

Sunflower

The American Legion -



Legionnaire

Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

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KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

January, February, March, 2019

MID-WINTER FORUM FEBRUARY 1-3, 2019

The Mid-Winter Forum offers every member, especially Post leaders and chairmen, the opportunity to learn more about The American Legion, its programs and the direction each program is expected to take if there are any changes being considered, including changes directed by National Headquarters. In addition, the Forum provides information about how and why The American Legion functions in the manner we do as an organization.

This year's Forum scheduled for February 1, 2, 3 will be hosted by Dodge City Post 47 located at 801 S. 14th Street, in Dodge City. Friday, February 1, will include a Department Executive Committee meeting at 3 pm, followed by the Centennial Membership Committee Meeting. Registration will begin on Friday between 4 to 7 pm. Hosted Hors d'oeuvres will be served from 5:30 to 7 pm at Post 47.

On Saturday, February 2, Registration will continue starting at 7:30 am with donuts, juice and coffee. The formal activities begin with a joint Legion/Auxiliary/S.A.L. meeting at Post 47 at 8 am. After the joint opening the Legion will remain at the Post for its Legion specific meeting, the S.A.L. will meet in the Bar Meeting Room at the Post, and the Auxiliary will meet in the Conference Room at the Dodge House Hotel located at 2408 W. Wyatt Earp Blvd, Dodge City. Leading Candidate for National Commander Bill Oxford from the Department of North Carolina, and National Media and Communication Director Jeff Stoffer from the National Headquarters in Indianapolis, Indianapolis will address and present information to those in attendance. American Legion Auxiliary National President Kathy Dungan will also be in attendance. Lunch will be Sub Sandwiches with all the trimmings and soup at a price of \$8.00. Concluding the day's meetings, the Post will serve a Prime Rib Dinner and

a performance from "Letters from Home" for \$45.00 if pre-registered, \$55.00 if purchased at the Door. Other options are also available for just the meal or just for the performance of the Group. They are as follows: Prime Rib Dinner, \$15.00 if pre-registered, \$20.00 is purchased at the Door. The "Letters from Home" Show, \$30.00 if pre-registered, \$35.00 if purchased at the Door. Prime Rib Dinner and the "Letters from Home" Show, \$45.00 if pre-registered, \$55.00 if purchased at the Door. For Tickets and additional information, PLEASE contact, Dan Stacy at 620-430-0750.

Sunday's schedule will begin at 6:30 to 8:00 am with a Continental Breakfast, Orange Juice and Coffee. Registration will open up at 7:00 am. At 8:00 am Commander Wiley will call the Forum back to order before turning the podium over to Department Chaplain Glenn Patterson who will conduct a Four Chaplains Memorial Service at the Post. There will be a wrap up of reports followed by the Department Sweepstakes drawing.

The Agenda for the Forum is listed within this publication, it isn't too early to reserve your room at one of the many hotels in the Dodge City Area. The contracted Hotel is: The Dodge House Hotel located at 2408 W. Wyatt Earp Blvd. Telephone number: 620-225-9100 or 800-724-1686, rate is \$62.93 for a King Bed or \$69.44 for Two Queen Beds. Be sure to tell them you are a part of the Kansas American Legion block in order to receive the reduced rates per room per night.

Failure to ask for The American Legion rate may result in your paying a higher room rate. It's always better to reserve a room you may have to cancel later than waiting until the last minute to make reservations only to find out the hotel is sold out.

Plan to attend and ask a fellow Legionnaire to attend with you. Hope to see you there!

CADET LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

On June 2 up to 50 young Kansans will gather for the 48th annual Cadet Law Enforcement Academy session at the Highway Patrol Training Center in Salina. Sponsored by The American Legion, Legion Auxiliary and KS Highway Patrol, the Academy provides high school students an opportunity to learn methods employed to enforce city, county, state, and federal statutes with the goal of instilling a better appreciation for those who enforce those laws.

The Academy is not a recruitment program for law enforcement. Students attending past sessions have had a wide variety of backgrounds, interests, and career plans. However many students considering careers in law enforcement, as attorneys, and government service have attended as a means to solidify their plans to pursue such careers.

Open to both male and females, all applicants must be high school junior, or senior, or equivalent, with at least a C+ average scholastically and be physically capable of fully participating in all activities during the week long program. Instruction includes firearms and firing range safety, personal defense, law enforcement history and techniques, pursuit driving on a skid-pad under controlled conditions, practical emergency medical procedures, aircraft use in law enforcement (weather permitting), and the responsibilities of citizens regardless of age.

Primarily classes are conducted by Highway Patrol personnel however representatives of other agencies such as the FBI, KBI, Wildlife and Parks, city and county officials augment the instruc-

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A BOYS STATE CHALLENGE

It was 1937, two years after a beginning in Chicago, that the Kansas American Legion initiated a Boys State Program. As our 83rd anniversary approaches, all the staff who volunteer their time and energy to making this program succeed, are and have been working hard to ensure a successful program in 2019. Many of these dedicated individuals participate year after year, some for decades. It was somewhat disconcerting to all that in 2018 the number of high school juniors soon to be seniors attending the program fell to a level not seen in years. Let's discuss.

First, our program was not alone. There was a general decline of participation throughout the country. One possible explanation heard was the current political environment we hear every day. The inability for politicians to work together for the common good, the bickering between elected officials, does not bode well for attracting competent, concerned citizens to participate in the political process. So the notion goes that some young people have lost a measure of interest in entering the fray or even learning more about how government works, the main function of the Boys State program.

There are other issues. However, in the case of the Kansas Boys State Leadership Academy, while some of the aforementioned quite possibly had an effect, there has been a diminishing effort on the part

of Legionnaires to participate in the recruitment of qualified students. There are posts/district that lack a Boys State Chairmen. These volunteers traditionally visit the schools, work with school counselors, distribute literature, organize the selection process when posts sponsor a student, and arrange financial assistance from community sources for those in need. Their efforts are vital to the success of the program.

To be sure, there are outstanding supporters throughout our ranks that take on these responsibilities. Their involvement produces results. And for those that may be new or contemplating taking an assignment, or even current Chairmen, the Boys State Staff, which includes Legion Advisors to the program and the Boys State Committee, stand ready to assist any endeavor by a post or district. The Boys State office in Wichita can provide program literature and information by calling 866-241-9920.

Please take time to review an article in this publication that provides a general narrative of our stellar program. Taking an active part in informing the community and schools of the Legion's Kansas Boys State Leadership Academy will enable us to reach the qualified students, thus increasing participation in this year's event. Continued interest and involvement is appreciated and will certainly help ensure a successful 2019 session.

COMMANDER

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HISTORIAN

JOE JOHNSTON

The Kansas gubernatorial campaign in 1930 had three American Legion members running for the job. Two of them, Harry Woodring, a Democrat, and Frank Haucke, a Republican, were past Department Commanders. Another Legionnaire, Dr. John R. Brinkley of Milford was in the running as a write-in candidate. Dr. Brinkley was quite famous in this part of the country for his "goat gland" transplants and his radio station which he used to advertise his transplants. He had a long battle with the American Medical Association and the FCC. He finally moved to Mexico away from the rules imposed by this country.

Although he wasn't expected to win, Harry Woodring was the new Governor by only 251 votes. He would later become Secretary of War under Franklin D. Roosevelt.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

DeeDee Danin
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Merry Christmas to the Ladies and Gentlemen of The Department of Kansas, American Legion.

We have had quite a year, Again!...

I simply wanted to thank each and everyone of you wonderful people for all the hard work and dedication, support and sometimes the comforting and reassuring of each other as needed to insure this wonderful organization continues to be that which we all believe it could be in the support of our Troops and, of course, my Children and Youth/Americanism programs! Thank you!

I pray each of us remembers the reason for this season and its glorious celebra-

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VICE COMMANDER

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March 15, 2019 is The American Legion's 100th birthday. I hope your Post has some celebration planned! On March 16, 2019, we will have the Department Oratorical Contest in Manhattan, followed by a 100th birthday luncheon for The American Legion hosted by the Auxiliary. Please make plans to attend.

I want to thank everyone involved with the events we've had over the last three months. We raised over \$9,000 to support veterans in need at our charity golf tournament in Topeka on September 29; had a great turnout for our Eisenhower Pilgrimage in Abilene on October 13; provided a full uncooked Thanksgiving meal to several hundred families at Fort Riley and also the Fort Dodge Veterans Home on November 17 and 18; and gave toys to approximately 600 children of members of the Warrior Transition Battalion and deployed soldiers at Fort Riley on December 7 and 8. This is a perfect example of what happens when we work together as an AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Department Christmas Party. We had over 150 people enjoy a great meal, USO show, and mouse races at Olathe Post 153. It was a great time and an awesome show!

Now is the time to start working on getting students to apply for our summer youth programs of Boys State and the Cadet Law Enforcement Academy. As always we need your help. Please visit your schools, and if you know

of someone who would qualify for these programs, please contact your Post or contact Department Headquarters.

I want to remind everybody of what I consider to be the three big state-wide learning opportunities throughout the year. They are Mid-Winter Forum in Dodge City February 1-3, 2019; Department Convention in Hutchinson May 17-19, 2019; and Leadership College in Concordia May 31 - June 2, 2019. Put these on your calendar now. These are opportunities to learn more about The American Legion Programs, meet National Officers; network; and participate in the decision making process. You will learn new ideas. If you can't make it all weekend to these events, then I encourage you to attend on Saturday.

We now have a Department E-Newsletter that is e-mailed every month along with the Department Adjutant's Letter. This e-mail provides timely and relevant information but only to those that have an e-mail address on file with national. If you do not have an e-mail address on file, I encourage you to go to www.MyLegion.org and provide or update your e-mail address. I also want to remind everyone of the Department's website at www.ksamlegion.org. You will find useful information there and Department Staff does an excellent job keeping it updated. Lastly, the easiest way to renew your dues, is to go to www.MyLegion.org/renew.

As always, I am here to listen and serve you. Thank you for what you do! For God and Country!

When travelling throughout our state visiting the posts, a key factor seen contributing to the recruitment success of new members is involvement with local city, county and regional organizations. Seems the posts that are called upon to perform or assist with various community activities, i.e. parades, holiday celebrations, recurring festivities, other local events fare pretty well in membership. Some posts have been participating in these functions for years while others are new to the experience. It might behoove your post to periodically visit with city councils or other governing bodies to determine if assistance is needed during these events. Of course, manpower is always an issue but if the resources are available, getting our name in front of the public has always been beneficial.

National has recently announced a program for which we should all take advantage. For former members, defined as those that were not members between 2014 and 2016, that are reactivated, National will pay a stipend of \$5 per renewed member. The program ends on May 8th, 2019. Also, if a Department reaches 100% by May 8th, \$2,500 is awarded and if 105% is reached, the payout would be \$5,000. Also, a reminder that the National Commanders Incentive Pin program continues through his ten-

ure. Renewing 3 members, defined as not being a member during the previous year, earns the award commemorating the 100th anniversary of the American Legion.

As a supplement to the above, we are announcing a new program, the Surge Initiative to be held this month. If a District exceeds their new/renewal members in a four week period this year over last year, and the total of new/renewal members for the state exceeds last year by 10% during this period, an entry into a drawing for cash prizes will be awarded to each District for each new/renewed member over the 2018 numbers. Prize distribution will be the discretion of the District. The program will run for 4 weeks in January and drawings for those that reach the goals will be held at Mid-Winter Forum in Dodge City in February.

Our membership numbers are directly proportionate to the amount of effort we exert at all levels. To date we are hitting the established monthly percentages that may result in generous rewards by National at year end. Going forward, the road becomes steeper. It will take all of us, working in concert, to climb the hill. The Commander knows we can do it. Let's prove him right.

May the New Year bring health and happiness to all our Legion Family!

For God and Country

HOW TO AVOID ANOTHER DUES NOTICE

No one likes to open their mailbox and discover a notice of a past due payment. Avoiding that happening to you with your Legion membership is very easy, but you need to act quickly. Renew online and you will take care of your membership effortlessly.

Simply log onto www.legion.org/renew and follow the prompts. You should consider doing this **before** February 10, otherwise you will receive another notice for your dues.

It is fast, easy, and secure so don't wait - renew online now!

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

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"It's Who We Are"

Once upon a time there was a veteran who never joined any National Service Organization such as The American Legion. All the veteran's life, the veteran took benefits and entitlements won for the veteran by The American Legion. The veteran had ten-point preference, a GI Home Loan, had gone to school on the GI Bill, veteran employment personnel got the veteran a job and the veteran was a regular at the local VA Medical Center. But the veteran still refused to join.

On the veteran's death

bed, the veteran asks his spouse, "Please do something for me-I want to be buried in a National Cemetery, have a military marker, and I want The American Legion to provide an Honor Guard and be my pallbearers." The spouse stated, "My dear, you never were a member of The American Legion, why would you want them for pallbearers?" "Dear," the veteran replied, "they've carried me this far, they might as well carry me the rest of the way!"

"It's Who We Are"

THE AMERICAN LEGION

ORATORICAL CONTEST

This March, eight high school students will compete for scholarship money and the chance to represent Kansas at the National High School Oratorical Championship in Indianapolis. Department Oratorical Chairman Mike Oppy has set the State Oratorical Scholarship Contest for 9 AM, Saturday, March 16 at American Legion Post #17 in Manhattan.

The purpose of The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program "A Constitutional Speech Contest" is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States among high school students. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties and responsibilities, the rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Rules and contestant entry forms are available online at

www.ksamlegion.org.

District Contests

District I

23 February, 10:00 AM
 American Legion Post 400
 3029 US-24, Topeka

District II

16 February, 10:00 AM
 American Legion Post 153
 410 E. Dennis Ave., Olathe

District III

TBA

District IV

16 February
 American Legion Post 17
 114 McCall Rd., Manhattan

District V

17 February, 1:00 PM
 The Independent School
 8317 E Douglas Ave., Wichita

District VI

TBA

District VII

10 February, 1:00 PM
 Little River High School
 430 Waverly St., Little River

District VIII

10 February, 1:00 PM
 American Legion Post 47
 803 S. 14th Ave, Dodge City

CADET LAW

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tion provided throughout the week. Parents and families are encouraged to attend graduation ceremonies on Friday evening, June 7.

Students are encouraged to apply early. Completed applications must include endorsements by a doctor (attesting to the applicant's physical condition), their high school principal or superintendent, their local American Legion Post Commander or Auxiliary Unit President, and a local law enforcement officer. A sponsorship fee of \$300 and application fee of \$50 includes housing, meals and supplies needed during the session must also accompany the application and can come from any source (Post, Unit, Squadron, Chapter, a local merchant, parents, etc.).

Applications must be received by March 31.

Renew Your Membership Online at

www.legion.org/renew

CHILDREN & YOUTH

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tion. May each Post and District develop a moral compass and keep it in sight of the organization/post's operational goals. Always remember to be answerable to your membership!

If you are one of my FB buddies, you assuredly know how I feel about the great Nation of ours, and of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, so... may He protect us against our stupidity, poor judgement, and short sightedness. May He always guide us in the path of righteousness for His Namesake.

Have a Merry Christmas and enjoy the start of your New Year!

BOYS STATE

Each year The Kansas American Legion Boys State provides hundreds of high school students a hands-on opportunity to actively participate in establishing a representative form of government from the ground up. Prior to arriving on the Kansas State University campus which serves as the site of the program, each student (known as Staters) is assigned to either the Nationalist or Federalist "political party" based upon their responses to a questionnaire.

Immediately after arriving in Manhattan and checking-in on Sunday afternoon Staters form city and county governments. The next two days are spent drafting local ordinances, and carrying out the operation of cities and counties; at the same time campaigns for state offices are launched and within days Staters elect officials to their new state; Boys State.

Hands-on activities include writing a state constitution, drafting and passing a budget, establishing a Supreme Court, and enacting laws compatible with today's society and needs. How decisions of the masses affect Staters as individuals is demonstrated by assigning each an occupation and a corresponding computerized bank account: within minutes of passing laws, license fees, taxes etc. Staters can view the "real-life" impact on themselves.

Instruction is provided by Legionnaires, at least one member of the Kansas Highway Patrol, and former Staters who are well versed in the function of representative government. Several elected officials annually visit and address Staters throughout the week. Naturally time is allotted for fun

activities during the week such as a "talent night" and various sports.

At a minimum Boys State instills citizenship and demonstrates every individual is capable of making a difference. Thousands of lifelong friendships have been forged at Boys State and graduates often receive special consideration when applying for scholarships or employment.

Two Staters will be selected to represent Kansas as Senators during Boys' Nation held at Marymount University in Washington, DC this July. Staters who are the sons or grandsons of a veteran may apply for a Samsung scholarship.

Application and information packets for this year's June 3-8 session have been mailed to every Kansas high school, every Post, and to past sponsors including private individuals, and civic organizations. Fees for the week long course is \$275 per Stater to be paid by the sponsor(s) plus a \$50 fee paid by the student's parents or the Stater himself.

Applicants must be a high school Junior (will be a Senior this fall), be a self starter, involved in extracurricular activities in their school or community, and rank within the top half of their class scholastically. Completed applications must be received by March 31, 2018; Staters and sponsors are encouraged to apply early.

Legionnaires are asked to seek out potential Staters by visiting their local high schools and assist in locating sponsors and co-sponsors for each student. Additional information can be obtained of The American Legion Boys State website at www.ksb-state.org, or by calling toll free 1-866-241-9920.

GET YOUR SUNFLOWER ONLINE

Save the Department some cash and help the environment by opting out of your printed copy of the Sunflower Legionnaire. Digital versions of the Sunflower are posted to the Department web page a week

before hard copies begin to hit mailboxes.

Use the coupon on page 5 to opt out of you quarterly paper copy of the Sunflower. Visit www.ksamlegion.org to read it on your computer or mobile device.

**FIRST DISTRICT
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Greetings First District,
With the new year here this is a reminder that if your dues are not paid up you are not a member in good standing. Please get with your Post and get your dues paid up. We had a good turnout for the District Homecoming in Oskaloosa and Christmas Party in Wetmore. Thanks again to everyone that helped at each Post. Congratulations to the following Post's for reaching 100% so far, Blue Rapids, Corning, Mayetta 410 and Winchester. By now all the Post Commanders should have received a letter from the National Commander Reistad about the incentive to reach out to the delinquent members from 2014-2016. If you haven't received the information yet then get ahold of one of the officers or Department Headquarters.

The District Oratorical will be in February on Sat 23rd at 9am at Post 400. There will be a District meeting to follow around noon. Just a heads up, The District Convention is also at Post 400 April 12-13. It was voted on for a one day Conv. this year. If anyone needs anything don't hesitate to get a hold of either myself or one of the other District Officers. This has been a great year so let's finish strong. First District #1
SEMPER FI

**SECOND DISTRICT
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Happy New Year District 2!
I want to thank all of you for the hard work you have put in this year, keep it up! We have led membership in the department from the start of the 2019 membership year when the first report came out in August!

It's not just about membership though, you all do a phenomenal job supporting the four pillars of the American Legion. From countless hours spent assisting other veterans get the help and support they need to taking the time to teach children the importance of flag etiquette. Thank you for continuing to serve. We have a couple district events this quarter. On March 2nd we will hold the star party at the Olathe post, more information about this event is being sent to post leadership. The end-of-year district e-board meeting will be at 4 o'clock that afternoon just prior to the party. If learning more about what is happening in the district interests you, I highly recommend sitting in on the meeting. District convention will be held on March 23rd at the Gardner post; any Legion member in good standing may attend this event, guests are also welcome. If you would like to be a delegate or alternate for your post, which will give you voting rights at convention, contact your post leadership for guidance on when those positions are filled. More information about registration and a "Call to Convention" will be sent to post leadership. As always if there is anything the District 2 team can help you with don't hesitate to contact one of us. You can also find a plethora of second district information on our website: <http://kslegiondistrict2.org/> or find us on Facebook.

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It is hard for me to believe that when this article goes to print, it will be 2019. Can someone please tell me where 2018 went?? It seems like just last week I was at 3rd District convention in Pittsburg and accepted the position of 3rd District Commander. Now, it is the middle of December and I find myself sitting in my office at Post 170 writing another article for the Sunflower. I guess the old saying that time flies by when you are having fun is at least partially true. Serving as your 3rd District Commander

has been a very challenging time for me while also serving as Commander for the American Legion Post 170 in Chanute. There just doesn't seem to be enough time in the day to get everything accomplished that I need to do. The members of the 3rd District Executive Committee set some lofty goals for themselves at our first meeting. Even though we are not where I had hoped to be at this point in the year, it is certainly not due to lack of dedication and hard work of my team. Overall, membership in the 3rd District is in pretty good shape for this time of year. However, we still have a long way to go to achieve the goals we set for ourselves not to mention the goals set for us by Department and National in membership recruitment and retention. But, the good news is that we still have time to accomplish these goals. Now is the time to renew our efforts. I am asking everyone on the 3rd District Executive Committee and all post officers within the District to take a step back, take a deep breath and dive back into our efforts to achieve the goals before us. I know that everyone is aware of the many tools available to everyone on mylegion.org, and urge everyone to take advantage of these tools and resources. As always, the 3rd District Executive Committee will always be available to assist in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to call on us if you need anything at all.

Remember, "Family First", and God Bless you all

**FOURTH DISTRICT
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Just before Christmas 2018 Keeley and I went to the Fort Riley Cemetery to participate in the Annual Wreaths Across America as we have for years. We would stand in front of the stones representing our HEROS and I then understood that each one has a story that needs to be heard. I also recognized that the veterans in our post have their own story, from being in the depths of combat, in a support position or in preparing to deploy.

I challenge all Legionnaires to engage all of our fellow veteran's by reaching out to them, asking them about their story and sharing yours while welcoming them to continue to serve at the local American Legion Post.

We have lived our lives as veterans from all services as a band of brothers that can't be separated. Until our last breath we will all be veterans!

Leave the lights on and the door open for all of our veterans.

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Good Day all 5th District American Legion Family members

What a Year, As we end 2018 and began 2019 let's remember those that gave their all for God and Country and not forget the sacrifices given so that we continue to enjoy the freedom only found in this great nation. As we prepare for mid-winter forum and our district conventions let's remember that we are a family organization, American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion. We perform at our best as a family as evidenced by our 2018 accomplishments. A few of these accomplishments are

- We have conducted Four District level commanders' calls, three DEC meetings and our Commanders Homecoming.
- Participated in the 2018 Kansas American Legion Legacy Run, Hosting the final Stop of the Run
- Conducted District level Membership Training
- Participated in the 2018 Kansas State Fair, Hosted the American Legion Booth
- Participated as a district in the 2018 Veteran's Awareness Expo
- Participated as a district in the 2018 Car show at the Kansas Star Casino, Hosted the American Legion Booth, and provided the opening and closing Honor detail.
- Participated in the Armed forces Night at the Lawrence-Dumont Stadium
- Conducted several Banana

Runs to the Robert J Dole Veteran's Hospital providing snacks and refreshments to veterans currently residing at the Hospital.

- Hosted the Annual 4th of July BBQ at the Robert J Dole Veteran's Hospital serving a complete meal to residents and staff.
- Participated in the Annual Veterans Family Reunion at Eldorado Lake.
- Place flags along the Avenue of Flags at the Robert J Doyle Veteran's Hospital on selected Holidays.
- Have had representation at all Veteran Administration's Town Hall Meetings and Veteran Job Fairs
- Participated in Veterans Awareness Day at Wichita State University
- Held our first 5th District Camporama in which we had 7 camping units and 19 people attend.
- Hosted a formal dinner for the National Commander at Post 256 and a meet and greet at Post 4. Both events were well planned, executed and received.
- Hosted a meet and greet at Post 408 for the National Vice Commander
- Participated in the 2018 Big Red One Turkey Run and Operations North Pole.
- Participated in the 2018 Christmas closet at the Robert J Dole Veteran's Hospital, providing every veteran in resident an opportunity to choose Christmas gifts for their love ones and have the gifts delivered via postal service. Thanks you to all the volunteers that made this a success.
- Participated as a District in honoring our comrades who have gone before us at the 2018 Wreaths across America ceremony at the Winfield Veteran's Cemetery
- Of great interest to our District is the involvement of a few of our American Legion members in the Kansas Honor Flight, sending out 12 flights and sponsoring 437 Veterans in 2018 at a cost exceeding \$360,000. Additional details follows;
 - WWII Veterans - 25
 - Korean Veterans - 84
 - Vietnam Veterans - 328
 - Veteran fly absolutely free, guardians pay \$800.
- In 2019 our first flight is 4/17/19 (right now have 11 trips planned), there are currently 661; 3 WWII, 19 Korean and 639 Vietnam Veterans on the waiting list. WWII & Korea goes to top of the list, Vietnam goes in order of date application is received, unless there is medical issues.

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No article Submitted.

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Greetings 7th District,
As you are reading this I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday season. Now it is time to spread that cheer to others. It is time to get the word out about all The American Legion's programs that involve our Children and Youth. Those programs will be coming up in the next several months, and include cadet law, boy's state, oratorical, and school awards programs in your area.

7th District has looked good with membership so far, but we have to keep working hard. It's time for all posts to dig in and get those last few renewals. Retaining members is getting tougher and tougher so you may need to make a few phone calls and house visits. Remember, membership is the key in supporting our troops in congress.

Make a resolution this year to improve your Post so other veterans will want to join. Continue your service to other veterans and especially your community. Maybe a resolution to become more active and help your Post succeed! Use the tools provided to you at mylegion.org to reach out to expired members or members in your area that can transfer to your Post.

Thank you all for all you have done for 7th District and for The American Legion. If there is anything at all we

can help with please don't hesitate to call or email anytime. I am more than willing to travel, and appreciate the invitations I have received for meals or meetings so far. See you all at the 7th District convention on March 31st in Ellinwood. Keep up the good work 7th District. Semper Fi!

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DONALD MARSHALL**
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Cimarron, KS 67835
(620) 855-0951

Greetings from the 8th District.

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I have moved to Arkansas and we had an executive committee meeting before I left. Don Marshall moved to Commander for the remainder of my term. The committee then moved to recommend James Schnellenbacher to replace Don's position as Vice Commander. They also recommended Donna Hernandez to fill James position on the executive committee. It will expire this year.

James Arwine resigned as District Adjutant and the committee moved Assistant Adjutant Brent Anderson to finish his term as Adjutant.

I hope that all posts are working with the schools and children to promote the youth programs.

We are behind in membership this year and need to make calls and contacts to get back up to first place in the department.

A reminder that Mid-Winter will be held in Dodge City Feb.1-3. Be sure to get reservations. The Letters from Home group will be performing and it is an act you don't want to miss. Make plans now.

District Eight is having a one day convention on April 6th. It will also be held in Dodge City. Makes plans for this day as well. Other districts have been using the one day and it works well.

May God Bless you all and God Bless America.

THE "SURGE" CONTEST

The following describes a new contest designed as a rewarding way to increase membership during the first month in 2019.

Objective:

Provide an additional incentive to each district to increase the number of members in the month of January this year in comparison to the same period last year.

Contest:

If the districts combine to exceed the total number of members, new or renewed, over the same period last year by 10 %, during a 4 week contest period beginning December 28th to January 25th, each new member/renewal will qualify the district for one entry into a cash prize drawing.

Prizes:

A \$100 cash payment for each ticket selected from a drawing held at Mid-Winter Forum to a total of 4.

Rules:

- Last year's total number is determined by adding 10% of that figure to last year's total number.

- One entry will be awarded for each new/renewed member exceeding last's years totals.

- The figures used in calculating the numbers will be from Michelle's weekly Membership Report.

- If the total of the district's new/renewals are reached to award entries, only those districts exceeding last year's numbers will participate.

- If the total of the district's new/renewals for the contest period do not exceed 10% over the previous year, no entries will be awarded.

- This contest is in addition to the National Incentive program of \$5 for each renewed member from 2014-2016.

Attached please find the numbers for new/renewal members for 2018 used in determining contest qualifications.

Good Luck and hope to see everyone with chances to win at Mid-Winter!



**AUXILIARY
PRESIDENT**

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



In October, we participated in the Eisenhower Pilgrimage, by laying wreaths and roses in tribute of our 34th President Dwight D. Eisenhower who claimed Kansas as his home. The celebration began with a dinner on Friday, October 12 at Chapman American Legion Post #240. The Nebraska Commander and ALA President attended along with a District President from Missouri. I was honored to join the family at the gravesite. President Eisenhower was an inspiration to our country. An inspirational speech was given by Captain Mark Oberley, Force Nuclear Propulsion Officer, Naval Air Force.

Vice-Presidents Homecoming for Department of Kansas followed the Eisenhower Pilgrimage, honoring American Legion Department Vice-Commander Chuck Shoemaker, Department ALA Vice-President Paula Sellens, and SAL Detachment Vice-Commander Tom Wallsmith. Some ladies in attendance dressed in 40s attire. This event was followed by District Homecomings.

The ALA Community Service Chairman and Co-Chairman have been busy as Nancy Evan's committee: Marcella McGuire (bowling) and Melissa Burton (Eisenhower Pilgrimage) along with Karon Cook (golf tournament) were a huge success.

The Turkey Run at Fort Riley is a demonstration of Kansas' hospitality to our servicemen and women's families. The servicemen and women

families are appreciative of what we do for them.

NORTH POLE was held Saturday, December 7th and 8th. If you have never experienced this event, you are missing out on one of the most enjoyable and meaningful things that the American Legion Family does together. Several videos are available including one by Deanna Bonn, a free-lance writer, who put together a short video featuring Mike Saindon.

Gift Shops were a huge success as always, and a special thanks to everyone who helped make it happen!

Auxiliary Units across Kansas are working together to decorate the Department ALA office. Units have been busy creating CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS that represent their Unit.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and viewed the pictures on Facebook of the American Legion Family as the Department Christmas Party was Saturday, December 15th at Olathe. The entertainment was fabulous, and those in attendance donated \$650 for honor flights! NEC Jeanne Haas was the emcee for the event which was followed by the mouse races. The Department of Kansas ALA gave out 100-year cozies with an invitation for the Legion's 100th Birthday Celebration to be held March 16, 2019. Reservations are limited, so make yours today.

Karen Hasting, 2018-19 Department ALA President
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!

Online only Sunflower Legionnaire

I no longer wish to receive a printed copy of the Sunflower Legionnaire. I am aware that an electronic version is available online at ksamlegion.org.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

**Mail to: Dept. Headquarters
1314 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66612**



**DETACHMENT
COMMANDER**

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



ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a very Happy New Year. It's hard to believe that we are already into 2019. Where has the time gone? Soon it will be time for Mid-Winter Forum in Dodge City. I hope to see many of our Squadrons represented. There is always a wealth of information and Midwest Region National Vice Commander Peter Sierminski will be in attendance so we can all hear what is going on at the National level.

I was honored to be chosen to serve on the Ad-Hoc committee to plan the Big Red 1 Turkey Run and also Operation North Pole. Both of these events are programs put on by our American Legion Family. We are able to not only provide the uncooked Thanksgiving dinners at the Turkey Run, but then turn around and provide a quality toy to about 650 children of our Warrior Transition Battalion as well as other families on Fort Riley. I do have to

say, if you have not ever participated in either of these events, I would highly recommend it. The Four Pillars of the American Legion are, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. The American Legion Family does a great job covering 3 of the four Pillars at these two events. I know that I leave these events with a big smile on my face knowing that we have not only helped our Soldiers but also the families of these soldiers. I can't wait until next year.

There are so many events that The Department of Kansas as well as The Detachment of Kansas are involved in. Not everyone can do everything but everyone can do something. Keep a watch on the Sunflower or the SALute and come join us. I enjoy meeting our membership and to see what others are doing at their home posts.

Until Next Time "Always Remember the Mission"

LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

The reception will be held at the Capital Plaza Hotel, 1717 SW Topeka Ave. in Topeka on Wednesday, January 16. The reception will begin with a briefing at 5:00 PM, followed by the reception which will last until 8:00

PM. Cost of attending the reception is \$20.00 per person and includes cocktails and hors'doeuvres. Please use the coupon below to let Headquarters and the hotel how many to prepare for.

Legislative Reception

Yes, I plan to attend The American Legion Legislative Reception, Jan. 16, 2019 in Topeka. Enclosed is \$_____ (\$20 per person). Note: please list the name of each attendee.

No, I am unable to attend. Enclosed is my donation of \$_____ to help make this American Legion function a success.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

**Mail to: Dept. Headquarters
1314 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66612**

The Department of Kansas has accomplished many things across the board this past year and should be proud of your accomplishments. Membership is ahead of last year's numbers, but that doesn't mean we should set around and rest on our laurels. Membership is EVERYONE'S responsibility, not just a few out of each Post, District or Department.

The National Vice Commander's Visit of Eastern Kansas was a huge success! Many Posts had breakfasts, lunches, dinners and just a social round table meeting with Steve Sweet from the Department of Mississippi as he toured the State. There was a great interaction with the Members of The American Legion Family and NVC Sweet. He is looking forward to returning as Our Guest at the Department Convention in Hutchinson at the Atrium Hotel and Conference Center on 17 to 19 May 2019. PLEASE start making your plans to attend now.

The 2018 Big Red One Turkey Run held at Fort Riley, Kansas, on 17 November 2018, was a tremendous success. Six hundred Soldiers and their dependents from the Warrior Transition Battalion and Fort Riley were given items to make up a complete Thanksgiving Dinner. Those that helped out received many unsolicited accolades from those receiving these baskets. The Thank You's, Hugs, and expressions of appreciation were everywhere. Some couldn't even get the words out and would turn away for a bit to keep their composure. If you did NOT tear up, or have a lump in your throat, something was wrong with you!

The Garrison Commander of Fort Riley and the First Infantry Division, Colonel Stephen Shrader, was in attendance and thanked The American Legion Family in assisting those personnel serving their Country during

the holiday season. He stated that many of these Soldiers and their Dependents would not have a complete Thanksgiving meal without Our help. He also stated that there are Fourteen (14) Wounded Warrior Transition Battalions around the Country, and as far as he knew, Fort Riley was the ONLY one to provide this very worthwhile project for the Soldiers and their Dependents.

Many of the same group assisted in Operation North Pole on 7 and 8 December 2018 at Fort Riley. Approximately 800 hundred Military Members and their Dependents were presented gifts for their individual minor family members at the Clamshell. Each child got to set on Santa's and Mrs. Claus laps, receive their individual gift and then partake in being served cookies, cupcakes and water from The American Legion Auxiliary Members. There was face painting, mouse races, decorate your own Sugar Cookie and many other events. The Commanding General's Ceremonial Horse Platoon was also giving rides on sleighs around the Wounded Warrior Transition Battalion Area. There were many heart pounding events that took place during this American Legion function.

A BIG Thank You to Roger Beckley, Mindy King, Terry Harris, Santa Claus Doug Evans and many others for their help and coordination of these two very rewarding American Legion Family events.

The Department Legislative Reception will be held on Wednesday, 16 January 2019, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel at 5 P.M. The cost is \$20.00 per person. This was normally held right after the Mid-Winter Conference, but was changed on the recommendation of Both the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate to allow more Legislators the ability to

attend. You can either pay at the door or send your \$20.00 to the Department earmarked "Legislative Reception". This information was also provided in my Department Adjutant's Newsletter that is send out to Each Post within the Department. Check with Your Post Adjutant!

Don't forget to start making plans to attend the 2019 Mid-Winter Conference which be held in Dodge City, Kansas from 1 to 3 February 2019 at Dodge City Post # 47. Listed within this edition of the Sunflower Legionnaire is the Agenda and schedule of hotels and events for this Conference.

We will be fortunate to have in attendance the Leading Candidate for National Commander of The American Legion Bill Oxford from the Department of North Carolina. Bill is a great Legionnaire and he will represent US well as The National Commander of The American Legion.

Also in attendance will be Jeff Stoffer, the National Media and Communications Director from Our National Headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana. Jeff will provide updates from National on his respective Division.

He will also be presenting numbers and statistics regarding the number of Posts within the State of Kansas that has posted their Centennial information to the National Website for review.

I hope that you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and a very prosperous New Year. If any of you need any assistance from myself or the Staff of the Department Headquarters, PLEASE do NOT hesitate to ask.

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).

+ TAPS +

Alvey, E. L. (Vietnam).....Burdick
 Anderson, Kenneth (Vietnam)
 Council Grove
 Anderson, Michael (Vietnam)...Emporia
 Antle, Carl, Jr. (WWII) Atchison
 Arnold, Lynn (Vietnam)..... Shawnee
 Attig, Jack (Korea)..... Topeka #400
 Bahr, Fred (Vietnam)Howard
 Bath, Lenneth (WWII)..... Pittsburg
 Bicknell, Edward (Korea) .. Topeka #400
 Black, Billy (Korea)..... Grainfield
 Blocker, Murty (WWII) Topeka #400
 Boulware, Ronald (Korea)..... Columbus
 Brake, John (WWII)..... Overland Park
 Brooks, Weldon (WWII)..... Norton
 Brownlee, Robert Kansas City #199
 Bryant, Basil Independence
 Bryant, Earl (WWII) Emporia
 Bryson, Arlon (Korea) Wamego
 Budde, Gary Newton
 Bulger, Godfrey (Korea) Topeka #400
 Burback, Jack (Korea)St. George
 Burkhead, Melvin (WWII)Independence
 Carlson, Vance McPherson
 Case, Michael (Vietnam) Greensburg
 Casey, Armond (WWII) Pittsburg
 Chester, John (WWII) Pittsburg
 Claas, Robert (Korea) Seneca
 Clayton, Bobby (Korea)..... Mound City
 Coffman, Shirley (Vietnam).....Jetmore
 Coghill, John (Korea)..... Syracuse
 Colvard, Vernen (Korea) Hutchinson
 Currie, Dick (Korea) Hutchinson
 Dageforde, Elmer (Korea) . Topeka #400
 Dalrymple, Ralph (WWII) Shawnee
 Danczek, Steven (Persian Gulf)Pittsburg
 Davis, Johnnie (Vietnam).Arkansas City
 De Fries, Ted (Korea). Kansas City #199
 DeWitt, Stephen (Vietnam) Topeka #400
 Dochow, Eugene (Korea)..... Columbus
 Dolezal, Ralph (WWII)..... Great Bend
 Dougherty, Charles (Korea) Logan
 Downing, James (Vietnam)..... Shawnee
 Drewel, Thomas, Sr. Great Bend
 Duffield, Gary (Korea)..... Olathe
 Durbin, Jack (WWII) Great Bend
 Eastland, John (WWII) Shawnee
 Eckhoff, Elmer (Vietnam) .. Topeka #400
 Edwards, Donald (Korea) .. Yates Center
 Elias, Dennis (Vietnam) McCracken
 Enoch, Bill (Korea)..... Hutchinson
 Ferguson, Clayton (WWII) Copeland
 Foster, Robert (WWII) Emporia
 Fox, Farold (WWII) Burdett
 Freisner, Harold (Vietnam) Howard
 Fries, Darrell (Korea)..... Topeka #400
 Galichia, Shirley (WWII)..... Frontenac
 Garcia, Rudolf, Sr. (WWII).... Hutchinson
 Gardner, Mark (Persian Gulf) ... Emporia
 Garretson, Willaim, Jr. (WWII)
 Smith Center
 Geiger, Alfred (Vietnam) Topeka #58
 Gleason, William (WWII)..... Seneca
 Gowen, Deborah (Vietnam) Derby
 Grimes, Willaim (Korea) Hutchinson
 Hake, Edgar (Korea) Tipton
 Hankins, Cecil (Vietnam).....Preston

Harrington, Keith (Vietnam).....Howard
 Hayward, Charles (WWII)... Hutchinson
 Hedberg, Ronald (Korea).... Clay Center
 Helm, Austin (WWII) Belle Plaine
 Henry, Kenneth (Vietnam) . Topeka #400
 Higgins, Michael (Vietnam)... Concordia
 Holthaus, Edwin (Korea) Seneca
 Hopkins, Ronald (Korea) Utica
 Horeskr, Frank, Jr. (Korea) Norton
 Hoshour, Frank, Jr. (WWII)Topeka #400
 Hutchcraft, Philip (WWII) Arma
 Jaco, John (Korea) Great Bend
 Johnson, Kenneth (WWII) Olathe
 Jones, Cecil (WWII) Utica
 Jones, Donald Concordia
 Kelly, Ray (Vietnam) Arkansas City
 Kendrick, Kenton (Korea)Arkansas City
 Kennedy, James Frontenac
 Kersenbrock, Glen (Korea)..... Colby
 Kickner, Donald (WWII) McPherson
 King, William Overland Park
 Kizzere, Leonard (Vietnam). Coffeyville
 Klima, Melvin Cuba
 Kuhn, Clinton (Korea) Great Bend
 Kunzler, James (WWII) Gardner
 Lance, James (WWII) Fairview
 Lee, John (Vietnam)..... White City
 Lester, Ivan (Korea) Topeka #58
 Link, Gene (Vietnam) Rolla
 Little, Glenn (Korea)..... Sterling
 Locke, Robert (WWII)..... Paola
 Luebbe, Norman (Korea) Seneca
 Maier, Robert (Korea)..... Great Bend
 Mark, Robert (Korea)..... El Dorado
 Maudlin, George, Jr. (Korea) Derby
 McCann, Loren, Sr. (WWII)Clay Center
 McGuire, Raymond (Vietnam) Shawnee
 McMullen, Myron (Korea) Topeka #400
 Meyer, Michael (Vietnam) . Topeka #400
 Mishler, Darrell (Vietnam).....
 Sylvan Grove
 Moeller, Thomas Oskaloosa
 Moore, Claude (WWII)..... Hutchinson
 Moyer, Donald (Korea)..... McPherson
 Moyer, Wendell (WWII) Jewell
 Murphy, Daniel (Korea)... Wichita #424
 Nesmith, Stephen (Vietnam)..... Chanute
 Noll, Guss (Vietnam) Overland Park
 Norstrud, Paul (Vietnam) Shawnee
 Osterhaus, Melvin (Vietnam)... Wetmore
 Owens, Kevin (Grenada/Lebanon)
 El Dorado
 Owings, Richard (Persian Gulf).....
 Wellsville
 Pace, Jimmie (Vietnam) Columbus
 Pearson, Leroy (Korea) Clifton
 Peltzer, Theodore (Vietnam) Atchison
 Pettit, Dave (Vietnam) Cuba
 Phelps, Don (WWII) Atwood
 Phillips, Ivan Pratt
 Pinnick, Robert (Grenada/Lebanon)
 Blue Rapids
 Pitts, Alex (Vietnam)..... Chanute
 Placek, Marvin (Korea)..... Topeka #400
 Porch, Francis (Vietnam) Overland Park
 Powers, Claton (WWII) Pittsburg
 Quint, Ray (WWII) Garden City

Ramirez, Gary (Vietnam) Overland Park
 Randall, BillAgra
 Rankin, Homer (Korea) Gardner
 Ready, Vitor (Vietnam)Derby
 Reeves, Dean..... Overland Park
 Renard, Tom (Vietnam)..... Ellsworth
 Renfro, Joseph (Vietnam) Augusta
 Riebel, Edward (WWII)..... Iola
 Riebel, Victor (WWII) Ness City
 Rippe, Walter (Korea) Atwood
 Rodgers, Gary (Vietnam)..... Salina
 Scheibe, Donald (Vietnam)..... Beattie
 Schrum, J. B. (WWII)..... Norton
 Schulz, Glenn (Korea) Gardner
 Senff, Clark (Vietnam)..... St. George
 Severson, Earl (WWII) Clay Center
 Shafer, Ralph (WWII)..... Iola
 Shawn, Edgar (Korea)..... Silver Lake
 Shelton, Gale (WWII)..... Wellsville
 Shepherd, James (WWII)..... Liberal
 Sisson, Jeffrey (Vietnam) Council Grove
 Skaggs, W. P., Jr. (WWII) .. Topeka #400
 Sloan, Thomas (Vietnam) Shawnee
 Smith, Alex Burlington
 Smith, P. D. (Korea)..... Great Bend
 Smith, Vernon (Korea)..... Sterling
 Sowder, Jerry (Vietnam) Burlington
 Spellmeier, Emil (WWII)..... Fairview
 Springer, Charlie (WWII) ... Mound City
 Stater, George (Korea) Great Bend
 Stewart, Garold (Vietnam)..... Elkhart
 Stubenhofer, James (Korea)..... Emporia
 Stuvick, Donald (WWII)..... Norton
 Switzer, Ray (Persian Gulf)Dwight
 Switzer, Ray (Persian Gulf)Dwight
 Taylor, Jack (Korea)..... Ellinwood
 Tillisch, John (Vietnam)..... Mound City
 Tuzica, Joe (Korea)..... Hoisington
 Twist, Roy, Jr. (WWII)..... Meade
 Wabs, Michael (Vietnam)
 Kansas City #199
 Wade, Russell (Korea) Caney
 Walters, Dale (Vietnam)..... Iola
 Washburn, Robert (Korea) Chanute
 Weber, Marcellus (Korea)..... Beloit
 Weeks, Willard (Korea)..... Topeka #400
 Westerman, Lavrne (WWII) Isabel
 White, James Alma
 Wiehe, Sherman (WWII)
 Kansas City #199
 Williams, Virgil (WWII)..... Beloit
 Wilnerd, Everett (Korea)..... Howard
 Wilnerd, Everett Howard
 Wilson, Eldon (WWII)..... Harveyville
 Wineinger, Arliss (WWII)..... Tribune
 Winkler, Wendell (WWII)..... Paola
 Winslow, Carroll (WWII) McPherson
 Wolfe, Jack (WWII)..... Topeka #58
 Wolters, Gus (WWII)..... Atwood
 Woods, Wayne (WWII)..... Oberlin
 Wright, Lonnie (WWII)..... Great Bend
 Wright, Purd, III (Korea) Olathe
 Zimmerling, Robert (Vietnam) Frankfort
 Zimmerman, Bruce (Korea).....Howard
 Zimmerman, Rollin (WWII).....
 Arkansas City
 Zvonik, Frank (WWII)..... Clay Center

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN



**Glenn
Patterson**



Happy New Year 2019 – Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of The American Legion Organization; November 11, 2019.

The history of the American Legion Organization began with the fervent hope and prayer that this organization would become a service organization that would allow veterans to care for other veterans. The resolution, “For God and Country, we associate together...” as The Preamble was adopted in May 1919.

This idea was shared out of the belief of service members provide and take care of fellow service members. To this day that has been the driving force of The American Legion. May this devotion continue for years to come.

The American Legion organization adopted, “The Four Pillars of The American Legion”. 1) Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation 2) National Security 3) Americanism and 4) Children and Youth.

The programs of the “Four Pillars” has become a program to help guide the national programs; as well as the local programs of the local post. This is were the local programs help build the national programs to help establish local programs. The program of veterans taking care of veterans regardless of their branch of service or their place of service during a declared time of war.

I hope that all American Legion members will embrace the call to help all veterans; across these United States of America. “For God and Country, we associate together”. Happy New Year 2019!

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
RUSSELL, KANSAS
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SUNFLOWER LEGIONNAIRE



Mail changes of Address to:
THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS
1314 SW TOPEKA BLVD., TOPEKA, KS 66612-1886

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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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1314 SW Topeka Blvd. Topeka, KS 66612, 785-232-9315

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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
Local: 316-688-6814, Toll Free: 888-878-6881 Ext. 56814
Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center, Leavenworth
Local: 913-758-4297, Toll Free: 800-952-8387 Ext. 54297
Colmery-O'Neil VA Medical Center, Topeka
Local: 785-350-4489, Toll Free: 800-574-8387 Ext. 54489

MID-WINTER SWEEPSTAKES

Once again nine lucky Members of the Kansas American Legion Family will share over \$4,600 in prizes with each having the opportunity of increasing their prize award by \$200. Ticket packets have been mailed to all Kansas Legionnaires over the past three months for the Mid-Winter Sweepstakes. Members of the Sons of The American Legion and Auxiliary are welcome to enter the Sweepstakes by requesting tickets from Department Headquarters, 1314 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66612. Although a donation of \$5 for one ticket, \$10 for three, \$15 for six or \$20 for all twelve tickets is suggested, no purchase or contribution is required to enter the Sweepstakes. The revenue from the Sweepstakes will help fund the Department's Veterans Affairs and Children and Youth Programs. The following prizes will be awarded in the form of certified checks: 1st Prize-\$2,000; 2nd Prize-\$1,000; 3rd Prize-\$500; fourth and fifth prizes @ \$250 each; sixth and seventh prizes @ \$200 each; eighth and ninth prizes @ \$100 each. All taxes are the sole responsibility of the prize winner. All prizes will be awarded. The chance of winning will depend upon the number of entries received and cannot be predetermined prior to the deadline. Winners will be selected in a random drawing during the Mid-Winter Forum in Manhattan on Sunday, February 3, 2019. Winners need not be present to win and will be notified by certified mail. If a winner is present during the drawing they will be awarded a \$200 bonus. Should a winner be unable to be contacted by certified mail, or fails to claim their prize within 30 days of receipt of notice, that winner

will forfeit their prize and an alternate winner will be selected in the same selection and notification process. All prizes will be awarded. The odds of winning a prize depends upon the number of entries received by the deadline of 10AM Monday, January 31, 2019 at Department Headquarters or 9AM Sunday, February 3, 2019

at the Mid-Winter Forum at Dodge City Post 47. Prize winners assume sole responsibility for all taxes. All entrants must be 18 years of age or older. Employees and staff of The American Legion Department of Kansas and the officers and staff of Resource One, their spouses, children and immediate family members are ineligible.

MID-WINTER FORUM DODGE CITY, KANSAS

Friday, February 1

3 pm Department Executive Committee MeetingPost Home
4 -7:00 pm RegistrationPost Home
5:30-7:00pm Hosted Hors d'oeuvres by Post 47Post Home

Saturday, February 2

7:30am-4:00pm RegistrationPost Home

OPENING SESSION

8:00am Call to Order Dept. Commander Dan Wiley
Opening Ceremony Dan Wiley
Welcome & Introduction Post Commander Don Marshall
Welcome Mayor of Dodge City
National Commander Leading Candidate.....Bill Oxford
Auxiliary National President.....Kathy Dungan
S.A.L. National Vice CommanderPeter Sierminski
S.A.L. & Auxiliary Depart for their Meetings
Wayne Bollig Retired Deputy Director, Veterans Services, KCVA
Jeff Stoffer Director, Media and Communications Division

ADJOURN FOR LUNCH AT POST HOME

1:00pm Call to Order Dan Wiley
Door Prize Drawing Jimmie Foster
Dept. Centennial Celebration Committee Gaylord Sanneman
Legion Riders Roger Beckley
Membership Turn-in Chuck Shoemaker
Membership Awards & Prizes..... Dan Wiley
Public Relations Charles Sellens
Legislation Pat Culver
Centennial Membership Committee Paul Sanford
Candidate for Department Offices Dan Wiley
Child Welfare Foundation Auction Dee Dee Danin
Reception for National Commander Leading Candidate & Auxiliary National PresidentPost Home
5:30-7:00pm Prime Rib Dinner Available Post Home
7:00-9:00pm Performance by "Letters from Home" Show .. Post Home

Sunday, February 3

7:00-8:00am Registration Post Home
7:00-8:00am Continental Breakfast Post Home
8:00am Call to Order Dan Wiley
Four Chaplains Service Rev. R. Glenn Patterson
8:30 am Pledge of Allegiance Dan Wiley
S.A.L. Introductions Terry Harris
Auxiliary Introductions Karen Hasting
American Legion Introductions Dan Wiley
Legion Membership Turn-In Chuck Shoemaker
Child & Youth Report Dee Dee Danin
Americanism Programs:
Cadet Law Enforcement Academy Elgin Wahlborg
Boys State Chuck Shoemaker
Oratorical Mike Oppy
Baseball Steve Queen
Scholarships Mike Oppy
School Awards & County Government Day James Snyder
Eisenhower John Meyeres

