13**...8th District Thu.
- **Sept. 14**...2nd District Fri.
- **Sept. 15**...6th District Sat.
- **Sept. 16**...4th District Sun.
- **Sept. 17**...7th District
CLASS AAA
ZONE SCHEDULE
Team Name........Sponsoring Post

Zone 1
July 15-16 - Leavenworth
Lawrence Eagles...............N/A
Leavenworth ....................#23
Manko 17ers ....................#17
Oskaloosa River Bandits ....#36
Kansas Senators, Topeka .#421

Zone 2
July 15-16 - Chanute
Chanute ..........................#170
Neosho County ..................#170
Ottawa Senior Legion ............#60
Pittsburg ........................#64
SEK Carter-Rader ...............#149

Zone 3
July 15-16 - Newton
Ark City Black Diamonds ....#18
Newton Knights ..................#2
Nickerson ........................#68
Salina Falcons ...................#62
Wichita Aviators .................#273

Zone 4
July 15-16 - Great Bend
Buhler Nationals ...............#68
Great Bend Chiefs .............#180
Hays Eagles .......................#173
Hutchinson Colts ................#68
McPherson Seniors .............#24

MAIL TO:
Eisenhower Memorial on Saturday, October 14, 2017.
Enclosed is our payment for a rose to be placed at the Eisenhower Memorial on Saturday, October 14, 2017.

Purchaser ___________________________ Post - Unit - Other (Please be Specific)

No. of Roses ___________ Amount Enclosed ________

($10 for each rose requested)

Name ___________________________ Person Placing the Rose

Please appoint an appropriate individual to place our rose.

Address ___________________________

City/State/Zip ___________________________

Telephone (Day Time) _______________________

Guest Names ___________________________

No. of Kids (10 and under) ($3 each) ________

No. of Adults ($15 each) ___________

36th ANNUAL
EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE
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Purchaser ___________________________ Post - Unit - Other (Please be Specific)

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Telephone (Day Time) _______________________

Guest Names ___________________________

No. of Kids (10 and under) ($3 each) ________

No. of Adults ($15 each) ___________

MAIL TO:
KANSAS AMERICAN LEGION
EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE
1314 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66612

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2017