

Sunflower

The American Legion -



Legionnaire

Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

VOL LXXII NO. 1

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

July, August, September 2018



Dan Wiley, Department Commander



Chuck Shoemaker, Department Vice Commander

DAN WILEY ELECTED DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Dan Wiley was elected Department Commander during the closing session of the 100th annual State Convention in Hutchinson May 20. Commander Wiley is a 25-year member of Leavenworth Post #23. Dan served in the United States Air Force, is a Kansas Life Member has served at all levels of The American Legion from local to national. He also served as District Judge Advocate and Department Judge Advocate for four years.

Chuck Shoemaker, a member of Shawnee Post #327, was elected Department Vice Commander. Chuck served in the United States Air Force, and has served as Department Master-At-Arms, National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms (4 years), Second District Vice Commander and Commander.

Rick Miller was elected Area East Vice Commander and will assist Posts in Districts I, II, III, and IV when called upon to do so. He is a eight year member at Olathe Post #153.

Leroy Matthews was elected as Area West Vice Commander. Leroy will be available to respond to requests for assistance from Posts in District V, VI, VII, and VIII. He is a 12-year member currently with Post #104 in Harper.



Rick Miller, Area East Vice Commander



Leroy Matthews, Area West Vice 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 20, during the Department Convention. The Grand Prize of \$2,500 went to Timothy Nay of Overland Park.

The second place winner was Richard Novak from Shawnee who received \$1,000. Ronald Beltz of Fort Scott, was the recipient of the Third Place drawing of \$500.

Winners of the five \$250 prizes were Ronald Beltz of Fort Scott, Ralph Stevens of Topeka, Eldon Eyck of Seneca, Carl Hoelscher of Bush-ton, and Perry Perkins of Kansas City.

Winners of the five \$200 prizes were Donald Peoples of Haysville, Jeffery Keller of Cheney, Larry Inks of Tecumseh, Robert Albrecht of Russell, and WM Hale of Mound City.

CAMPORAMA WITH US

Camporama remains an economical mini-vacation opportunity for all American Legion Family members. Now in its 46th year, Camporama takes place over the Labor Day weekend, August 31 - September 3. 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 \$20.00 per camper per night Corps of Engineering fee. Registrations must be made by August 15, by calling the Park Manager 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, horseshoe pitching, and bingo.

Registration begins on Friday, August 31, 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 Wiley Simhiser of Lehigh, Charles Reinhardt of Salina, and Tom Emerson of Garnett.

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING

The Homecoming Celebration for Department Commander Dan Wiley,



Richard Myers, President of Kansas State University

Auxiliary President Karen Hasting, and S.A.L. Commander Terry Harris will be held Saturday August 18th at McPherson Post #24 located at 401 North Main Street.

The festivities will begin with social hour starting at 11:30AM and lunch at 12:30PM. The President of Kansas State University, and 15th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Richard Myers, will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$15 per person (\$20 after August 8), and \$8 for children 10 and under.

See page 8 for registration coupon.

COMMANDER

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CHILDREN

&

YOUTH

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Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Department Commander! It's been a great few weeks loaded with activities including Emceeing the Memorial Day Ceremony in Leavenworth and attending the dedication of the new Veterans Freedom Square Memorial at Independence. It was great to have my wife, Sonia, travel with me as we were off to Leadership College in Concordia, leaving there Sunday, June 3, for the opening ceremony at Kansas Boys State in Manhattan in the afternoon.

Then we traveled back to Manhattan on June 4 for Legion Night and June 6 to watch the talent show at Boys State and then to Sunflower Girls State in Lawrence on June 7 for the Inaugural and Sunflower Ceremony. On Sunday, June 10, the American Legion Riders, on the Kansas Legacy Run, arrived at Derby, where they brought in over \$18,954 for scholarships for children of those veterans who have died or are at least 50% disabled since 9/11/01. This is a 50% increase over the same time last year. Great job American Legion Riders!

As Legion Baseball is in full swing now, it's 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 4th Annual Kansas Legacy Run. All did an outstanding job!

We more than doubled

the number of youth participating in Cadet Law! Thank you to everyone that heeded the call to save this program. Your work was outstanding. Let's keep raising awareness of our youth programs.

I want to personally invite you to the Legion Family Homecoming on August 18, 2018, which includes Karen Hasting, the American Legion Auxiliary Department President and Terry Harris, the S.A.L. Detachment Commander. This will be a day to remember, as our guest speaker is General Richard B. Myers, USAF, Ret., President of Kansas State University and 15th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under President George W. Bush. Also attending will be the National Commander Denise Rohan, and the Sons of the American Legion National Commander Danny Smith. Tickets will sell out to this event! Make your reservations now. You can find the flyer to make reservations at www.ksamlegion.org.

I hope you received the Kansas E-newsletter which was e-mailed on June 1, 2018. If you did not receive it, then go to MyLegion.org and check your e-mail address that is on file.

We have started a video series, the "Kansas Connection." Check it out on Facebook at "The American Legion Department of Kansas Commander."

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!

Congratulations to all of Kansas for the superb year 2018 has been for our Children and Youth Programs! Our current Commander, Dan Wiley has been the best promotor of our youth programs in the State of Kansas, I believe The Whole Country! His ideas and new innovations like using media, are beyond words!! Thank you Commander!!!

As it has been proven... if each District Commander takes his District Children and Youth Chairman with him, when doing post visitations, both stressing the importance of training post membership in using Children and Youth documents, pamphlets, brochures, and The Legion.org site, Youth opportunities, as well as Annual Reporting, will surge!

I urge the Chairmen to carry with them all the needed pamphlets, copies of both Kansas and National grants and scholarships, especially application forms for Boys State, Cadet Law and Oratorical. Bring yourself up-to-date on all programs so you can answer questions. You should also have all listing of all schools in your district broken down by Zip Codes to denote the posts responsible for those areas. (Email me for assistance). This will help you when you visit schools and promote our programs! Because your District or the Posts within them have designated chairmen for those programs does not mean you do not have a responsibility to keep up with their progress! Your job is to urge, support and INSPIRE!

Let's make 2018-2019 our best year yet!

First, I would like to thank the membership of the Kansas American Legion for allowing me to continue to serve our organization as Vice Commander. It is an honor and a privilege but more importantly, a responsibility. Looking forward to working with dedicated Legionnaires to make things happen.

This year at the Boys State Opening Ceremony, we were grateful for attendance by several Legion officers. Among those observing the event were Gaylord Sanneman, Dave Warnken, District Commanders James Snyder, Marri Krupco, Randy Frank and Jeremy Ehart. Commander Dan Wiley gave a welcoming speech. Thanks to these Legionnaires, our presence at youth programs demonstrates to attendees the importance placed on these functions by our organization.

Speaking of membership, and we all should be, at Leadership College this year, districts presented plans for seeking and retaining members. The approach differed from the procedure in the past as the W's (who, what, where, when, why) were determined prior to the meeting, thus saving time in the

process. There are now clear paths, agreed upon during the meetings, that districts will follow to achieve successful membership drives. As always, have car, willing to travel and help.

A reminder that enlightening our communities on Legion affairs can be useful in attracting new members. Charlie Sellens, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, has the expertise to assist in this area. Articles can be professionally generated for inclusion in local publications. If necessary, the committee can also speak to the publications on your behalf. Sure can't hurt.

Another area that may produce interest among candidates for membership is our involvement in Community Celebrations and affairs. Now I know we have many posts actively engaged in this type of civic activity. However, if your post does not, and you have the resources, volunteering to assist by participating in these events can be met with gratitude, as many times, help is needed. Let folks know in your communities we are willing to roll up our sleeves.

Until next time, and For God and Country

MEMBERSHIP...

(or how I learned to stop dreading and love recruiting)
by Chuck Shoemaker

Upon joining the American Legion many years ago, one quickly learns that without maintaining and increasing membership, Congress would not have a reliable source of information regarding veteran's issues. That led to questioning how does a new member, with limited knowledge of the organization, discuss membership with a total stranger and not appear as ignorant as a first year medical student? And what is being done now, by seasoned Legion veterans, that can help one learn the recruitment process? Let's see.

Membership. The omnipresent topic in the American Legion. We read about it. We talk about it. We hear about it. We have talented officers assigned to it. The subject is entrenched in our activities...and

well it should be!

However, if one were observing the Legion's recruiting activities at the post level, the inclination might be to recall a phrase as old as the spoken work-Everyone talks about it, but no one does anything.

A little strong?

Perhaps. Certainly we have individuals that recognize the importance of this most critical aspect of a Legionnaire's responsibilities. They are enthusiastic, dedicated, and aggressive enough to go after new members with a vengeance. They also recognize that losing a current member makes the hill harder to climb. We are lucky to have these vocal supporters.

Most of the time, sad to say, many approach this task with

(Continued on Page 6)

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

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Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) For Veterans and Servicemembers

You may receive Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) services to help with job training, employment accommodations, resume development, and job seeking skills coaching. Other services may be provided to assist Veterans in starting their own businesses or independent living services for those who are severely disabled and unable to work in traditional employment. VA's Education and Career Counseling program is a great opportunity for Veterans and Servicemembers to get personalized counseling and support to help guide their career paths, ensure the most effective use of their VA benefits, and achieve their goals.

Education and Career Counseling

VA's Education and Career Counseling program is a great opportunity for Servicemembers, Veterans and dependents to get personalized counseling and support to help guide their career paths, ensure most effective use of their VA benefits, and achieve their goals.

Eligibility:

- Transitioning Servicemembers within six months prior to discharge from active duty

- Veterans within one year following discharge from active duty

- Any Servicemember Veteran currently eligible for a VA education benefit

- All current VA education beneficiaries

Services Include Assisting the Servicemember Veteran with:

- Career Choice - understand the best career options for you based on your inter-

ests and capabilities

- Benefits Coaching - guidance on the effective use of your VA benefits and/or other resources to achieve your education and career goals

- Personalized Support - Academic or adjustment counseling and personalized support to help you remove any barriers to your success

It's simple to apply. Just follow these steps:

- Log in to your eBenefits account at <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov>

- Select "Apply"

- Select "Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Benefits"

- Apply for "Educational and Career Counseling"

- If it is determined that you are eligible, you will be invited to attend an orientation session at the nearest VA Regional Office

If you do not have access to eBenefits you may:

- Go to www.va.gov and click on VA Forms and enter the form number 28-8832, then open and print.

- Complete and mail the form to your nearest VA Regional Office - Attention: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment. Or contact your American Legion Service Representatives located at the Wichita, KS Regional Office, Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center (VAMC) Leavenworth, KS or at the Colmery-O'Neil VA Medical Center (VAMC) Topeka, KS for assistance. You may also contact the Kansas Commission on Veterans Office at www.kcva.ks.gov.

- If it is determined that you are eligible, you will be invited to attend an orientation session at the nearest VA Regional Office.

- To learn more about these programs and more, go to www.va.gov and click on Vocational Rehabilitation.

HISTORIAN

JOE JOHNSTON

1,981,701 Americans were sent to Europe to fight in World War I. When the war ended, one hundred years ago this November, it took several months to transport all the survivors home. Four officers, Theodore Roosevelt Jr., George S. White, Eric Fisher Wood and William J. Donovan used this time to begin an organization that became The American Legion.

Many rumors had to be put to rest, one was that the new organization was for officers only. Another that it would be highly political like the Grand Army of The Republic, a Civil War Veterans organization. Today the Legion is very determined that politics if mentioned is balanced, giving both sides equal time.

Next year The American Legion will celebrate one hundred years of service to the veterans and the American people. I hope that in another hundred years The Legion will be no more because of the lack of war. I don't really believe that will happen, but I can hope.



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:

Sat, Sept. 8 3rd District
Sun, Sept. 9 4th District
Mon, Sept. 10... 7th District
Tues Sept. 11 1st District
Wed, Sept. 12 ... 5th District
Thu, Sept. 13 2nd District
Fri, Sept. 14 8th District
Sat, Sept. 15 6th District
Sun, Sept. 16 7th District

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES

BASEBALL

Eric Smith
* Steve Queen
Joe R. Durham

BOYS STATE

* R. Chuck Shoemaker
Robert Jenkins
Don Whitten

BOWLING

Michael Cole
Lynn Wichman
* Gary Loucks

CADET LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

Gaylord Sanneman
Robert Munson
* Elgin Wahlborg

CAMPORAMA

Charles Reinhardt
* Wiley Simhiser
Tom Emerson

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION AND SCOUTING

Rick Miller
* Dee Dee Danin
Larry "Pete" Hall

CIVIL PREPAREDNESS

* Dennis Kramer
Bruce Branson
Tom Emerson

ECONOMICS

Eszter Blair
Larry Collins
* Jim Buterbaugh

EISENHOWER DAY

Jim Arwine
* John Meyeres
Paul Sanford

EMPLOYMENT

* Jeff Barber
Rick Lowery
Tom Howard

ENERGY

Harold Randa
Fred Meyer
* Rick Simpson

FINANCE

Dave Thomas
Robert Munson
* Jim Buterbaugh

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

* Rev. Glenn Patterson
Rev. Jack Kume
Rev. Debra Muylaert

FOREIGN RELATIONS

* George Pogge
Glenn Wilson
Tim Russell

GOLF

* Lonny Cook
Richard Geike
Carroll Peppersack

LEGION RIDERS

* Fernando Torrez
Allen H. Longstaff
Alan Hagans

LEGISLATIVE

Terry Marr
* Terry Warner
Dave Thomas

MEMBERSHIP

Myra Jowers
Gaylord Sanneman
Paul Sanford
* R. Chuck Shoemaker

MUSIC

Fred Meyer
Basil Pepperd
* Spencer Madison

NATIONAL SECURITY

* Pat Hewitt
Rod Ziemer
Ray Vail

POW / MIA

Randy Frank
* Bryan Page
Jimmy Strachan

PUBLIC RELATIONS

* Charles Sellens
Gary Slimmer
Rick Miller

S.A.L.

Don Behrens
* Bryan Page
C.W. Hamilton

SCHOLARSHIP AND ORATORICAL

* Mike Oppy
Ray Vail
Gary Foes

SCHOOL AWARDS, COUNTY GOVERNMENT, & FLAG EDUCATION

* James Snyder
Kenny Lehman
Dan Stacy

SHOOTING SPORTS

* Larry Warner
Kat Smades
Duane Clemons

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION

Jeremy Ehart
Clint Williard
* Pat Culver

AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Jim Arwine
* Gaylord Sanneman
Ray Vail

* Indicates Committee Chairman

**FIRST DISTRICT
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VICE CMDR.
CLINT VAWTER
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Greetings First District,
I want to thank you for putting your faith and trust in me and reelecting me as your Commander for another year. If you need anything, no matter what the issue may be, don't hesitate to get ahold of one of the Officers. We are here to help you and if we can't answer your questions we know how to get it for you.

Membership will be pushed a lot this year. Just remember our year goes from July 1 to June 30. So if you have some that hasn't paid they are not in good standings as an American Legion member. If you need help with membership just get a hold of us. We are planning 3-4 mini Revitalizations throughout the District.

We have a Facebook site, 1st District American Legion Dept of Kansas, that is a good way to get your events out to everyone. This year we are pushing for communication between the Posts and the Officers. We also need your help in promoting Cadet Law, Oratorical and Boys State in the District. Please try to get into the schools and make contact with the Counselors and Principals. Just a few events to mention; 1st District is working the State Fair on Tues. Sept. 11th and 1st District Homecoming will be In Oskaloosa on Sat October 6th.
SEMPER FI

**SECOND DISTRICT
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VICE CMDR.
JEFFREY BARBER
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(913) 908-5255**

Summertime greetings fellow District two legionnaires! First, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your support, and for trusting me to be your com-

mander for the 2018-2019 year. I believe I speak for all the District two officers when I say we look forward to working with you, if ever you need anything don't hesitate to contact any of us. Thank you to the nine Posts in the District that were able to send someone to leadership college, tons of great information! Second, as I'm sure you're aware the 2019 membership year is upon us. Several Posts in our District have started membership incentive programs at the Post level; I think this is a wonderful idea! Let's reward people for renewing early so we can spend more of our year concentrating on our programs instead of dawdling our time on membership. When we go into our communities and work our programs we will be noticed and there is a higher probability that new members will come to us. A membership incentive program at your Post could be a win-win situation; the renewals come in early which gives more time to work our programs which leads to more community involvement which leads to more interest in your Post by potential new members. Bottom line, I want membership to do a better job of taking care of itself so that we legionnaires have more time for our programs and less time talking about membership. Lastly, just a few reminders: September 13 is the District 2 date for the state fair booth, September 14-15 will be the District revitalization at the Paola Post, and we will also be having a membership rally in Paola on November 3rd. Thank you for everything you do!

**THIRD DISTRICT
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While serving as 3rd District Vice Commander over the past year, and visiting several Posts within the District, two things were made very clear to me by the membership. First, the really successful Posts ALL have one thing in common. Those Posts have a very close relationship within their American Legion families. They work together with a common goal as a family should. I was very

surprised how many Posts have family units that just don't seem to get along with each other. Whether you are a member of the American Legion, the Sons of the American Legion, the Legion Riders or even the Auxiliary, we all need to remember one thing. We ALL serve to support the four pillars of the American Legion and its programs. I am sorry, but to put it bluntly, if your home Post is not successful, then the other family units simply cease to exist, period. So, you may ask, "how do you go about bringing the family units closer together?" As Commander of my home Post #170 in Chanute, I hold quarterly "Family Leadership Meetings". These meetings are attended by the officers of all the family units and any member who wishes to attend. The purpose is this meeting is to inform everyone on the status of the home Post, be it financial, needed upcoming repairs to the building, or future goals and projects of the American Legion. By the same token, each family unit can address the group concerning their needs and goals and relay to the American Legion how we might help in their achievement. When you have all the Legion family units supporting and assisting one another, the result is a Closer bond among the entire membership under the American Legion umbrella.

Since I have run out of space, I will address the second thing brought to my attention by the 3rd District membership in my next Sunflower article.

Remember, "FAMILY FIRST", and may God bless you all.

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While we settled in after a whirlwind of activities from District/Department meetings and training it is time to settle back into the duties of our Post. With new officers installed trying to learn their responsibilities and duties take a moment to focus on the Four Pillars. Enhance what our veterans in the beginning fixated on to

motivate the newly established American Legion; Take a look at what their vision just 100 years ago has brought us to.

As your Leadership within District IV they will travel to Membership Training and the National Convention and come back to meet with the District IV Membership Zones to strategize and plan our approach to building and energize our District membership. I ask you to meet with your Post Leadership and discuss their goals on strengthening your Post.

With good conversation we are able to continue to build the American Legions strength and give our National Commander a stronger voice while talking to our elected leaders about the needs of all veterans. Thank you for your support and desire to grow with the American Legion.

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I want to take a few minutes to thank everyone for giving me this opportunity to serve all the members of the 5th District as your District Commander for 2018 - 2019. We have started a new chapter in our life and I would like for this to be a ((Year of Involvement and Action)). Every officer of every Post must begin looking at membership not only from the standpoint of numbers but also from the standpoint of Post image. Put volunteer time into the Post itself. One must feel as if the members care about their Post home as well as it's members if they are to make it thrive.

As a District we should strive to open an active line of communications between Posts within the District, as such we have establish an e-mail chain allowing every Post in the district to have their events published district wide. Any Post wishing to publish their event can e-mail me at bpage@aaa-alliedgroup.com. Flyers are best but any form will due. By

doing this we will be supporting our sister Post and their fund raising efforts.

Since our District convention we have been busy working for you and your Post. We have had our first Commander's call in which we had 12 Post represented and as a group we laid out a possible path forward. We discussed post initiatives, success stories and possible futures. In every case a positive approach was taken and a great year is in store for all of 5th district.

As discussed in our first commanders call we will establish a District Centennial committee from Post officer / members to showcase our Post's history, get community involvement, plan a week of celebration and conduct a District wide Centennial Run with the ALR.

In addition to myself your 5th District officers are Vice Commander and membership chair, Charles Eaton; 1YR Executive Committeeman, Don Behrens; 2yr Executive Committeeman, James Hawthone; 3yr Executive Committeeman, Joe Hicks and your Adjutant; Pat Culver

As a group we will provide support, guidance and training to all Post as requested. We have and will continue to conduct quarterly membership training sessions encouraging Post with greatest needs to attend. At these meeting we will help each Post set post goals, review successful approaches to a successful membership drive, determine who should be you target members to improve you membership drive and develop a firm understanding of MYLegion.Org. Additionally we will conduct quarterly Commander Calls, First was conducted on April 29th, next scheduled for July 24th. Develop and implement district recognition program supporting post participation in Cadet Law, Boys State and Oratorical Scholarship Program. i.e. Roving trophies and certificates and visit each Post with their District representative showing our support

I look forward to a great year and would love to visit every Post along with the Post's District representative.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns at 316-259-1838 or bpage@aaa-alliedgroup.com

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Many things have happened since my last article. We held our District Convention in Phillipsburg during an April snowstorm. We were surprised that as many people made it and were excited that we were correct in moving it to a more central location. Those present voted to have next year's convention in Phillipsburg as well. Next was the Department Convention in Hutchinson where an important resolution which affects the 6th District directly was passed. The resolution, submitted by Phillipsburg Post 252, splits the district along and east of US Highway 183. Phillips, Rooks, Ellis and counties west will be the new 9th District in July 2019. Those counties east will remain the 6th District.

For whatever reason, most of the dissention against the resolution came from the east side of the District. I visited with all the other Districts during caucuses and explained why it should be considered. The dissenters seemed to be concerned with the 9th Districts ability to fill leadership positions.

The election of officers for the 9th District will be conducted at the 6th District convention in Phillipsburg on April 6, 2019. Anyone interested in being the first 9th District officer are invited to contact me and I'll be happy to answer your questions. All liquid assets of the current 6th District will be split with the new 9th per capita based on the 2019 membership quotas.

All membership packets have been mailed or handed off to District officers who were willing to deliver them. If you haven't received it by the time you read this, please contact me.

I'm disappointed by the membership report. We're hovering in the 78% range and are last among the Districts in the state. We're 393 members short from what we had last year and 758 short of our quota. We've got to turn this around next year. There will be plenty

of expired members to recruit. Vice Commanders and Adjutants are asked to step up their games. Membership is your responsibility in your Post.

We are getting away from doing District wide revitalizations. If your Post would like assistance in building your membership through a revitalization, please contact me soon so we can schedule it. I would like for Stockton, Plainville, Hill City, and Hoxie, any Post with less than 50 members, to consider having Post revitalizations this year.

I look forward to the next year as your District Commander. If you have any ideas for membership or anything we could do better, please contact me.

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EDIE CRESS**
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Let me start by saying thank you for your support in the new leadership role for the upcoming year. The first thing we are trying to work on is communication within the District, Posts should start getting monthly correspondence from a District officer and will keep getting weekly emails with District and Department news from me.

I hope everyone is ready for an exciting year, by now everyone should have their 2018 membership cards and be working on the 2019 membership year. Let's get the Life Members and Officers turned into Department right away to eliminate the goose eggs and start the District on the right path. District Vice-Commander Edie Cress and myself are here to help with any Post that need our assistance with membership renewals, transmittals, calls, letters, or anything that may come up. We are here to help any way we can.

Thank you to everyone that worked membership last year to help keep Seventh District around fourth place most of the year. It is a team effort, and I encourage all Legionnaires to help promote our great organization by sharing your stories with others. If

you have ideas or thoughts on ways we can help Posts with membership drives please get in touch with us. We will be working the State Fair booth Friday September 7th, Monday September 10th, and Sunday September 16th, it's a great time to talk about the Legion programs, call or email to schedule your times. Please don't hesitate to call or email with any questions, comments, or concerns. SEMPER FI!

**EIGHTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
LARRY OCHS**
PO Box 1460
Syracuse, KS 67878
(620) 384-6142
**VICE CMDR.
DONALD MARSHALL**
PO Box 587
Cimarron, KS 67835
(620) 855-0951

Greetings Legionaries from the Eighth District.

It has been a busy last couple months with the Department Convention, Boys State and Cadet Law going on. The Convention went very smooth and I felt like a great success. Congratulations Dan Wiley and all the others elected.

We had 11 Cadets from the Eighth District attend Cadet Law out of the 44 who made it there. I am going to challenge the other Districts again next year. We had 25% of the Cadets attending. It should be full each year, a great learning experience for the youth.

National Convention will be held in August. Be sure to get signed up and make the trip to Minneapolis. It will be well worth your time.

I would like to remind all who haven't done the new basic training course to get online at www.legion.org and take the training course. It only takes a couple hours to complete. It is a great learning experience about the history of the American Legion.

I attended the visitation of the American Legion Auxiliary President in Dodge City on June 16th with my wife and three other Auxiliary members from Syracuse Unit #27. It was an honor to visit with her and listen to her speech.

Remember when celebrating the Independence Day be safe and enjoy the freedoms our fore fathers has given us.

Summer is coming on and many will be vacationing. Be safe while traveling.

May God bless our troops and America.



**AUXILIARY
PRESIDENT**

Karen Hasting
301 S. Taylor St.
El Dorado, KS 67042
(316) 320-1628



First, and most importantly, I want to thank everyone in the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary for the warm welcome they gave the National President Diane Duscheck. The hospitality that she was shown was truly a Kansas welcome from a complete history of the Unit to an escort from the Riders. Our Units are each so unique while we still carry out the same mission of service to our Veterans. Again, thanks.

The year started with successfully working with Kansas' youth at Girls State, Boys State, and Cadet Law. These programs are successful due to

SUPPORT LEGION BASEBALL

Baseball is alive and well in Kansas. Over the month of July, 68 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 rural 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 tournament with two, four-team pools. The winner from each pool will face off to determine the state champion.

the dedication and hard work of our members! I served as a Girls State Counselor along with Nana Sunflower, aka Virginia Ball, this year. These young ladies are amazing.

Looking forward, the Auxiliary will be working this summer on their strategic plan as well as holding a Boot Camp for our leadership in July. The American Legion Homecoming is scheduled for August 18. I hope everyone can attend.

Have a safe and wonderful Fourth of July!

"Freedom is one of the deepest and noblest aspiration of the human spirit" --Ronald Reagan

As Class A and AA do not have a regional tournament to participate in this year, the AA and AAA state champions will have a "Best of 3" playoff to determine who will represent Kansas at the regional tournament in New Orleans.

Support American Legion Baseball by cheering for your local team at your local zone tournament. Zone Tournament dates, teams, locations are listed on the Department web page. Zone results will be posted after each zone is completed. State championship progress will be updated after each game.

CLASS A

State Championship
Leavenworth - July 18-22

CLASS AA

State Championship
Sabetha - July 25-29

CLASS AAA

State Championship
Emporia - July 25-29

Regional
New Orleans, LA
August 8-12

World Series
Shelby, NC - August 16-21



**DETACHMENT
COMMANDER**

Terry Harris
1222 Toles Ave.
Larned, KS 67550
(620) 910-7998



I'm still a little in disbelief of the whirlwind it's been this spring. First and foremost, I would like to thank the entire Detachment of Kansas for their confidence in voting me as your Detachment Commander for the 2018-2019 term. I will do everything I possibly can to carry on the groundwork that our past Detachment Commander's have laid. There are a lot of shoes to fill when I look back at some of the great Commanders that the Detachment has had.

I have set a few goals for myself this upcoming year. I would like to work with Vice Commander Tom Wallsmith side by side on membership and have the Detachment at 100% by convention time next year. I would also like to work with all the Detachment officers in seeing who might be interested in starting a Sons of The American Legion Squadron at a Post near them. The different Squadrons that were started in the late part of 2017 and the early part of 2018 have really taken off and are doing their best to support the four pillars of the American Legion. I would also like to attend as many different events and Posts as I can. I always look forward to meeting true

patriots around our state.

We had a great Detachment Convention on the 19th of May. We had our National Commander, Danny Smith and his wife Donna, as well as the National Historian for The Sons of The American Legion Jay Cole in attendance. It's always an honor to have these people attend our events. If you've not had the opportunity to meet Commander Smith, please make the effort to do so. You won't meet a nicer more dedicated person in our organization.

On a more serious note, our Detachment Asst. Adjutant, Wes Wills, has paid his dues to Squadron Everlasting. Wes will always be remembered as the "Guy that did everything" for The S.A.L. He held every position at the Squadron, District, Detachment, and several National Positions. He was the guy I would go to when I had a question or needed help with anything to do with The Sons of The American Legion. He will be missed more than we all will ever know. Great Person, Great Friend, and a Great Legion Family member. You've done your duty. We will do our best to take it from here.

Until Next Time, "Always Remember the Mission"

LegionCare: \$5,000.00 Accidental Death Benefit at

All dues-paying Department members have the opportunity to enroll in LegionCare; a complimentary NO COST accidental death benefit provided to members of your Department. Take advantage of \$5,000.00 of Accidental Death Insurance if a covered accident occurs while traveling on Official American Legion Business*, or \$1,000.00 for all other covered accidents, all at NO COST to you.

Your Department is committed to protecting Legionnaires and their families, so they've worked with the Legionnaire Insurance Trust to arrange this benefit for you.

Don't pass up your opportunity to activate LegionCare! You are guaranteed this NO COST benefit with no health questions, no hidden qualifica-

tions ... and no reason to pass up your opportunity for this important benefit.

Although coverage is available at NO COST to you and paid for by the American Legion, you must enroll to receive the benefit. Visit www.theLIT.com or call toll-free at 1-800-235-6943 today to activate up to \$5,000.00 in protection at NO COST to you.

*For purposes of the Legionnaire Insurance Trust, a member of The American Legion, with current year's dues paid, could be eligible for the \$5,000.00 Accidental Death benefit if he/she is traveling to, attending, or returning from an official function at which the Legionnaire represents his/her Post, District, Department, or National Organization in an official capacity.

MEMBERSHIP...

(Continued from Page 2)

the consistency of a diluted gallon of buttermilk. We go through the motions of agreeing with its' importance and then sit back, believing that agreement equals action. We falsely presume by supporting the need for recruiting, we have contributed to the effort.

Whether you subscribe to this observation or line up on the opposite side is not actually important. What should be everyone's position remains clear: Something should and must be done to reverse the trend, by our new members and existing members.

Here is one suggestion.

Each legionnaire-desiring to earnestly tackle the solicitation of new members-might ask themselves as motivation one, if not all, of the following questions:

Do I believe in the principles and ideals of the American Legion?

Then get a new member.

Do I support the Legion's efforts to serve and support our Veterans?

Then get a new member.

Is the camaraderie enjoyed by members in the Legion of personal worth?

Then get a new member.

Is contributing to the well being of our communities an important aspect of Legion activities?

Then get a new member.

Are the Legion's many scholarships and educational programs contributing to the development of our children and youth?

Then get a new member... and renew a current one.

Let's face it. We do things in life because we are motivated. We take action due to a specific need or want. On occasion we take action because the consequences of inaction are unacceptable. Our inability to grow and retain our membership is, for the most part, due to inaction. And that, as we can all agree, is unacceptable.

Strong belief in who we are, what we are, and why we are can provide the motivational impetus to get involved in the Membership recruiting process. Ask yourself one of the questions. And if you answer in the affirmative, then it's time to get a new member... and renew a current member.

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

Now, that the 100th Department Convention is behind US and WE have a New Slate of Department Officers to lead US into and through the 2018-2019 Membership Year it is time to keeping finding Veterans that want to join Our Great Organization.

The Delegates of the Convention were given the opportunity to hear their National Leaders from all three Entities of The American Legion Family. Legion National Vice Commander Byron Callies from South Dakota, Kansas' Own National Vice President Trish Ward and Sons of The American Legion 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 Jill Druskis of the Americanism & Children and Youth Division from the National Office of The American Legion in Indianapolis, Indiana, updated us on what is new within her Division regarding the new T.F.A. (Temporary Financial Assistance) guidelines and requirements as approved by the N.E.C. (National Executive Committee). The biggest change is that the Requestor MUST be a Current Member of The American Legion, meaning their dues MUST be paid for the Membership year they make the request for funds. There also MUST be Children that are living with the Requestor and be in need for Rent and Utility Bills. They do NOT pay car payments, insurance payments and telephone bills. The other change, is that you can submit an application ONE time, period.

National Emblem Sales Director Richard Keith brought a huge display of items that are available for purchase and was able to explain down to the nitty gritty

the vast amount of programs that Emblem Sales produces to get Our Brand Awareness out across the Country. He was truly impressed with the Delegates and how enthusiastic they were in helping promote The American Legion Family.

All Our Guests stated that they looked forward to returning the Great State of Kansas, so all of you must be doing things right. Keep up the Great Work!!!

Both, the Kansas Boys State Program and the Kansas Law Cadet Program was well attended this year and well educated and highly motivated young Adults represented their individual Cities and Towns across the State of Kansas very well. Every time I attend one of these events, I get rejuvenated that there is still hope for America's youth.

The American Legion Leadership College in Concordia was also well attended and those there were eager to learn new things to help Our Organization continue to march forward.

National Assistant Membership Director Nick Arnett from the National Headquarters Office in Indianapolis, Indiana, presented two classes of instruction: One for Post commanders and one for Post Adjutants. Everyone was very pleased with his classes of instruction. A good interaction between the Instructor and those in attendance transpired.

Fifth District Commander Bryan Page gave a Class of Instruction on MyLegion.org. He had forty-two (42) Legion Members attend his class. He initially set up for ten individuals. Most brought their own laptop or iPad to get a real hands on effect of his class. Everyone I talked to afterward was really impressed and said, they learned a lot about the new module. Thank you, Bryan!

We also heard from Kathy Zima-Sauer, the Eastern

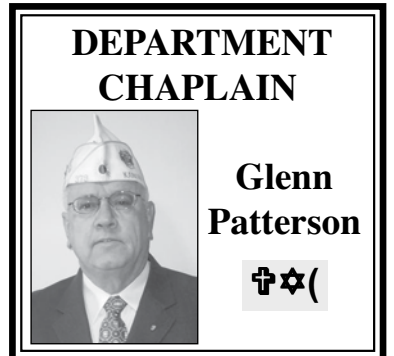
(Continued on Page 8)

+ TAPS +

Abrams, William (Vietnam)..... Salina
 Aguilera, Jesus (Korea)..... Garden City
 Allison, E. J. (Korea) Lawrence
 Anderson, Bobby (WWII)Lindsborg
 Armstrong, T. J. (WWII)..... Mulvane
 Austin, Wayne (Korea) Meade
 Axtell, John (Vietnam).....Ellsworth
 Bailey, Charles (Korea).... Wichita #424
 Bainum, William (WWII) Cunningham
 Balthazor, Armand (WWII) . Concordia
 Bergstrom, Elden Concordia
 Best, Warren (Korea) Lawrence
 Birrell, Darrell (WWII).....Republic
 Blake, David (Vietnam) Russell
 Bogren, Donald (Vietnam)Topeka #400
 Bolton, James (WWII)..... Manhattan
 Boyd, George (WWII) Topeka #58
 Brim, Leonard (WWII) Gardner
 Brown, Charles (Vietnam) Russell
 Bruner, Merle (Korea)..... Hillsboro
 Buffington, Donald (WWII)Hutchinson
 Buller, Wesley (Korea)..... Lawrence
 Burnett, Fred (WWII)Junction City
 Butler, Bernard (Korea) Manhattan
 Byrd, Bobby (Korea)Shawnee
 Byrum, Theodore (Vietnam).... Garfield
 Call, Kendall (Korea)..... Moran
 Carlson, Millard (WWII) Gardner
 Chard, Bill (Vietnam)..... Chanute
 Chauncey, Charles (WWII).... Mulvane
 Claeys, Bryan (Persian Gulf) ..Pittsburg
 Clark, Charles (Vietnam)El Dorado
 Clark, Homer (Korea) Emporia
 Cloon, Russell (Vietnam).Baldwin City
 Colby, Roger (WWII) Concordia
 Copenhaver, Neal (Vietnam)Hutchinson
 Coss, William (Korea) Manhattan
 Curti, Edward (Korea) Seneca
 Dannebohm, Larry (Vietnam) ..Smith Center
 De'Bauch, George (Korea) .. Concordia
 Decker, Larry (Vietnam) Manhattan
 Demel, Wayne (Vietnam).... Manhattan
 Devena, Darold (Korea)..... Bucklin
 Diffendal, Charles (Korea)....El Dorado
 Dirks, Tobias (Korea).....Wakeeney
 Downing, Richard (Korea)..... Harper
 Dugan, Gary (Vietnam)....Junction City
 Durst, Duane (Persian Gulf)Haddam
 Ellis, Darrell (Korea) Topeka #400
 Flowers, William (WWII) Topeka #400
 Floyd, Galen (Korea) Topeka #400
 Forbes, Russell (Korea) Wathena
 Foster, Charles (WWII)..... Washington
 Foster, Marion (Korea)El Dorado
 Fredrickson, Ronald (Korea)Osage City
 Friesen, Alvin (WWII) Hillsboro
 Gehlen, Vincent (Korea) Moran
 Geiger, Robert (WWII) Chanute
 Glenn, A. D. (WWII) Russell
 Goering, Vern (WWII) Hutchinson
 Green, James (Vietnam)....Junction City
 Greenwood, Floyd (Korea) ..Overbrook
 Greig, Charles (WWII) Emporia
 Guercio, Jacob (Vietnam) ...Hutchinson

Halda, William (Vietnam).....Cuba
 Hamilton, Lloyd (WWII)..... Wathena
 Hannerberg, Alvin (WWII).... Hanover
 Hanson, Phillip (Vietnam) . Topeka #58
 Havel, Kenneth (Vietnam) Cuba
 Havenstein, Marvin (Vietnam). Topeka #421
 Heacock, Donald, Sr. (WWII).. Topeka #400
 Heckathorn, Russell (WWII) .. Emporia
 Hellman, Gene (WWII) Isabel
 Hensley, John (Vietnam)..... Erie
 Hess, Ronald (Vietnam) Mulvane
 Hinkle, Raymond (Korea).....Pittsburg
 Hisson, Fredrick (Vtnm) .. Overland Park
 Hofer, Bob (Korea)Kensington
 Holmes, Richard (Korea) Newton
 Hopengardner, James (WWII) Hutchinson
 Hopper, Greg..... Hanover
 Horn, Larry (Korea) Logan
 Howard, John (Korea)..... Wamego
 Howard, Rodger (Vietnam)Cawker City
 Jantz, Clifford (WWII)..... Canton
 Jehle, Harold (WWII) Baldwin City
 Kahmeyer, Dale (WWII).. Wichita #424
 Kampmeier, Willard (Lebanon/
 Grenada).....Silver Lake
 Keller, Billy (Korea) Isabel
 Keller, Merlin..... Marysville
 Kelley, Jeff (Vietnam).....Cedar Vale
 Kendrick, David (Vietnam)..... Sterling
 Kerns, Larry (Vietnam).....Liberal
 Knoble, Marion (WWII) Hutchinson
 Koch, Al (WWII) Washington
 Koehler, George (WWII) Meade
 Korthanke, Glenn (Vietnam)..... Salina
 Kosman, Gerald (WWII)Overland Park
 Lee, Dallas (Korea)..... Bern
 Leis, Claude (WWII) Meade
 Lemke, Roger (Vietnam) . Topeka #400
 Lewis, James, Jr. Bucklin
 Macfee, Donald (Vietnam)..... Oberlin
 Marah, Don, Sr. (Korea)Shawnee
 Marcotte, William (Vietnam)..... Salina
 Mason, Jerry (Vietnam)Pittsburg
 McCarter, Joe (Korea)..... Topeka #58
 Meador, Jay (Vietnam)..... Manhattan
 Meier, Ernest (WWII) Hutchinson
 Meyers, Raymond (Vienam)..... Horton
 Millbern, Robert (Korea) Olathe
 Miller, Loren (Korea)..... Garden City
 Moos, Clarence (WWII) .. Wichita #401
 Mortinger, James (WWII).....Liberal
 Mueller, Loren Palmer
 Naab, Harold (Korea)..... Garden City
 Nelson, Karl (Vietnam)..... Olathe
 Nelson, Norman Independence
 Newton, Ferrill, II (Vietnam) .Clay Center
 Nilhas, Ray.....Dodge City
 Nygaard, David..... Newton
 Olson, Gene (Vietnam) Olathe
 Pacha, Arthur (WWII)..... Marysville
 Paine, George (Korea)..... Washington
 Palmateer, John (Korea)..... Manhattan
 Panzer, Don (Korea) Lincoln
 Patulski, James (Vietnam).... Manhattan

Peaslee, William (WWII) . Topeka #400
 Peters, Don (Vietnam)..... Concordia
 Pfannenstiel, Robert (Korea) Ness City
 Pickett, James (WWII)... Overland Park
 Poell, Marvin..... Topeka #400
 Porter, Lee (WWII) Harveyville
 Potter, Bert (WWII)El Dorado
 Potter, Don (WWII) Winfield
 Price, Russell (Vietnam)Baxter Springs
 Pritchett, Harry (WWII)..... Wichita #4
 Quinley, Vernon (WWII).. Leavenworth
 Ragan, John (Vietnam)..... Ozawkie
 Rathke, William (WWII) Olpe
 Rees, John (Vietnam) Cherokee
 Reif, Don (Vietnam)..... Hoisington
 Rentko, John (WWII)..... Olathe
 Reust, R. P., Jr. (WWII) Frankfort
 Reves, Franklin (Korea)..... Manhattan
 Riley, Mark (Vietnam) Andover
 Robb, Karl (Korea) Agra
 Sage, Robert (Korea) Topeka #400
 Satterlee, Donald (Vietnam)..... Salina
 Schlegel, Granklin (Korea) Bazine
 Sexton, Grice (WWII)..... Manhattan
 Sheppard, Calvin (WWII)... Hutchinson
 Shineman, Alan (Korea)..... Concordia
 Shipp, Raymond (Vietnam) Chanute
 Siebenborn, Homer (Vietnam) ..Concordia
 Sivils, Robert (Korea) Arkansas City
 Sorter, Ned (Korea)..... Clay Center
 Speier, Marvin (Korea) Topeka #58
 Springer, Larry (Vietnam) Topeka #400
 Staples, Ralph (WWII)..... McPherson
 Starr, Mary (WWII) Hiawatha
 Stout, Dean (Korea) Hoisington
 Stovall, Bill (WWII) Topeka #58
 Strait, Jack (WWII)..... Concordia
 Swihart, Mike (Vietnam) Concordia
 Tanking, Gerald.....Liberal
 Thayer, Albert (Vietnam)Liberal
 Thiele, Erwin (WWII)..... Colby
 Thomson, Don (Vietnam) Manhattan
 Vance, Gene (Vietnam) McPherson
 Vossen, Alfred (Korea).... Topeka #400
 Wacker, Gary (Vietnam)Ellsworth
 Wallace, Alfred (WWII).....Lincoln
 Wallace, Kerry (Lebanon/
 Grenada)..... Emporia
 Wallingford, William (Korea) .Mulvane
 Walls, Harold (WWII)..... Caney
 Watson, Melton (Vietnam) ..Kensington
 West, Donald (Vietnam)..... Olathe
 Wildon, John Arma
 Williams, Rowland (Vietnam) . Manhattan
 Winn, Richard (WWII) Yates Center
 Woodson, James (Vietnam).. Wichita #424
 Yale, Wayne (WWII)..... Grainfield
 Yancey, Charles, Jr. (Korea) .Manhattan
 Young, Gary (Korea)..... Overland Park
 Young, Gary (Korea)..... Overland Park
 Zenger, Willard (Vietnam)Haddam
 Zimmerman, Eldon (Vietnam)Frankfort
 Zvolanek, Jack (WWII) Wilson



Fourth of July 2018 – The Price of Liberty

“...I will walk at Liberty, for I seek your precepts.” Psalm 119:45

John Quincy Adams was the sixth President of the United States. President Adams began keeping a daily diary from the age of 11; a practice that President John Q Adams kept until his death in 1848. Once in a 24-year period, he never missed a day’s entry in his diary.

President Adams’ love for liberty was instilled in him from his earliest years by his parents; John Adams, signer of the Declaration, a signer of the Bill of Rights, and the 2nd US President. Also, by his Mother, Abigail, wife of John Adams; the daughter of a minister.

The young Adams was 7 years old at the time of the battles of Lexington and Concord, Bunkers Hill and other battles fought to secure the Freedom and Liberty for this new nation. The memory of these battles stayed in his mind; the price of Liberty. President Adams was invited to share his oration in Newburyport, Massachusetts on the Sixty-First Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence; July 4, 1837.

President Adams reminded his American brother and sisters, of the fundamental principles of how Liberty was a gift from God. President Adams oration is an inspiring look at the reason that the Fourth of July has become such a Celebrated Day in America – a day on which we looked into our past history, and also a day when we looked at our present responsibilities and renew our pledge to preserve the trust that had been given to us by God and by our Founding Fathers.

The price of Liberty is never without cost, it is paid for in the life and death of our sons and daughters; the sacrifices of our valiant young men and women of today. For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves...

“God grants liberty only to those who love it and are always ready to guard and defend it.” Daniel Webster 1834 Reflections from Celebrate Liberty! Famous Patriotic Speeches & Sermons, David Barton

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 PLEASE CUT THIS FORM, ALONG WITH THE
 ABOVE ADDRESS LABEL AND SEND IT TO HEAD-
 QUARTERS. LIST YOUR NEW ADDRESS BELOW**

KANSAS SUNFLOWER LEGIONNAIRE
Jimmie L. Foster, Editor
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News deadline is the 15th of March, June, September and December for the next issue.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
 VA HOSPITAL SERVICE OFFICERS**
 Robert J. Dole Regional VA Medical Center, Wichita
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 Colmery-O'Neil VA Medical Center, Topeka
 Local: 785-350-4489, Toll Free: 800-574-8387 Ext. 54489

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 6)

Kansas V.A. Health Care System's Women Veterans Program Manager at the VAMC (Veterans Affairs Medical Center) located in Topeka. She presented a power point presentation and dialogue pertaining to her Specialty which is dealing with Military Sexual Trauma and the Changing make-up of not only the Military, but the V.A. as a whole, in dealing with Female Veterans. She then held a Question and Answer Session. Everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed her Session of the Legion College. She received a Certificate of Appreciation and a standing ovation from those in attendance.

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 2018-2019 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 Minneapolis, Minnesota. National Staff has worked hard to ensure that those attending will be rewarded with informational and fun times for The American Legion's 100th Birthday and the Home of the First American Legion National Convention. Make sure you pay close attention to the submission dates. These dates are non-negotiable by Department and National for contract purposes.

Until next time, continue to support the Greatest Veterans and their Families, in the Greatest Veterans Organization in The Free World, The American Legion (in my opinion).



LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING

Saturday, August 18, 2018

**McPherson Post #24
 816 N. Water St.**

RSVP by August 8

Name _____

Post//Unit/Squadron _____

Guest Names _____

No. of Adults (\$15 each) _____

No. of Kids (10 and under) (\$8 each) _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of _____

**Mail to:
 Dan Wiley
 24801 227th St.
 Leavenworth, KS 66048**

**37th ANNUAL
 EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE**

Enclosed is our payment for a rose to be placed at the Eisenhower Memorial on Saturday, October 13, 2018.

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) _____

**RECEPTION & DINNER
 Chapman Post #240
 Friday, October 12**

No. of Dinner Reservations _____ Amount Enclosed _____
 (\$15 per person)

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

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2018