



“Show Me”

For God and Country...

Missouri Legionnaire

Each Veteran's Welfare Is The Nation's Responsibility



Official Publication The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.



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Jefferson City, Missouri

September 2018



KERRY BOARDMAN Department Commander 2018-2019

Greeting Fellow Legionnaires!

It's an honor and a privilege to be able to serve as Commander for the Department of Missouri. It's been a busy year so far traveling around the state doing some installations and District visits. If there is anything you wish for me to attend please give a call or send me an email as I have an open-door policy.

We are off to a great start on membership having attained over 50% by the September due date. I need your help in supporting Senior Vice Haley this membership year. Being off to a great start makes us feel good, but we can't let our guard down. Please start contacting all your members, thanking them for being in the Legion, and ask if there is anything we can do for them.

If you attended the summer convention, you noticed one of the big issues was our financial situation. We are not in dire straits, but we are feeling the pinch of lost membership. There has been a dues increase at Department to which I am sure

you are all aware of. The finance committee is working on cost cutting measures. Any suggestions feel free to give me a call.

Missouri Legionnaires do a great job of supporting The Four Pillars. Just having returned from the National Convention, it was an honor to have our Immediate Past Department Commander Kellett go upon the stage numerous times representing the Department of Missouri in both receiving awards and making donations. I am proud to say the Department of Missouri was number two in the nation for donations towards The Legacy Ride. Over \$100,000 was raised across the state. Many thanks to the Posts and Districts which contributed. The American Legion Riders do an outstanding job for the Department of Missouri. Thank you to all Riders.

I look forward to working for The Department and working for all The Legion Family.

Thank you for all you do!

Kerry L. Boardman
Department Commander



Brett P. Reistad 2018-2019 National Commander of The American Legion

Brett P. Reistad was elected national commander of The American Legion on Aug. 30, 2018, in Minneapolis during the organization's 100th national convention. He has been a member of the nation's largest veterans' organization since 1981.

A resident of Manassas, Va., Reistad is a life member and past commander of Post 270 in McLean. The Department of Virginia reached an all-time high in membership while he served as department commander from 2005-2006. He retired as a lieutenant with the Fairfax County Police Department after 26 years of service and began a second career as a law enforcement services coordinator for the Regional Organized Crime Information Center of the Regional Information Sharing Systems Program, a congressionally funded law enforcement investigative assistance program of the U.S. Department of Justice. He holds a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice from Virginia's Bluefield College.

Reistad's American Legion membership eligibility is through his honorable Vietnam War-era service (1974-1978) as an active duty U.S. Army infantryman where he served with the Presidential Salute Battery of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) at historic Fort Myer, Va. He participated in the inaugural ceremony for President Carter and other high-profile ceremonies. He has since been honored as a Distinguished Member of the Regiment. Reistad has served at every level of The American Legion. He is a past president and honorary life member of the National American Legion Press Association. He recently completed a six-year appointment as chairman of the Department Legislative Committee and two three-year terms as a gubernatorial appointee to the Commonwealth of Virginia's Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations where he helped coordinate the input of 23 veterans service organizations in crafting veteran-friendly legislation and advocating the proposed legislation before the governor and General Assembly. He is also a tenured past department historian and was recently bestowed an honorary life membership by the National Association of Department Historians of the American Legion.

He is a past Legionnaire of the Year from Post 270 and a member of the Sons of The American Legion Squadron 10 in Manassas. His wife, Jessica, and his family are proud members of the American Legion Family.

His theme as national commander is "Celebrating Our Legacy," with special emphasis on the organization's centennial.

Commander Kerry Boardman 2018- 2019 Commander's Project National Emergency Fund (NEF)

The Preamble to The American Legion Constitution sums up the theme of the National Endowment Fund, "... devotion to mutual helpfulness." This phrase is more than just mere words on paper; it's our pledge of support to Legionnaires and their family members. Since the early 1920s, The American Legion has been actively involved in meeting the needs of both the community and individual Legion Family members in the wake of disasters such as hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes and wildfires.

The program began in 1969 as a one-time effort in the wake of Hurricane Camille, which devastated the Gulf Coast – primarily Mississippi, and parts of Louisiana and Alabama. The American Legion's National Executive Committee (NEC) approved a resolution in August that year establishing the fund to "meet the most urgent needs through American Legion channels."

NEF was resurrected in 1989 when Hurricane Hugo pummeled the Carolinas and Puerto Rico. The NEC again pledged \$25,000, called for a fundraising drive and approved a resolution stating that any leftover funds would be saved for future natural disasters. Since then, NEF has provided millions of dollars in direct financial assistance to Legionnaires, posts and Sons members. By providing this emergency funding, NEF has prevented damaged posts from closing and supported members and their families as they recovered from tragedy.

In 1925, World War I veterans, widows and children continued to struggle to return to a regular life. The members of The American Legion, aware of the grave responsibilities entrusted to them by those who had served, knew the time had come to take action.



Mail your contributions to:
The American Legion Department of Missouri
Attn: The American Legion Commander's Project (NEF)
PO Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102



Cut on Dotted Line

MOVED?

New address _____

Please forward to: **Headquarters, P.O. Box 179,
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179**

Cut on Dotted Line


**National
Commander
Bret Riestad
will visit
The
Department
of
Missouri
November 15-18,
2018
Travel Itinerary
pending**

50th Anniversary Missouri Cadet Patrol Academy



June 9th through June 14th, 2019
Conducted at the Missouri Highway Patrol
Law Enforcement Academy
Jefferson City, Missouri
Sponsored by The American Legion
And the Missouri Highway Patrol





THE MISSOURI LEGIONNAIRE

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DEPARTMENT MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

John Buckwalter, Chmn.

Jerome Goolsby

Victoria Duncan

John Partin

Jack Rennaker

Theodore McCart

Jack Griffin

Norman Campbell

Mike Sweeney

Lowry A. Finley-Jackson

Editor

THE AMERICAN LEGION OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander.....Kerry Boardman

1008 SW Shorthorn Dr., Grain Valley, MO 64029 (913) 206-0466

Adjutant.....Lowry A. Finley-Jackson

P. O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65109 (573) 893-2353

Sr. Vice Commander.....Hallie Williams

6924 Willow Wood Dr., St. Louis, MO 63121 (314) 381-7538

Zone 1 Vice Commander.....Robert "Bob" Maddox

317 N Main St., New Cambria, MO 63558 (660) 384-2991

Zone 2 Vice Commander.....Mark Clark

1308 NW Basswood Ct., Grain Valley, MO 64029 (816) 503-8520

Zone 3 Vice Commander.....Rose Noonan

20165 Highway 28, Dixon, MO 65459 (573) 647-9162

Zone 4 Vice Commander.....James Christman

1384 Westbrooke Meadow Ln., Ballwin, MO 63670 (314) 779-8421

National Executive Committeeman.....Kenneth J. Goth

1800 Strawberry Lane, Clinton, MO 64735 (660) 885-5395

Alternate National Executive Committeeman.....Thomas Goodin

1829 A Cedar Ridge Rd., Jefferson City, MO 65109 (573) 619-4400

Immediate Past Commander.....Cary Kellett

6121 Cedar Springs Rd., Cedar Hill, MO 63016 (314) 580-9782

Judge Advocate.....Cassie Strom

P.O. Box 270542, St. Louis, MO 63127

Finance Officer.....John Buckwalter

2602 N New St., Kirksville, MO 63501 (660) 627-4713

Chaplain.....Raymond "Ray" Bassett

517 Timber Ridge Rd., Sunrise Beach MO 65079 (573) 374-0602

Historian.....Jerome Goolsby

P.O. Box 1514 St. Joseph, MO 64502 (413) 301-3464

Sergeant At Arms.....Darlene Coats

5389 Wells Ave., St. Louis, MO 63112 (314) 477-6841

Past National Commander.....Joe Frank

12517 Arbour Knoll Pl., St. Louis, MO 63128 (314) 842-5443

DISTRICT COMMANDERS 2018-2019

District 1 Commander.....Robert Dodd

512 Sutton Dr, Palmyra, MO 63461 (573) 769-3561

District 2 Commander.....Edwin Allender

808 Jansen St., Chillicothe, MO 64601 (660) 707-1426

District 3 Commander.....R. E. Holtz

33797 N. Reynolds Rd., Rayville, MO 64084 (816) 506-7208

District 4 Commander.....Marvin Harper

202 McCandles St., Barnard, MO 64423

District 5 Commander.....Steven W. Boeck

409 W Country Lane Terr, Kansas City MO 64114 (816) 941-0882

District 6 Commander.....Bill Anderson

P.O. Box 21, Windsor, MO 65360 (660) 356-0176

District 7 Commander.....Joseph "Joe" Cochran

2500 S. Ohio Ave., Sedalia, MO 65301 (660) 287-5366

District 8 Commander.....Terry McDonald

404 S Greenwood Ave., Columbia, MO 65203 (573) 289-1708

District 9 Commander.....Robert White

7 Praire Dell Trl. Ct., Union, MO 63084 (636) 584-0329.

District 10 Commander.....Michael LeBlanc

1273 Charter Oak Pkwy. Apt. D, St. Louis, MO 63146 (314) 363-3715

District 11/12 Commander.....Darlene Coats

5389 Wells Ave., St. Louis, MO 63112 (314) 477-6841

District 13 Commander.....Bill Henson

5953 Hwy. 32, Farmington, MO 63640 (573) 760-3611

District 14 Commander.....Franklin C. Adams

805 Cherokee St., Sikeston, MO 63801 (573) 471-8083

District 15 Commander.....Cue "Rocky" Conway

P.O. Box 447, Mt. Vernon, MO 65712 (417) 366-3322

District 16 Commander.....Marilyn Hirsch

13400 Holden Ln., Dixon, MO 65459 (573) 433-0560


District 17 Commander.....Mark W. Reed

27494 Crow Ln., Flemington, MO 65650 (417) 234-9390

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

3341 American Avenue – P. O. Box 179 – Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 893-2353 Fax (573) 893-2980 - Hours: M-F, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



HALLIE WILLIAMS

Sr. Vice Commander

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires:

I'd like to take a moment to first thank each of you for the opportunity of being Senior Vice Commander as I am honored to lead you in the 2018 year. Rest assured that I will uphold the duties that are required of me as it's my pleasure to serve you wile doing my best and working hard to increase membership.

As Senior Vice Commander, I am ecstatic and will work faithfully and closely with District and Zone Commanders to promote growth in our membership. First and Foremost, my composition is that this goal is attainable provided we all work together as a team. We can implement a plan that we all can work with as a District and Zone.

It is no secret that memberships is the forefront of our Department. Therefore, it is imperative that a consistent plan be advised and executed successfully during my year as Senior Vice Commander and thereafter. All membership will increase 1 to 2 in numbers as we strive to maintain this status.

Leaders lead by examples and as leaders in our communities sometimes we have to take a look back at the underlining circumstances and revise what we are doing, We have to set positive examples to everyone we encounter. The "Golden Rule" is a motto that we all should live by. "Treat people the way you want to be treated."

Building membership is our top priority. Here is how we can begin; if each member will partake in the recruiting process we will grow in numbers. If you are as enthused as I am, I challenge each member to reach out to individuals by calling them, emailing, or texting them (both past members as well as new members) and invite them out with you to the meetings, When those individuals attend meeting and their guest repeat the same methods we are certain to be off to a great year!

As I close, let's not forget that recruitment and membership starts with us. I can't do this alone. If you have any questions, comments, concerns or ideas on membership and or recruitment, don't hesitate to contact me at 314-359-4748 or 314-381-7538, or via email at hw11@swbell.net or fax 314-389-0221.


Thank you for your service

May God Bless You & God Bless America

Hallie Williams

Senior Vice Commander

Department of Missouri



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Charles W. Goodin – Legislative Chairman

Greetings American Legion Family.

As your new Legislative Committee Chairman I have good news. The National Executive Committee at the 100th Convention of The American Legion adopted a list of 336 resolutions with legislative intent. This list will constitute The American Legion Legislative Program to the 116th Congress of the United States. The National Committee will pursue all of these with Congress. I will not recite this entire list to you; however, I will share with all who request.


What I need from all of The American Legion Family is for you to learn the name, address, phone number, and email of our two US Senators, your District Congress person, your state Senator and your state Representative. Then as The American Legion legislative priorities on all levels become more defined – I ask you commit to contacting your Senators and Representatives when requested to do so.

Please attend your Legion meetings and conferences and to stay informed and involved.

Thank you to each and every one of you for your commitment to the veterans of your community, state, and nation. You may contact me by email charlews3@embarqmail.com

DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN

By Jerome Goolsby



Greetings to the Department – this is my first article as the new Department Historian.

First off I want to encourage you to join me in thanking Past National Historian Paul Bennett for 18 years of service as Historian for our Department. Be sure to thank him in person when you see him.


As was the case with Paul, I can't be at every event the Department Commander may attend. Please send me any photos you take of Commander Boardman at any event of your Post and District. Also please send me photos of your activities during Veterans Day, Memorial Day and other public holidays. Since this is our organization's Centennial Year, please send me photos of your activities celebrating the Legion Centennial.

If your Post has a Historian and a History program, outstanding! If not, you need to have one. The office of Historian is not just a block to fill on the officer list; the job is vital to recording the accomplishments of your Post and for use as a recruiting tool. A good History Book can easily show to a potential member what you do and why they should be a member and be involved in your Post's activities.

The District Historian is also a vital job and I hope each District has an active Historian. There are few gifts a District can give their commander at the completion of their term of office than a record of their service they can share with loved ones or remanence in years to come about what they did. There will still be a training session at the Fall Conference. If you're a

KENNETH GOTH

National Executive Committeeman



Greetings My Fellow Legionnaires

Here it is, time for an article again, where has the time gone. Brett Reistad of Virginia was elected National Commander at the 100-year convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Team 100 is National Commander Brett's centennial membership theme – to bring all our resources to bear, increase our membership and start our second century of service off on the right foot. You my fellow Legionnaires are Team 100. Your commitment is needed to achieve this success, just as you once committed yourself to serving your country.

Cathie and I were asked to serve on Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler's Military Advisory Committee and we just returned from a meet and greet at Fort Leonard Wood, it is amazing what they are doing at that base. Meeting and visiting with the men and women of Fort Leonard Wood reminded us of the need and support of the The American Legion Family to our veterans and active service members and their families.

There is roundtable meeting at the Kansas City VA Hospital on the 18th of September. Commander Boardman and Alternate NEC Tom Goodin will be attending on behalf of the Department of Missouri American Legion.

It is going to be a busy two months September and October, with the Commander and President's homecomings. The annual Cotton Carnival in Sikeston, National's fall meeting in Indianapolis, and our department conference the last weekend of October in Jefferson City. I hope to see many of you throughout my travels.

For God and Country

NEC Kenneth J. Goth

2018-2020

GO AHEAD – RELAX...

LET THE LEGIONNAIRE INSURANCE TRUST PROGRAM HANDLE ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS.

Don't waste your time shopping for insurance – the best deals are right here. Thanks to the group buying power of millions of Legionnaires like you, we have negotiated with leading insurance companies to bring you the best rates and coverage. Get the insurance you need at a price you can afford. Even if you are over age 65, you can protect yourself and your family from today's soaring premium costs and increasing risks. It's easy, just choose what you need from the Legionnaire Insurance Trust's full range of plans endorsed by Your Department and tailored to the needs of Legionnaires and their families.

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new Historian or you want to share some suggestions you have found success with or perhaps gain a few ideas to try out, please try to attend. Again, I'm glad to have the opportunity to serve as Historian of our Department and I do appreciate any and all support you can give to help me carry out this responsibility.



ECONOMIC COMMISSION

Dennis Woeltje, Chairman

Executive Order on Strengthening Retirement Security in America

Signed August 31, 2018

SECTION 1. POLICY. It shall be the policy of the Federal Government to expand access to workplace retirement plans for American workers. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 23 percent of all private-sector, full-time workers lack access to a workplace retirement plan. That percentage increases to 34 percent when part-time workers are taken into account. Small businesses are less likely to offer retirement benefits. In 2017, approximately 89 percent of workers at private-sector establishments with 500 or more workers were offered a retirement plan compared to only 53 percent for workers at private-sector establishments with fewer than 100 workers. Enhancing workplace retirement plan coverage is critical to ensuring that American workers will be financially prepared to retire.

Expanding access to multiple employer plans (MEPs), under which employees of different private-sector employers may participate in a single retirement plan, is an efficient way to reduce administrative costs of retirement plan establishment and maintenance and would encourage more plan formation and broader availability of workplace retirement plans, especially among small employers.

The Secretary of Labor shall examine policies that would:

- (1) clarify and expand the circumstances under which United States employers, especially small and mid-sized businesses, may sponsor or adopt a MEP as a workplace retirement option for their employees, subject to appropriate safeguards; and
- (2) increase retirement security for part-time workers, sole proprietors, working owners, and other entrepreneurial workers with non-traditional employer-employee relationships by expanding their access to workplace retirement plans, including MEPs.

MEPs

For the small employer market, multiple employer plans would enable small businesses to participate in a single, professionally administered plan that affords them economies of scale and minimal fiduciary responsibility. The plans would provide employees of those organizations the same opportunities to invest for retirement that employees of large companies already enjoy on a near universal basis via 401(k)s and similar defined contribution plans.

The bad news is that while workplace retirement plans are helping tens of millions of working Americans save and invest for retirement, tens of millions more do not have access to a plan at work. This is particularly problematic for workers who are employed by one of the country’s many small employers who do not sponsor a plan due to concerns about costs, administrative complexities and fiduciary liability. The resulting retirement coverage gap is reflected in data compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics: • 89% of workers employed by firms with more than 500 employees, and 78% at firms with 100 to 499 employees, have access to retirement plans on the job.8 • Only 50% of those employed by firms with fewer than 100 workers have access to a workplace retirement plan.9 The coverage gap’s concentration among small employers is critical because small employers provide jobs for a vast swath of the American populace, particularly among women and multi-ethnic groups. In 2011, private sector organizations with no more than 500 workers employed a total of 65.4 million people, while larger organizations employed 51.5 million. The smaller employers also provided more jobs for women—30.3 million versus 25 million—and for Asian American, American Indian and Hispanic workers.10 The retirement coverage gap has persisted despite a variety of legislative and administrative initiatives that have sought to close it via simplified retirement savings vehicles such as Simplified Employee Pension plans (SEPs), Savings Incentive Match Plans for Employees (SIMPLEs), and voluntary payroll-deduction IRAs.

CONCLUSION Access to a cost-effective, easy-to-use workplace retirement savings program is an important tool for building retirement security. Yet, tens of millions of Americans lack access to such a tool. Most in that group are employed by enterprises with 100 or fewer people on their payroll. Revamping the rules and regulations around multiple employer plans to allow for MEPs that meet the needs and concerns of small employers will help to close the retirement coverage gap and improve the retirement outlook for millions of working Americans. It will give those workers access to professionally managed, institutionally priced retirement programs funded via convenient payroll deduction. And it will help make small employers more competitive with larger employers who can more easily assume the costs and responsibilities associated with sponsoring a retirement plan. Importantly, incorporating retirement income solutions into MEPs will be crucial to delivering maximum benefits to working Americans. As has become increasingly clear over the past decade as the first wave of Baby Boomers has begun to exit the workforce, retirement savings plans must function not merely as vehicles for accumulating assets but also as vehicles for converting those assets to income once plan participants have stopped working.

This executive order will take effect after the conditions and rules of current law have been changed and the new restrictions for MEPs have been satisfied. This timeline seems to be set for one year.

National Commander's Pin Incentive Program



American Legion National Commander Brett P. Reistad will award his national commander "Membership Excellence: Team 100" incentive pin to any Legion Family member who obtains three new members into The American Legion.

A new member is any eligible person joining for the 2019 membership year who was not a member of The American Legion during the 2018 membership year.


Each member listed must be eligible for membership in The American Legion. Forward names of Sons of The American Legion members or Auxiliary members to your detachment or unit for use in their respective incentive programs.

Only one pin will be awarded per individual. Upon receipt, national membership staff will confirm the names and mail the pin directly to the person who earned it. Commander Reistad's pin incentive program will end June 30, 2019, or when supplies are exhausted.

National Commander's Honor Ribbon

American Legion National Commander Brett P. Reistad will award his Team 100 American Legion Family Ribbon to any American Legion Family that achieves 100 percent membership by May 30, 2019. For this award, the Legion Family is defined as a post and any combination of an Auxiliary unit, Sons squadron or Legion Riders chapter. Each branch must achieve 100 percent membership to qualify for the award.





CHAIR MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

John R. Buckwalter-Public Relations

Member NALPA


Many Posts continue to do an amazing job of telling the Legion's story and publicizing the four pillars that our organization is built upon. The Media and Communications Commission is pleased to announce the winners of the 2018 Newsletter competition and Posts who earned Toot our Horn Awards. Winners were first announced during the Department Convention, and the awards will be presented during the Fall Conference.

There were 21 Posts who earned Toot Our Horns awards for 2018, a new high. This total includes five Posts who received their first award: Post 134, Post 237, Post 317, Post 323, and Post 416. Posts receiving their second or subsequent award, and number of years awarded were: Post 21, 2nd; Post 57, 4th; Post 131, 9th; Post 149, 2nd; Post 208, 7th; Post 230, 4th; Post 253, 3rd; Post 359, 12th; Post 404, 9th; Post 41, 2nd; Post 464, 2nd; Post 478, 4th; Post 558, 3rd; Post 626, 5th; Post 642, 9th; Post 784, 2nd; and Post 1214, 4th.

There were nine Posts who submitted their newsletters for competition this year. Although there is only one winner in each of the five categories, the Media and Communications Commission congratulates every one of the Posts submitting their newsletter for competition for an outstanding job. There were no newsletters submitted for the three smaller categories, Category I, II, and III. Winners of the annual Newsletter Competition are Malta Bend Memorial Post 558 in Category IV (201-500 members) and Pony Express Post 359 and Walter LePere Post 208 in Category V (501 or more members). This was the first time there was a tie, so both Posts will be awarded. St. Louis Service Women's Post 404 won the newly established Electronic Media category. The awards will be presented to the Commanders of these Posts at the Fall Conference.

The American Legion Magazine is one of the greatest benefits of Legion membership. The Legion's monthly publication remains the most read magazine in the United States. Every member receives a copy by USPS. Every Post receives three copies of each magazine, sent to the Post's mailing address of record. These copies are provided for the Post to use to publicize the Legion and share what we are all about. Give them to the local library, place a copy in your local veteran’s clinic or VSO's office, or share them with schools. Put a copy in your Post lounge or share with the Auxiliary members. Don't just trash them, they were sent for a purpose.

Finally, The American Legion has an ever-increasing pool of resources available on-line and in digital format for your use at Post level. The resource guide below is a quick reference to what is available today:



Resource guide for American Legion digital media

Websites

The primary American Legion website can be found at www.legion.org. From there, visitors can learn more about the organization, its programs, become a member and visit our online store. Here are some other notable links:

MEMBERSHIP: Information for members, prospective members and recruiters. www.legion.org/membership

NALPA: The National American Legion Press Association is a group of communicators at the post level. Resources and other information, www.legion.org/nalpa

GET PUBLISHED! Share military stories, post histories and more, www.legiontown.org

CENTENNIAL: Get updated on our 100th anniversary celebration, centennial.legion.org

MEMORIALS: We are building a digital archive of war memorials. Visit or add to the database here, www.legion.org/memorials

E-newsletters

The American Legion produces and distributes a dozen free e-newsletters with news and information for veterans, servicemembers and others. Sign up for which ones you would like to receive, www.legion.org/newsletters

Social media

The American Legion is active on the primary social media platforms, including:

FACEBOOK: The Legion's main Facebook page has an active news feed and can be found here, www.facebook.com/americanlegionhq. Other sanctioned Facebook pages can be found here, www.legion.org/socialmedia.

TWITTER: Timely news updates from the Legion and other sources for military and veterans news. twitter.com/AmericanLegion

LINKEDIN: Resource information, career advice and tips, and links to job fairs for veterans. www.linkedin.com/company/the-american-legion/

INSTAGRAM: Photos from American Legion staffers. www.instagram.com/theamericnlegion/

Publications

Download and print American Legion brochures. www.legion.org/publications

Apps

Download American Legion apps on your mobile devices, www.legion.org/mobileapps

Videos

Our videos are published on the Legion website and YouTube (search for AmericanLegionHQ to subscribe). Additionally, downloadable videos and PSAs are available on our Vimeo channel, vimeo.com/americanlegion

Text alerts


To receive a text alert when the president orders flags to be lowered, text the word "flag" to 35893.

GOAL POST SEPTEMBER 2018

POST	Commander	Location	District
319	Richard Simon	Des Souix	9
389	Darrel Chapman	Chaffee	14
415	Gerald Ulrich	Bunceton	8
512	Thor Heskett	St Louis	11/12
604	Donald Feasel	Lowry City	6
781	Joe Sandridge	Carl Juntion	15

CANDIDATE

HALLIE WILLIAMS



Candidate for
Department Commander

Oliver Guy Vassar Post 143 and the 10th District of The American Legion Department of Missouri has a Legionnaire that is deserving of your consideration for the office of Department Commander for The American Legion of Missouri.

Legionnaire Hallie Williams gained his eligibility in The American Legion by joining the United States Army with active services during the Vietnam, Dessert Storm, and Iraqi Freedom conflicts


Hallie is an active Legionnaire serving the Oliver Guy Vassar Post 143; Hallie has served at the Post level in every office including Commander. Legionnaire Williams is an active member of Post 143 Color Guard, in addition to numerous hours he spends supporting Post activities and committees.

Legionnaire Williams has served as the Department of Missouri as the Zone Four Vice Commander, he is currently serving as the Senior Vice Commander and The Chairman of the County Government Committee. Legionnaire Williams has served the 10th District as a member of the Children and Youth and Steering Committee, the Executive Commission, liaison to the Past Post Commanders Club and the Intervets Committee and is a member if the District Guard of Honor. Legionnaire Williams has held the offices of Assistant Service Officer, Sergeant-At-Arms, Historian, Northern Zone Vice Commander, Senior Vice Commander and Commander for the 10th District. Legionnaire Williams has served and is still serving at the National level as a member of the National Security Commission and is the Legislative Liaison to the 1st Congressional District of Missouri.

The Oliver Guy Vassar American Legion Post 143 and the 10th district of The American Legion, Department of Missouri endorses Legionnaire Hallie Williams for the office of Department Commander for The American Legion Department of Missouri.

CANDIDATE

GEORGE SHEPHERD



Candidate for
Senior Vice Commander

George A. Whiteman Memorial Post 642 and the 7th District of The American Legion Department of Missouri has a Legionnaire that is deserving of your consideration for the office of Senior Vice Commander for The American Legion of Missouri.

Legionnaire George Shepherd gained his eligibility in The American Legion by his service in the United States Army during the Vietnam Conflict and was honorably discharged in March 1971.

George is an active Legionnaire having served the George T. Murphy Post 491 as Commander, Adjutant, Finance, and Americanism Chair. Legionnaire Shepherd recently transferred to George Whiteman Post 642; he has served the Post 642 as 1st Vice Commander and the Historian for the post.


Legionnaire Shepherd has served as the Department of Missouri 7th District as the Senior Vice Commander for three years, the 7th District Commander for 2 years and has returned to serve the District as 2nd Vice Commander. Legionnaire Shepherd has served the Department of Missouri as the Zone II Vice Commander from 2013-2014 and also served the Department of Missouri as a member of the membership commission, and is currently on the Children & Youth Commission, the Boy Scouts, JROTC/ROTC, National Security Committees. Legionnaire Shepherd is also a member of The Department of Missouri's Legion Leadership and Training team.

Legionnaire Shepherd is a member of the 40&8, VFW, DAV, Independence Order of Odd Fellows, Windsor Chamber of Commerce and the Whiteman Air Force Base Community Council.

The George A Whiteman Memorial Post 642 and the 7th District of The American Legion, Department of Missouri endorses Legionnaire George Shepherd for the office of Senior Vice Commander for The American Legion Department of Missouri for membership year 2019-2020.

CHILDREN & YOUTH INSIGHTS

Paul Bennett,



The Children & Youth Commission is excited to lay out a new C&Y project. A project that will cost absolutely zero monies to the local Posts. Part of the problem with many of the C&Y programs as they apply to our local posts, is that they often want to participate, but cannot afford to do so. So, here is the first annual Poster Contest – A War on Drugs. This program is geared to the 5th grade students. It is anticipated that the local Post will coordinate with their local elementary schools Principal and teacher to give the local students a project they can be proud of. How does it work? The commission would like to see the program conducted during the month of April, which is Children & Youth month. The local Post would select a top Poster completed in accordance with the guidelines (the guidelines can be found on the Department Web page, under the link “Post Mailings” and then for August 2018). The Posters would then be forwarded to the District Commander, or his Representative, where the various Posters submitted by the various Posts within the District. The winning poster in each District would be forwarded to the appropriate Zone Vice Commander for judging (similar to the Oratorical Contest), and then the four Zone winners would be forwarded to the Department C&Y Commission. The Commission would then judge the four entries and select a winner and a runner up. At each level, there will be certificates available for the local Post to present. At the Department level, appropriate certificates will be available, and there will be a plaque for the winner and runner up. The students would not be invited to attend a presentation, as the winning Zone Vice Commander, District Commander, and Post Commander will be asked to do the presentation. This being the first attempt at this, I’m sure there will be some snags, but ask that we work them out as much as possible this year.

On another note, as your Department Children & Youth Chairman, I will be attending the Annual Children & Youth Conference at National again this year. There is always great information on various programs and Child Welfare projects presented during the Conference. So, at the Fall Conference C&Y Commission meeting, I will report on that Conference. All Post and District C&Y Chairpersons are invited to attend. If there are questions as to the Poster Contest, anyone may call me at (H) 660-827-5023 or Email: pb65301@yahoo.com.


Respectfully,

Paul Bennett
C&Y Chairman



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

By Jon Sabala,
Veterans Services Director, MO DMH



Depression

Everyone suffers from depression from time to time. Depression is a natural defense mechanism that allows the mind to take a rest by causing an individual to withdraw from reality for a day or two. If you have been experiencing some of the following signs and symptoms *most of the day, nearly every day, for at least two weeks*, you may be suffering from depression:

- Persistent sad, anxious, or “empty” mood
- Feelings of hopelessness, or pessimism
- Irritability
- Feelings of guilt, worthlessness, or helplessness
- Loss of interest or pleasure in hobbies and activities
- Decreased energy or fatigue
- Moving or talking more slowly
- Feeling restless or having trouble sitting still
- Difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions
- Difficulty sleeping, early-morning awakening, or oversleeping
- Appetite and/or weight changes
- Thoughts of death or suicide, or suicide attempts
- Aches or pains, headaches, cramps, or digestive problems without a clear physical cause and/or that do not ease even with treatment

Prevention. Depression cannot always be avoided, but because it is often related to stress and physical problems, it is possible to lessen the chances of becoming severely depressed. Here are some tips: • take time for a favorite activity as a way to relax and relieve stress • get plenty of exercise to maintain a healthy body, to relieve tension, and to help get a good night’s sleep • don’t try to be Superman or Superwoman. Know your limitations and avoid stressful situations • cultivate friendships to have someone to talk to who can provide support • don’t be afraid of feelings. There’s nothing wrong with being mildly depressed. But if you feel it is more than mild depression, don’t hesitate to see a physician.

If you or a loved one needs assistance, contact the MO Department of Mental Health (800) 575-7480.

Congratulations to the Grand Prize Winner of Department Convention Sweepstakes:

Herman Mebruer Post 317 - \$3,500.00



Gary Bueher Post 312 - \$1,000.00

E. E. Pugh Post 312 - \$500.00

Paul V. Jokerst Post 150 - \$250.00

John E. Bross Post 639 – \$200.00


Edward H. Kieffer Post 397 - \$200.00

Oliver A. O’Neal Post 114 - \$200.00

Clarence A. Schooley Post 1000 -\$200.00

Save the Date

100th Anniversary of the Saint Louis Caucus



When: May 9-10, 2019

Where: Ceremony - at Soldier’s Memorial
(1315 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, MO)


Luncheon – Missouri Athletic Club Grand Ball Room
(405 Washington Avenue, St. Louis, MO)

A room block has been reserved at the Missouri Athletic Club. The room rates are:
Singles includes queens/king beds \$121.00 per night
Doubles includes 2 queen beds \$121.00 per night
Suites –one bed & parlor w/pull out sofa -135.00 per night
Reservation can be made by calling 314-231-7720 -when booking ask for The American Legion Block.

More detail information coming soon

If you have questions please contact Lowry Finley-Jackson, Department Adjutant at: lowryfjackson@missourilegion.org or 573-893-2353

ARTICLES WANTED!!!!



Legionnaire Article submission Deadlines:

Paper Published Month Date	Article Due
December 2018	November 19, 2018
March 2019	March 2, 2019
June 2019	May 30, 2019

Criteria for article submission:

- All Articles are to be submitted in Microsoft word format via email to services@missourilegion.org
- All picture submitted should be in jpeg format. Picture that contain visible alcoholic beverages or inappropriate acts or wardrobe
- Please make sure you proofread your articles
- If you have questions please call the Department Headquarters at 573-893-2353



AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS OF MISSOURI
Don Gerspach, ALR Director

Greetings Riders of Missouri.
First and foremost, let me say that every day I am proud of the fantastic things that you all are doing around the state in support of the American Legion Family.



Secondly, and primarily because of the great things you all do, I am humbled and grateful for being elected as your Director. I am thankful to my wonderful wife Brigitte for the “kitchen pass” (if you’re old enough to remember that phrase) to come out and play. And thankful to Big Jim for his mentorship. I learned a lot from Jim. I am also grateful to the many previous Directors, for they have all laid the foundation for where we are today.

We have built a lot of momentum in the Missouri program over the years. I ask only that you continue that trend.
We collectively accomplished a milestone for Missouri this year. Brian Sapp and his volunteer assistant Ride Captains put together a great in-state Legacy Ride. This, adding to the contributions of the Posts, Units, and Squadrons, brought the Missouri contribution to the American Legion Legacy Foundation to over \$100,000.00 for the first time! Great effort by the American Legion Family this year.

I have spoken with many of you at events around the state and will continue to seek you out at upcoming events. If you see me before I see you, please throw something at me or holler to get my attention. I don’t want to miss an opportunity to meet and speak with you.

This time of year, we put a lot of emphasis on membership. Please renew early. Call on Chapter members who may be absent from your meeting or events. Give them several ways to get the Chapter dues to you. Remind your American Legion and Auxiliary members that they can renew on line. Keep them in the family!

As we gear up for Fall Conference, please ensure that your annual Chapter reports have been submitted. Consolidated Chapter Reports and Officer Rosters are already past due, but you can continue to send them to either myself or Assistant Director Brian Sapp.

With an almost complete turnover in Officers for our Riders Executive Committee, I would like to thank the outgoing officers for all of their support in the transition, and for the many years of service you have provided.

I challenge each of you Chapter officers to make the new Executive Committee earn their positions, by seeking them out with any questions you have on how to improve your Chapter or resolve an issue.

As we transition into fall, and cooler riding weather, stay focused, ride safe, and check your tires!

G-Man



Post Excellence Award

The American Legion's Post Excellence Awarded has added new criteria. To now qualify for the Post Excellence Award, a post is required to achieve excellence in four areas: membership, submission of the Consolidated Post Report (CPR), sharing of post history, and community activity.

The purposes of this award is membership growth, exposure of American Legion values to the youth of the community, and increased visibility of the American Legion Family through service projects. A post achieving this qualification will have had numerous post members involved in planning and achieving these goals. Many posts are most likely already active in these areas and will qualify without extra effort. Others, however, will need to increase their efforts in one or more areas to qualify for the award.

The standard to be achieved in each area is as follows:

- Membership.** Post membership must be at least one member greater than the previous year. At least one post officer attends district meetings.
- Consolidated Post Report.** CPRs must be submitted by July 1. The American Legion's federal charter requires the submission of an annual report to Congress on activities for the year. MyLegion.org has made it simple for a post to submit its CPR in a timely manner.
- Sharing of post history:** The American Legion's Centennial web page (www.legion.org/centennial) allows posts to convey its legacy by sharing historical photos, videos and print material. For instructions on how to create a post profile, click here <https://www.legion.org/dispatch/217282/share-your-posts-legacy>.
- Community activity.** The post must conduct an event that connects the local community with The American Legion post. The objective is to open your doors, welcome the community in, and educate them on what The American Legion is all about and how the post is an asset to the community. Posts do not need to have a physical building to accomplish this. This activity can be held in a park, a community center, or anywhere the post can welcome and interact with the local community.

The district commander responsible for the post will certify a post as having achieved the four specified criteria. The district commander will submit a list of posts meeting the criteria to department headquarters. That list should include the post name, phone number, address and commander's name. If possible, accompany the last two criteria with copies of press releases submitted to the local media about the projects to show that the projects were not only accomplished but that an attempt was made to enhance the image of The American Legion through local media. The copy submitted should include a date and time stamp showing receipt by the media outlet.

The department adjutant will transmit information to National Headquarters as posts qualify.

ALA PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Sharon Slagle

Greetings to all the members of The American Legion Family from your American Legion Auxiliary President. I earned my eligibility for membership in the American Legion Auxiliary through my Legionnaire husband, Marlin Slagle, a veteran of the Vietnam War. I have been an active member of Unit 315 and District 4 for 15 years. Marlin and I have four children, 14 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren who are all members of The American Legion Family.

American Legion Auxiliary members are caring people who exemplify the motto “Service Not Self” supporting all veterans as well as the children and youth of our communities. It is up to us to teach others about our organization by promoting what we do. I am honored to serve as the 2018-2019 Department of Missouri American Legion Auxiliary President. As we celebrate our 100th birthday let’s work together. The Auxiliary membership theme this year is “Let Our Light Shine” all the time - every day - around Missouri.

The President’s Project this year is the “Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp” located near Aurora, Missouri. The Camp is owned and operated by retired veterans Darrell and Michele Hovland. This camp is free to all children (ages 11-17) of our wounded or fallen warriors and First Responders. The Camp staff are all Combat Veterans, Police Officers and Fire Fighters, who volunteer their time. The operation of the Camp depends on donations to meet their costs.

At Fall Conference, the Auxiliary will hold a Chinese Auction on Saturday evening to raise money for Kids of Our Heroes Adventure Camp. If you are unable to attend but wish to make a donation, please contact Nancy at the American Legion Auxiliary Department Office.

Sharon Slagle, President
ALA Department of Missouri
660-254-0341 sharonslagle101042@gmail.com

PHILIP BAKER

POW/MIA - Chairman

POW/MIA UPDATE OF KOREA MIA’S

As you all know, the joint statement by President Trump and Chairman Kim issued as a result of their summit in Singapore included a commitment to repatriating and recovering remains of US service members from the North Korea. Over 55 boxes were returned that contained the remains of missing DoD personnel to the United Nations Command. Four anthropologists and one forensic photographer from DPAA conducted a preliminary review of the remains at Wonsan Airport prior to being transported to joint US air base at Osan on an USAF aircraft. The scientists performed a more detailed field forensic review. The remains were then honorably carried onto two USAF aircraft for their return to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii. After the dignified ceremony, the remains were accessioned into the laboratory where in-depth forensic analysis began.

Every set of remains had a paragraph of information accompanying it that included the village where the remains were found. A lot of the boxes came from the Chosin Reservoir. They had been very carefully packaged with padding and packaging that was done to a very high standard.

There was one dog tag included with the remains. The family of the service member was notified “very quickly” afterwards, he said. The DPPA has stored the DNA from family members of more than 90 percent of the missing service members, which they can use to compare with the remains. When there are compelling matches, identifications can happen quickly. But it can also take months or even a few years to narrow down the identity. Chest x-rays and dental records can also be used to identify missing service members.

North Korea also committed to allowing DPAA to begin joint recovery operations of remains in North Korea, but that has not happened yet. Here we are decades later, still searching for answers for individuals that paid the ultimate sacrifice. The fullest possible accounting of our MIAs is both a sacred obligation and a moral imperative. DPAA had a current budget of \$146 million and the House was considering adding \$20 million more for Korea recovery. It remains a high priority for the Department of Defense, not just in resources devoted to it, but also in the resolute commitment attached to it because those we send in harm’s way will not be forgotten, and their families will receive resolution to their decades of uncertainty.



CALVIN BUMGARNER

Grand Chef de Gare Grand du Missouri

My travels this past month have been very good.

I had a great time, not only did I visit 4 Voitures Locales, but also 4 different American Legion Post.

The first was in the town of Ashland MO Post 152, Voiture 292, next was Post 5, Voiture 1292 in Jefferson City was my 2nd stop. The third was Post 287, Voiture 130 Savannah MO. and last Post 69, Voiture 760 in Springfield MO. They all have the same thing in common Great Legionnaires and Great Voiture.

We all have the same purpose our Veteran Programs. whether it’s nurses training, youth sports, VAVS, Legion baseball, Boys State, just to name a few, the membership we have makes this all possible. Let’s go out there with the purpose of growing our membership and keeping what we have now. We all know a veteran who would be a good Legionnaire or a good Voyageur. Getting them to join is the challenge with your help we can achieve this goal. Let’s get Missouri back on track and grow our membership in both of our programs.

Thanks for all you do
God bless America
Grand Chef de Gare
Calvin Bumgarner



How will you pay for expenses that Medicare doesn't cover?

With the high cost of healthcare today, Medicare Supplement insurance is becoming a necessity for more and more Americans. That's why it's good to know that you now have a choice of competitive Standardized Medicare Supplement plans, offered to members like you. And, all plans are underwritten by a company known for its prompt, personal, responsive service.

Other features include:

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Make sure you can pay for the expenses that Medicare doesn't cover and help protect your family's retirement savings. Apply today for the greater peace of mind you want, at competitive Legionnaire Insurance Trust member rates.

COMPLETE AND RETURN THE REPLY CARD, OR, CALL 1-800-247-1771

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Spouse Name _____ Spouse DOB _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Send to: Medicare Supplement Processing Dept. P.O. Box 1314 Valley Forge, PA 19402-9946



2018 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION SPRINGFIELD, MO JULY 12-15, 2018



2nd Annual Tractor Cruise

It's Saturday June 2nd, 2018. We always look forward to Saturdays so we can sleep in. But Wait! The Mayor has issued a declaration stating that it's American Legion Days here in the sleepy little town of Edgerton, Missouri population 570. It's a special day set aside just to celebrate Veterans and the American Legion Post #445.

It's Post #445 Tractor Division's Second Annual "1st in the Nation" Tractor Cruise in support of the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Service Dog Program. What did you say? Tractor Cruise? What in the world is a Tractor Cruise? Let me tell you about a day in the life of a Tractor Cruiser.

It's 6:30 AM, the alarm goes off and as I head for the shower I notice it's raining hard and the wind is blowing like a tornado could be working its way in from the land of "Oz". A quick breakfast and off I go, rain suit in hand as I climb aboard my 65-year-old Ford tractor. I head toward the Post and pray this rain stays away from us at least for a couple of hours. I arrive at the Post and see that other tractors and drivers have already begun to arrive and by 8:30 a.m. we already have twenty-five tractors of all makes, models and horsepower ranging from \$1,000 to \$50,000 in value waiting to go on a forty-two-mile-long drive through the beautiful Missouri countryside. As we head out I notice that a couple of tractors have a rumble seat attached to their tractors which allows two passengers to comfortably ride along and get a glimpse into the world of Tractor Cruising. Normally it's wives and friends that get to ride along, but not this year. This year we have several "special guests" going along with us. Our first special guest is none other but the National Vice Commander Byron Callies, Department of South Dakota, second was our own Department of Missouri Commander Cary Kellett, third was Department of Missouri Sr. Vice Commander Kerry Boardman and last but not least Department of Missouri Adjutant Lowry Finley - Jackson. During the driver's safety briefing these folks were introduced and given a Tractor Division Stetson straw hat, the same straw hat all Tractor Division members wear while driving in the required parades for recruitment purposes. (Stetson are often worn by farmers to keep the Sun off their necks.) They also received this year's tractor cruise t-shirt commemorating the 2nd annual "First in the Nation!" tractor cruise.

There were many things that we were able to see along the route because of our 14 mile an hour speed. There were really nice homes and homesteads to see along with old tobacco farm buildings abandoned long ago. As we moved through the countryside we were able to see power lines that were also taken down by large trees during the storm. There were two "break" stops before we had lunch in the Gower, Missouri central park (Thank-you American Legion Post #393). They had just dedicated a new memorial in their city park to military veterans, where we parked all the tractors by that beautiful memorial so visitors could look at them.

While we were out enjoying the drive through the country side folks back at Edgerton's city park were enjoying fresh smoked pulled pork, burgers and brats. They also enjoyed various entertainment venues, a demonstration by the local fire department, displays by area tractor dealers and other companies. The Platte County Sheriff's Mobil Command vehicle was on display along with other static displays. We were very honored to have the only Missouri Medal of Honor Recipient Colonel Donald "Doc" Ballard center stage. Doc Ballard spent the day visiting with fellow veterans and signing the book he had written "Doc". Also center stage was Orin Jackson from Hickory Hills Veterans Lodge a very important facility that supports PTSD stAfter driving forty-two miles during the nearly seven-hour cruise the tractors and drivers returned a little after 3:30 p.m. in the afternoon. The drivers were treated to strawberry short-cake provided by a generous friend of the Legion. At 4:00 p.m. an early evening dinner was provided for the drivers and their spouses. We enjoyed the good food and good company while listening to an outstanding bluegrass music group. The weather was dry and comfortably cool throughout the day.

It was amazing teamwork between the American Legion Post #445, Sons of the American Legion Post #445, Post #445 Legion Riders group and the "1st in the Nation" Post #445 Tractor Cruise Division. A great day was had by all and funds were raised for the PTSD Service Dog Program.

Come join us again on the first Saturday of June 2019, for another Tractor Cruise it getting bigger and better each year. For more information and how to become a member please visit www.LegionTractorDivision.com or contact **Lenny Hill (816) 255-4393**



See you soon!
Lenny Hill, Director
"1st in the Nation" Tractor Cruise Division.

2018 National Legacy Ride Stops in Missouri

2018 National Legacy Ride stopped in Missouri making stops at Tiery J. Ford Post 21 in Independence MO, The Harry S. Truman Library where National Commander Denise Rohan placed a wreath on Legionnaire President Truman's grave. Then on to Remington Nature Center in St. Joseph where the National Commander was presented a Proclamation by the Mayor Bill McMurray of St. Joseph. The next stop was at Maryville Memorial Post 100 for lunch.





TAPS

- Post 0001 - Quentin Roosevelt - St. Louis**
Betty J. Clover
Warren T. Snover
John M. Toler
- Post 0003 - Griesedieck-Fournier - St. Louis**
Terry L. Blastenbrei
Glen G. Hartman
Robert B. Widman
- Post 0005 - Roscoe Enloe - Jefferson City**
Neil E. Baker
Darrell M. Boyd
Donald L. Gerling
James W. Kirby
Fred L. Markway
Lester Z. Peters
Stanley H. Prenger
David L. Stribling
Dan E. Walsh
James D. Wiggins
Lawrence E. Wilson
- Post 0006 - Bazan-Bailey - Moberly**
James S. Johnson
Donald T. McNutt
Norris W. Preston
James L. Shoemaker
Melvin W. Vanderhoff
- Post 0007 - Rucker-Mc Allister - Brunswick**
Victor O. Dankert
Robert W. Magruder
- Post 0011 - MacDonald-Dugger - St. Joseph**
Charles L. White, Sr.
- Post 0012 - Coffey's Brothers Memorial - Vienna**
William J. Rowden
Leslie Volmert
- Post 0013 - Robert S. Thurman - Joplin**
Travis E. Brown
Robert E. Selsor
- Post 0015 - Rollo-Calcaterra - St. Louis**
Bart Collida
Thomas J. Kaestner
John J. Knes
Herbert F. Mahler
Nicholas Mazzola
Daniel J. Tracy, Sr.
- Post 0018 - Sullivan - Sullivan**
Roger E. Tyree
- Post 0020 - MacDougall-Lowe - Kirksville**
Gerald B. Crow
- Post 0021 - Tirey J. Ford - Independence**
Donald R. Alvis
John E. Bostwick
Willie J. Burch
Dennis G. Collins
George L. Delapp, Jr.
Milford L. Eddingfield
Samuel F. Farnsworth
Walter E. Farnsworth
John F. Frisbey
Charles G. Graham
Alva J. Hardin, Jr.
Warren Horine
Donald M. Kirby
Edward R. McCarty
Granville H. Morgan
Charles O. Rucker
Russell L. Ruth
Harold W. Smith
William D. Thompson
Henry L. Vanmaele
Luva D. Vaughan
Terry M. Whitmore, Sr.
- Post 0025 - Vern R. Glick - Chillicothe**
James R. Beemer
Charles L. Eddy
William L. Fair
Thomas Murphy, Jr.
- Post 0026 - James Bledsoe - Mexico**
Edward D. Fierce
C. C. Rutter
- Post 0029 - Albion E. Robison - Macon**
Ralph J. Schmedake
- Post 0030 - Leonard Wood - Mountain Grove**
Donnie Bunch
William H. Parker
Thomas J. Starns
Raymond Walker
- Post 0031 - Major Dale Stepp - Trenton**
Jay Ratliff
- Post 0033 - Elmer Ellis - Cameron**
E. C. Morlan
- Post 0034 - Wilbur C. Odam - Unionville**
Francis R. Schnoebelen
Gary Staggs
- Post 0037 - South St. Louis Memorial - St. Louis**
Timothy C. Brogan
- Post 0038 - Heinline-Hanks - Fair Grove**
C. L. Tracy
- Post 0042 - Hurley Lee Spicer - Harrisonville**
John B. Coke
Donald G. Colbey
Melvin T. Deaver
Gaylon W. Knight
John W. Todd
- Post 0045 - Elmer O. Sellers - Hartville**
William Coday
William E. Coday
Dale L. Hart
Archie R. Jones
James Latimer
- Post 0046 - James P. Arnold - Butler**
Wayne T. Borland
James L. Hall
Willis D. Wainwright
Bob Wayland

- Post 0052 - Thoma-Tuttle - Boonville**
Donald Frederick
James Ripperger
Gerald V. Sell
- Post 0055 - Emmette J. Shields - Hannibal**
Rodney L. Bartlett
John P. Bunn
James R. Dettlaff, Sr.
- Post 0058 - Smithville - Smithville**
James E. Doty
Larry A. Driver
James H. Gooden
- Post 0059 - Kenady-Hanks - Dexter**
Earl B. Hutchison
- Post 0060 - George Thomas Cullom - Lexington**
Gary D. Anderson
James A. McDowell, Jr.
- Post 0063 - Louis K. Juden - Cape Girardeau**
Frank Dybel
Hubert Ellis
Robert W. Harper
David L. Hente
John W. King
Leland Shivelbine
- Post 0067 - Craig-Wheeler-Duzan - Rich Hill**
Steven R. Heuser
- Post 0070 - Nat Cale - Sarcoxie**
Frank Filarski
Harry W. Lawyer
- Post 0081 - Crawford County Memorial - Bourbon**
Charles R. Jackson
Tommy Lynchard
- Post 0084 - George Clark Harlan - Otterville**
Edward R. Seifert
- Post 0088 - Pemiscot County - Caruthersville**
Johnnie Durham
Raymond Isbell
Lavanda C. White
- Post 0090 - Munday-Hancock - Holden**
Melvin J. Enix
- Post 0092 - John Edgar Barnes - Grant City**
Keith S. King
Glee McClellan
Denzil B. Walker
- Post 0095 - Robert H. Baker - Liberty**
Jesse D. Akin
George W. Dixon
Thomas F. King
Fred A. Thomas
Russell Weiss
- Post 0099 - Walker-Roney - Salem**
Bill J. Fink
C. Ray Horton
Stephen D. Smith
W. C. Whitmire
- Post 0100 - James Edward Gray - Maryville**
Ralph Bennett, Jr.
Ivan W. Hayworth
Eugene E. Spire
- Post 0101 - Goff-Moll - Brentwood**
Paul Burke
Gary Case
- Post 0104 - Morgan County - Versailles**
Jess C. Garrison
- Post 0105 - Freemont Watkins - Iberia**
James R. Malmberg
Billy G. Smith
- Post 0106 - Donald Holden - Albany**
John W. Ault
Donald L. Hopkins
- Post 0109 - C. Dolph Gehrig - Campbell**
James F. Webb
- Post 0111 - St. Louis County Memorial - Shrewsbury**
Joseph V. Bante
Victor Bryant
George V. Janssen
Mike Kiesler
Leonard L. Maierhoffer
Lawrence D. McFarland
Robert A. Rollins
- Post 0112 - Douglas County - Ava**
Adrain Owen
- Post 0114 - Henry Meldrum - Sikeston**
Gaines B. Beck
William Payne
- Post 0117 - Tweedie-Murray - Braymer**
Carl W. James
Jimmie D. McKnight
- Post 0118 - Irwin-Easley - Cassville**
James O. Clements
Jimmie L. Morse
- Post 0128 - Clarence L. King - Mansfield**
John B. Doane
John E. Geib
- Post 0131 - Matthews-Crawford - Warrensburg**
Lloyd D. Duffer
John W. Horine
Thomas W. Oates
David R. Stuck
- Post 0132 - King City - King City**
Roger E. Combs
Jay D. Keller
- Post 0133 - Moonier-Reddick - Perryville**
Harold Fritsche
Robert T. Fulton
Daniel Lukefahr
Edward H. Richter
Marvin L. Riney
Eugene J. Taylor
- Post 0138 - Howard S. Keeling - Bolivar**
Robert Lightfoot
Arthur E. Wright
- Post 0142 - Webster County - Marshfield**
Donald W. Fraker
Don Rodenbaugh
- Post 0147 - Joseph B. Koenig - Rhineland**
James M. Hurst
- Post 0149 - Wayne Miner - Kansas City**
Robert W. Quarles, Jr.
- Post 0150 - Buchholtz-Kiefer - Ste. Genevieve**
Melvin A. Miller
Glennon R. Roth
Raymond W. Sparkman
- Post 0151 - Campo-Manfre-Barbieri - Kansas City**
George L. Maggio
- Post 0153 - Brown-Mabry - Poplar Bluff**
Ronald J. Chapman
David Mays
Victor E. Osher, Jr.
Don Tackett
- Post 0156 - Kirkwood Memorial - Kirkwood**
Charles Dickinson

- Post 0158 - Altenthal-Joerns - Jackson**
Emil W. Brase
Charles W. Guenther
Gerald J. Martin
Roy W. McGuire
Robert R. Scheper
- Post 0161 - Williams-Owen-McGuire - Ferguson**
Harold W. Brunner
Alphonse P. Kohl
- Post 0162 - Lemay Memorial - Lemay**
Frank Gass
Donald A. Hagmann
Michael J. Roy
Bob J. Seabaugh, Sr.
Walter R. Wirth
- Post 0163 - Clyde R. Burdick - Neosho**
Claude T. Ellis
John W. Rosequist
Ernest N. Walden
- Post 0172 - Webster Groves Memorial - Webster Groves**
Wilfred G. Soutiea, Jr.
- Post 0174 - Boots-Dickson - Palmyra**
Earl E. Darnell
Gene Fessenden
Kenneth B. South
- Post 0180 - Daniel Boone - Marthasville**
Eldon C. Green
Michael R. Martin
- Post 0189 - Robert L. Clore - Lee's Summit**
Leo E. Kunard
John W. Uhlenhake
- Post 0190 - Harris E. Petree - Oregon**
Dwight Hall
Melvin D. Meng
- Post 0191 - Marshall - Marshall**
Clarence E. Blackerby
- Post 0199 - Allen-Schiffern - Tarkio**
Edward F. Bare
Richard Kirwan
Jimmy Low
Jack Mehaffey
- Post 0202 - Herbert Williams - Columbia**
Thomas E. Austin
Ralph F. Conte
Natale Scavone
Arthur E. Zambile
- Post 0208 - Walter Le Pere - Manchester**
Richard F. Bishop, Sr.
Daniel McCarthy
Daniel M. Sullivan
Vernon H. Wissmann
- Post 0217 - Benton County - Warsaw**
Joseph G. Depuew
Ernest A. Fischer
Lesley D. Rhodes
- Post 0218 - Washington - Washington**
Robert Breckenkamp
Donald Calvin
Daniel W. Fleer, Jr.
Raymond H. Frankenberg
Daniel L. Scego
- Post 0220 - Pemberton-Jennings - Branson-Hollister**
Eugene H. Bortner
Robert E. Rose
- Post 0223 - Wrzeciona-Smith - Higginsville**
Forrest R. Hoefer
Dale C. Johnson
Donald F. Siegfried
- Post 0226 - Elsberry Community - Elsberry**
Martin A. Green
Willard McCardie
- Post 0228 - Sullivan County - Milan**
James L. Hilton
Joe McCarty
- Post 0231 - Tony Jenkins - Jefferson City**
Henry A. Jackson
- Post 0233 - Koca-Reeder-Giddens - Eldorado Springs**
Roy E. Lowe
- Post 0237 - Griffith-Skiles - Richmond**
Eldon R. Woods
- Post 0239 - LeRoy Smithpeter - Carrollton**
Darrell A. Pritchard
- Post 0247 - Ethel Memorial - Ethel**
Roger J. Tess
- Post 0253 - Peebles-Vaughn-Wideman - Festus**
Fred H. Brushwitz, Jr.
Raymond M. Depew
Gary R. Geiser
Herbert E. Grace
Keith K. Kennedy
Thomas D. Laburay
Ralph Pusateri
- Post 0258 - Lohman-Meyer - Concordia**
Roger H. Hinck
- Post 0260 - Raymond Sager - Stanberry**
Harold Osborn
- Post 0262 - Harry H. Haferkamp - Augusta**
Layton Rehmeier
- Post 0265 - Cordia-Humphrey - Potosi**
Gerald W. Roy
- Post 0266 - Pilot Grove - Pilot Grove**
Billy D. Schupp
- Post 0270 - Rolla Memorial - Rolla**
Loren W. Legg
- Post 0273 - White-Bell - Fayette**
Paul W. Schlotzhauer
- Post 0274 - Claude Myers - Browning**
Wayne Ludwig
James E. Smith
- Post 0282 - Reynolds-Martin - La Plata**
Robert L. Baker
- Post 0283 - Rock Memorial - Imperial**
Robert Dorsey
Herbert D. Fowler
Robert W. Hart
Freddie R. Sheets
- Post 0287 - Dick Munkres - Savannah**
Paul F. Menard
G. K. Rodewald
- Post 0289 - Eccher-Patrick - Liberal**
M. E. Savage
- Post 0297 - Union - Union**
Bobby A. Copeland
Melvin Delbruegge
Donald E. Endicott
Frank P. Lesinski, Sr.
Jim Nappier
Alyn L. Wehmeier
- Post 0298 - Liesmann-Roberts - Dixon**
Donald C. Robertson
Basil L. Rushing


- Post 0299 - Anheuser-Busch Co., Inc. - St. Louis**
John J. Schuh
- Post 0304 - Edgar Cole - Tipton**
Deo V. Marcum
Larry D. McPherson
Vernon Williams
- Post 0305 - Abraham Lincoln - Cole Camp**
Lyman C. Brauer
James H. Brockman
Hilmer A. Heimsoth
Earl Kullman
Ervin O. Luetjen
David P. Winkler
- Post 0309 - Clarence Memorial - Clarence**
Robert P. Jarboe
- Post 0312 - St. Charles - St. Charles**
Raymond L. Ake
Warren R. Bekebrede
William L. Cruse
Victor F. Eickelberg
David L. Hodge
Larry D. Kemerling
Robert L. Porter
Karen Reeves
Marion J. Thro
- Post 0313 - Aloys-Crockwell - St. Peters**
Orville Borgmeyer
Eldon C. Green
William C. Wessler
- Post 0317 - Paul A. Hasenbeck - Freeburg**
William L. Marshall
Stephen G. Morfeld
Virgil Wieberg
- Post 0320 - Colwell-Harris-Paul Williams - Pacific**
Carl Willoughby, Jr.
- Post 0322 - Darris S. Schalk - Webb City**
Dennis E. Johnson
Barry D. Sidney
Charles R. Virgin
- Post 0323 - Wentzville - Wentzville**
Ralph H. Baker
Leroy Heppermann
Richard J. Marchand
David Schaper
Norman L. Sucher, Jr.
- Post 0331 - William C. Anderson Memorial - St. Robert**
Steven T. Hill
Andrew Lemstra
- Post 0333 - Marchbanks-Main - Van Buren**
Douglas V. Rice
- Post 0338 - Thoman-Boothe - Overland**
Richard L. Ferguson
Gary A. Guittar
Remington E. Koons, Jr.
James W. Moore
Henry Rauh
Dale Stroud
- Post 0347 - Saint Clair Memorial - St. Clair**
Charles W. Green
Kenneth L. Whittington
- Post 0359 - Pony Express - St. Joseph**
Mose R. Conway
Eugene J. Doolan
Jimmy F. Gillett
Leon Hitchings
Carroll M. Johnson
William J. Kurtz
Harold W. McGlothlin
Robert L. Ward
- Post 0365 - King-Walker-Custer - Green City**
James P. Catlett
- Post 0366 - New Haven - New Haven**
Denis B. Hoerstkamp
Marvin G. Horstmann
Marvin F. Meyer
Arthur F. Pecaut
Arnold A. Seitter
William J. Tilly, Jr.
Oswald Walkenhorst
- Post 0369 - Scott County Memorial - Benton**
Jeffery S. Allen
Danny K. Bollinger
Vernon H. Scherer
- Post 0370 - Haney-Pennock - Louisiana**
Gerald T. Dorsey
Fred Naxera
Pete Rayle
James A. Wood
- Post 0372 - Roy E. Carr - Lockwood**
Harvey C. Guinn
- Post 0374 - Bakersfield - Bakersfield**
Doffless R. Harris
Tommy D. Meeks
Gene Mullins
- Post 0376 - Teachenor - Shelbina**
Lendell L. Adams, Jr.
William C. Caldwell
H. D. Harrington
- Post 0379 - Oak Grove - Oak Grove**
Daniel T. Baer
Norman G. Taylor
- Post 0389 - Aubuchon-Alsbrook - Chaffee**
Shirley R. Dowd
- Post 0391 - Claude Duff - Salisbury**
Tom R. Fitzpatrick, Jr.
John F. Schnetzler
- Post 0397 - Creve Coeur Memorial - Creve Coeur**
Allen E. Jants
Ernest B. Malke
Abraham Witherspoon, Jr.
- Post 0400 - Fenton Memorial - Fenton**
Edward Fischer
Arthur Loeffelman
Robert Winkler
- Post 0404 - St. Louis Service Womens - St. Louis**
Dorothy Showman
- Post 0413 - Crane Memorial - Crane**
James D. Carl
James H. Garner
- Post 0416 - Le Pere-McCalister - Farmington**
William Arena
Harry H. Hahl, Sr.
Martin J. Hannauer
Donald E. McGuire
Glennon J. Pyeatt
Lloyd P. Sutherland
Ralph A. Trepasso
- Post 0422 - Barlog-Kuszaj-Zero Memorial - St. Louis**
Pete Cavic, Jr.
- Post 0434 - Nixa Memorial - Nixa**
Alan P. Arnold

- Gene Dilsaver
William E. Martin
Victor Wood
- Post 0444 - Florissant Valley Memorial - Florissant**
Edwin B. Blessing
James J. Byrne
Ralph Ditmeyer
Edward R. Kruse
James J. Phelan
Donald G. Stansbery
John A. Stormer
Harold C. Thoma
Robert E. Wessel
- Post 0445 - Daniel-Shafer - Edgerton**
Robert Bryan
James R. Howe
- Post 0470 - Lewis-Gorrell - Plato**
Charles Vanzzyverden
- Post 0477 - Ragan-Hickman - Mercer**
Thomas J. George
Richard H. Haggard
Clifford L. Jones
Carroll E. Warnock
- Post 0488 - Belton - Belton**
William J. Dalzell
- Post 0492 - Bradley-Carver - Elmo**
Michael E. Calfee
Bobbie T. Hull
Charles T. Whitaker
- Post 0499 - Stanley-Pack - Blue Springs**
Howard E. Mann
David L. Ranck
- Post 0506 - Chamois - Chamois**
Gerald C. Means
Henry J. Nolte
Elmer F. Phillips, Jr.
Oliver D. Shockley
- Post 0508 - Robinson-Beeching - Stewartsville**
Carl Anderson
Darin E. Colhour
- Post 0509 - Birch Tree Memorial - Birch Tree**
Dale R. Thomas
- Post 0522 - Cuba Memorial - Cuba**
John R. Weber
- Post 0538 - Linn County Memorial - Linneus**
John J. Danko
Edwin V. Moore
- Post 0551 - Norborne Memorial - Norborne**
Elmer K. Kruse
Carl D. Wenzel
- Post 0554 - Bloomsdale Memorial - Bloomsdale**
Everett A. Drury
Patrick A. Kertz
- Post 0555 - Golden Anniversary - St. Louis**
Rex T. Casteel
Robert T. Studt, Sr.
- Post 0557 - Polo Memorial - Polo**
Bill R. Kelley
- Post 0558 - Malta Bend Memorial - Malta Bend**
David Windmeyer
- Post 0559 - Licking Memorial - Licking**
Melvin C. DeWitt
- Post 0586 - Swan Lake Memorial - Sumner**
John L. Lentz
- Post 0596 - Raytown Memorial - Raytown**
Milford Morris
Orval E. Null
Lane R. Ulmer
- Post 0598 - Hickman Mills Memorial - Hickman Mills**
Arthur W. DeWald
Tom E. Walter
- Post 0604 - Lewis-French - Lowry City**
Richard Stinnett
- Post 0607 - St. James MO Veterans Home - St. James**
Richard E. Fenton
Elsie M. Koch
- Post 0618 - Emerson-Bell - Osceola**
Richard A. Burton
- Post 0623 - Cross Timbers - Cross Timbers**
Allen R. Davis
Howard L. Swopes
- Post 0624 - Zachariah Zack Davis Wheat - Sunrise Beach**
Thomas B. Enrico, Jr.
Ted F. Shafer
- Post 0626 - Bennett and Dennis - Gladstone**
Edward E. Chapman
Joseph J. Henchir
Gregory W. King
- Post 0637 - Table Rock - Kimberling City**
Orville L. Rebel
Dean B. Zembsch
- Post 0639 - Vietnam War Memorial - Springfield**
Oscar T. Nagel
John M. Porter
- Post 0642 - George A. Whiteman Memorial - Sedalia**
Keith Allen
William H. Rodgers
Michael D. Snell
- Post 0676 - Kirby Wilcox Bicentennial - Brookline**
James W. Fultz
Le R. Hilton
Walter J. Owrey
Charles E. Roberts
Kenneth C. Wintermantel
- Post 0777 - Joseph L. Frank Memorial - Crestwood**
Melvin L. Cooseman
- Post 0783 - Denson-Winans, Inc. - House Springs**
Fabian Govero
- Post 1000 - Department Headquarters - Jefferson City**
Don Brahm
John H. Brodie
Charles G. Cohen
Byron Deere
Loren Foster
Emmet J. Gilcrest
Ray Gollhofer
George D. Groeber
Wayne E. Hammond
Rodney G. Horton
Robert T. Kimmel
John Kost
Rex J. Lankford
Norman S. Lehman
Dwight A. Love
Moses Ornelas

RAYMOND BASSETT

Department Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner



The Symbol of Real Friendship

When I was in the first grade I was one of the smaller pupils. At recess I would watch the bigger boys play football, but I could only watch. The only ones who played had to be picked by the older boys and they picked the bigger ones.

One day when they were choosing sides an eighth grader picked me to be on his team. I couldn't believe it. What could I do, but I was glad to play

In the huddle I was chosen to receive the pass from the quarterback. All I had to do was catch the ball and run for the goal. That's what they told me. We were all lined up and I looked over those big boys who faced me. I could just see one of them tackling me and break every bone in my body. But I believed the big boys on our side. The quarterback passed the ball to me and I caught it and began to run. The goal post was getting closer. Finally, I made a touchdown. Then I looked up and saw that three of the big guys had been guarding. They had run alongside and a little behind me. No one dared to try to tackle me.

Jesus told his disciples that they would be liberated by letting love overflow into all our relationships whether they be with people who love us or those who despise us.

When we are selfish those forces make us scorekeepers in our relationships. Many look at situations and think, "What is in it for me? How will I profit? How will I be better off?" It is all about us. When we think that way we become imprisoned—that those are the thinks that will make us happy, look good and our lives more satisfying. Jesus said that if we are going to be his disciples love must be our priority. Much of society today teaches us to love e things, to use people, but Jesus reminds us that things are to be used and people are to be loved. I wonder what a difference it would make in people's lives and the things taking place in our world if we really believed that it works if were committed to the possibilities it might offer for us all.

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said, "Love your friends, hate your enemies." But I now tell you: love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, so that you will become the sons of your Father in heaven. Why should God reward you if you only love the people who love you?"

There you have it and as I have said many times, it is in your ball court and the ball is coming your way. What will you do with it?

Chaplain Raymond Bassett

JUDGE DUANE BENTON

Oratorical Chairman

— Now's the time for action!

Missouri students have won thousands in scholarships in recent years from this Legion program. The 2011 national champion -- from St. Louis -- received over \$20,000 in scholarships. The 2013 national champion -- from Kansas City -- earned over \$21,000 in scholarships. AND, the 2014 national champion -- from Columbia -- received about \$23,000 in scholarships.

Now is the time for action. Please tell any high-school student you know about the program. They have at least two months — October and November — to write the speech (and in much of Missouri, the month of December, too). Please contact your local high school and tell the teachers and administrators about the program.

You do not have to know all the details on the program. First, all the details are on the Department website, Oratorical page. Each student has the application form right on their smartphone — the "link" is on the Oratorical page. The deadline for entry is November 30.

Second, each District has an Oratorical chair who stands ready to answer any questions about the contest. Contact information for your District chair is on the Oratorical page.

New this year: All contest forms are on the Department website at <https://www.missourilegion.org/general>. [If you forget this nonstop one-click, just go to the Department home-page <https://www.missourilegion.org>

In the left-hand column, click the blue Forms box.

Once on the **Forms** page, click **Oratorical Forms.**]

Finally, feel free, at any time, to contact the Department programs assistant, Melissa Mayer, at 800-846-9023, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City 65102.

LEGIONNAIRE JOBSON DOES 59 MILITARY RITES IN 2017



Robert Jobson, a member of the American Legion Green Hills Post 57, was presented a plaque for participating in 59 military rites for the 2017 year, by Post 57 Sergeant at Arms Wayne Kitchen. The Bucklin Post 57 performed 59 military rites in 2017 and Jobson was the only legionnaire to attend them all. Jobson, a Bucklin farmer, was past commander of Post 57 for 19 years and is currently the post service officer. Jobson was instrumental in obtaining the current legion hall when the local bank closed and divested itself of the building. Kitchen stated that Jobson's dedication to the American Legion is what makes the Bucklin Post an ongoing success.



CHAPLAINS WORKSHOP



All American Legion Family Post, Auxiliary, Son's of the American Legion and Legion Riders are invited to participate in this workshop conducted by Department Chaplain Raymond "Ray" Bassett


WHEN: Friday, October 26, 2018 from 6:00p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Truman A, Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, Missouri

Please confirm your attendance by contacting Raymond Bassett 573-374-0602 Raylou1946@gmail.com By October 19, 2018

TAPS *Continued From Page 8*

Robert Parsons
Sidney E. Penman
Melvin Peterman
Wilbur D. Roush
Arthur A. Smith
James E. Stallings
Thomas Szala
Lawrence Tribout
Milton J. Winn



Jefferson Barracks Cemetery Expansion

In honor of Harrison Ochs who was the lead charger in this acquisition challenge, who passed earlier this year in Jan, I am proud to announce with the addition of Sylvan Springs into the National Cemetery Administration very soon, that there is a reserve of grave sites that should last until the estimated year of 2048, probably beyond and we are still seeking more adjacent land to assure all Veterans have access to the hallowed ground of Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

This was a 10-year process with many setbacks. However, on September 4th, 2018 during the regularly scheduled St. Louis County Council meeting Bill #201 was finally passed with a 7 - 0 vote unanimously approving this transaction. 34 acres will now be available to the Veterans Administration to expand the National Cemetery at Jefferson Barracks.


The effort was spearheaded by Mr. Harrison Ochs and Mr. Michael LeBlanc Currently 10th District Commander. Every veteran in the Department should be happy and applaud this achievement. Both Mr. Trakas and Mr. Harder played a crucial role in moving this legislation forward in the St. Louis Council, and we are grateful for their efforts.



In the photo is Left to Right Mary Bryant, 10th District Auxiliary Chaplain; Muriel Christman, 10th District Auxiliary President; The Honorable Ernie Trakas, District 6 councilman St; Louis County Council; Terry Bryant; Jim Christman, Zone IV Vice commander; Al Katzenberger; Michael LeBlanc, 10th District Commander; Ed Kiefer and The Honorable Mark Harder, District 7 councilman St. Louis County Council.

SCOUTING

Jerome Goolsby, Chairman



First on behalf on the Boy Scouts Committee, I wish to congratulate the Department on winning The Frank N. Belgrano, Jr. Trophy for outstanding support of the Boy Scouts from August 1, 2017 to August 1, 2018. This is the second consecutive year we have received this honor and the fourth time overall. This award is based on information we provide to National Headquarters. Please make sure to indicate on your CPR any support you or your members may give to Scouting and please let myself or a member of Boy Scouts Committee know of any special Scouting support you may do so we can give a full accounting of our efforts to support Scouting in Missouri.

The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year Program for 2019 is underway.

The program at the national level grants the winner a \$10,000 college scholarship and three other Eagle Scouts each receive a \$2,500 college scholarship. The Eagle Scout who wins the competition from Missouri will receive a \$750 college scholarship.

Prospective nominees for this award must be a registered, active member of a Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew chartered to an American Legion Post or Auxiliary Unit or be a registered, active member of a duly chartered Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew, and be the son or grandson of a Legionnaire or Auxiliary member; must have received the Eagle Scout award; be an active member of his religious institution and must have received the appropriate Boy Scout religious emblem; have demonstrated practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting, and community; and have reached his 15th birthday, and be enrolled in high school at the time of selection. Eagle Scouts still in high school who reached their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified.

The committee needs your help in getting this information out to Scouting Units and Councils. I've sent information out to all the Districts and I need Districts to make sure their Posts have the information about the Eagle Scout of the Year program and I need Districts and Posts to advise their local Scouting units of this program. The best way to do this is through their Roundtable meetings. Contact your local Scouting Commissioner service for help in this effort. I also need your help in making sure your local Boy Scout Council gets the information about this program out to the Scouts and Units in their area.

Applications can be obtained from local posts or your District Scouting Chairman. Applications must be submitted to Department Headquarters no later than **February 15, 2019.**

There is also a need for Religious Emblem Coordinators at District and Unit levels in our Councils. If you have Legionnaires who are looking for a way to help out Scouting, this is a very important job that needs support. Training is available for this vital position; please contact your local Boy Scout Council.

TRACY VAWTER

Department Service Officer



VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION UPDATE: NATIONAL, DEPARTMENT & GENERAL INTEREST

The American Legion Department of Missouri has a small but good Department Service Officer Program. We employ accredited representatives to assist veterans and their families with the VA claim and appeals process.

The purpose of having *Representation* is to have knowledgeable, lay advocates working *with* the veteran on the claim. It has been proved by General Accounting Office (GAO) that is better to work with a representative to help with your VA claim than to do your claim alone. We have a representative at each major VA facility in Missouri and at the VA Regional Benefits Office. We staff the equivalent of six “full-time” service officer positions to help veterans and claimants with claims and appeals.

We currently have a position open at Truman VA Hospital in Columbia. We prefer the applicant be a Legionnaire, although Auxiliary and SAL are also eligible to apply. The applicant must be well versed in using computers, able to type and very detail oriented, college degree is also preferred or a strong background in medical or legal fields. Please refer qualified candidates to me. I am accepting resumes via fax at 314-253-4176 or by email LE.VBASTL@va.gov

Our team of service officers will be at Fall Conference. We will be available Friday afternoon to discuss any issues from noon through 3:30 pm. We will be selling 50/50 raffle tickets to support our Department Operation Comfort Warriors program. This program supports rehabilitation efforts like the Soulard AMBUCS that help local veterans with different abilities gain mobility and independence through a AmTryke therapeutic cycle.

I will provide training for people interested in VA Benefits and Post Service Officers: PSO Training – Carnegies 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. / Committee Meeting – Carnegies 6:00 to 7:00 p.m

Important Reminder: VA Healthcare is not Medical Insurance... Please review what to do during a medical emergency. Emergency Medical Care

During a medical emergency, Veterans should immediately seek care at the nearest medical facility. A medical emergency is an injury, illness or symptom so severe that without immediate treatment, you believe your life or health is in danger. **If you believe your life or health is in danger, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.**

Veterans **do not** need to check with VA before calling for an ambulance or going to an emergency department. During a medical emergency, VA encourages all Veterans to seek immediate medical attention without delay. A claim for emergency care will never be denied based solely on VA not receiving notification prior to seeking care.

It is, however, important to promptly notify VA after receiving emergency care at a community emergency department. Notification should be made within 72 hours of admission to a community medical facility.

This allows VA to assist the Veteran in coordinating necessary care or transfer, and helps to ensure that the administrative and clinical requirements for VA to pay for the care are met. **IMPORTANT:** An emergency department (ED) is a facility that is staffed and equipped to provide emergency treatment and does not include community facilities that provide medical treatment in situations other than emergencies.

- Service-Connected Emergency Care
 - Nonservice-Connected Emergency Care
- Emergency Care in Foreign Countries
 - After Receiving Care
- Filing a Claim
 - Receiving Payment from VA
 - Resources

Service-Connected Emergency Care

In general, VA can pay for emergency medical care at a local ED for a Veteran’s service-connected condition, or if the care is related to a Veteran’s service-connected condition. Specifically, emergency medical care for a Veteran’s service-connected or related (adjunct) condition(s) is eligible for VA payment as long as the VA wasn’t reasonably available to provide the care.

In accordance with the following situations and requirements, VA can pay emergency care costs for:

1. A Veteran who receives emergency treatment of a service-connected, or adjunct condition* in a community emergency department; **OR**
2. A Veteran who is Permanently and Totally disabled (P&T) as the result of a service-connected condition is eligible for emergency treatment of ANY condition; **OR**
3. A Veteran who is participating in a VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program, and who requires emergency treatment to expedite their return to the program, is eligible for emergency treatment for any condition; **AND** (scenarios 1-3 must all meet #4)
4. The emergency was of such a nature that the Veteran (or other prudent layperson without medical training) would reasonably believe that any delay in seeking immediate medical attention would cause their life or health to be placed in jeopardy.

NOTE: A service-connected condition is one that has been adjudicated by the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and a disability rating has been granted. An adjunct condition is one that, while not directly service-connected, is medically considered to be aggravating a service-connected condition.

Legal authorities and payment methods for VA payment for emergency care for service-connected conditions are contained in Title 38 U.S.C. §1728, 38 CFR §17.120 and 38 CFR §17.132.

Nonservice-Connected Emergency Care

VA can also pay for emergency medical care at a community ED for a Veteran’s nonservice-connected condition. However, there are several requirements and factors that affect the extent to which VA can cover those services. Specifically, emergency medical care for a Veteran’s nonservice-connected condition(s) is eligible for VA payment when **all** of the following five elements are true:

1. Care was provided in a hospital emergency department (or similar public facility held to provide emergency treatment to the public); **AND**
2. The emergency was of such a nature that the Veteran (or other prudent layperson without medical training) would reasonably believe that any delay in seeking immediate medical attention would cause their life or health to be placed in jeopardy; **AND**
3. A VA medical facility or another Federal facility was not reasonably available to provide the care; **AND**
4. The Veteran is enrolled and has received care within a VA facility during the 24 months before the emergency care; **AND**
5. The Veteran is financially liable to the provider of emergency treatment.

There are limitations on VA’s ability to provide coverage when a Veteran has other health insurance (OHI). If OHI does not fully cover the costs of treatment, VA can pay certain costs for which the Veteran is personally liable. **By law, VA cannot pay copayments, coinsurance, deductibles, or similar payments a Veteran may owe to the provider as required by their OHI.**

VA is also legally prohibited from providing coverage for individuals covered under a health plan contract because of a failure by the Veteran or the provider to comply with the provisions of that health plan contract, e.g., failure to submit a bill or medical records within specified time limits, or failure to exhaust appeals of the denial of payment.

NOTE: Legal authorities and payment methods for VA payment for emergency care for nonservice-connected conditions are contained in Title 38 U.S.C. §1725 and 38 CFR §17.1000.

Emergency Care in Foreign Counties

VA can pay for emergency medical care outside the United States if the emergency is related to a Veteran’s service-connected condition. Contact the Foreign Medical Program at 1-877-345-8179 or visit our Foreign Medical Program page for more information.

Foreign Medical Program

After Receiving Care

Once a Veteran’s immediate emergency medical care needs have been addressed, the Veteran, a family member, friend, or hospital staff member should contact the nearest VA medical facility within 72 hours. Once notified, VA staff will assist the Veteran and/or his/her representatives in understanding eligibility and how eligibility relates to services rendered in the community. VA staff will also ensure that, if desired, the Veteran is transferred to a VA medical center upon stabilization and that the Veteran is set up to receive additional care, post discharge, without interruption.

IMPORTANT: When a Veteran receives emergency medical care, notifying VA as quickly as possible is always best. It ensures maximum VA coverage and assists the VA in providing the Veteran with the care they need.

Filing a Claim

Claims for emergency medical care should be submitted to VA as soon as possible after care has been provided. The deadline for filing a claim depends on whether care was provided for a service-connected condition or a nonservice-connected condition. The charts below describe the requirements, how to file a claim, and payment rates.

Requirements for filing an emergency care claim		Filing deadlines for emergency care claims	
Filing a Claim		Claim Filing Deadlines	
Veterans/Veterans' Representatives	Providers	Service-Connected Condition	Nonservice-Connected Condition
Veterans or their personal representatives may file a claim for reimbursement of emergency treatment costs that they have incurred and paid to the provider. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In this situation, Veterans should obtain and submit all related treatment and billing records to the closest VA medical facility.• In most cases, providers will submit a claim directly to VA, and the Veteran will not have to take further action.	Submit claims for services not preauthorized by VA to the VA medical facility closest to where the emergent treatment was provided. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submission must include a standard billing form (such as a CMS 1450 or CMS 1500), containing false claims notice.• Submit claims via Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) transaction (such as an 837I or 837P).• Documentation related to the medical care may be required prior to claim processing.	Claims must be submitted to VA within two (2) years of the date emergency medical care was received. However, filing the claim as soon as possible after care has been provided is highly recommended because it helps ensure that all required documentation is readily available and that providers receive their payment in a timely manner.	Claims must be submitted to VA within 90 days of the date of discharge, or 90 days from the date that all attempts to receive required payments from a liable third party are completed and not successful in eliminating the Veteran's personal liability to the provider. A liable third party includes other health insurers, worker's compensation, civil litigation, etc.
Payment rates for emergency care claims			
Payment Rates			
Service-Connected Condition		Nonservice-Connected Condition	
Generally, 100% Medicare rates		Generally, 70% Medicare rates	

Continued From Page 10

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION
UPDATE: NATIONAL, DEPARTMENT &
GENERAL INTEREST

Receiving Payment from VA

Once a claim for emergency treatment is received by VA, the claim will be administratively reviewed to determine Veteran eligibility. If the Veteran meets the administrative eligibility criteria to receive emergency care in the community, the treatment documentation will then be reviewed by VA clinical staff to determine if the treatment received meets the clinical criteria necessary for VA to pay for the care.

VA makes every effort to adjudicate claims for emergency treatment quickly and accurately. When further information or clarification is needed by VA, claims processing may be delayed.

If a Veteran is charged for emergency care received in the community and believes the charges should be covered by VA, they should contact the nearest VA medical facility as soon as possible. VA staff will assist the Veteran in understanding eligibility and in determining whether the bill received is appropriate. VA will assist the Veteran and work to resolve any billing issues with the community provider.

Resources

- Fact Sheet: Emergency Medical Care
Describes requirements for VA payment of emergency medical care for Veterans.
- Fact Sheet: Emergency Transportation (Ambulance)
Describes requirements for VA payment of emergency transportation for Veterans.
- Facility Locator
For additional information, please reach out to the nearest VA medical center responsible for processing the claims.

[https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/
Emergency_Care.asp](https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/Emergency_Care.asp)

Fact Sheet



Emergency Transportation
(Ambulance)

If you believe your life or health is in danger, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room (ER) right away. During a medical emergency, Veterans should immediately seek medical care. A medical emergency is an injury, illness or symptom so severe that without immediate treatment, you believe your life or health is in danger.

Veterans **do not** need to check with VA before calling for an ambulance or going to an ER. However, **promptly notifying the nearest VA medical facility** of the emergency care and transportation is very important in VA being able to potentially reimburse costs.

When the nearest VA medical facility is notified of the emergency transportation, more information will be known of the Veterans medical condition, the availability of VA for transfer (if Veteran is stable), and other information to assist them in receiving the necessary medical care.

VA Payments for Emergency Transportation
VA can pay for emergency transportation provided by a community provider for a Veteran's service-connected condition and nonservice-connected condition, but there are **specific requirements that must be met** before VA can reimburse these costs*.

1. **Prior Authorization and/or Prompt Notification.**
VA must authorize transportation in advance, but in medical emergencies this may not be reasonable. As a result, promptly notifying the nearest VA medical facility of the emergency transportation can satisfy the prior authorization requirement. VA may be able to consider prompt notification of ambulance transportation, subject to the following requirements (a-c):
a. Veteran (or someone on their behalf) notifies VA within 72-hours; **and**
b. A VA or other Federal facility was not reasonably available to the Veteran; **and**



c. The care the Veteran received was for a medical emergency related to a **service-connected** condition.

2. **Emergency Transportation for nonservice-connected condition.** Along with the requirements above in 1(a) and 1(b), VA can pay for emergency transportation for a Veteran's nonservice-connected condition, subject to the additional following requirements (a-c):

- a. VA must receive and adjudicate a claim for the emergency care received as part of the emergency transportation (the administrative eligibility for payment of nonservice-connected emergency care can be reviewed [here](#)). If no claim is received for the associated treatment, VA cannot pay for the emergency transportation **unless the following two exceptions are met:**
 - i. Other health insurance or a third party paid for the emergency treatment (leaving no liability for the treatment) excluding the emergency transportation itself; **or**
 - ii. Death occurred during transportation to receive emergency care.
- If VA cannot pay for emergency care outside of the above two exceptions, then it generally cannot pay for the associated emergency transportation.
- b. Veteran must be liable to the provider of the emergency transportation; **and**
- c. If the emergency condition was caused by an accident or work-related injury, the Veteran must first attempt to obtain reimbursement from a liable third party (i.e. employer, insurance, etc). If the Veteran's efforts to obtain reimbursement from a liable third party are denied or otherwise unsuccessful, VA may be able to pay for the emergency transportation costs.

Unless the above requirements are met, VA in general cannot pay for the emergency transportation for a Veteran's nonservice-connected condition.

*By law, VA cannot pay costs associated with a Veteran's health insurance deductibles, copayments, coinsurance or similar payments a Veteran may owe to the provider as required by their OHI

- Support**
- For additional information, please reach out to the nearest VA medical center responsible for processing the claims.
 - Visit www.va.gov/communitycare



Who Will Help You?

Today's travel can involve unexpected financial risks. But you're *GUARANTEED* help in case there's a medical emergency away from home.

The **Legionnaire Emergency Assistance Plus (EA+) Program** offers you and your family *security* you need while traveling. *EA+ delivers high-value benefits to protect you* such as:

- ☞ Emergency Medical Assistance
- ☞ Medical Evacuation & Transportation Home
- ☞ Travel Assistance For You & Your Companion

From Your American Legion Department

To learn more about the benefits and services provided to you by Your American Legion Department, visit us online today at www.theLIT.com/emergency-assistance-plus or call **1-888-310-1547**.

This information is only an overview of the plan's features. Terms & Conditions apply.



2018 AMERICAN
LEGION BASEBALL

Department of Missouri finished this season with 113 teams submitting approved rosters. More teams applied, but withdrew when they could not get enough players to participate. This is becoming more of a problem each year. However, when Oklahoma was unable to send a AAA team to the National Regional, since Missouri had the most registered teams in our Region, we were allowed to send our state runner-up, Cape Girardeau Post 63, along with our State Champion, Jefferson City Post 5,

to participate in the Regional Tournament in New Orleans, La. The team from Gonzalez, La. won the Regional and advanced to the World Series in Shelby, N.C. World Series Champion was the team from Delaware.

Our Baseball Scholarship winner for 2018 is Camden Williams. Camden played for the King-Walker-Custer Post 365 team from Green City, Mo. He will receive \$1000 from Department of Missouri and \$500 from National Scholarship Fund. Congratulations, Camden!

Information about Scholarship eligibility and applications can be found at www.missouriamericanlegionbaseball.com, click "Resources". We had several qualified applicants this year. All sponsors should take time and encourage players to apply.

The Baseball Commission will meet during Fall Conference at 12:00 Noon on Friday October 26, 2018 in the Capital Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City. Anyone having an interest in the Program or who has ideas /suggestions, please stop by. It is an open meeting and all are invited.

Any team interested in hosting the A State, AA State, or a AAA Zone Tournament in 2019 should submit a request, along with a \$300 check made payable to American Legion Department of Missouri Baseball to:

Gary Stone
3308 S Arrowhead Drive
Independence, Mo. 64057

Requests are due by February 1, 2019. Checks from those not selected will be returned after the Baseball Commission selects Tournament sites at the Spring Conference meeting.

Department State Champions for 2018

A (15 and under) • Ste. Genevieve Post 150
AA (17 and under) • Festus Post 253
AAA (19 and under) • Jefferson City Post 5

Information about American Legion Baseball is available on our website, www.missouriamericanlegionbaseball.com. The National website is now linked to our website and can be accessed by clicking on the "Resources" tab.

Thanks to all for your continued support.

Gary Stone
Department of Missouri Baseball Chairman



2018 FALL CONFERENCE HOUSING
October 26-28, 2018

Capitol Plaza Hotel, 415 W. McCarty
Jefferson City, MO 65101 800-338-8088

Make reservations using credit card for confirmation. Be sure to mention you are The American Legion.
\$83.00 + tax Check in time after 3:00 p.m.
(DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS 9/25/2018)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS

Friday, October 26

12:00-4:00 p.m.
12:00-7:00 p.m.
1:00 -3:00 p.m.
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
4:00-5:00 p.m.
5:00-7:00 p.m.
5:00-6:00 p.m.
6:00-7:00 p.m.
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
7:00-8:00 p.m.
7:00 -8:00 p.m.

Baseball
VA&R
Committee on Committees
Sub-committee
100th Anniversary Comm.
Membership
Foundation
Economics Commission
Chaplains Workshop (AL Family)
Distinguished Legionnaire
ALR Executive Committee Meeting

Truman A
Carnegies
Joplin
Truman C
Truman C
Missouri
Joplin
Joplin
Truman A
Truman C
Truman B

Saturday, October 27

8:00-10:00 a.m.
8:00 – 9:00
7:30 -9:00: a.m.
8:00-8:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
9:00-11:30 a.m.
12:00-1:15 p.m.
1:30- 3:00 p.m.
1:00 -3:00 p.m.
3:00 -5:00 p.m.
5:00 p.m.

Finance Commission
Convention Committee
ALR General Meeting
Leadership Training
LEGION GENERAL SESSION
SAL General Session
Distinguished Guest Luncheon
LEGION GENERAL SESSION
SAL General Session
Membership & Revitalization Training
Catholic Services
Protestant Services
Past Post Commanders
Children & Youth Commission
County Government Committee
Oratorical Workshop
History Book Training
Scholarship Committee
POW/MIA
Distinguished Service
Junior Shooting Sport

Truman A
Truman B
Lincoln
Truman C
Missouri/Capitol
Truman C
Lincoln
Missouri/Capitol
Truman C
TBA
TBA
Lincoln
Truman A
Joplin
Truman B
Missouri/Capitol
Joplin
Truman B
Truman C
Carnegies
Truman

5:00-5:30p.m.

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
5:30 -7:30 p.m.
6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
6:00 -7:00 p.m.
6:00 -7:00 p.m.
6:30-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 28

7:30 a.m.
8:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m.

Past District Cdr's Breakfast
DEC Member Pictures
Final Session
D.E.C. following Final Session

Lincoln
MO/Capitol
MO/Capitol
Truman Rooms

ALL MEETINGS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Updated 9/11/2018



100TH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



Delegates from the Department of Missouri attended the 100th Convention Celebration of The American Legion in Minneapolis, MN. August 23 - August 30, 2018. Past Department Commander Cary Kellett served as the Delegation Chairman and Department Adjutant Lowry Finley-Jackson serving as the Delegation Secretary. Other delegates in attendance included NECman Kenneth Goth, ALT NECman Thomas Goodin, Department Commander Kerry Boardman, Sr. Vice Commander Hallie Williams, Zone Commanders Mark Clark, Bob Maddox, Department Historian Jerome Goolsby, Department Finance Officer John Buckwalter, Department Service Officer Tracy Vawter, Department Sgt-At-Arms Darlene Coats, Asst-Sgt-Arms Albert Jackson, Past Department Commanders - Joel Hauck, David Voyles, Richard Heigert, Charlie Goodin, Arthur Wilson, Dennis Woeltje, Elizabeth Gonzales, District Commander Robert Dodd, Legionnaires - Phil Baker, David Bowman, William Bouws, Norm Brosi, Donald Buatte, Troy Henderson, John Gonzales Shirley Janes, Bryce Lockwood, Ty Magnuson, Lloyd Miller, Douglas Millison, Delbert Moore Dan Musgrove, Harold Naugle, Richard Pack, Bob Ravenscraft, Dick Sanford, George Shepherd, Sheryl Smith, Wayne Wallingford. Guest from the Department of Missouri in attendance included: Robin Boardman, Gracie Bouws, Linda Henderson, Stephen Harp, Patty Kellett, Michelle Bresee, Raymond Vawter, Ruth Voyles, Suzy Wallingford, Caroline Wilson and Julie Phelps. Post 230 and Post 642 participated in the Color Guard Competition. The American Legion Band of Greater Kansas City performs in The American Legion's Band Contest and lead the parade as reigning champions from the 2016 Band Competition (There was not Band Competition during the 2017 National Convention). The National Commanders Banquet featured the singing group the Three Dog Nights. Bret Riestad was elected National Commander

