

Sunflower Legionnaire

The American Legion -



Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

VOL LXIX NO. 3

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2015

National Vice Commander Alan Davis, Sr. Midwest Region



ALAN DAVIS, SR.

Al Davis, a Navy veteran from Princeton, Minn., and former Department of Minnesota commander will be visiting the Department of Kansas from 11 to 16 November 2015. NVC Davis will be in the Western Side of Kansas assisting in the District Membership Revitalizations and visiting numerous Posts.

A schedule will be available in the near future. Davis is a member of American Legion Post 347 in Beroun, Minnesota. He has held numerous leadership positions at every level of the Legion.

Seeking Office Assistant for Leavenworth VA

The Kansas Department is accepting resumes for the American Legion Office Assistant position at the Leavenworth VA Hospital. It is a full-time salaried position, salary negotiable, with medical insurance, dental insurance, life insurance, 401(k), paid holidays, paid vacation and paid sick leave. For more information and to apply for this position, go to kansasworks.com Job# 9775078.

Mid-Winter Forum February 5-7, 2016

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

This year's Forum scheduled for February 5-7 and hosted by Hays Post 173, 1305 Canterbury, in Hays. Friday, February 5, will include a Department Executive Committee meeting at 4pm, followed by socializing at Post 173.

On Saturday, February 6 activities begin with a joint Legion/Auxiliary/SAL meeting at Post 173 at 8am. After the joint Legion meeting the Legion will remain at the Post for its Legion specific meeting, the SAL will meet in the Small Meeting Room Lounge, and the Auxiliary will meet in the canteen for their meetings.

Sunday's schedule will include a Four Chaplains Memorial Service at the Post followed by a wrap up of reports and lunch.

Although the agenda for the Forum is still in its earliest stages of planning it isn't too early to reserve your room at one of the following motels: Fairfield Inn, 377 W. Mopar Drive, 785-625-3344, rate is \$94; and the Holiday Inn Express, 4650 Roth Ave., 785-625-8000, rate is \$114. Be sure to tell them you are a part of the Kansas American Legion room block in order to receive the reduced rates per room per night.

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

The January issue of this newspaper will include the complete Mid-Winter Forum schedule, meals, etc. Plan to attend and ask a fellow Legionnaire to attend with you.

LEGION BOWLING TOURNAMENT

The 69th Annual American Legion Bowling Tournament will be held at Seneca Bowl in Wichita. The dates for the tournament are January 9-10, 16-17, and 23-24, 2016.

Reserved entries close at Midnight, November 20, 2015. Regular entries close at midnight, December 10, 2015. The tournament features singles, doubles, and team competition. Doubles

and singles will compete on Saturdays at 1:00 PM, and 5:00 PM. Team competition will be held on Sundays at 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM.

Additional information on the event and entry forms may be obtained by calling 620-343-6112 or 620-794-5561. Entry forms can also be obtained from the American Legion State Headquarters at 1314 SW Topeka Blvd.

BIG RED '1' TURKEY RUN & CHRISTMAS TOYS FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS



The 8th Annual Big Red '1' Turkey Run will be Saturday, November 21 at Fort Riley. The Turkey Run is for the military families of the Warrior Transition Battalion. These families often find themselves transitioning out of the active military or may remain active.

Last year 750 families were assisted, and this year an estimated 600 families are in transition. Volunteers are needed to gather food as well as to distribute the food at Ft. Riley on November 21. Many members of the Warrior Transition Battalion have been severely injured, the volunteers will be able to show them the face of The American Legion when they load the food into cars for those needing assistance.

In addition to the Turkey Run the Legion Family is working on making the Warrior Transition Battalion's Christmas a bit brighter. The Legion Family is expecting to distribute over 1,000 presents to these families.

The goal to accomplish a successful Turkey Run and Christmas gift giving is \$50,000. Monetary donations may be sent to Department Headquarters for either the Turkey Run, Christmas or both. etc. Please make the check out to: The ALR Warrior Fund and note Big Red One Turkey Run/Christmas Program. Thank you for your past and future support of this very special event for our warriors and their families.

COMMANDER

Ray Vail
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Arma, KS 66712
913-416-9073



CHILDREN

&

YOUTH

DeeDee
Danin
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VICE COMMANDER

Robert Munson
215 W. 18th St.
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Hello Kansas Legionnaires, Fall is here and things have not slowed down for us but that's a good thing for that means our American Legion is active and working.

This September we had the honor of hosting our National Commander, Dale Barnett and his aide Mr. Dewey Moss from the Department of Georgia. I want to thank each and every Post, and their members, for hosting the Commander and for the warm reception and great meals. As all ways, the Kansas American Legion Family members made us proud and the Commander asked me to give everyone his thanks for a great time in Kansas and he is looking forward to seeing you all at the National Convention.

After we turned him over to Missouri we met up with him again at the World War One Memorial for one of his veterans walks. Commander Barnett urges all Legion family members to organize and participate in walks for veterans this year to help bring awareness to veterans and their needs.

I had the opportunity to attend the Fall Conference at National Headquarters again this year. This is when we get to meet the National Vice Commanders and have Membership meetings to set our goals for the coming year. It is always an interesting time where you get to see how the National Executive Committee works. I just returned home from Indianapolis and Cincinnati where the Department Adjutant, Jimmie Foster and I visited the Hotel where the Kansas Delegation will be staying for the 2016 National Convention. I think it is a good location away from the inner city and all rooms will be remodeled by the time we get

there. I hope we have a good Delegation turn out this year. I got back in town in time to attend the 2nd District Homecoming for Commander Charlie Grieco. Linda and I enjoyed visiting with every one and we thank all for inviting us. We had a great time being with so many good friends. We enjoy visiting each and every Post and being a part of your special events. We can't always make everyone of them but, we do try to make as many as we can.

The District revitalizations are half way thru by now and for the most part there has not been much input from the Posts. We need more interest from the general membership to help so the work for the revitalizations will be productive. There has been a lot of time put into them by the Post, District, Department, and National personally to help boost our membership. If every member would sign up one new member each year then we would not have a problem with membership. The eligible veterans are out there, all we have to do is ask **ARE YOU A VETERAN** when you talk to some one who you think may be a veteran. District officers need to be active and contact each Post in their District and help where needed. Help the ones who want help go to the ones who want success. Plan your schedule, work with the Post that will and help themselves and convince the others to do the same. We all must keep trying if we want to continue to grow. I am proud to be a part of this Kansas American Legion Family and I'm sure we will meet our goal this year. Thank you all for what you do and may God bless you all and keep our troops safe.

Dear Legionnaires, Family and Friends,

With my time spent with, and the recent passing of, our friend Eduardo, as well as attending our Children and Youth Committee in Indianapolis, I have gathered more insights as to how The American Legion of Kansas compares to those elsewhere in The American Legion.

Point 1. Eduardo and I have, upon several occasions, tried to encourage the other participants in the Oratorical Scholarship Program to work together planning and encouraging contestants by encouraging all Posts within all Districts to receive the same training and active hands on outreach so every Post; no matter how distant, could give their children an opportunity to achieve. The one opportunity provided showed little interest. This was disheartening.

He provided his report to me for his duration as Oratorical Chair in the Fifth District. There are some Districts who have yet to participate, let alone Posts.

As Oratorical Chairperson of any District, I believe it is the ultimate responsibility to maintain a constant connection to each and every Post giving them all information needed so that Post Chair can do the job with the best abilities available to those children who may come to them for help. It is **NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY** of the area High School Counselor to do our work, however; they do play an important role and should also be contacted directly by Post Chairs in their local vicinity.

Possibilities of future coordination between all Post Officers and Chairpersons from all The American Legion Family groups within each District where coordinated efforts of training and encouragement joined together could promote the maximum results for our scholarship programs and reporting as a whole.

Happy Fall American Legion Family. Summer is over and the leaves are turning. Holidays are just around the corner.

The National Convention in Baltimore was interesting and informative. It was great to see so many there from Kansas.

We have been busy this fall with revitalization. Membership is very vital and important to our organization. Let's all get out there and get as many members as we can before the new year!

I want to thank District 6 Commander, Chad Lowell and the members of Post 76 in Concordia for all their hard work helping Post 133 of Belleville to reopen. They organized a benefit for Belleville to have the funds so they could reorganize their charter.

It was a great honor and pleasure to represent our great Legion Family at the Eisen-

hower Pilgrimage. Thank you to everyone that attended my Homecoming afterwards.

I want to take this opportunity to again thank everyone for the continued outpouring of love and support through the death of my son. As you know by now, his body was found after two weeks of searching for him. As we are greatly relieved that he has been found, we still have no answers as to the cause of his death. Many thanks to all who attended his memorial service. We will have graveside services on November 14 and are praying for closure by then.

As the Holidays approach us, I wish everyone a very blessed Thanksgiving. May you all enjoy your families as well as your American Legion Family.

May God bless our troops, God bless our American Legion Family, and our vets, and God bless America!!!!

HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Department Oratorical Chairman Mike Oppy has set the State Oratorical Scholarship Contest for 9 AM, Saturday, March 19 at American Legion Post #17 in Manhattan. Rules and contestant entry forms are available online at www.ksamlegion.org.

Listed below is each District's Chairman, their address and phone number along with the date, time and location of their District contest:

District I Chairman A. C. Byrd, 14187 Nottingham Dr., Leavenworth, 66048, 913-727-1472; TBA.

District II Chairmen Rick Miller, 1709 E. Sheridan Bridge Lane, Olathe 66062, 913-393-1474; TBA.

District III Chairman Everett Wilnerd, PO Box 162, Howard, 67349, 620-374-2318; TBA.

District IV Chairman Eszter Blair, 403 Dixon Ave., Green, 67447, 785-447-2577; TBA.

District V Chairman Dee Dee Danin, 3032 N. Tee Time, Wichita, 67205, 316-773-2341; TBA.

District VI Chairman Everett Miller, 430 W. 17th t., Concordia, 66901, 785-243-1920; TBA.

District VII Chairman Max Alber, PO Box 261, Little River, 67457, 620-897-6225; TBA

District VIII Chairman Alvin Schugart, 13777 BB Road, Bazine, 67516, 785-398-2307; TBA.

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

Dan Bartlett
 2200 SW Gage
 Topeka, KS 66622
 800-574-8387 ext. 54489
 Dan.bartlett@med.va.gov

I Served in the Active Military. Yes, I'm One!

Over 280,000 women have served in Afghanistan or Iraq since September 11, 2001.

If you are a woman who served in the active military service, it is important that you know that you are a Veteran. Women have served in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts in unprecedented numbers, making up eight percent of U.S. Veterans.

Currently, women account for 20 percent of new recruits, 14.5 percent of the active duty force (1.4 million), and 18 percent of the 850,000 reserve force. About 280,000 women have served in Afghanistan or Iraq since September 11, 2001.

Yet, when you returned, you may have felt isolated, unacknowledged and invisible in a civilian society that either couldn't fathom what you've been through, or discounts your military experience as somehow less challenging than that of male Veterans. In a recent study, only 37 percent of women Veterans indicated they felt "recognized, respected and valued as Veterans in civilian life."

VA's Women's Health Services (WHS) is sponsoring an "I'm One" campaign to raise awareness of VA benefits available for women Veterans through VBA and VHA. The campaign is designed to increase knowledge of what it means to be a Veteran and help women who served in the United States Uniformed Services identify as Veterans.

VA Health Benefits:

Women are becoming the fastest growing group within the Veteran population. VA Health Benefits (<http://www.va.gov/health/>) include all the necessary inpatient hospital care and outpatient services to promote, preserve, or restore women Veterans' health. VHA medical facilities provide a wide range of services including traditional hospital-based services such as surgery, critical care, mental health, orthopedics, pharmacy, radiology, gynecology, maternity and physical therapy.

VA provides a full spectrum of medically necessary services, based on the judgment of your VA primary care provider and in accordance with generally accepted standards of clinical practice. These services include: Preventive Care Services, Primary Care Services, including all women's health primary care, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Inpatient Care Services, Ancillary Services Specialty Care Services, Emergency Care, Mental Health Care, Additional VA Health Care Services and Non-Medical Veteran Services.

Participate in VA health benefits explorer (<http://hbexplorer.vacloud.us/>) to learn what VA health care benefits you could receive as an enrolled Veteran. Afterwards, take advantage of the VA health benefits you qualify for by applying for enrollment (<http://www.va.gov/HEALTHBENFITS/apply/index.asp>).

HISTORIAN**JOE JOHNSTON**

The American Legion strongly encourages the preparation of Post histories. Every Post should have a historian to inscribe the happenings of the Post. When compiling a Post history, if the outline in the Legion's Officers Guide is followed and submitted to the Department of judging you might win \$50 and a nice plaque. The winners of the Department contest are sent to Indianapolis for judging in the National Contest. Kansas books have won in the past.

Compiling a Post history does not need to be a one person job, several people can help. As the Officers Guide points out, there are two formats, a one year narrative and a one year scrap book, the Officers Guide lays out the two types.

If you don't have a current Officers Guide the Department will send you one. My cell phone number is 785-412-0547, if you have any questions be sure to give me a call.

WINNERS OF AMERICAN FLAGS AT STATE FAIR

The following individuals won an American Flag set during the State Fair by registering in the drawing conducted in Department Headquarter's booth.

Chris Hendrix, Salina; Mary Lee, Hutchinson; Andrea Jaso, Newton; Mark McCabe, Hutchinson; Mike Worm, Webber; Stephen Bowman, Hutchinson; Greg and Sandy Swob, Hays; Kevin Stoecker, Hutchinson; and Chelsie Ramirez, Roeland Park.

Congratulations to all the winners. Fly Old Glory with pride!

Why Won't National or Department Fix My Post? (Follow-up)

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

In the last edition of The Sunflower Legionnaire, I addressed the question, "Why Won't National or Department Fix My Post?". Another question that has arisen, on several occasions, is "If Department doesn't have day-to-day operational responsibility over the Posts, then why can't Posts just do whatever they want?"

The answer lies in The American Legion Post Charter application process and most Post Bylaws.

When a Post applies for a Charter, it acknowledges the authority of the National and Department Constitutions and Bylaws by certifying as follows:

We hereby further agree to uphold the principles of THE AMERICAN LEGION and to comply with all rules and regulations prescribed by the Department and National Organizations of The American Legion.

Additionally, when a Post applies for a Supplemental Charter after incorporating with the State, it once again acknowledges National and Department authority by certifying as follows:

This Post has since its incorporation continued its allegiance to the National Constitution and Bylaws of The American Legion and the Kansas Department thereof, and the National organization of The American Legion and the Kansas Department have continued to recognize said Post as a subordinate unit of The American Legion of said Department regardless of its Incorporation.

Great Clips donates \$10K to Legion's Buzz Cut Challenge

This past Sunday morning with representatives from Great Clips and a group of Boys Scouts who participated in the Legion's Buzz Cut Challenge. The Scouts got buzz cuts during the segment, and Great Clips donated \$10,000 on behalf of the Scouts to the Legion to assist the organization's efforts in supporting veterans, the military and their families. "With donations like

The said Post in its corporate capacity makes application for a Supplemental Charter and by said application, it acknowledges and will continue to be bound by all the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of The American Legion and the Department of Kansas and any and all amendments thereof, and supplements thereto, or repealers thereof, now existing or which in the future may be adopted, as well as all the rules, regulations and orders heretofore or hereafter, promulgated in pursuance thereof.

Wow, that is quite a mouthful! Obviously, lawyers were around even back in 1919, too.

When we check our Post Bylaws, we normally find a provision similar to the following:

These articles are hereby adopted as the Bylaws of this Post and each and all thereof is subject to the provisions of the National Constitution and Department Bylaws of The American Legion. Any provision of any amendment of said National Constitution or Department Bylaws which may be in conflict with any of the provisions hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of these Bylaws to the extent of any conflict.

So, that's it in a nutshell. Why can't Posts do whatever they want? Because they made a promise; they entered into a contract and agreed to comply with the rules, regulations and orders of the National and Department organizations.

this, we'll be able to continue to advocate for veterans' health and navigate through the VA system, and just (do) all kinds of things that veterans need," Verna Jones, Executive Director of The American Legion, Washington, D.C. Officer said. "We're so grateful for Great Clips – and for our relationship with the Boys Scouts." Great Clips' Nicole Massey also an-

(Continued Page 6)

**FIRST DISTRICT
COMMANDER
GARY JACKMAN
304 NE Mimosa Lane
Topeka 66617
785-220-2392
VICE CMDR.
DARREL FARMER
723 Parkway St.
Clay Center 67432
785-630-1351**

Comrades,
The holiday are on the way. I hope all veterans had a great Veterans Day.

The First District Christmas Party is December 12 in Rossville, 3:30 PM is dinner. The reason for being early is because you never know about weather in Kansas in December.

The District Revitalization is November 19-21 at Post 400 in Topeka. I would like to have someone from every Post stop in and pick up information for their Post and help get membership up. The District is in 6th place, and we need to be number one. Please get out and get new and reinstated members to help The American Legion and their programs.

**SECOND DISTRICT
COMMANDER
CHARLES GRIECO
7933 Oakview Dr.
Lenexa 66215
913-208-8734
VICE CMDR.
SCOTT WILLIAMS
6634 Noland
Shawnee 66216
913-322-1968**

Greetings Legionnaires!
The fall season is upon us as this year rapidly moves on.

The Second District did a nice job with membership through September, however, we have a goal to meet. Membership is still our #1 priority. We must make every effort to continue to look for new members and keep the pressure on active members to bring their dues current. We don't want to lose any current members so actively work your lists and follow up to get results. Remember work as a team with the Auxiliary, Sons Squadrons and Legion Riders we want all units to be at 100% by May

30, 2016 to be awarded the National Commander's Honor Ribbon. Team work, it can be done!

Thank you to all who came out to meet the National Commander, Dale Barnett, it was an enjoyable evening. The Commander's motto is easy for all Legionnaires to relate to daily: Duty, Honor, and Country. Post Commander Miller and members did an excellent job hosting the visit and dinner.

Thanks to all who attended the Eisenhower Pilgrimage and the Vice Commander's Homecoming, it was an enjoyable trip. If you have never attended the Eisenhower Ceremony I would suggest you plan to attend next year, it is well worth the short trip.

Dianna McElroy, Chris Hicks and I would like to express our appreciation for all who attended our joint Homecoming last month it was an enjoyable gathering.

REMINDEERS:
Paola Membership Rally 11/1/15

E- Board Meeting Second District Officers 11/1/15

Veterans Day 11/11/15
A&D Insurance has increased to \$5,000 make sure you have signed up not sure call 1-800-235-6943 have your membership card when you call to give them your number.

The Officers of the Second District and I want to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

**THIRD DISTRICT
COMMANDER
CLINT WILLIARD
25134 52nd Road
Atlanta 67008
620-243-2700
VICE CMDR.
LARRY LANGHORST
704 S. D St.
Arkansas City 67005
620-442-0426**

Greetings Third District, as we come into the holiday season let us remember the troops protecting this great nation who can't be with their families and loved ones and thank them for protecting our freedoms which we have.

Membership is looking well for the District but keep going, we need a lot more renewals

and new members to reach our goal of 100%.

As most of you know at National Convention the due's increase of \$5.00 was approved and will go into affect in January 2016. The current due's price will be accepted up till the end of December 2015 any dues paid after that will have to pay the new price, to save yourself \$5.00 get those dues paid now.

The Vice-Commander & I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a blessed New Year. Be careful and be safe in your holiday travels and may God be with each and everyone. May God bless and protect our country, our troops, and each one of you.

**FOURTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
ESZTER BLAIR
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Green 67447
785-447-2577
VICE CMDR.
TOM TSCHANTZ
209 Miami St.
Burlington 66839
620-490-0647**

It seems that this year is flying by. The 4th District Legion Family Homecoming in Hillsboro was great. We had a wonderful turnout and the Post Family went out of their way to make us feel comfortable.

The National Commander's visit through our District was truly amazing. So many Posts and so many Legion Family members came out to honor Commander Dale Barnett and to hear what he wanted to accomplish during his tour of duty. I was proud of all of you for your hard work and dedication to the Legion.

There have been many local Legion events happening across our District and I am so happy to see and hear how we work with our communities, our soldiers and our veterans. We have our District Membership drive the first weekend in November in Junction City. Please make sure that you have a Post representative at the Junction City Post to pick up your packet and to get the orientation brief Thursday morning.

Also to remind your mem-

bers old and new that there will be a VSO at the Junction City Post Saturday afternoon to answer any questions they may have.

On Saturday, November 21, we will be having our annual Big Red One Turkey Run at the WTB at Fort Riley. This is one event that you all need to come and see, it is truly heartfelt. Then three weeks later we go back for Project North Pole... always looking for a few good elves! Have a safe and Happy Holiday season, God Bless.

**FIFTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
TERRY MARR
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Wichita 67216
316-640-4633
VICE CMDR.
RICK LOWERY
2201 S. Anna St., #3
Wichita 67209
316-990-1003**

Thank you all for your support as your 2015-2016 5th District Commander. We have dropped in the Department in membership and we're almost half way there (64%) in the first 4 months of our new membership year. Let's keep up the pace we're going at. Have your Post Membership Teams contact each member and ask them to renew. We're not there yet, but we're closer than we were yesterday! Let's not wait until the end of the year to make a big push for 100%, let's do it NOW. Encourage your members to pay their dues NOW, to avoid the \$5 increase after January 2016.

At our District revitalization at Post 408 in Derby, Oct 22-24 we will contact those who have not renewed and transfer members who belong to National and Headquarters Posts. I look forward to all Post Commanders and members from every Post in the district present. Let's have every post and the District at 100% before Dec 31st.

Our National Commander Dale Barnett had a great visit to Kansas and I want to personally thank every Post that hosted the Commander, Department, and District staff members. We were all impressed with the hospitality and camaraderie you showed and shared with us

all. Everyone enjoyed themselves at the Eisenhower Pilgrimage on October 10 and the Homecoming luncheon for the Department Vice Commander, Auxiliary President and SAL Commander in Abilene. A great turnout and great time was had by all.

I personally want to thank Gary and Myrna Rogers from Augusta who spearheaded the Butler County Government Day. Over 220 students from 6 of the 11 High Schools in the county were present for the educational tour that included the County Commissioners, County Clerk, Tax Office & Voting, Judicial Center, County Jail facility, EMS, Sheriff, Fire, Rescue vehicles and other County offices. It was a very educational and interesting tour. A special thanks to the County Commissioners for the lunch and the Auxiliary for preparing the lunch.

Our National Vice Commander Midwest Region Adjutant Davie will be touring Kansas in mid November. Please make a point to watch for the schedule and visit one of the Posts in the district where he will be touring.

Thank you and hope to see all of you in the coming year as I visit your posts and your post functions. Contact me any time if you'd like me to attend a meeting, or attend a function at your Post. I'd be happy to attend either.

There are FOUR things you cannot recover in life:
The STONE after it's thrown.
The WORD after it's said.
The OCCASION after it's missed.
The TIME after it's gone.
So live life to the fullest & regret nothing!



**Veterans Day
November 11
2015**

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

November is the most important month to veterans second only to May's Memorial Day. Armistice Day, now known as Veterans Day, provided our founders the inspiration to organize The American Legion during the Paris Caucus the following March, our third most important month. Legion Founders laid the ground work for THE premiere Veterans Service Organization in the world, not just the largest.

We're the largest because our Founders wrote a Constitution and Bylaws which has stood the test of time. We are bound to follow the Constitution and Bylaws no matter our station or perceived authority; from every dues paying Legionnaire up to the National Commander. Everyone must adhere to the Constitution and Bylaws on every level; and if there is any question, we refer to Roberts Rules of Order as directed by the National and Department Constitution and Bylaws.

Our Founders commitment to the original principles of the Legion have shaped the lives of veterans and American society. Time has proven we must always hold our government accountable; the care and treatment of veterans is an ongoing process. We must never rest on our laurels or leave it up to others to carry the burden. Recent VA scandals have proven The American Legion is still needed. World War I Founders set in motion the example to be carried on by all veterans.

Politicians pay attention to the Legion and our numbers. You as a Legionnaire are very important to our organization and all veterans present and future. We must remind our communities what Veterans Day is all about. Whether it is just visiting schools and explaining to youngsters what it means to be a veteran; that duty called and

we served. Or if it is a parade or a remembrance ceremony at your local Post or cemetery, remind everyone Veterans Day is more than just a day when merchants have sales. Remind them why they are free to hold those sales.

Speaking of reminders, have you paid your 2016 dues to your Post? If not, please do so before Veterans Day. You can do it online at www.legion.org/renew.

**SEVENTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
TERRY WARNER**
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785-259-8323
**VICE CMDR.
MARK RADKE**
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Sterling 67579
620-204-8508

Greetings District 7 Legionnaires. It has been a busy summer. November is the month we concentrate on Veterans Day, conduct County Government Day, and prepare for our Department Christmas Party.

Our Membership Revitalization at Hutchinson Post 68 is over but we are still tying up loose ends and still working on the smaller Posts.

Also, on MyLegion.org is an American Legion Education Institute or A.L.E.I. This is an online course that is very good in familiarizing yourself with the American Legion Programs and Goals. It is an essential part of training for you in case you would like to move up to the District Level and even higher. It is also a good online program for any member who would like to learn more about The American Legion.

I want to thank Hutchinson Post 68 for making the District 7 Revitalization a success. So much of our internal strife as a nation is caused by everyone finding fault and complaining about someone else. I realize we all have different opinions but I also realize how blessed I am to have a District where we all work to further The American Legion agenda and keep harmony among ourselves. It is only by following The American Legion Constitution and By-

Laws that we are able to function as a single entity. So, do not give up or back off but stand firm in our American Legion beliefs and let's continue to work together as fellow Legionnaires to make this country great again.

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**VICE CMDR.
LARRY HALL**
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Sublette 67877
620-271-8483

Greetings Eighth District. Well, September is in the history book along with October and the 97th National Convention. By now everyone probably knows that our new National Commander is Dale Barnett.

October was a busy month. October 10, 2015 was the 34th annual Eisenhower Pilgrimage for our 34th President.

We had a great turnout at the National Convention in Baltimore Maryland. No, we didn't see any rioting in the streets, but there was a demonstration in front of the courthouse on Wednesday before we left to come home.

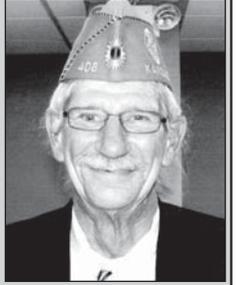
I have some exciting news about the Syracuse Post #27. They have an ongoing renovation and are getting close to completion. They will have an open house at that time. I plan on doing a big story on the Post with photos of before and after and will submit it to National for consideration as a publication in the National newsletter. As you may know we write our letters for the Sunflower a few weeks in advance.

Also, I'm still working on a District wide Honor Guard. So far in August we have had 5 funerals in western Kansas. The very last thing we can do for our veterans is make sure they are buried with the honor and respect that they earned by wearing the uniform and standing in defense of our nation. I'll close with that being said. God bless America and may God bless The American Legion.



**DETACHMENT
COMMANDER**

Richard Strothman
2422 W. Greenfield
Wichita, KS 67217
316-990-5345



Team Kansas:

I had the opportunity to attend the Fall SAL NEC (National Executive Committee) meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana. What an experience! Between meeting with other Detachment Commanders and attending some of the National Committee meetings the weekend was extremely informative. The amount of work conducted at the National level in one weekend is truly impressive. Our Team Kansas members appointed to National positions and Committees/Commissions are to be commended for all their efforts during NEC weekend.

I would like to thank everyone for the invites to the Dis-

trict Homecomings. Although I could not make them all, I do appreciate the invitations and your hard work on behalf of the SAL.

Congratulations to Team Kansas for achieving the National Membership Target Dates so far. However, we still have some "goose-eggs" to eliminate. Think of where our membership would be without the "goose-eggs." Let's get rid of the "goose-eggs" and work together towards achieving 100% in membership.

The Holiday season is fast approaching. Be sure to take the time to remember and thank our veterans for their service this Holiday season.

Until next time.

**AUXILIARY
PRESIDENT**

Jeanne Haas
600 Arrowhead Dr.
New Strawn, KS 66839
620-364-5893



With the holiday season upon us, there are so many opportunities for the American Legion Family to honor and celebrate. I hope members of each Unit will honor our veterans currently serving or who have served in some way on Wednesday, November 11th, Veterans Day. If your Unit is not able to help with a community celebration, members can send cards, make visits and phone calls and even leave a cookie or treat as a thank you. Engage all members in this special day of Thanks. Celebrate National Education Week from the November 15th to the 20th. Show appreciation to educators and staff for their service to the future of America. November 22nd to the 28 is National Family Week and includes the Thanksgiving holiday. Spend time with family and/or "adopted" family members making memories. The

President's project of the Junior Patriot booklets can be ordered through the Department Headquarters to increase visibility of our organization for any of these holiday celebrations. Gifts shops, Christmas parties and Unit meetings and trainings take place throughout November and December. Contact the office or myself for dates and times if needed.

Don't forget to stop by the Department office for cake on Tuesday, November 10th to celebrate the 96th Anniversary of the birth of the American Legion Auxiliary. The celebration takes place from 1 PM until 3 PM.

Remember the future is in your hands; as we walk hand in hand together may the members of the American Legion Family celebrate, remember, and engage by honoring, sharing and laughing. Happy Holidays!

KAL 500 AND 200-499

Headquarters has held a "KAL 500" membership race among Posts with a Quota of 500 or more. Posts earn \$20 lap money at the first of each month from August to December with the Post in first place in January being awarded \$100.

Three years ago Headquarters began conducting a "KAL 200-499" membership contest

for Posts with Quotas in the 200 to 499 range. The prize money is the same as the KAL 500.

In the past, monthly results have only been sent to the Posts. Following are the Posts, their Quota, Total Members, Percentage, and encouraging comments.

KAL 500:

POST LISTINGS	QUOTA 10/01/2015	MEMBERS	PERCENT
1. OLATHE	922	638	69.20%
2. SHAWNEE	637	431	67.66%
3. HUTCHINSON	962	607	65.55%
4. TOPEKA 400	1116	730	65.41%
5. EMPORIA	577	368	63.78%
6. MANHATTAN	794	504	63.48%
7. OVERLAND PARK	1180	725	61.44%
8. JUNCTION CITY	539	278	51.58%
9. TOPEKA 1	811	304	37.48%

KAL 200-499

POST LISTINGS	QUOTA 10/01/2015	MEMBERS	PERCENT
1. TOPEKA #421	226	172	76.11%
2. CONCORDIA	452	339	75.00%
3. PAOLA	229	168	73.36%
4. CHANUTE	440	311	70.68%
5. EL DORADO	303	205	67.66%
6. ATCHISON	269	181	67.29%
7. WICHITA #401	394	265	67.26%
8. ARKANSAS CITY	402	268	66.67%
9. GREAT BEND	337	224	66.47%
10. MULVANE	468	311	66.45%
11. Leavenworth #23	397	260	65.49%
12. Derby/Haysville	349	226	64.76%
13. WICHITA #4	278	180	64.75%
14. WELLINGTON	254	164	64.57%
15. MCPHERSON	393	252	64.12%
16. LAWRENCE	447	285	63.76%
17. OZAWKIE	318	202	63.52%
18. ERIE	202	127	62.87%
19. SALINA	449	282	62.81%
20. IOLA	201	126	62.69%
21. NEWTON	345	215	62.32%
22. PITTSBURG #64	377	234	62.07%
23. MARYSVILLE	327	197	60.24%
24. KC #199	254	153	60.24%
25. COFFEYVILLE	238	143	60.08%
26. LOUISBURG	213	127	59.62%
27. INDEPENDENCE	252	148	58.73%
28. WINFIELD	381	221	58.01%
29. HAYS	470	272	57.87%
30. WICHITA #256	211	114	54.03%
31. GARDNER	215	111	51.63%
32. GARDEN CITY	282	132	46.81%
33. CHAPMAN	298	134	44.97%
34. CLAY CENTER	214	60	28.04%
35. WICHITA #273	263	72	27.38%

Get Out the Vote

In 1920, during The American Legion National Convention in Cleveland, the organization went on record urging all American Legion men to become qualified voters. Since then, the organization has passed countless similar resolutions advocating Legionnaires to not only exercise their constitutional responsibility to vote, but to also encourage others to do the same.

Elections are important to our republic. As citizens of this great nation, it is our duty and responsibility to exercise this right of franchise by casting our ballots on Election Day and to encourage others to do so as well. It was on this premise that The American Legion's "Get Out the Vote" program was initiated shortly after the organization's inception. Today it is as important as it was in elections past.

The Legion's "Get Out the Vote" program encourages all Americans to register and vote in all elections. In addition, Legionnaires, posts, districts and departments are encouraged to fully involve themselves in the electoral process by serving as poll volunteers, poll workers and by encouraging and assisting others to register and vote.

All Legionnaires are encouraged to renew their commitment for continued service to this country by being politically active as individuals. By working together as an organization we can make a difference by promoting an informed populace, participation in our government, and involvement in its electoral process. We cannot forget that in this country, our government is "of the people, by the people and for the people." It cannot survive as a democratic republic unless the people participate. That is our task.

Don't forget that Tuesday, November 3rd is the traditional National Election Day in the United States. PLEASE exercise your Right to Vote! Many Men and Women gave up their lives to ensure WE keep this precious act.

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

A lot has taken place since the last edition of The Kansas Legionnaire has been published. The visitation with the National Commander Dale Barnett and his Aide, Dewey Moss, was a huge success. Many thanks to ALL the Posts that either hosted them for a Breakfast, Reception, Lunch, a Meet and Greet or a Dinner. I know they enjoyed themselves immensely. The food and camaraderie was excellent. Their next scheduled Department Visitation was across the border to the Department of Missouri. We made it a transfer of Prisoners, equipped with a full pledged Police Officer, whom just happened to be the Alternate National Executive Committeeman from Missouri, which made it even a greater fun experience. It sure got the attention of the customers in the Little Blue Corner Café in Independence, Missouri.

The Fall Meetings, Commanders and Adjutant's Conference and the National Executive Meetings were very interesting. Many Resolutions were discussed and passed or failed. They should ALL be posted on www.legion.org for your viewing. If you do NOT understand the content by all means, PLEASE contact either N.E.C. Dave Warnken, Department Commander Vail or myself and we will be glad to help you get your questions answered.

Department Commander Vail and I then traveled from Indianapolis, Indiana to Cincinnati, Ohio to conduct a pre-site visit to next year's National Convention. We stayed in the Hotel that National has already assigned to Our Department, the Riverfront Hotel in Covington, Kentucky. We met with the Sales Manager and her employees, setting up meeting space, provisions for the Hospitality

Room, ate dinner and breakfast the next morning in their Restaurant and determined that the provisions in place, would be fine when we arrive in August of 2016.

Department Commander Vail made arrangements to have his Riverboat Dinner Cruise on the Belle of Cincinnati on Monday, 29 August 2016. Prices and details will follow.

The Department Finance Committee has met in full and has decided to send out the Sunflower Legionnaire on a quarterly basis starting with the January 2016 edition to help curtail expenses during the next year. This should be an easy transition. The required article writers will just need to remember that it will include a three month time period of details instead of just one month in their articles.

The Central States National Vice Commander Al Davis from the Department of Minnesota will be visiting the Department of Kansas from 11 to 16 November 2015. He will be visiting the West Side of the State. A detailed schedule will be available real soon.

Don't forget about the Membership Dues increase that will go into effect in January 2016. This is a great opportunity to get those Members that have NOT renewed to pay up before the end of 2015, and save themselves \$5.00 cold cash. They can celebrate with a Mocha or Latte with their dues savings. Work it in the positive, not the negative!

Thank each and every one of you for doing what you do every day in ensuring that The American Legion Family continues to grow and help support our Members, Active Duty Service Personnel and their Families.

Buzz Cut Challenge

(Continued Page 3)

nounced that anyone who gets a haircut on Veterans Day at Great Clips will receive a free haircut card to give to a veteran or active-duty servicemember. The Buzz Cut Challenge is a collaborative effort between the Legion and Great Clips. The Legion is conducting

community-based Buzz Cut Challenge events in more than a dozen cities across the country from Nov. 2-10. For a suggested donation of \$10 at these events, Great Clips stylists will provide buzz cuts to attendees willing to let their hair hit the floor to support Veterans and their families.

**DEPARTMENT
CHAPLAIN**



**Glenn
Patterson**



**Keep Calm and
Call the Chaplain**

I thought I would offer a fun whimsical title in jest. Then on second thought; this may be a good idea to consider.

As I look around our world and society I just shake my head and wonder where in the world we are headed. There are

rumors of war with nations, doubt and confusion as to what is right or correct. It seems as if the whole world has lost it's mind. There is an old saying, "Everyone's crazy except you and me...and I'm not so sure about you."

Another way to look at the situation is to recognize the fear and anxiety that is in the world today. Many people are fearful of what the future holds. God says, "Fear not for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God..." Isaiah 41:10

The month of November gives rise to reflect and remember our veterans and to give "thanks" for their service to the United States of America. The news talks about lives that lost in war and battles; street violence, and crimes against one another. I declare that "All Lives Matter" and are valuable. In this Season of Thanksgiving we pause to remember not only the veterans lives that served; but to also give Thanks for God's Son Jesus Christ who came to save all lives.

For John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." We celebrate this precious gift at Christmas. The greatest gift of everlasting life to all who believe.

So in reflection this maybe the correct thought; "Keep Calm". Instead of calling your Chaplain; call upon God to give you that Calm Assurance that only He can give.

COLMERY DONATIONS

Following is a list of donations received since the September/October issue of the Sunflower Legionnaire for the Harry W. Colmery memorial.

Barbara Nelson, Mission Hills; Dana Nelson, Mission Hills; Henry Bloch, Shawnee Mission; Dunn Family Foundation, William Dunn, Sr., Kansas City, MO; Anderson Chandler, Topeka; Hays American Legion Auxiliary Unit #173, Hays; Mary Jo Powell, Prairie Village; and Stewart and Elinor Entz, Topeka.

KANSAS SUNFLOWER LEGIONNAIRE

Jimmie L. Foster, Editor

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

THE AMERICAN LEGION VA HOSPITAL SERVICE OFFICERS

Robert J. Dole Regional VA Medical Center, Wichita 316-688-6814
 888-878-6881 Ext. 56814
 Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center, Leavenworth 913-758-4297
 800-952-8387 Ext. 54297
 Colmery-O'Neil VA Medical Center 785-350-4489
 800-574-8387 ext. 54489

**"INDIVISIBLE:
THE STORY OF
OUR FLAG"**



The American Legion's 116-page Bookazine dedicated to telling the story of Old Glory is now available for individual or bulk orders with delivery in November. "Indivisible: The Story of Our Flag" - part of the Legion's 100th Anniversary celebration - is designed like a magazine but is produced with a heavy, durable stock. The Bookazine describes the history of the American flag as shown through images, voices, lyrics, milestones and meanings, as well as the Legion's history of advocacy for respect, etiquette and reverence for the flag and its meaning to all.

"Indivisible" presents a 100th Anniversary fundraising opportunity for Posts, which can buy Bookazines in bulk and resell them to members or the public. Bulk orders of 25 or more books cuts the price to \$7.95 each. Posts, districts and departments are encouraged to buy the Bookazine in bulk and distribute to schools or libraries, or use as a fundraiser or membership incentive. Once the publication hits newsstands on Nov. 10, Legion Family members can help raise awareness and excitement about the flag Bookazine by coordinating events with their local bookstores where the Bookazine will be sold. For example, Legion Family members can create an event around showing customers how to properly fold a flag; collecting unserviceable flags; or sharing the overall story of what the Bookazine is about.

+ TAPS +

Allen, Glen E. (WWII).....	Andover	Lehr, John J.	Overland Park
Bagby, Robert H. (WWII).....	Great Bend	Levier, Glenn E. (Vietnam).....	Mayetta
Beard, Paul H. (Korea).....	Erie	Liebert, Robrt (Korea).....	Coffeyville
Beaushaw, Duane E. (WWII).....	Hutchinson	Lindsey, Harold D. (Korea).....	Chanute
Bishop, Russell L. (Vietnam).....	Ozawkie	Long, Alfred L. (WWII).....	Clay Center
Boots, Robert E. (Korea).....	Garnett	Long, Ronald E. (WWII).....	Hutchinson
Bright, Fred (Korea).....	Chanute	Lyons, W. D.	Manhattan
Brisbin, Carey N., Jr. (WWII).....	Manhattan	Maas, Albert A. (WWII).....	Frankfort
Brooks, Orville F.	Emporia	McClain, Ed, Jr. (Vietnam).....	Shawnee
Brooks, Russell K. E. (Vietnam).....	Topeka 400	McClintock, Jim L. (Vietnam).....	Concordia
Bucklew, Robrt D. (WWII).....	Council Grove	Mendoza, Eduardo E. (Vietnam).....	Derby/Haysville
Burdolski, Joseph C. (Korea).....	Gardner	Meyer, Dale (Vietnam).....	Wetmore
Burnett, Glenn (WWII).....	Dodge City	Muehe, William A. (Korea).....	El Dorado
Campbell, Francis H. (WWII).....	Toronto	Myers, Thomas S. (Vietnam).....	Sterling
Carpenter, Clarence (WWII).....	Colby	Nech, Edward R. (WWII).....	Kensington
Casebier, Floyd L. (Vietnam).....	Emporia	Nelson, John M. (WWII).....	Smith Center
Cavin, Robert L. (WWII).....	Pittsburg 64	Nichols, Harold E. (Korea).....	Oberlin
Cherry, David (Korea).....	Topeka 58	Nixon, Donald F. (WWII).....	Manhattan
Chizek, Keith G.	Concordia	Pankratz, Earl (WWII).....	Newton
Corbin, Ronald G.	Topeka 400	Pauls, Richard F. (WWII).....	Selden
Cortner, George A. (WWII).....	Topeka 58	Peveholuse, Lynn A. (Vietnam).....	Coffeyville
Courtney, Robert J. (WWII).....	Isabel	Powell, Richard D. (Vietnam).....	Manhattan
Cox, Kenneth D. (Korea).....	Paola	Prichard, Kevin L.	Salina 62
Cox, J. Thurman (WWII).....	Colby	Prouse, Larry (Korea).....	Topeka 58
Cramer, Frank, Jr. (WWII).....	Kinsley	Rahjes, Doyle D. (Korea).....	Agra
Darst, Warren (Vietnam).....	Ozawkie	Ramsey, Leon M. (WWII).....	Topeka 58
Davis, Robert D. (Vietnam).....	Mulvane	Rankin, Charles H. (WWII).....	Medicine Lodge
Dillon, Ray E., Jr. (WWII).....	Hutchinson	Renick, William M. (WWII).....	Garden City
Dorr, Jack L. (Korea).....	Topeka 400	Rentz, Arnold F. (Korea).....	Paola
Douthit, Larry D., Sr. (Vietnam).....	Manhattan	Rhoades, James W. (Vietnam).....	Junction City
Drake, Gerald (Korea).....	Hutchinson	Rhoades, Ronald D. (WWII).....	Lansing
Dudley, Robert G. (Korea).....	Wichita 401	Riordan, Robert F. (Vietnam).....	Lawrence
Dunn, Alphonso (Vietnam).....	Wichita 273	Rockhold, James W. (WWII).....	Great Bend
Durgin, Clifford W. (Korea).....	Burton	Robinson, Marlin B. (WWII).....	Wilson
Earp, Harold W.	Everst	Rogers, Fred J. (Korea).....	Topeka 400
Ediger, Virgil J. (WWII).....	McPherson	Sales, Calvin H. (WWII).....	Topeka 400
Edington, Robert J. (Korea).....	Hutchinson	Salts, William R., Sr. (Vietnam).....	Clay Center
Elsea, Stanley W. (Vietnam).....	Norton	Sanders, Burton L.	Newton
Estep, Donald L. (Korea).....	Hutchinson	Schaar, Henry R.	Wichita 401
Evans, David E. (Korea).....	Lebo	Scheck, Melvin J. (Korea).....	Russell
Fetters, Wendell A. (WWII).....	Overland Park	Scott, Thomas C. (Korea).....	Wichita 256
Fidler, Walter E.	Silver Lake	Serrato, Alfred (WWII).....	Chanute
Fisher, Gary W. (Vietnam).....	Hutchinson	Seybert Roy O. (WWII).....	Meade
Fleming, Robert F. (WWII).....	Mulvane	Smith, Fay (Korea).....	Topeka 58
Fox, Walter M. (WWII).....	Larned	Smith, Jack (Korea).....	Medicine Lodge
Frakes, Larry C. (Korea).....	Atchison	Smith, Roland E. (WWII).....	Wichita 422
Frederickson, Donald J. (WWII).....	Oberlin	Sollitt, Dean P. (WWII).....	Kinsley
Fritsche, Robert (Korea).....	Hanover	Specht, Arch (Korea).....	Iola
Gabel, Richard L. (WWII).....	El Dorado	Starkel, Eugene V. (Korea).....	Marquette
Gehring, Ferol P., II (Vietnam).....	Ozawkie	Steinert, Kenneth (Vietnam).....	Topeka 58
Gentleman, Lawrence (Korea).....	Glen Elder	Stewart, Frank C. (Vietnam).....	Olathe
George, Dean (WWII).....	Topeka 58	Strange, Bill D. (WWII).....	Topeka 1
Gibson, Lee (WWII).....	Valley Center	Struckhoff, Charles A. (WWII).....	Colby
Gigot, Dean (Korea).....	Garden City	Suther, Melvin G. (Korea).....	Frankfort
Gordon, Keith P.	Derby/Haysville	Sweeney, Clara P. (WWII).....	Salina 62
Gotchall, Lee V. (WWII).....	Goodland	Taylor, Lot F. (Korea).....	Garden City
Guilinger, James E.	Overland Park	Taylor, Roger E. (Korea).....	El Dorado
Hackathorn, Denzil (Vietnam).....	Perry	Templeman, Clyde (WWII).....	Wichita 273
Hadorn, Calvin D. (WWII).....	Marysville	Teichgraber, Jerry (Korea).....	Lebo
Hanson, Reuben F.	Wichita 401	Thompson, Charles H. (Korea).....	Emporia
Harbolt, Dennis (Vietnam).....	Frankfort	Unfred, Martin (Vietnam).....	Ozawkie
Harder, Robert (WWII).....	McPherson	Urbon, Natalie F. (WWII).....	Colby
Harlan, Jarrold K. (Vietnam).....	Girard	Vega, Salvador, Jr. (Korea).....	Topeka 400
Harrison, Donald L. (WWII).....	Topeka 400	Vidricksen, Benjamin E. (WWII).....	Salina 62
Harter, Dennis D. (Vietnam).....	Stafford	Voos, Dean (WWII).....	Russell
Hawk, Dale, Jr. (WWII).....	Colby	Vukas, Donald E. (Korea).....	Shawnee
Hays, Joseph J. (Korea).....	Topeka 58	Waggy, Clyde M. (WWII).....	El Dorado
Hefling, James M. (Korea).....	Halstead	Wahwassuck, Raphael N. (Korea).....	Mayetta
Henry, Charles F. (Korea).....	Salina 62	Ward, Vernon L. (WWII).....	Lakin
Heuvel, Francis W. (WWII).....	Leavenworth 23	Watson, Donald D. (Korea).....	Paola
Hill, George F.	Hutchinson	Waymaster, Wilmer F. (WWII).....	Russell
Hole, Johnny L. (Vietnam).....	Chanute	Wells, Joseph O. (Vietnam).....	Mulvane
Hopkins, Howard (WWII).....	McPherson	Weston, Donald E. (Korea).....	Arkansas City
Hopper, Daniel J. (WWII).....	Junction City	White, Jerry L. (Lebanon/Grenada).....	Goodland
Houdeshell, Keith E. (Vietnam).....	Kinsley	Wiebke, Elmer L. (WWII).....	Lincoln
Hubbard, Joseph E. (Korea).....	Osborne	Wilcox, James K., Sr. (WWII).....	Kansas City 199
Hydeman, Donald (WWII).....	Overland Park	William, Ronald S. (Vietnam).....	Atwood
Jarvis, Bob B. (WWII).....	Overland Park	Williams, John J. (Korea).....	Hutchinson
Johnson, Ned (WWII).....	Bird City	Wilson, Warren (Korea).....	Lebo
Johnson, Richard A. (Vietnam).....	Mulvane	Wirth, Mary O. (WWII).....	McPherson
Kentfield, Edgar (WWII).....	Hutchinson	Wisby, Warren E. (Korea).....	Hutchinson
Knight, James D. (WWII).....	Moran	Wise, Charles B. (Korea).....	Olathe
Kolterman, Melvin O. (WWII).....	Havensville	Woodmansee, Harvey A. (WWII).....	Wilson
Kuykendall, John F. (Korea).....	Shawnee	Wooten, Robert H. (Korea).....	Topeka 58
Ladd-Koeing, Blanche B. (WWII).....	Hutchinson	Wycoff, Dennis J. (Vietnam).....	Maple Hill
Landis, Donald L. (Korea).....	Baldwin City	Zenger, Willard H. (Vietnam).....	Haddam
Lawson, Alfred W. (WWII).....	Hutchinson	Zumbrum, Walter A. (WWII).....	Emporia
Leach, Lawrence J. (WWII).....	Marysville		

CORRECTION

The passing of Robert Perkins, Life Member from McPherson, was incorrectly reported to Department. We are very glad to announce that Mr. Perkins is alive and well!

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNFLOWER LEGIONNAIRE



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

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

NEW BENEFIT FOR LEGIONNAIRES

As we age, our likelihood to fall increases and the outcome of those falls can become more serious. Statistics show that people age 75 and older who fall are four to five times more likely than those age 65 to 74 to be admitted to a long-term care facility for a year or longer. And among older adults, falls are the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injuries. Because of the associated risk with falling, we felt it was imperative to offer a solution that can help you or a loved one get access to care, even if they're alone.

The Philips Lifeline Medical Alert Services provides a suite of assistance services so you can choose the service that best fits your needs. The HomeSafe

system offers standard service for help at the push of a button or the AutoAlert option offers advanced fall detection capability. And the newest system – GoSafe mobile system– gives you the freedom to go wherever you want, knowing you'll still have fast access to help 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Systems are all available at monthly rates, with no contract.

All services are provided by Philips Lifeline, America's #1 medical alert service provider since 1974. Philips Lifeline founded the medical alert service industry with one mission: to help seniors live independently and confidently. For more information, visit us online at www.TheLIT.com or call 855-495-4356.

Department Christmas Party

By Ray Vail,
Department Commander

Where has time gone, can not believe it is time again to plan the Department Christmas Party. The date will be December 5th.

We will be at the Hutchinson Post #68 this year with Social Hour 5:00-6:00 and dinner will start at 6pm. Hopefully we can have Christmas songs played during Social Hour for awhile.

We will be having The Sweet Adelines perform for us during dinner singing Christmas carols, ought to be nice performance.

We will be having fried and baked chicken, bacon wrapped pork fillets, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, salad bar, rolls, and chocolate cake with ice cream. The cost of the meal will be \$15.00 per plate.

Jeanne and I have planned on having an auction after dinner. We would like each Legion Family to bring an unwrapped gift to be auctioned off with money going to the Department Emergency Fund and will serve Legion Family.

Should be a fun evening and hope to see everyone there. Ramada Inn may be a choice for hotels I have not reserved any just check early if planning on coming.



DEPARTMENT CHRISTMAS PARTY
Hutchinson Post #68
Saturday, December 5
Social Hour 5:00-6:00PM
Dinner 6:00PM

Number in party @ \$15.00 each _____
Amount Enclosed _____

Mail to:
Ray Vail
PO Box 152
Arma, KS 66712

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 28, 2015

Fall/Winter Sweepstakes

Once again thirteen lucky members of the Kansas American Legion Family will share over \$7,000 in prizes with each having the opportunity of increasing their prize award by \$200.* Ticket packets are scheduled to be mailed to all Kansas Legionnaires this month for the Fall/Winter Sweepstakes. Members of the Sons of The American Legion and Auxiliary are welcome to enter the Sweepstakes by requesting tickets from Department Headquarters, 1314 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66612.

Although a donation of \$5 for one ticket, \$10 for three, \$15 for six or \$20 for all twelve tickets is suggested, no purchase or contribution is required to enter the Sweepstakes. The revenue from the Sweepstakes will help fund the Department's Veterans Affairs and Children and Youth Programs.

The following prizes will be awarded in the form of certified checks: 1st Prize-\$2,500; 2nd Prize-\$1,000; 3rd Prize-\$500; five (5) prizes @ \$250 each; and five (5) prizes @ \$200 each. All taxes are the sole responsibility of the prize winner.

All prizes will be awarded. The chance of winning will depend upon the number

of entries received and cannot be predetermined prior to the deadline.

Winners will be selected in a random drawing during the Mid-Winter Forum in Hays on Sunday, February 7, 2016. Winners need not be present to win and will be notified by certified mail. If a winner is present during the drawing they will be awarded a \$200.00 bonus.

Should a winner be unable to be contacted by certified mail, or fails to claim their prize within 30 days of receipt of notice, that winner will forfeit their prize and an alternate winner will be selected in the same selection and notification process.

All prizes will be awarded. The odds of winning a prize depends upon the number of entries received by the deadlines of 10AM Friday, January 30, 2016 at Department Headquarters or 9AM Sunday, February 7, 2016 at the Mid-Winter Forum at Hays Post 173. Prize winners assume sole responsibility for all taxes.

All entrants must be 18 years of age or older. Employees and staff of The American Legion Department of Kansas and the officers and staff of J H Marketing Services, their spouses, children and immediate family members are illegible.