

Sunflower

The American Legion -



Legionnaire

Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

VOL LXIX NO. 1

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

AUGUST 2015

CAMPORAMA IS FAMILY FUN AND RECREATION

Camporama remains an economical mini-vacation opportunity for all American Legion Family members. Now in its 44th year, Camporama takes place over the Labor Day weekend, September 4-7. The festivities will be held in the Wakefield City Park adjacent to Milford Lake.

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

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

bingo.

Registration begins on Friday, September 4, with free hot dogs available while everyone settles in for a weekend of fun. Registration continues on Saturday and planned activities will include contests, games, supper, and a White Elephant Bingo (please bring prizes).

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

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

The Wagonmaster for this year is Harry DuPery of Garnett. The Department Camporama Committee members include Chairman Tom Emerson of Garnett, Wiley Simhiser of Lehigh, and Jayson Massey or Lyndon.

EISENHOWER TRIBUTE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

The date for this year's 34th annual Eisenhower Pilgrimage at the Eisenhower Museum and Library in Abilene is Saturday, October 10. All Posts, Auxiliary Units, SAL Squadrons, the Districts and other Legion Family organizations are invited to attend and participate in this year's event. Saturday's program will start at approximately 10:30 AM immediately following the Presidential wreath laying ceremony.

Memorial Roses may be purchased for placement on the wall around the "IKE" statue by sending \$10 to the Eisenhower

Pilgrimage in care of Department Headquarters by October 1. Wreath orders (reserved for Districts and State and National level organizations) also must be ordered by October 1 for \$20.

A Homecoming luncheon following the Pilgrimage will be held in the Eisenhower Library Dining Room to honor Department Vice Commander Robert Munson of Pittsburg. The cost for the luncheon will be announced in next month's Sunflower, along with reservation forms for the luncheon and an order form for Memorial Roses.

Kansan Bob Dole Leads the Fight for IKE Memorial

Former Kansas senator and the former Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole is lobbying for support of the beleaguered National Eisenhower Memorial.

He has led the effort to raise more than \$170 million for the privately funded WWII memorial that opened in 2004. Now, his mission is to get a memorial built for Dwight D. Eisenhower, whom Dole served under in Italy. He considers Eisenhower, a fellow Kansan, "one of the great Americans." It's a view, he believes, shared by many WWII vets.

"It's been 16 years. We've got to get it built," for the WWII general and 34th president. "I want to get it built before all of us are gone."

It will take all of Dole's political skill to succeed. Authorized by Congress in 1999, the Eisenhower Memorial slogged through the federal regulatory process.

The road to building a memorial in the nation's capital is often long and messy, and the Eisenhower project is no exception.

The Eisenhower commission spent the first six years securing the four-acre site along Independence Avenue, a block from the Mall. There is still a statue of a youthful Ike, but the memorial core now features one bronze sculpture depicting Eisenhower as the supreme Allied commander during the war, and another bronze statue showing him as the president.

Susan Eisenhower said in an e-mail that she sympathizes with Dole and other veterans who want to see the memorial built.

"My family and countless other people are working very hard to make this happen, and to assure that the memorial reflects the consequential nature of Eisenhower's service to this



Donald Riffey and Ron Boerner receiving their First Place checks for the Two Man Handicapped Best Ball Division from Chairman Carroll Peppersack.

KANSAS AMERICAN LEGION GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS

By Carroll Peppersack, Golf Committee Chairman

The Kansas American Legion State Golf Tournament was held on July 18th & 19th at Custer Hill Golf Course on Fort Riley, Kansas. There were 21 Legionnaires that participated in the tournament, with 10 of those being 70 or older.

The weather had been forecast to be in the high 90's to the low 100's but Mother Nature was very kind to all of the players. Saturday the temperature stayed in the low 80's till all players were done. Sunday's round started in a very light rain and lasted just a few holes. The temperature stayed in the low 80's again till we were done.

All participants in the tournament had a very nice time with a lot of joking around and telling stories before and after the rounds. Lunch was served both days with sub sandwiches on Saturday, and hamburgers and hot dogs on Sunday.

The winner of the tournament was A. Rivera, from Fort Riley with a score of 71 - 73 = 144. He received a plaque and a check for \$125.00.

Second place went to R. Reeves from Concordia Post 76 with a score of 84 - 80 = 164. He received a check for \$100.00.

Third place went to R. Beausoleia from Fort Riley with a score of 84 - 85 = 169. He received a check for \$75.00.

The Senior Flight winner was Mike Lopez from Junction City Post 45 with a score of 79 - 89 = 159. He received a check for \$125.00

Second place went to James Clark from Wamego Post 172 with a score of 83 - 84 = 167. He received a check for \$100.00.

Third place went to Gail Engle from Concordia Post 76 with a score of 84 - 85 = 169. He received a check for \$75.00.

The most honest players awards in both flight were A flight Gaylord Sanneman and Seniors flight Lee Svatos. They both received a sleeve of balls.

I want to thank all of the staff at Custer Hill Golf Course for their great help with setting up the tournament. I also need to thank all of the officers and men and women of Fort Riley for letting us use their facility for the tournament. I especially want to thank all of the players who came out and braved the heat and weather and had a good time at this year's tournament. Again, thank you.

(Continued Page 6)

COMMANDER

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Greetings Kansas Legionnaires; first I would like to thank everyone for your vote of confidence in electing me your Department Commander for the 2015-2016 year. It is truly an honor for me and I look forward to serving the members of our Kansas American Legion and with everyone's continued support and cooperation we can keep Kansas strong in membership and the many programs that we support. I want to congratulate all the newly elected Post, District, and Department Officers for this year, without all of you stepping up to except the responsibility of these positions our American Legion could not continue to grow and be successful.

May 25th 2015 was my first official duty as Department Commander it was to help Frontenac Post #43 dedicate a beautiful Granite Monument inscribed with the names of the 44 Medal of Honor recipients from the state of Kansas. It was an honor to have been a part of this ceremony to recognize actions of these heroes. I also attended the Girls State, Boys State and the Cadet Law Enforcement Academy. They are all rewarding experiences for the youth attending these programs. But none of these programs could be possible without those individuals who volunteer their time and I thank everyone who

QUICK, EASY AND SECURE

Quick, easy and secure describes renewing your membership online directly with National Headquarters. In addition to immediately stopping those pesky reminder notices from National, renewing online insures uninterrupted delivery of your subscription of The American Legion Magazine, this newspaper, and you can print a receipt of your payment.

Don't worry, your Post will still receive its portion of your annual dues. Every two weeks National sends Department Headquarters a list of the latest members who renew online

works very hard to make them happen each year.

There are many events coming up this year and I plan to attend all that time will allow. So if you have something happening at your Post let me or the Department Office know so it can be put on our schedule. The District Revitalizations are starting. All Area Vice Commanders, District Commanders, and Post Commanders need to have their members scheduled and prepared to work their Districts. We need help from every one to make this all work this year. These Revitalizations will work if more will pitch in and help. Let's all remember what we were elected to do, that is to represent and help all veterans and their families. The best way to make this happen is to continue to work together and not for any individual or agents special interests.

I look forward to working with everyone this year. My slogan is keep Kansas Strong with Membership and practice the Four Pillars that supports and makes our American Legion the greatest veterans organization in the world. I thank all of you for your service and thank you for your membership in our American Legion.

May God bless you and may God continue to bless our great country.

and within a few days your Post will receive a credit memo to use with transmitting other members' dues. If it should become necessary, Department will issue your Post a check at the end of the membership year.

To get your new membership card simply take the receipt you printed to your Post, or you can wait for the Post to mail your card to you (shouldn't take more than 3 weeks after you renew online).

You may renew online by logging onto www.legion.org/ renew.

Fellow Legionnaires! It's been a while. Hope you've enjoyed your summer so far! I have been graced by being allowed to attend the activities of the American Legion Riders, Legacy Run for Kansas this year. A new Kansas event helping the children of troops killed while on active duty achieve their dreams of a college education.

Tomorrow, July 16th will be the first of four days of hard motorcycling throughout the state of Kansas gathering donations for the nation's Legacy Run ending in Baltimore at this year's National Convention.

With the knowledge and experiences gained from orchestrating this event, we hope the volunteers come back and work harder next year starting earlier to compass the neighborhoods and merchandizers and bring back an even greater bootie to be given to the Convention showing just how dedicated our Kansas Legion Families are to such a just and needed cause!

Be on the lookout for packets of donation rosters coming to your Posts. You can donate with cash or go the easy way and chose to donate via your credit cards. You can chose a onetime donation or annual recurring donation. For those who need those tax credits, this is a great way to help and do so with so little stress. Not to worry, The American Legion's systems are secure. You can either go on line or simply fill out our form so we/Kansas can account for our state's donations through Department.

Post Adjutants and Commanders and ALR Directors are requested to solicit this to your membership and whom else you meet. It's a great cause.

It's going to be very hot this year for those who are on ride. God willing, we will all return safe and unscathed after a nearly 1500 mile journey.

Greetings American Legion Family.

I would like first and foremost to thank each and every one for your support in electing me as your Department Vice Commander. I am looking forward to a very successful year serving with our Commander Ray Vail.

I have two very important goals this year: membership and supporting our veterans by every means possible. I plan to be at each revitalization this year. Let's strive to have every Post at 100%!!! I am prepared to work with the East and West Vice Commanders as well as all District and Post Commanders to make this happen.

I was honored to be a part of presenting a service dog to a Wounded Warrior this past

LEGION ANNOUNCES NEW ALLIANCE WITH DEFENSE MOBILE

The American Legion and Defense Mobile have struck a new mission alliance relationship to improve the lives of and reduce mobile communications costs for U.S. military veterans and members of the armed forces. "Defense Mobile is on a mission to connect and improve the lives of veterans, a mission that aligns perfectly with the goals of The American Legion," said Brendan Reilly, CEO of Defense Mobile. "This mission alliance allows Defense Mobile to expand its reach and help both organizations do more for our country's heroes." Defense Mobile is the only mobile service built exclusively for veterans, military service members and their families. The company offers low-cost, no-contract plans and superior coverage on the nation's best networks. To further reward those who have served our nation in uniform, Defense Mobile built miliSOURCE – the leading veterans benefits mobile app that provides users with profile-driven information

June in Valley Center. A big shout out to Terry Marr for making that happen.

I plan to attend the membership workshop at the National Headquarters in mid-August and the National Convention in Baltimore August 27 through September 3.

The Commander's Homecoming will be July 25 in Winfield, along with our first revitalization of the year. My Vice Commander's Homecoming will be October 10 in Abilene, along with the Eisenhower Pilgrimage. Hope to see everyone there!

Let's all get out there and bring in memberships!! We can do it!!!

God bless our members, our troops, and our country!

about their veterans benefits. The free app is available to all veterans, whether or not they have Defense Mobile service. To thank American Legion members for their continued service, Defense Mobile is offering Legionnaires a 10-percent discount on mobile service for life when a member verifies his or her military affiliation using his or her American Legion member ID number. This offer is available to current American Legion members, as well as to those who join The American Legion in the future. "The American Legion is excited to combine forces with Defense Mobile," said Michael D. Helm, American Legion national commander. "Having military benefits accessible through our members' mobile phones with miliSOURCE will significantly improve the lives of our veterans." - See more at: <http://www.legion.org/membership/229013/legion-announces-new-alliance-defense-mobile#sthash.yzExHB2M.dpuf>

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to The American Legion Family of Kansas.

My name is Jimmie Foster. My first day on the job was Wednesday, 22 July 2015.

I came to Kansas from Boise, Idaho, where I served as the Department Adjutant for The Department of Idaho for over three years.

In 2010-2011, I had the honor and pleasure to serve as The National Commander of The American Legion. I am definitely not new to our organization. I know and understand the infrastructure and know where to get the advice on particular issues, when we need help, and am not afraid to ask for it.

Your Department already has a great support staff already in place. I do not plan to make any quick and hasty decisions, but may tweak this or that over time.

I had a great time at the Department Commander's Homecoming in Winfield this past weekend. I hope that everyone that attended also enjoyed themselves and I want to thank each of you for coming out and supporting Commander Vail and his wife, Linda. I am sure they appreciated it very much.

The upcoming National Convention will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, from 27 August to 3 September. I have already visited our hotel, the Marriott Inner Harbor, on a pre-site visit in May of this year, because the Department of Kansas and the Department of Idaho will be staying in the same hotel. It is right across the street from the Convention Center and is steps away from Camden Yards, which is home to the Baltimore Orioles. There is a Casino less than a half a mile away that may interest you. National and the Department of Maryland have a great venue set up for us to enjoy.

Please plan to attend, and if you haven't done so, contact Margie at the Department Headquarters to pay for your first nights room deposit, your registration, and the fee for the Inner Harbor Boat and Dinner Party. I am sure you will be glad you signed up.

I once again, want to say, Thank You to the Department of Kansas for your trust in allowing me to serve as your Department Adjutant. I look forward to meeting and talking to all of you!

IDENTITY THEFT

Someone gets your personal information and runs up bills in your name. They might use your Social Security or Medicare number, your credit card, or your medical insurance - along with your good name.

How would you know? You could get bills for things you didn't buy or services you didn't get. Your bank account might have withdrawals you didn't make. You might not get bills you expect. Or, you could check your credit report and find accounts you never knew about.

Here's what you can do:

1. Protect your information. Put yourself in another person's shoes. Where would they find your credit card or Social Security number? Protect your personal information by shredding documents before you throw them out, by giving your Social Security number only when you must, and by using strong passwords online.

2. Read your monthly statements and check your credit. When you get your account statements and explanations of benefits, read them for accuracy. You should recognize what's there. Once a year, get your credit report for free from AnnualCreditReport.com or 877-322-8228. The law entitles you to one free report each year from each credit reporting company. If you see something you don't recognize, you will be able to deal with it.

Want to know more? Sign up for scam alerts at ftc.gov/ subscribe.

Please report identity theft. If you suspect identity theft, act quickly. Please report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Call the FTC at 877-FTC-HELP (877-382-4357) or TTY 866-653-4261. Go online: ftc.gov/complaint. The FTC operator will give you the next steps to take. Visit ftc.gov/idtheft to learn more.

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OLD VETERAN PRIDE

I'm passing this on as I did not want to be the only Old Veteran receiving it. Actually, it's not a bad thing to be called, as you will see. Old Veterans are easy to spot at sporting events; during the playing of the Star Spangled Banner (or O Canada). Old Veterans remove their caps and stand at attention and sing without embarrassment. They know all the words.

Old Veterans remember World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Normandy, and Hitler. They remember the Atomic Age, the Korean War, the Cold War, the Jet Age, and the Moon Landing. They remember the 50 plus Peackeeping Missions from 1945 to 2005, not to mention Vietnam.

If you bump into an Old Veteran on the sidewalk he will apologize. If you pass an Old Veteran on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old Veterans trust strangers and are courtly to women.

Old Veterans hold the door for the next person and always, when walking, make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.

Old Veterans get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children and they don't like any filth or dirty language on TV or in movies.

Old Veterans have moral courage and personal integrity. They seldom brag unless it's about their children or grandchildren.

It's the Old Veterans who know our great country is protected, not by politicians, but by the young men and women in the military serving their country.

This country needs Old Veterans with their work ethic, sense of responsibility, pride in their country, and decent values.

We need them now more than ever.

Thank God for Old Veterans!

Pass this on to all the Old Veterans you know.

I was taught to respect my elders. It's just getting harder to find them.

HOMELESS VETERANS TASKFORCE

The American Legion places special priority on the issue of veteran homelessness. With veterans making up approximately 11 percent of our nation's total adult homeless population, there's plenty of reason to give the cause special concern.

To help our struggling brothers-in-arms, the Legion works on a global level, lobbying for legislation affecting veteran homelessness, and acts on a local level, directly assisting veterans who have fallen on tough times and are without a place to live or facing the prospect of it.

This direct assistance is coordinated by the Legion's Homeless Veterans Task Force, which works to ensure local ser-

vices and resources are available to homeless veterans and their families. The Task Force, which has chairpersons in each department, collaborates with government agencies, homeless service providers and veterans service organizations to develop and implement initiatives that will help homeless veterans.

Additionally, Homeless Veterans Task Force chairpersons can provide direct aid to veterans and their families who reach out to them. A veteran who is homeless or facing possible homelessness can contact a chairperson, who will provide guidance and assistance to the veteran and his or her family.

HISTORIAN

JOE JOHNSTON

Theodore Roosevelt, the leader of The Rough Riders in the Spanish-American War, was later our 26th President. All four of his sons and a daughter served in World War I. One son, Quentin, was killed in that war. The three surviving sons also served in World War II. One of his sons, Theodore Jr. one of the founders of The American Legion, took part in the D-Day invasion. His son, Quentin II was also in the invasion, the only father son pair in the invasion, although on different beaches. Theodore Jr., the oldest person and only general to participate, died of a heart attack a month later.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, a distant cousin, continued the legacy. Although he himself didn't serve, his four sons served in WWII. John Roosevelt, the youngest, initially was a conscientious objector, but due to pressure from the family joined the Navy. James Roosevelt, the oldest son, was awarded a Silver Star for gallantry in action. He served in the Marine Corps Reserve after the war retiring as a Brigadier General. Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. joined the Navy and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry.

Theodore Roosevelt, IV, great grandson of the former President, served two tours in Vietnam. On January 15, 2001, Theodore Roosevelt was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his gallant and heroic actions during the Spanish-American War. Some say it was because of politics that he was denied the medal years ago.

The above was from the February and March 2015 issues of the VFW magazine.

**Renew Your
Membership
Online at
www.legion.org/renew**

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Comrades, I am happy to be the First District Commander of The American Legion of Kansas.

The membership year has started. We need to be in first place in membership, so everyone has to help. Ask all of your friends and anybody you see if they can join.

The Homecoming for Commander and President is September 26, at Post 1 in Topeka. Try to come to this event and meet your District officers.

The First District will be working at the State Fair in Hutchinson on September 11. If you come to the fair, stop in and say hello.

I am looking forward to a great year. If you need help in getting members you can call on me or any of the District officers.

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Greetings Legionnaires!

This is my first column as Commander. I am very proud and honored to serve the Second District for the 2015-2016 year. I also want to congratulate Vice Commander Scott Williams, Adjutant Ernie Cooper and the balance of our team who will serve this year. We want to congratulate new Department Commander Ray Vail and pledge our support this year. We also thank outgoing Department Commander Emery McKimmy for an outstanding year of service.

A big thank you to Ralph Schneider our outgoing District Commander and his Officers for an outstanding year of accomplishments and leading our District to the number one spot in membership and holding it all year.

The new membership year is off to a good start. However, the real work is ahead to organize our Posts starting with the Commander and Vice Commander to get your members working as a team with a plan to hit 100% ASAP, don't ease up till the mission is accomplished. Our Revitalization is not until October 15-16-17 at Post 407 Lenexa a month later than last year. Membership is the life blood of our organization and must remain our # 1 priority.

The District Officers and myself look forward to working with you, feel free to contact us we are here to serve. Our number one goal is to serve our veterans.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

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Hello Legionnaires, as we start off another new year I want to congratulate and say thank you to everyone for taking positions in The American Legion. I know everyone has a very busy schedule, but membership will again be a very important topic this year as it will be through National Convention of 2019.

This year there is a lot of weight on everyone's shoulders as we have both the Department Commander and Department Vice-Commander both from the 3rd District (for the first time ever in the history of the Kansas American Legion). So let's make them proud of the 3rd District by doing our very best with our membership.

One incentive this year is at National Convention they are voting on raising membership

dues and if approved it will go into effect the beginning of the year 2016 but they will the honor dues paid at the current price if paid before the end of 2015. Automatic renewals on The Legion web site would make it very easy, convenient, and you won't forget to renew. It would eventually save everyone some money due to the stopping of renewal notices in the mail. The automatic renewals would be taken out around the 15th of July every year. I hope everyone has a safe and fantastic summer, enjoy it as the cold will soon return. God bless America, our troops and everyone in our great nation.

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Happy summer! We finished our membership year in second place in the Department. We fell about 200 short of our 100%. But thank you all for your efforts.

Starting with this month the 4th District Membership Team will be working with all of our Posts to help them bring in not only current membership but also those members who still haven't renewed. Remember, we will not leave anyone behind!

This year we will be working with the Kansas Army Reserve, 451st Sustainment Command in hosting and training Legion Family members in Suicide Prevention and Intervention. Please contact me if you would like to host a weekend training session. This is a vital part of our Four Pillars, and with Fort Riley being spared major troop cuts the need is there.

In October we have been invited to the Retiree Appreciation Day at Fort Riley and we are scheduled at the State Fair for September 14, so please let us know if you can spare a couple of hours to help out to man the booths.

Finally, we are still selling

chances on a Kansas lifetime fishing OR hunting license. This annual fundraiser helps the District in offering membership incentives to the Posts as well as donations as they are needed. Please let me know if your Post needs tickets to sell. There are a limited number of tickets and they are selling out fast! Again, thank you for all that you do and God bless!

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Thank you all for supporting me as your 2015-2016 5th District Commander. Conventions are over and we just entered a new membership year July 1st. Last year we finished the year in third place in the Department at 95.24%. Let's not wait until the end of the year to make a big push for 100%, let's do it NOW.

Gather your membership teams from every Post and work membership renewals hard until October 20. At our District revitalization Oct 22-25 we will contact those who have not renewed. Let's have every Post and the District at 100% before December 31st.

We all had a great time visiting Posts in the District during the July 4th weekend. It was our VETERANS who fought and died for our country's safety and to protect and keep the freedoms we enjoy today. We especially enjoyed having our Department Commander Ray and Linda Vail, Past Department Commander Gaylord Sanneman and Janelle, and National Vice Commander, Midwest Region, Paul Sanford and Dorothy taking part in our Derby July 4th Celebration parade. Then we all enjoyed visiting our Veterans at the VA for the 14th annual VA Veterans BBQ hosted by the 5th District and sponsored by Posts 273 and 401. Let's get all 5th District Posts involved in this annual event at the VA next year.

I hope to see everyone at the 5th District Homecoming for myself, District Auxiliary President Melissa Burton and District SAL Commander Jerry Leopold at Post 408 on August 15, 5pm. Thank you and hope to see all of you in the coming year as I visit your Posts and at your Post functions.

TIME is our most precious treasure because it is LIMITED. When we give someone our TIME, we actually give a portion of our lives that we cannot take back. Our TIME is our LIFE! The best present you can give to your family, loved ones, friends and Veterans is your TIME.

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Hello 6th District.

Thank you for your confidence in electing me to lead the largest geographic District in the State of Kansas as your District Commander. I would also like to thank you for letting Pat Hewitt of Phillipsburg be our District Vice Commander. Congratulations Pat you are exactly what Phillipsburg and The American Legion needs; enthusiasm, dedication, and intelligent leadership.

Our District has some of the best Posts in Kansas. The reason is our members who are friendly, dedicated, welcoming, but most of all patriotic. That is not to say we don't have any Posts with problems. Together Pat and I, and all of our District officers will be working to help those Posts we've identified and any others who ask us to help.

Speaking of asking; that is the key to membership. We all have to ask people if they are veterans and if they will join us in helping keep America strong and to protect veterans benefits and to assist veterans who need help filing for their benefits. So every Post should begin by asking their members to ask others to join.

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DISTRICT SIX

(Continued from Page 4)

I want to ask every Post to review their life membership list to make certain each of their life members are still alive. Notify Department Headquarters of any deceased life members.

We have three planned membership drives and other events.....

The first will be in Colby, the second one will be in Phillipsburg and the third will be at my Homecoming in Concordia. More information about the Homecoming will be sent in late August. Together we can make our District number one in the state this year.

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Greetings 7th District. Summer is almost half gone and we find ourselves gearing up for another year. If you haven't done so, please turn in all of your Life Memberships. Also, please check your Post roster and make sure all of your deceased members are removed.

Does your Post have a School Recognition event such as Oratorical Recognition? What about Boys State or Cadet Law? Please ask yourself what your Post can do to help veterans and their families. If you have someone who would be interested in these programs ask Mark Radke or me how the District can help.

All of our District Officers look forward to serving you this year. I have asked each of my District Officers to join together so we can visit every Post in District 7. We also need to get the word out about what we, as The American Legion, do for our veterans and for our community. Use your local newspaper, radio, schools, and city and county meetings to let the average person know that the Legion is working for our veterans.

The District needs members to man the booth at the State Fair. Our days are September 13th and 20th. Please contact me for times available. As always, make membership renewal a top priority. We can't afford to get behind on membership. If we can help your Post in any way, Mark and I are only a phone call or email away.

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620-271-8483**

Our District and Department Conventions are behind us and now we are preparing for the National Convention in Baltimore. In the meantime we should continue working on 2015 renewals. We need to go out and knock on doors to get the holdouts to renew their current year membership. I urge the Post Adjutants to submit the 2016 renewals for all Post officers and life members now. Recruiting and retaining members should be shared by the entire Post.

The 8th District revitalization will be in Dodge City at Post 47. The dates are September 25, 26, and 27th. We will have a meet and greet and Commander's Homecoming on Saturday. The hotel choices are Super 8, Days Inn or America's Best Value Inn. When we do the revitalizations we need as many District and Post officers as possible to be there. We have people coming from all over the state to help us work the transfer list. I also want to thank all of the Legion members who have supported me. We need to keep in mind why we do this work. It would be great if we could bring all of our men and women home. All we can do is pray that they all remain safe until their return. By now all of our Posts have my phone number and email address as well as our webpage. If you and your

Put National Convention on Your Agenda

By Wes Wills,
Detachment of Kansas

In 1998 I was asked by a couple of other Kansas Sons of The American Legion members if I would be interested in attending an American Legion national convention in New Orleans. I had never been to a convention or to New Orleans, so I agreed to go. That first convention was an eye-opening experience. It was great getting to meet members from all over the country, along with learning how a national convention is run. For 13 of the next 14 conventions I was able to attend, enjoy and continue to learn about the organization.

I would like to encourage all members of the Sons of The American Legion to put attending a national convention on their future agenda. There is something for every age group and from blue cap to gold cap.

How do you go about attending? Get with your Legion department headquarters and find out how to be a delegate and how their housing arrangements are handled. You must be a registered delegate to attend a convention or meeting.

This year in Baltimore will be the 97th Legion convention and the 44th SAL convention. Fifty Five detachments will be encouraged to send their delegates to the convention. Last year in Charlotte, N.C., there were 882 delegates in attendance. This year's SAL convention will be from August 28-30.

What can you expect during the convention? Convention sessions will include awards, donations, color guard and band contests, blood drives, memorial service, a parade, and numerous exhibits with Emblem Sales merchandise. At the end of the convention the SAL leadership for next year will be elected and installed.

While in Baltimore you can attend an Orioles or Ravens game, go on a boat cruise, visit the many military exhibits or numerous sight-seeing attractions.

Post haven't signed up on mylegion.org I urge you to do so.

Until next time, God bless all of you and God bless America and The American Legion.



**DETACHMENT
COMMANDER**

Richard Strothman
2422 W. Greenfield
Wichita, KS 67217

316-990-5345



Hello all, Commander Strothman here.

The new membership year has begun. We celebrated our 37th consecutive all time high in membership. Now I am asking for everyone to push hard for our 38th consecutive year. All Squadrons need to be sure to return their old/unissued cards to Headquarters now. Let's get off to a good start by everyone getting rid of their "goose-eggs." As soon as you receive your new cards please transmit your Squadron officer's dues, it's just that easy.

If your Squadron hasn't submitted a current officer's list for

2015-2016 please do so. Not only does Headquarters use this as contact info for your Squadron but it also serves as a mailing list for Detachment mailings.

Just a reminder, we are considering doing our monthly newsletter, the SALute, strictly electronically. If your Squadron would like to receive it by e-mail please send us an e-mail for your Squadron. One e-mail per Squadron please to Wes Wills at w16wills@prodigy.net. We will continue to put the SALute on the SAL Kansas website (www.kssal.org).

Until next month.

**AUXILIARY
PRESIDENT**

Jeanne Haas
600 Arrowhead Dr.
New Strawn, KS 66839

620-364-5893



It is an honor to be a part of the leadership team for the Kansas American Legion Family. Working "Hand in Hand, Together We Stand, Keeping the Promises" The American Legion Auxiliary members pledge their help and support.

The Department of Kansas, American Legion Auxiliary was excited to learn that an American Legion Auxiliary Foundation Grant had been awarded to be used to support the Ray Miller Fitness Trail on the grounds of the Leavenworth VA Facility. The grant provided the Department the ability to provide three fitness stations along this walkway.

Remember membership is the lifeline of this organization. Renewal memberships can be sent into the Department Office or members can individually pay online beginning July 1. New members for the upcoming membership year can

be entered into the membership program on Sept. 1st.

Fall Conference is September 19th at the Emporia Post Home. On Friday evening, Sept. 18, a Diva Night to raise funds for the National President's Project, the Auxiliary Emergency Fund will be held. Units are encouraged to bring or send to Department Headquarters a minimum of \$ 10.00 to support this project. Units can also order the Junior Patriot Booklets to be picked up during Fall Conference.

If your Unit is hosting a function that you would like a Department Officer to attend, notify the Department Office and myself to place the event on the calendar and have a representative present. Working Together the Department of Kansas will continue to accomplish the promises each member made during their initiation.

IKE Memorial

(Continued from Page 1)

country — in war and peace,” she said.

The tax filings, however, show 94 percent of last year’s program funding was used to “educate the public and decision makers on issues related to the process and design” of the memorial.

It also announced journalist and “The Greatest Generation” author Tom Brokaw has joined its advisory board. Brokaw said he will not be involved in the fundraising, but he joined “as a

favor to Bob Dole.”

“I’m just hopeful this can be resolved amicably and the project can go forward, because Eisenhower deserves his permanent place on the Mall while WWII vets are still around to pay homage,” Brokaw said.

Dole is making calls on their behalf, but he is losing patience. The memorial will take three years to build, he said, and thousands of vets will die each year.

They Say There Are No Guarantees In Retirement USAA Begg To Differ

Looking for a safe haven for retirement savings? Why not consider a Flexible Retirement Annuity? Here’s what one can provide: Stability that can provide a lifetime of income during retirement; guaranteed growth without market risk (1); guaranteed rates (2); and guaranteed bonus rate for 12 months (3) (The premium bonus rate is subject to change but will never be less than 1%. The premium bonus is not available in certain states).

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designed to provide an income, usually after retirement, that cannot be outlived. There are fees, expenses, and surrender charges that may apply. Money not previously taxed is taxed as income when withdrawn. Withdrawals before age 59.5 may be subject to a 10% federal tax penalty.

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You may wish to seek independent legal or financial advice before selling or liquidating any assets and prior to the purchase of any life or annuity products. The law concerning tax and retirement plans is complex, penalties are severe, and the laws of your state may differ. Consult your tax and legal advisors regarding your specific situation.

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Is a fixed annuity the right fit for your retirement portfolio? Our licensed advisors can help you decide. For more information call 877-699-2654.

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**DEPARTMENT
CHAPLAIN**



**Glenn
Patterson**



advice, warnings, etc. I begin to think that there is nothing sacred or holy or honorable in our land. The noise it seems is calling for America to leave the path we have known for generations. In my own understanding, it is as if there is nothing sacred or holy in all the world. The values and principles that have ordered and governed humanity for thousands of years are now being cast aside.

Yet, David, Psalmist and King of Israel; has declared to His God that the ways of God are pure and holy and righteous. This has been true for America this past 200 years. In fact, Fisher Ames (1758-1808) a Founder and politician who helped formulate the Bill of Rights stated: "We gave a dangerous trend beginning to take place in our education. We're starting to put more and more textbooks into our schools... We've become accustomed of late putting little books into the hands of children containing fables and moral lessons... We are spending less time in the classroom on the Bible, which should be the principal text of our school... The Bible states these great moral lessons better than any manmade book."

So, I offer to the reader; I believe in the Holy Scriptures of the Bible as a guide for my life. It is on this foundation that I have made my way of life in ministry and in military service. It has continued to be my guide in all that I do.

I believe that as the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion states; For God and Country We Associate Ourselves... to support OUR nation is knowing what is RIGHT for America.

APPRECIATION

To Kansas American Legion:

Thank you for the honor you bestowed on me, American Legion's 2015 VA Caregiver Award. I feel that it is truly an honor. The plaque is hanging beside my desk and I display it proudly. I consider it a privilege to work so closely with veterans.

Respectfully, A. Marlene O'Shea, RN, BSN, OCN

WHAT IS RIGHT OR WRONG?
"Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes. And I shall keep it to the end."
Proverbs 119:33NKJV

As I prepare this article for the American Legion Sunflower I become aware that our society is constantly being bombarded with hearing different sounds,

VA Expands Disability Benefits for Air Force Personnel Exposed to Contaminated C-123 Aircraft

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today published a new regulation that expands eligibility for some benefits for a select group of Air Force Veterans and Air Force Reserve personnel who were exposed to the herbicide Agent Orange through regular and repeated contact with contaminated C-123 aircraft that had been used in Vietnam as part of Operation Ranch Hand (ORH).

VA published this regulation as an interim final rule so that it could immediately begin providing benefits to eligible Air Force veterans and Air Force Reserve personnel who submit a disability compensation claim for any of the 14 medical conditions that have been determined by VA to be related to exposure to Agent Orange.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald made the decision to expand benefits following receipt of a 2015 report by the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine (IOM) on Post-Vietnam Dioxin Exposure in Agent Orange-Contaminated C-123 Aircraft. This VA-requested report found evidence that as many as 1,500 to 2,100 Air Force and Air Force Reserve personnel who served as flight, medical and ground maintenance crew members on ORH C-123 aircraft previously used to spray Agent Orange in Vietnam were exposed to the herbicide.

Under this new rule, Air Force and Air Force Reserve flight, medical and ground maintenance crewmembers who served on the contaminated ORH C-123s are presumed to have been exposed to herbicides during their service, thus making it easier for them to establish entitlement for some VA benefits if they develop an Agent Orange-related presumptive condition. In addition, for affected Air Force Reserve crew members, VA will presume that their Agent Orange-related condition had its onset during their Reserve training. This change ensures that these reservists are eligible

(Continued Page 8)

+ TAPS +

Adams, William V. (WWII) Leavenworth 23	Lohfink, Leroy (WWII) Sublette
Aikins, Russell D. (Persian Gulf) Chanute	Lotker, Floyd, Jr. (WWII) Oberlin
Alexander, Robert K. (Korea)..... Salina 62	Lyman, Richard L., Jr. (Vietnam) Shawnee
Allen, Bill (WWII)..... Council Grove	Mann, Robert E. (WWII)..... Atwood
Anderson, Clair S. (WWII)..... Concordia	Mathy, James W. (Korea)..... Topeka 400
Ash, William E. (Korea) Emporia	Matney, Clyde E. (WWII)..... Ozawkie
Austin, John C. (Vietnam) Paola	Matula, Jon C. (Vietnam)..... Burrton
Bandel, Ruben R. St. Francis	McCallion, Donald E. (Korea)..... Elkhart
Barnhart, Warren L. (Korea)..... McPherson	McDermett, Clyde (Korea)..... Salina 62
Batt, Dennis D. Great Bend	McFarlin, Julius (WWII)..... Shawnee
Bernard, William H. (WWII) Winfield	Mellenbruch, J. O. (WWII)..... Fairview
Berry, Vaughn A. Overland Park	Metzker, Robert F. (Korea)..... Hays
Bigelow, Ralph L. (WWII) Wichita 401	Milburn, Harold (WWII) Hutchinson
Bihlmaier, Gene (WWII) Osborne	Miller, Carlos (WWII) Great Bend
Blees, Jimmie L. (Vietnam) Wichita 401	Mills, Albert (WWII) Hoxie
Bove, Anthony P. (WWII)..... Wichita 401	Montague, Samuel A. (WWII)..... Overland Park
Boyer, Kenneth E. (WWII)..... Hutchinson	Moore, Charles K., Sr. (WWII)..... Tonganoxie
Braun, Vance O. (Korea)..... Concordia	Moore, Charles L. (WWII)..... Overland Park
Bretz, Frank N. (WWII)..... Hoxie	Moore, Raymond R. (Vietnam) Louisburg
Brooks, Jimmy D. Hill City	Moore, Vernon (WWII)..... Fontana
Bucl, Ernest (WWII)..... LaCrosse	Morford, Woodrow (Vietnam) Oberlin
Burns, Calvin L. (Vietnam)..... Council Grove	Morgan, Earl C. (WWII)..... Chanute
Carney, Marvin (Korea)..... Coffeyville	Morrison, Pat (WWII)..... Dodge City
Carter, Kenneth E. (WWII)..... Olathe	Myers, Thomas S. (Lebanon/Grenada)..... Sterling
Caudill, Roger (Korea)..... Hanover	Nemnich, William G. (Vietnam)..... Derby/Haysville
Cerne, Al (WWII) Olathe	Ochs, Roy (Vietnam) Grainfield
Cheswick, Donald L. (Korea)..... Salina 62	Page, Walter A. (Korea) Olathe
Chevalier, Charles J. (Korea)..... Louisburg	Parks, Clifford B. (Korea)..... Yates Center
Chisham, Kenneth R. (WWII) Norton	Patrick, Charles A. (Vietnam) Olathe
Clark, Ernest (WWII)..... Valley Center	Paul, Lester L. (WWII) Hutchinson
Coats, James L. (WWII) Hill City	Paulsen, Robert V. (WWII)..... Olathe
Cooper, Jack M. (Korea)..... El Dorado	Perkins, Robert C. (Korea)..... McPherson
Copeland, Charles W. (Vietnam)..... Arkansas City	Peterson, Dwayne R. (Vietnam)..... McPherson
Corn, Mike (Vietnam)..... Wichita 401	Phye, Tommy J. (Vietnam) Harper
Cox, Lawrence D. (WWII) Concordia	Pickett, Omar J. (WWII)..... Olsburg
Cunningham, James E. (Vietnam) Wichita 273	Piper, Floyd W. (Korea) Wichita 256
Curry, C. H. (WWII) Wichita 401	Pitz, Melvin L. Topeka 400
Dayton, Roland H. (WWII) Derby/Haysville	Pyle, Thomas R. (WWII)..... Girard
Denison, William H. Olathe	Rainey, C. C. (WWII) Hutchinson
Dietrich, Lawrence J. Chanute	Randa, Steve (Vietnam) Wichita 256
Dinkel, Rudy (WWII) Grainfield	Reekie, Carl E. (Korea)..... Mulvane
Dreher, Earl W. (Vietnam) Junction City	Rhoads, James F. (WWII)..... Elkhart
Dulaney, Philip C. (Korea)..... Derby/Haysville	Richards, Johnnie L. (WWII)..... Olathe
Dunivant, Don (Korea) Chanute	Rickett, Marvin (WWII) LaCrosse
Elliott, Ivan C. (WWII) Iola	Riddle, Kenneth Coffeyville
Endres, Philip J. (WWII) Wichita 401	Riley, J. W., Sr. (WWII)..... Wellington
Fickel, Herbert L. (WWII)..... Paola	Ritchal, Joe M. (Korea)..... Pittsburg 64
Fine, Ralph (WWII)..... Junction City	Robbins, Leonard E. (WWII)..... Yates Center
Ford, Jack H. (WWII)..... Ulysses	Ross, Donald L. (Korea)..... Mulvane
Fraker, Robert (WWII)..... Oberlin	Rutschman, Floyd (Korea)..... Whitewater
Frantz, David A. (Vietnam)..... Tampa	Samuelson, Theodore C. (Korea)..... Concordia
Frazier, Johnnie C. (Korea)..... Topeka 58	Schaff, William J., Sr. (Vietnam)..... McDonald
Gates, Griffith G. (WWII)..... Manhattan	Schmitz, Julian (Korea)..... Axtell
Gay, Alvin M. (WWII)..... Chanute	Schoonover, Dolph (WWII)..... Arkansas City
Gleason, Donald J. (WWII)..... Topeka 1	Schwaller, Henry (WWII)..... Hays
Gordon, Leonard (WWII)..... Emporia	Shaffer, Lee (WWII)..... Louisburg
Gosselin, Andrew (WWII) Hill City	Sherman, Keith C. (WWII)..... Chanute
Greep, Kenneth (WWII) Longford	Shilling, Roger (Vietnam)..... Tonganoxie
Groves, Daniel (WWII) Coffeyville	Shottenkirk, Lowell E. (WWII)..... Garfield
Hames, Ray Chanute	Siebuhr, Leonard L. (Korea)..... Newton
Hansen, Ron (Lebanon/Grenada)..... Mulvane	Sigwing, Larry G. (Vietnam)..... Topeka 58
Hartman, Karl E. (WWII)..... Mulvane	Simons, Robert F. (WWII)..... Topeka 400
Hastert, Arthur L. Leavenworth 23	Slemp, John R. (WWII)..... Pittsburg 64
Hebenstrie, Ernest L. (WWII)..... Olathe	Smith, Charles A. (WWII)..... Mound City
Hedges, George (Korea)..... Chanute	Smith, Robert M. Overland Park
Heiens, William W. (Korea)..... Mulvane	Smith, Walter L. (WWII)..... Overland Park
Hickman, George, Jr. (WWII)..... Council Grove	Staat, Dale M. Manhattan
Hoefficker, Walter E. (Korea)..... Olathe	Stamm, Larry D. (Korea)..... Concordia
Hoff, Ed E. (Lebanon/Grenada)..... Pittsburg 64	Stark, Raymond C. (Vietnam)..... Overbrook
Hoppe, Fred W. (Vietnam)..... Topeka 58	Steiner, Harold (Korea)..... Beloit
Horinek, Leroy (Korea)..... Atwood	Stout, Richard R. (Vietnam)..... Chanute
Horkman, Milbern A. (WWII)..... Concordia	Streeter, Glen E. Topeka 400
Huggins, James P. (Vietnam) Topeka 400	Tamerius, Cecil G. Cuba
Hurst, Robert E. (Vietnam)..... Marquette	Thomas, James L. (Vietnam) Marquette
Ireland, David S. (Vietnam) Topeka 400	Townsend, Clarence J. (WWII)..... Blue Mound
Jantz, Fiennes H. (WWII)..... Tampa	Tucker, Carl D. Elkhart
Johnson, David R. (Vietnam)..... McDonald	Uden, Bob (Korea)..... Chanute
Jones, Charles N. (Korea)..... Topeka 400	Uthmann, E. D. (Korea)..... Chanute
Jones, Wayne L. (Korea)..... Coffeyville	Vega, Manuel J. (WWII)..... Junction City
Kahnt, Keith R. (Vietnam) White City	Vopata, Rudolph A. (WWII)..... Frankfort
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Kime, Edwin C. (Vietnam) Pittsburg 64	Watts, Dean Augusta
King, Dean (WWII) Longford	Wear, Gary C. (Vietnam)..... Kansas City 199
Kirby, Charles E. (Vietnam)..... Wichita 401	Webber, Aloysius P. Grainfield
Klitzke, Carl J. (WWII) Brownell	Wessel, Frank J. (Vietnam) Axtell
Knowles, Wayne (Korea)..... Osborne	Weyman, Bill (Korea)..... Shawnee
Ladloff, William D. (Vietnam)..... Oberlin	White, Clifford (Korea)..... Fredonia
Leaton, Paul (WWII) Kansas City 199	White, Thelbert N., Jr. (Vietnam)..... KC 199
Leiker, Erwin (Vietnam) Great Bend	Wiltz, Vincent G. Topeka 58
Leinacker, Norman L. (Korea)..... Topeka 400	Wunderle, Martin (Vietnam)..... Clifton
Leslie, Courtney B. (Persian Gulf)..... Hugoton	Yarnell, Laurel (WWII)..... Chanute
Lind, Herbert E. (Vietnam)..... Manhattan	Zink, Edward J. (WWII)..... Phillipsburg
Lingenfelter, Harold (Vietnam)..... Allen	

KANSAS SUNFLOWER LEGIONNAIRE
Jimmie L. Foster, Editor

Official publication of The American Legion, Department of Kansas and is owned exclusively by The Kansas Department. Published nine times per year. Members' subscriptions are included in dues, all other subscriptions \$10 per year. Commander Raymond Vail; Vice Commander Robert Munson; Area Vice Commander East Keith Melick; Area Vice Commander West Gary Foos; Adjutant, Jimmie Foster; Asst. Adjutant Jeff Bond, National Executive Committeeman Dave Warnken; Alternate NEC Elgin Wahlborg; Chaplain R. Glenn Patterson; Judge Advocate John O. Sanderson; Historian Joe Johnston; Masters-at-Arms Harold Scheaffer and George Grimm.

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News deadline is the 15th of each month for the next issue.

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

IMPOSTER SCAMS

You get a call or an email. It might say you've won a prize. It might seem to come from a government official. Maybe it seems to be from someone you know - your grandchild, a relative, or a friend. Or maybe it's from someone you *feel* like you know, but your haven't met in person - say, a person you met online who you've been writing to.

Whatever the story, the request is the same: wire money to pay taxes or fees, or to help someone you care about.

But is the person who you think it is? Is there an emergency or a prize? Judging by the complaints to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the answer is no. The person calling you is pretending to be someone else.

Here's what you can do:

1. Stop. Check it out - before you wire money to anyone. Call the person, the government agency, or someone else you trust. Get the real story. Then decide what to do. No government agency will ever ask you to wire money.

2. Pass this information on to a friend. You may not have gotten one of these calls or emails. But the chances are you know someone who has.

Want to know more? Sign up for scam alerts at ftc.gov/subscribe. Please report scams. If you spot a scam, please report it to the Federal Trade Commission. Call the FTC at 877-FTC-HELP (877-328-4357) or TTY 866-563-4261. Go online: ftc.gov/complaint

Your complaint can help protect other people. By filing a complaint, you can help the FTC's investigators identify the imposters and stop them before they can get someone's hard earned money. It really makes a difference.

VA Expands Disability Benefits

(Continued from Page 7)

for VA disability compensation and medical care for any Agent Orange-related presumptive condition, and that their surviving dependents are eligible for dependency and indemnity compensation and burial benefits.

The interim final rule can be found on the Federal Register: www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection. VA will immediately begin processing claims and issuing benefits to eligible Air Force crew members.

VA encourages reservists who were assigned to flight, ground or medical crew duties at Lockbourne/Rickenbacker Air Force Base in Ohio (906th and 907th Tactical Air Groups or 355th and 356th Tactical Airlift Squadron), Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts (731st Tactical Air Squadron and 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron) or Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, International Airport (758th Airlift Squadron) during the period 1969 to 1986, and developed an Agent Orange-related disability to file a disability compensation claim online through the joint VA-Department of Defense web portal, eBenefits (<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/>).

VA also has identified several active duty locations where ORH C-123 aircraft may have been used following their service in Vietnam. Active duty personnel who served in a regular USAF unit location where a contaminated C-123 was assigned and who had regular and repeated contact with the aircraft through flight, ground or medical duties during the period 1969 to 1986, and who develop an Agent Orange-related disability, also are encouraged to apply for benefits. For more information on applying for these benefits, including the affected units, Air Force Specialty Codes and dates of service for affected crew members, and a listing of Agent Orange-related conditions, visit www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/agentorange-c123.asp

LIT Products and Services Exclusively for Legion Families

The Legion families in this Department are very fortunate to be part of something that has been around almost half a century – the Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT). The Department joined with the other 49 Departments that make-up the LIT. The LIT became this Department's sponsored insurance program and remains so today. Make no mistake, the broad range of insurance products and services found under the LIT umbrella are your products and services. These products and services are not available to just anyone – other veterans included – but only to members of this Department's Legion Family.

By combining this Department's insurance programs with the other LIT participating Departments, we can be assured our products and services are continually reviewed and updated (plus new programs added) so that you have access to the best selection possible. The oversight of the programs of the LIT is done by a Board of Trust Directors – one Legionnaire Director from each participating Department. Like most Legion "jobs," it is an unpaid appointment so the Director is serving on your behalf and not his; which is one more way to make sure you are get-

ting the best possible coverage when you buy through your Department.

Again, this Department sponsors a broad range of insurance products and services – ranging from the "no-cost" AD&D to HOSPITAL HELP to CANCER CARE to Emergency Assistance + (EA+) to Medicare Supplement and more - so one or more will likely fill a need or void in your family's insurance portfolio. But, let's talk a bit about buying insurance – the best way to buy is to shop, compare, and then purchase the coverage from a source you trust. We invite you to compare this Department's endorsed products with any on the market and then you can buy with the confidence of over 49 years of continuous service to Legion families behind the LIT. (By the way, buying through the LIT also helps the Department in its ability to serve our veterans and the communities.)

To learn more about your Department's insurance products and services please call the LIT's administrator at (800) 235-6943 or check-out the programs at www.theLIT.com. Either way, there will be no hard-sell or obligation to buy when you do.

Exciting Announcement from the Legionnaire Insurance Trust

We are excited to announce two great changes to LegionCare, your No-Cost AD&D Program

Starting right now and for enrollments after 1/1/2015, anyone enrolled in LegionCare will be covered for as long as they maintain their membership in The American Legion. This new "one and done" approach will save from needing to re-enroll every 5 years. The LegionCare program will continue to cover you for \$1,000 of AD&D coverage plus provide the added benefit of up to \$5,000 if the accidental loss occurs when on "official Legion business." *

We want you to know too, LegionCare is now available to all members of the Legion Family including the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members 18 years and older. The Legionnaire Insurance Trust has been working hard to provide valuable benefits to your entire family and we look forward to continuing to serve veterans' insurance needs.

To enroll, please visit www.TheLIT.com now.

- Bonus benefit for Legion business travel in not available in MN and NH.