



## AMERICAN FLAG DONATED TO TONGANOXIE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNITY

On Saturday July 25th, the American Legion Post 41 presented the Tonganoxie Fire Department a 20 foot by 30 foot American Flag. This presentation was made at the Tonganoxie Movie night at the new Elementary School.

This large American Flag will be displayed from the Fire Department's 75 foot Aerial apparatus. The Aerial apparatus, Quint6, will allow the large flag to be hung from the end of the ladder at heights of up to 50 feet tall.

The Community of Tonganoxie will benefit in seeing this honorable display at various community events, weather permitting. The first planned display is the 2015 Leavenworth County Fair Parade.

This generous donation to the Fire Department, and Community was made by; The Tonganoxie American Legion Post 41, Tonganoxie Legion Riders and the Tonganoxie American Legion Auxiliary Post 41. Post members that presented the flag are; Don Harden, Denise Bounds, Melvin Kleinschmidt, Connie Kleinschmidt, Rick Muzzy, Bob Delich and Bea Kooken.



Pictured left to right are Asst. Chief John Callaghan, Chief Jack Holcom, Bea Kooken, Auxiliary President Connie Kleinschmidt, Commander Don Harden, Bob Delich, Melvin Kleinschmidt, Rick Muzzy, Firemen Jefferson Boor, and Tony Pierce. Not pictured, Denise Bounds.

## 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.

Prior to the event on Saturday, American Legion Post 240 of Chapman will provide a reception and dinner on Friday night for out of town guests and official program attendees for the Pilgrimage. All are invited to the dinner with the cost for the meal at \$15.00. Friday dinner reservations must be made by October 1 by using the coupon provided on page 8.

Saturday's program will start at approximately 10:30 AM immediately following the Presidential wreath laying ceremony. Chapman Post 240 will provide the Color Guard and Firing Squad during the program.

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 by using the coupon on page 8.

A Homecoming luncheon following the Pilgrimage be held in the Eisenhower Library Dining Room to honor Department Vice Commander Robert Munson, Department SAL Vice Commander Tom Wallsmith, and Department Vice President Claudia Satterlee. The menu for the luncheon is: salad, brisket, baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls, cake, and tea, water, or coffee. The cost for the luncheon will be \$15.00 per person and reservations may be made by using the coupon provided on page 8.

## BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to our three State Champions; Class 'A' Arkansas City; Class 'AA' Hays; and Class 'AAA' Ottawa.

Arkansas City went on to the Class 'A' Mid-States Regional Tournament in Fargo, North Dakota. The 'AA' Class Mid-States Regional Tournament was held in LeSueur, Minnesota. This year two teams were sent to LeSueur, Hays and Iola.

And Ottawa went to Conway, Arkansas to take part in the National Region No. 4 Tournament.

A special thanks goes out to all the coaches, managers, and other volunteers for promoting healthy competition and sportsmanship among our American Legion teams involving more than 2000 players, coaches, and managers.

Special thanks to all the Area Tournament hosts and to Salina, Colby, and McPherson for hosting the State Tournaments this year.

## 2015- 2016 NATIONAL COMMANDER'S VISIT TO THE KANSAS AMERICAN LEGION



**DALE BARNETT**  
NATIONAL COMMANDER

Department Commander Raymond Vail will accompany National Commander Dale Barnett from the Department of Georgia when he visits Kansas September 27-30.

The tour schedule is as follows:

**Sunday, September 27:** Dinner, Wichita Post #4, 7:00 P.M.

**Monday, September 28:** Breakfast, El Dorado Post #81, 7:00-8:00 A.M.; Coffee and Donuts Meet and Greet, Yates Center Post #13, 10:00-11:00; Lunch, Chanute #170, 12:30 P.M.; Visit Kansas Veteran's Home in Winfield, Dinner at Winfield Post #10, 7:00 P.M.

**Tuesday, September 29:** Breakfast, Newton Post #2, 7:00 A.M.; Coffee and Donuts Meet and Greet Hutchinson Post #68, 9:15 A.M.; Lunch, McPherson #24, 11:15 A.M.-12:45 P.M.; Round Table Meet and Greet, Hillsboro Post #366, 1:20-2:00 PM; Round Table Meet and Greet, Chapman Post #240 3:00-4:00 P.M.; Dinner, Junction City Post #45, 7:00 P.M.

**Wednesday, September 30:** Breakfast, Manhattan Post #17, 7:00 A.M.; Visit with the troops at the Warrior Transition Battalion, Meet and Greet the Military Officers, and Enlisted, 9:00 A.M.; Lunch, Topeka Post #400, 12:00 Noon; Round Table Meet and Greet Lawrence Post #14, 2:30 P.M.; Dinner, Olathe Post #153, 7:00 P.M.

PLEASE be flexible in the times of the events as traffic and getting in and out of Posts and places of scheduled events may change.

PLEASE encourage ALL your American Legion Family to come out and visit, meet and greet YOUR National Commander.

**COMMANDER**

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**Ray Vail**  
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**Arma, KS 66712**  
**913-416-9073**



**CHILDREN  
 &  
 YOUTH**

**DeeDee  
 Danin**  
**dddanin@hotmail.com**

**VICE COMMANDER**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Robert Munson**  
**215 W. 18th St.**  
**Pittsburg, KS 66762**  
**620-202-2959**



Greetings Kansas Legionnaires. July and the first part of August have been busy for all here in Kansas. The ALR held their Legacy run across Kansas and reports from the Riders and ALR Director Don Behrens it was a great success for the ALR Legacy Fund. Thanks to all who rode and donated to this very worthy cause.

I had a great time at The American Legion Baseball Tournaments in July. The AA was in Colby and AAA in McPherson, both cities have very nice sports complexes. The teams played hard and were very good sportsmen it was exciting watching these young men playing baseball, some looked like good prospects for the KC Royals.

My Joint Homecoming with Auxiliary President Jeanne Haas and SAL Detachment Commander Richart Strothman was a great success and fun for all who attended. Thanks to Winfield Post #10 and Post Commander Clint Willard, you all did a great job hosting the event for us this year and we thank everyone for coming and joining us in the celebrations. Past Department Finance Officer Anna Smith presented her presentation of Deborah Sampson-Revolutionary Soldier who disguises herself as a man to join General Washington's Continental Army. It was very interesting and all enjoyed the program.

On Saturday Aug.1st SAL Detachment Strothman and myself went up to Glen Elder Post #143 and presented the Post with their SAL Charter and swore in their new SAL Officers. It is always rewarding when I have an opportunity to install new SAL Officers for a Post for that is a big step in insuring their Post will keep growing and be a part of our Legion Family. I congratulate SAL Commander Ted Eberle and thank you for your part in getting the SAL in Glen Elder Post #143.

This year Kansas had a great group of District Vice Commanders who made the trip to the National Membership Workshop in Indianapolis. I'm sure everyone had a great time and came home with some good ideas and helpful tips on how to grow our membership here in Kansas. Our new Dept. Adjutant Jimmie Foster treated us to a personal tour of the National Headquarters. Most of us had not had the opportunity to visit the National Offices before and I would like to thank the National Staff who stayed late to keep the offices open so we could have this tour. I think every one really enjoyed it.

My wife, Linda and I were treated to a very nice reception from the Lansing Post #411 to help them in recognition of the young people who attended the Kansas Girls State, Boys State, and Cadet Law Programs this year and I thank A. C. Byrd for the invitation, we had a great time.

We all need to mark Saturday, Oct. 10th on our calendars and plan to go to Abilene for the Annual Eisenhower Pilgrimage, and Vice Commander Robert Munson's joint Homecoming with the Auxiliary Vice President and SAL Vice Commander. Make your plans early so you will not miss out on this great annual celebration.

We all need to keep working on our memberships. District Officers please check your Post which have zero membership turn ins. You need to contact these Posts and see what needs to be done to help them get membership turned in. The District Revitalizations have started and you should have people scheduled to help so your District will benefit from the Revitalization.

I thank you all for your membership and help for our American Legion. May God bless our troops and keep them from harms way and may he continue to bless our great country.

Recently in Senator Jerry Moran's weekly address he commented on meeting with Girls Nation Representatives: "I visited Wednesday afternoon with Hanna Watson of Wichita and Abigail Taylor of Iola. Kansas's two Senators in this year's Girls Nation program. We had a good discussion on education policy. Girls Nation provides young leaders with an opportunity to experience firsthand how the federal government works. Congratulations to these two impressive young women on their election to Girls Nation. I am certain they will make Kansas proud as they pursue their interest in law, political science, writing and public speaking."

The Girls/Boys State and Nation programs mirror each other for most details. There is no other program the Legion has which touches so many lives renewing their sense of pride in being an American. The Preamble states "foster and perpetuate Americanism inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation...." The young people who attend come away with an innate desire to excel while displaying a love of God and Nation.

Each year, two "Senators" are chosen by each Boys and Girls State to represent their particular Department and are expected to participate in all functions of government i.e. running for office, developing campaigns and initiate strategies to pass legislation, hold meetings with real Representatives and Senators seeking guidance, attaining experience with practical insights to better understand just how government works.

Requirements: must be high school junior selected by local American Legion Posts. Tuition is either provided by family, local business/community based organization or with the assistance of the local Post.

Greetings American Legion Family. It has been a very busy time for me since I became the Department Vice Commander. I want to take this opportunity to say what a great job our Department Commander Ray Vail is doing, and to welcome our new Adjutant Jimmie Foster. I am looking forward to a great year!

The Revitalization in Winfield was held in conjunction with the Commander's Homecoming. Ray and Linda did a great job and everyone had a good time. Anna Smith's presentation was very interesting and the food was great. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at my Vice Commander's Homcoming in Abilene on October 10. More information on the luncheon to follow.

I attended the Centennial Membership meeting in McPherson as well as the Revitalization for District Six in Colby during the month of August. We have several more to come this fall, and I hope to see all committee members there! We need to

work together on membership. It is very important and vital to our Kansas American Legion.

As most of you know by now, my son Robert Munson, Jr. has been missing for over two weeks. His truck was found abandoned and no sign of him. I want to sincerely thank the Concordia Post #76, District Six Commander Chad Lowell, and each and every member of the Legion for all your support and efforts arranging searches and getting posters out. Thank you again to National Vice Commander Paul Sanford and his wife, Dorothy for taking the time out to help with the search for him. Everyone has been so supportive of us through this very difficult time. Keep us in your prayers that we get closure soon.

I do plan to attend the National Convention in Baltimore and looking forward to seeing everyone there. Meanwhile, God bless this great country we live in, our troops, and keep praying for peace and goodwill for all.

**POSTS ESSENTIAL TO CORRECT  
 PATH TO CITIZENSHIP**

In 2008, The American Legion adopted Resolution 12, "Task Force on New Americans," which calls upon American Legion Posts to support the efforts of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) – the federal government agency that oversees lawful immigration to the United States. And Resolution 31, passed during the 2014 Spring meetings, also encourages Posts to assist legal immigrants seeking the path to naturalized U.S. citizenship.

The Citizenship Outreach Guide provides several examples of how Posts can collaborate with USCIS to celebrate and honor lawful immigrants. For example, Posts can hold naturalization information sessions; provide a Color Guard

during naturalization ceremonies; host a welcome reception or naturalization oath ceremony; tutor immigrants with reading or writing; and more. The guide also provides resources on how Posts can promote citizenship and immigrant integration in their local communities.

Failure to embrace new immigrants into society can be divisive to a community and promote racial and cultural bias. The American Legion strives to uphold a commitment to be a leader in mentoring candidates for U.S. citizenship and supporting their assimilation into local communities. Share how your Post is helping lawful immigrants assimilate into society and become citizens on [www.legiontown.org](http://www.legiontown.org).

**DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER**

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### VA Expands Review of Chemical Exposure in Drinking Water at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune

As part of VA's ongoing commitment to provide care to Veterans and their families, the Department of Veterans Affairs as of Aug. 3, 2015 announced that it will start the process of amending its regulations to establish presumptions of service connection for certain conditions resulting from exposure to contaminated drinking water at the U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

This process is in addition to the healthcare VA already provides for 15 conditions to eligible Veterans who were stationed at Camp Lejeune for at least 30 days between August 1, 1953 and December 31, 1987 as a result of the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012. VA also provides reimbursement of healthcare expenses for those 15 conditions to eligible family members who resided at Camp Lejeune during that time period.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs recently met with Senators Isakson, Burr and Tillis and the Director of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to discuss the creation of presumptions of service connection for diseases associated with the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune. The diseases that are currently being reviewed for potential presumptive service connection include kidney cancer, angiosarcoma of the liver, and acute myelogenous leukemia, which are known to be related to long-term exposure to the chemicals that were in the water at Lejeune from the 1950s through 1987. The chemicals are Benzene, Vinyl Chloride, Trichloroethylene and Perchloroethylene, which are known as volatile organic compounds, used in industrial solvents and components of fuels.

ATSDR and VA representatives will meet at ATSDR offices on August 19 to begin discussions on establishing these presumptions.

VA will also work with ATSDR and potentially the National Academy of Sciences to evaluate the body of scientific knowledge and research related to exposure to these chemicals and the subsequent development of other diseases. VA will carefully consider all public comments received when determining the final scope of any presumptions.

Veterans with health problems they believe are related to exposure to the water at Camp Lejeune may file a claim for disability compensation online at [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov), or call 1-800-827-1000 for assistance.

You may also contact The American Legion Offices located at the Colmery-O'Neil VAMC Topeka, KS by calling 1-800-574-8387 Ext. 54489, Dwight D. Eisenhower VAMC Leavenworth, KS at 1-800-952-8387 Ext. 54297 and The American Legion office located at the Robert J. Dole VAMC Wichita, KS at 1-888-578-6881 Ext. 56814.

For more information, Veterans and family members should contact the nearest VA healthcare facility by calling 1-877-222-VETS (8387) or visit [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune). For further information on Camp Lejeune: VHA Office of Public Health has a Website on Camp Lejeune historical water contamination at: [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune/index.asp](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune/index.asp).

The U.S. Marine Corps encourages all those who lived or worked at Camp Lejeune before 1987 to register for notifications.

**HISTORIAN****JOE JOHNSTON**

The 100th anniversary of The American Legion will be celebrated in 2019. I thought I would mention a few highlights of the 50th year. Meredith Wilson wrote a march, "The American Legion, Fifty Years of Service." The Post Office issued a special six cent stamp commemorating the event. A first class letter could be sent for six cents in 1969.

The Anheuser-Busch Corporation sponsored a film, "The Golden Mirror," in which three Past National Commanders recalled the history of the Legion. Pan American Airways sponsored a movie, "Gift to the Nation," featuring President Nixon and other dignitaries at the annual Washington Conference of the Legion in 1969.

To commemorate the American sites of the Legion's birth, the National Executive Committee met in St. Louis in May and in Minneapolis in November in memory of the first American caucus and the first National Convention. Normally, the NEC meets in Indianapolis.

There were many other events commemorating the 50th that are too numerous to mention and I imagine the 100th celebration will be even more illustrious.



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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](http://www.theLIT.com).

**REMEMBER ME****AUTHOR UNKNOWN**

Hello, remember me: I'm your Flag. Some folks call me, Old Glory, other call me the Stars and Stripes, the Ensign, or just the Flag. But whatever they call me, I am your flag---THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Something has been bothering me lately. I was wondering if I might talk it over with you. It's about you and me.

I remember some time ago when people lined up on both sides of the street to watch a parade. When your grandfather saw me coming along, waving in the breeze, he took his hat off and held it against his left shoulder. His hand was directly over his heart, REMEMBER?

And your father, I remember him! Standing there, straight as a soldier. He didn't have a hat on, but he gave the correct salute. They taught him in school to place his hand over this heart. And I remember his little sister. Not to be outdone, she was saluting the same as him. I was proud, very proud, as I came down the street. Oh, yes there were some servicemen there, civilians as well as military paid me respect and reverence.

Now if I sound a bit conceited, well I have a right to. I represent the finest country in the world. The United States of America. More than one aggressive nation has tried to haul me down only to feel the fury of this freedom-loving country. Many of our fathers had to go overseas to defend me. A lot more blood has been shed since those patriotic parades of long ago and I've had a few stars added since your father was a boy, but I'm still the same ole' flag.

Granddad is gone now, and the hometown has a new look. The last time I came down your street, I noticed some of the old landmarks had given way to new buildings and homes. Yes sir, the

old town sure has changed. I guess I have too, because I don't feel as proud as I did back then.

I see youngsters running and shouting through the streets, college boys and girls disrupting our campuses, people selling hot dogs and beer while our National Anthem is played. Everything from apathy to riots. They don't seem to know or care who I am. Not long ago, I saw a man take his hat off when I came by, he looked around, didn't see anybody else with theirs' off, so he quickly put his back on.

Now when I come down your street, you just stand with your hand in your pockets. Occasionally, you give me a small glance and then look away. When I think of all the places I've been---NORMANDY, GUDALCANAL, IWO JIMA, BATTLE OF THE BULGE, KOREA, VIETNAM DESERT STORM, I wonder what has happened---I'm still the same ole' flag.

How can I be expected to fly high and proud from buildings and homes when watching them there is no thought, love or respect for me? Whatever happened to patriotism? Your patriotism? Have you forgotten what I stand for? Have you forgotten all the battlefields where men fought and died to keep this nation free? When you salute me, you salute them. Take a look at the memorial honor rolls sometime. Look at the names of those who never came back. Some of them were friends or relative of yours; maybe even went to school with your grandparents or parents. That's what you're saluting---not me!

Well, it won't be long until I'll be coming to your street again. So, when you see me, stand straight, place your right hand over our heart... and I'll salute you by waving back...and I'll know that... YOU REMEMBERED!

**FIRST DISTRICT  
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VICE CMDR.  
DARREL FARMER  
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Hello comrades. Summer is almost over, I hope everyone had a great time.

First District Homecoming for me and Auxiliary President Denise Farmer will be at Topeka Post 1 on Saturday, September 26. The social hour will begin at 4 PM, followed by dinner at 6 PM.

The State Fair is September 11-19. If you attend the Fair stop by The American Legion booth.

The First District Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 12 at the Rossville Post. More details will follow.

The District is currently in fourth place in membership. We can be in first place, all we need to do is let the veterans know what we do and how they can be a part of the nations' greatest veterans' organization.

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

Greetings Legionnaires!

We are off to a good start for the 2016 Membership Campaign.

However, we have much more work to get done if you have not paid your 2016 dues please do so ASAP. If you have not received your 2016 renewal in the mail contact your Post Commander to get resolved. You, as an active member of the Legion are the best recruiter we have, look for new members everywhere; your neighborhood, churches, clubs, gym and associates. Just ask them to join, explain the benefits and sign

them up. There are a number of programs in place to reward our top recruiters again this year. We want to keep all our current members save recent non payers and gain new members, go for one of these rewards being offered. Will you be the top producer at your Post?

**REMINDERS:**

9/12/15 Second District day at the Kansas State Fair come visit us at the Booth bring a friend, we will help you sign them up.

10/11/15 Flag Retirement @ 10:00 LAWRENCE, KS.

10/15-16-17/15 Second District Revitalization will be at Post 407 Lenexa.

\*Post Commanders please schedule your officers and yourself to be available and participate with coverage daily during this important activity. Please send me a list of members who will be covering for your Post and a time schedule. Please email list by 10/5/15 [cpg@everestkc.net](mailto:cpg@everestkc.net)

10/17/15 Second District Commanders and District Presidents Homecoming at Post 153 Olathe details will be forthcoming.

God Bless America.

**THIRD DISTRICT  
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Hello Third District, I want to ask everyone to keep Department Vice Commander Munson & his family in your prayers. If you don't know his son has been missing for quite some time now.

I want to thank Erie Post 102 for the invitation to the Old Sailors and Soldiers days. Getting a chance to meet the members of the Post and to see all the work that goes into the bean feed is truly in the spirit of The American Legion.

Membership, by looking at our numbers we have dropped in the standings just a little bit and we need to get back on track. We have a few goose eggs out there, which needs

to change. I know we have life members, so let's get ALL those taken care of as soon as possible, that should eliminate all the goose eggs. I'm depending on all the Post Vice-Commanders to work on this and I appreciate all the hard work you've completed this far.

The District Vice-Commander has now completed his training in Indianapolis and is ready to work on membership. If you need any help don't hesitate to call on him or myself, we will be of any assistance we can.

May God bless America, our troops, and the people of our great nation.

**FOURTH DISTRICT  
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A big thanks to all of my Legion Family for starting out the new membership year with a bang. We already have one Post over 100% and a number are right on their heels. Keep up the good work!

We had a good turnout for our training at Post 366 Hillsboro. A number of items were covered, and training was done. We had a request for another round of training so we are tentatively scheduling one for October 24th, location to be announced. Please let myself or Vice Commander Tom know what you want us to cover.

September 14th is our District's date for the State Fair. This is open to all of our Legion Family, so if you want a chance to spend a couple of hours meeting veterans and their families please contact Vice Commander Tom at 620-803-2320.

Next up is the District Family Homecoming. The date is 3 October at Hillsboro Post 366. Like last year it will be a meet and greet, so hope to see all of you there!

And don't forget the Eisenhower Pilgrimage in Abilene on 10 October. Finally, we have a chance to have an infor-

mation table about the Legion Family at the Fort Riley Retiree Day on 23 October. I am looking for anyone who would like to spend a couple of hours talking to our retirees and their spouses. And, if you are a retiree, even better!

Again, thank you all for what you do. God bless.

**FIFTH DISTRICT  
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VICE CMDR.  
RICK LOWERY  
2201 S. Anna St., #3  
Wichita 67209  
316-990-1003**

Thank you all for supporting me for your 2015-2016 5th District Commander. Thank you Post 408 for hosting the 5th District Homecoming for myself, Melissa Burton (Auxiliary President), and Jerry Leopold (SAL Commander). Everyone had a great time and we were proud, humbled, and inspired by the more than 100 American Legion Family members who attended!

We have moved into second place in the Department in membership and we're half way there in the first three months of our new membership year. Let's keep up the pace, contact each member and ask them to renew. Let's not wait until the end of the year to make a big push for 100%, let's do it NOW.

Everyone enjoyed themselves at the Department Homecoming for the Department Commander, Auxiliary President and SAL Commander in Winfield at Post 10. A great turnout and great entertainment by Anna Smith.

National Convention in Baltimore was excellent. We all had a great time and hope more Kansas members can attend in the future. We learned many new ideas and will share these with you as I visit your Posts. A vote was taken at the National Convention in Baltimore to raise the National dues by \$5.00. This was necessary due to inflation and the fact that National has not raised their dues in over 10 years. Encourage your members to pay their

dues NOW, to avoid the \$5 increase after January 2016. If you'd like to attend the next convention in Cincinnati, Ohio in 2016, start saving now, make it your vacation, and you'll have the funds to attend.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Abilene for the Eisenhower Pilgrimage on Saturday, October 10. If you have never attended, make it this year! It is a great ceremony to witness, a great library and museum to visit, and a great day overall. Vice Commander Bob Munson's Homecoming is that evening.

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 Dec 31st.

Thank you and hope to see all of you in the coming year as I visit your Posts and at 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.

Never assume you're stuck with the way things are. Life changes every single moment, and so can you. Make that change, and make it better!

**SIXTH DISTRICT  
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VICE CMDR.  
PAT HEWITT  
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Phillipsburg 67661  
785-543-7668**

Each District Officer has been assigned a group of Posts to monitor membership progress, but more importantly to offer assistance with the goal of each Post reaching 100% in membership. I encourage you to urge your Post to make use of the District Officer assigned to assist your Post. Ask that they be invited to attend one of your meetings, to serve as a speaker or simply to attend a dinner or other function at your Post such as a Membership Drive. That is their job, make use of them and not only will your Post be successful so will our District.

(Continued Page 5)

## DISTRICT SIX

(Continued from Page 4)

Beginning with myself the District Officer assignments are: Chad Lowell, my email address is quest66901@sbcglobal.net and my phone number is 785-262-7141. My Posts of responsibility are: Belleville, Beloit, Burr Oak, Cawker City, Concordia, Cuba, Esbon, Glen Elder, Hunter, Jewell, Miltonvale, Republic, Scandia, and Tipton.

Vice Commander Pat Hewitt twister@ruraltel.net - 785-543-2663 - Agra, Almena, Bird City, Hill City, Hoxie, Jennings, Kensington, Lebanon, Logan, Long Island, McDonald, Nicodemus, Norton, Oberlin, Phillipsburg, Saint Francis, and Smith Center.

Adjutant Teri Minton - 785-787-8689 - teriminton@sbcglobal.net - Lincoln and Sylvan Grove.

Sgt of Arms Brian Legleiter- 620-617-1779 - legs78@ruraltel.net - Dorrance, Ellsworth, Holyrood, Lucas, Luray, Natoma, Russell, and Wilson.

1 year Exec - Ray Palmer - 785-650-2999 - c.ray.palmer@hotmail.com - Alton, Atwood, Hays, Osborne, Plainville, Stockton, and WaKeeney.

2 year Exec - Monte Lewis - 785-953-1061 - MonteLewis57@gmail.com - Colby, Goodland, Grainfield, Oakly, Quinter, Rexford, Selden, and Sharon Springs.

3 year Exec. - Lee Axtell - 785-452-5027 - kanrider@sbcglobal.net - Delphos, Salina, and Tescott.

Together we can and will make this year the year the Sixth District will be Number One in Kansas!

importance. Our children are not being taught flag etiquette and patriotism. The American Legion has several DVD's on this subject that is excellent for showing to school kids. I usually show the 4th grades the video, "For Which It Stands," and then pass out bookmarks.

If you would like to have a District Officer come and visit your Post please contact me. We must always stay focused with our determination to help veterans and their families. This is mainly accomplished by becoming active in our American Legion and attending our revitalization and meetings. Our Revitalization will be held in Hutchinson on October 1, 2, & 3. Saturday night, on the 3rd will be our Commander's Homecoming. I would consider it a great honor to have District 7 Legionnaires come and support us and help out as much as you can. Last year, District 7 was in last place on membership. It would be great to move up out of last place. My staff and I can't do this by ourselves. We need everyone's help. If you can't come, ask how you can help in your area. My phone is always open for your call.

### EIGHTH DISTRICT

**COMMANDER**  
**DAN STACY**  
**1106 W. McArtor**  
**Dodge City 67801**  
**620-430-0750**  
**VICE CMDR.**  
**LARRY HALL**  
**PO Box 216**  
**Sublette 67877**  
**620-271-8483**

Greetings fellow Legionnaires. It's that time of the year again. In September, our District will be having a Revitalization. September 26, 27 and 28, 2015, the last day of our Revitalization, we will have a Meet and Greet with the new transfers. We will also have a Service Officer from the VA for anyone needing assistance or having questions.

We are planning to have the Commander's Homecoming in conjunction with the District Auxiliary President and the District SAL Commander. We look forward to seeing as many Post and District offi-

cers and Post members there to help calling on the prospective transfers. All of these veterans are already Legion members in either Post #58, the Department holding Post, or the National holding Post.

We also need to start working within our local schools on flag etiquette and Americanism. There is lots of literature and videos available to help you with this. It is time to start looking for nominees for Police Officer/Fire Fighter and Scout of the year award. Becoming more involved in our communities is important for the Legion and our veterans. We have award programs to recognize good citizenship for children and youth as well as our civic leaders. Let's utilize them. I will be visiting the Posts in our District again this year. If a Post would like a District Officer to make a special visit to their Post please call or email me or any of our District Officers.

## AMERICAN LEGION DAYS

### At the State Fair in Hutchinson

The following is a list of scheduled days that each District is responsible for manning the American Legion Booth at the State Fair in Hutchinson:

**Friday, Sept. 11th** – DKAL & 7th District

**Saturday, Sept. 12th** – 2nd District

**Sunday, Sept. 13th** – 7th District

**Monday, Sept. 14th** – 4th District

**Tuesday, Sept. 15th** – 3rd District

**Wednesday, Sept. 16th** – 1st District

**Thursday, Sept. 17th** – 8th District

**Friday, Sept. 18th** – 5th District

**Saturday, Sept. 19th** – 6th District

**Sunday, Sept. 20th** – DKAL/7th District



**DETACHMENT  
COMMANDER**

\*\*\*\*\*

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



Team Kansas:

District Homecomings are being held now in all Districts. Please try to attend the ones that you can and show support for your SAL District Officers.

We are well into our new membership year (2016) and we are coming up on our 10% target date for membership. If your squadron still has a "Goose Egg", please transmit your Officers and any renewals. Squadrons should have least

sent in their Officers renewals by now ... if you are reading this, have your dues been transmitted ?? Please make certain your Squadron Adjutant is transmitting membership in a timely manner. Together we can achieve our 38th consecutive All Time High.

Welcome to our newest Squadron, Glen Elder #143. They are up and running, a big thanks to the team at Glen Elder Post 143.

**AUXILIARY  
PRESIDENT**

\*\*\*\*\*

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



With one-third of this leadership year behind us, I want to thank the American Legion Family for the continued support you have given to me, personally, and to the programs highlighted this year. Attendance at leadership workshops has been outstanding, support of the Patriotic Booklets by Units purchasing these youth oriented informational books, and the willingness to work together to promote the ideals of our organization all signify the strength of the Department of Kansas, American Legion Auxiliary.

The RED LETTER CAMPAIGN has been mailed to all Units. This donation reminder is a helpful prompt to support five of our American Legion Funds that promote our programs. The Kansas Emergency Fund, which helps members in their time of need; the Scholarship Fund, which offers scholarships to youth associated with

a Veteran; the Memorial/Building Fund, created to maintain our part of Department Headquarters; The Tech Fund, created to upgrade and maintain the equipment used in the operations of the Department; and the VA & R Arts & Craft Fund and the VA& R Gift to the Facilities Fund, both which allows our organization's support directly to our Veterans in the Kansas VA Facilities. Please make a contribution from your TAL Family to keep these programs afloat.

Working the State Fair Booth, Fall Conference activities, Homecomings, Bowling Tournament, Eisenhower Pilgrimage, preparing for Veteran's Day activities and Gift Shops, plus working the programs of our Units and communities affords our membership many opportunities to work "Hand in Hand" for The American Legion Family.

### SEVENTH DISTRICT

**COMMANDER**  
**TERRY WARNER**  
**505 Washington St.**  
**LaCrosse 67548**  
**785-259-8323**  
**VICE CMDR.**  
**MARK RADKE**  
**1785 Avenue V**  
**Sterling 67579**  
**620-204-8508**

Greetings District 7 Legionnaires! September is our back to school month and the task of arranging and getting inside our schools is of upmost

## In Recognition of: The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Kansas Donation to: The Harry W. Colmery Fund

The Harry W. Colmery Fund is a partnership with the citizens of Topeka, Downtown Topeka Foundation and The Department of Kansas, The American Legion.

It is The Harry W. Colmery Fund's privilege to honor Harry W. Colmery (1890-1979) for his contribution as a decorated Veteran of the Army Air Corp of the United States of America at Kelly Field (1917-1919), an exonerated 60 year Topeka, Kansas citizen, an esteemed 1933 Department and 1936 National American Legion Commander and the venerated author and the primary principal of the June 22 - The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 - or commonly known as the "GI Bill".

On, June 22 1944, Harry Colmery, witnessed Franklin D. Roosevelt sign, The Serviceman's Readjustment Act of

1944. The "GI" bill distinguishes the USA worldwide among other military powers due to the fact... We the people... of the United States of America promise to "take care of our own". We feel the "GI Bill" is an essential factor in making our volunteer United States of America's Armed Forces the international peacekeepers that we are today.

On Friday, July 10th, 4:30 - 6:30 PM, John & Janet Frieden, along with Pat & Connie Michaelis, of the Downtown Topeka Foundation, hosted, at their home, a reception celebrating the life & accomplishments of Harry W. Colmery. Mina Steen, granddaughter of Harry W. Colmery spoke in behalf of her beloved grandfather. Janet Zoble artist, who created the horse and Indian sitting atop our state capitol's dome,

was also in attendance. Janet Zoble has also present her 20 inch model of the life size statue she will create for the park.

At this reception, Raymond Vail, Department Commander presented a plaque commemorating the considerable contribution of the SAL to the Harry W. Colmery Fund to Richard Strothman, SAL Commander, Steve Ward, National Executive Committee and Doug Evans Alternate National Executive, Committee and Don Culver, SAL Finance Officer.

On, Tuesday, July 14th at 1:00 PM a press conference was held at the American Legion Headquarters' atrium Channel 13 WIBW, CBS and The Topeka Journal were present to recognize the American Legion's contributions to the Harry W. Colmery Park fund. Raymond Vail and Richard Strothman announced an exciting update to our recently launched campaign. The Sons of the American Legion's donation was paramount in permitting us to initiate the first phase of the construction of Harry W. Colmery's memorial monument and park in downtown Topeka, Kansas. We are happy to announce that Janet Zoble will now commence in the construction of the life size statue.

The sculpture of Mr. Colmery and park will be part of the larger project that is ongoing to renovate and restore the Historic Kansas Avenue in Downtown, Topeka and just one block from the recently completed State Capitol renovation project.

We appreciate and acknowledge everyone's support and contributions. Let us carrying on the same spirit of Harry W. Colmery's "GI" bill where we continue to partnership between citizens and veterans of the United States of America. We feel our enterprise between the Department of Kansas the American Legion and the Downtown Topeka Foundation will be an excellent representation of our continued relationship for generations to come.

## ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

### Why Won't National or Department Fix My Post?

Since my arrival on 22 July 2015 as your Department Adjutant recent events have prompted numerous Legionnaires to ask why Department or National doesn't regularly step in to "fix" Posts that have "gone off the rails", "turned to the dark side", "lost their minds", "been taken over by lunatics and drunks", etc. The list is long and colorful.

Frustrating as it may be, The American Legion National Constitution and Bylaws, as well as the Department Bylaws and other directive policies, provide that Departments of The American Legion have only general oversight, not day-to-day operational responsibility, over the Posts within their respective Departments. While Posts are part of the overall corporate architecture, each Post is a self-directed subordinate corporation and ultimately responsible for the discharge of its own internal management duties and the proper and legal conduct of its affairs.

These limitations of authority do not preclude duly elected officials from responding to questions regarding procedures, policy or tradition. Our Officers are expected to provide advice or guidance to the best of their ability and experience levels. However, we cannot interfere with elections, lounge/bar issues or concerns that are of a civil legal nature as Department has NO jurisdiction in these areas. Questions such as these must be resolved at the Post level or with civil legal authorities.

It is also important to note that "The American Legion charters Posts, NOT Bars." Questions related to bar/

lounge issues are governed by civil law including IRS regulations, Kansas State licensing agencies (both liquor and gaming), Departments of both Health and Labor and a myriad of other regulatory agencies, NOT the Department Headquarters. Department Staff is neither qualified nor authorized to offer such advice.

Our forefathers who conceived The American Legion and wrote the first governing documents created this "grassroots" architecture after much thoughtful and careful consideration. Their intent was to insure that the Post would, to a large degree, be autonomous, restricted only by broad general guidelines established in the National and Department Constitutions and Bylaws. The responsibility given to the individual Post has proven to be a source of strength and growth over the years. Therefore, after over 90 years, the National Headquarters and Departments continue to neither legally nor traditionally intervene directly into day-to-day, routine Post operations.

The National Bylaws do provide for the revocation, cancellation or suspension of the Charter of a Post under certain specific conditions. Only then may the Department take control of a Post. This action is reserved for only the most egregious situations and not common practice within The American Legion.

The American Legion wants every Post in Kansas to succeed; however, when all is said and done, success depends on YOU. Get involved in YOUR Post. Keep it headed in the right direction.

## COLMERY DONATIONS

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

William & Charlene Bunten, Topeka; Mike Conlin, Topeka; Second District American Legion; Hollywood Post #43, Hollywood, CA; Eldon Danenbauer, Topeka; Moundridge Post #340; Robert Wheeler, Topeka; Edward & Bettie Schaub, Topeka; Robert Dole, Washington, DC; San & Brenda Zimmerman, Topeka; Phile & Marsha Oliver, Topeka; Stephen & Patricia Ward, Grove, OK; Thomas & Miranda Carmona, Topeka; David Porterfield, Topeka; Harold Stones, Topeka; Patricia Culver, Derby; Michael & Marilyn Unrein, Topeka; Edward Larson, Topeka; Kimberly Svaty, Topeka; Raymond & Bonnie Harvey, Topeka; Philip & Darlene Elwood, Topeka; Vincent & Dana Frye, Topeka; Randy & Debra Clayton, Topeka; William & Joan Wagnon, Topeka; Robert & Carol Briman, Topeka; Steven & Derie Briman, Topeka; Gregory Lee, Topeka; Jim Parrish, Topeka; Blue Mound Unit

#279; Clayton Painter, Sturgis, MI; Lenexa Post 407; Chuck Wittia, Prairie Village; Jeffery Newcomer, Prairie Villiage; Jack Brier, Topeka; Roger & Karen Viola, Topeka; Ellen Hockaday, Shawnee Mission; Dr. & Mrs. Frederick Lintecum, Mission Hills; Joseph & Laura Crowe, Jr., Kansas City, MO; Steven Palmer, Kansas City, MO; Charles & Joan Battey, Mission Hills; Mark & Kathy Adams, Prairie Village; Robert & Diane Johnson, Mission Hills; Harry & Linda Hauschild, Topeka; Edward Weltner, Prairie Village; Thomas & Linda Nocita, Overland Park; Mr. C. Humbert Tinsman, Jr., Prairie Village; William & Marian Atwood, Kansas City, MO; Judith Joss, Kansas City, MO; John Matthews & Stanley Nuss, Mission Hills; Larry McMullen, Shawnee Mission; James & Joyce Decoursey, Jr., Topeka; Larry & Corliss Miller, Prairie Villiage; Gordon & Katherine Wells, Mission Hills; Bruce Christenson, Houston, TX; Lucy N. Stein, Topeka; Ken & Pan Alexander, Topeka; and Patrick & Harriet Brazil, Mission Hills.

**DEPARTMENT  
CHAPLAIN**



**Glenn  
Patterson**



**Liberty - Walking with  
the Lord**

**"The steps of a good man  
are ordered by the Lord,  
and He delights in his  
ways..." Psalms 37:23**

As I prepare this article I am reminded that "Liberty" is not just a word or an idea; Liberty is much more than

just a concept. Liberty is "freedom" to do, to be, to live as one pleases; Liberty is rooted in the Divine Appointment of all humanity and that is a oneness with God.

As many of you will be reading this article in September; children will be back in school learning how to be productive citizens of this Great Nation, The United States of America. The football fields will be full of athletes and sports enthusiasts encouraging good honest "sportsmanship".

A good education is a valuable tool in one's life, when we direct our heart to learn as well as our minds to learn the things of earth. Every remembrance of the Lord's goodness encourages us to keep walking with Him and to thank someone who influenced us for good.

Over the years that I have served as pastor to several churches; I have discovered that when someone stops interacting with the world around them, they will soon lose the will to live. Every day is an opportunity to learn. Take the liberty to use today as a means of service and learn more about the master of your life by reading His Holy Word.

The American Legion purposed itself for this purpose of serving God and Country.

**Arlington National Cemetery  
Update = Expansion Scale Back**

An expansion of Arlington National Cemetery could be scaled back because the county and state of Virginia want to build a bus facility, according to Sen. John McCain. McCain sent a letter to Army Secretary John McHugh on this past week calling the possibility "shameful" and urging the service to maximize the number of plots in the project. The national cemetery could reach capacity within a decade and is encouraging cremations and enforcing strict burial regulations to save space. But the Navy Annex facility that once overlooked the Pentagon has been demolished and offers an opportunity for an additional 7,600 internment sites. "It would be shameful to have to tell the family of a fallen American hero that there is no space available at Arlington National Cemetery, because

maintenance facility," McCain wrote in a copy of the letter to McHugh shared with media. The county and state want to realign Columbia Pike, a state highway, in a way that leaves space for the busing facility, he wrote. Arlington County and the Virginia Department of Transportation did not return calls for comment. "As you proceed with discussions on this matter ... I encourage you to pursue a solution that maximizes property for the cemetery and restricts incompatible use, and to use whatever tools available to you to ensure this outcome," McCain told McHugh.

I urge you to contact your individual United States Senators and United States Congressmen and have them co-sponsor legislation to stop this proposed intervention. The past, present and future veterans of our Country have earned this place of their final rest, if they so choose to be buried at this National Cemetery.

**CANCER CAN  
OCCUR IN  
ANYONE AT  
ANYTIME**

The National Institute of Health estimates overall costs for cancer at \$201.5 billion per year.\* If you get cancer, your share alone may run into the thousands of dollars. Despite huge strides in cancer research, the odds of getting cancer are still bleak. According to statistics from the American Cancer Society men have a 1-in-2 risk of developing cancer; women, 1-in-3 during their lifetimes.\*

This is why The Legionnaire Insurance Trust the Cancer Care Plan. We want to send you benefits if you find yourself caught in a battle with cancer. This plan has a lifetime maximum of \$300,000. The individual benefits within the plan are subject to their own lifetime maximums and vary per benefit. This plan will provide cash benefits you can use toward: hospitals, operations, doctors, drugs and more.

Because the Legionnaire Insurance Trust Cancer Care Plan is a group plan that was negotiated on behalf of over 1.7 million Legionnaires you pay group rates. These are likely more competitive than rates you could find on your own and cannot change unless they change for the entire group. Better yet, you are guaranteed acceptance in this plan if you're an eligible Legionnaire and have not been diagnosed with Cancer in the last 10 years.\*\*

For additional information regarding the Legionnaire Insurance Trust Cancer Care plan, visit [www.TheLIT.com](http://www.TheLIT.com) or call 1-800-235-6943 and one of our representatives will be happy to assist you.

\*Cancer Facts & Figures, 2014

\*\*2 years in GA, 12 months in TX, 6 months in CA

**+ TAPS +**

Adams, Eugene S. (Korea).....El Dorado	Lotker, Floyd, Jr. (WWII) ..... Oberlin
Anderson, Robert L. (WWII).....Topeka 400	Lourant, Arthur (Korea) ..... Junction City
Ash, William E. (Korea) .....Emporia	Mahoney, John E. (WWII) .....Spring Hill
Auernheimer, Edgar (WWII) .....Topeka 58	Marcuson, Gail (WWII).....Oberlin
Austerman, Henry J. (WWII).....Norton	Martin, Glenn F. (WWII) ..... Oberlin
Austin, Gene (Vietnam) ..... Liberal	Martin, Maurice W. (WWII) ..... Junction City
Baker, William (Vietnam) .....Topeka 58	Mattas, Leonard A. (WWII).....Wilson
Ball, Clifford N. (WWII) .....Olathe	McCorkle, Newell (Vietnam).....Winfield
Becker, Kenneth E. (Korea) ..... Salina 62	Menke, Charles H. (Korea).....Topeka 1
Blain, Jack M. (WWII) .....El Dorado	Mergemmer, Melvin G. (WWII).....Seneca
Blees, Jimmie L. (Vietnam) ..... Wichita 401	Meyers, William E. (Korea).....Cottonwood Falls
Blythe, John K. (WWII)..... White City	Meyn, Paul W. .... Overland Park
Booe, Kurt A. (Korea)..... Kanopolis	Millican, Allen J. (Korea) ..... Junction City
Bozich, Ron (Vietnam) ..... Shawnee	Morford, L. W. (Vietnam) ..... Oberlin
Brendle, Dillman (Vietnam)..... Wichita 401	Moyer, Chester M. (WWII) ..... Manhattan
Brown, Neal E. (Vietnam) ..... Chanute	Murdoch, Roy F. .... Gridley
Brown, Wyatt D. (WWII) ..... Cottonwood Falls	Murdoch, Larry I. (Vietnam) ..... Columbus
Browning, Johnny W. (WWII).....El Dorado	Neer, Carveth K. (WWII)..... Arma
Buchanan, Lester (WWII)..... Andover	Nemnich, John S. (Korea).....Ellinwood
Bush, Thomas J. (Vietnam) ..... Pittsburg 64	Nielsen, Jack M. (Vietnam) ..... Topeka 58
Campbell, Alva J. (Korea) ..... Hutchinson	Northcutt, Donald L. .... Iola
Castle, Dennis L. (WWII) ..... Coffeyville	Oreder, Dwight (Vietnam) ..... Pittsburg 64
Chmelka, Gerald C. (WWII).....Garden City	Oshel, Wallace E. (Vietnam) ..... Erie
Cox, Rick (Vietnam) ..... Bazine	Patterson, Otis ..... Melvern
Debisl. Rpbert G/ (Vietnam)Baxter Springs 206	Perrin, Edward F., Jr. (WWII)..... Girard
Debrabander, Albert E. (Korea) ..... Shawnee	Pfalsler, Ivan L. (Korea).....Topeka 58
Divelbess, Philip G. (Vietnam) ..... Salina 62	Pinegar, Darrell L. (Korea) ..... Little River
Drummond, Jerry D. .... Cottonwood Falls	Pukach, Walter F. (Korea) ..... Topeka 400
Duncan, Buel R. (Vietnam).....Arkansas City	Remaley, William C. (WWII) ..... Overland Park
Erie, Carl A. (Korea) ..... Kansas City 111	Rhoades, Melvin (WWII) ..... Hutchinson
Fairbanks, Philip H. (WWII) ..... Hutchinson	Ricci, Joseph U. (WWII) ..... Olathe
Fewin, Jack E. (Korea)..... Columbus	Robinson, Verbie L. .... St. George
Finders, Wilbur L. (WWII) ..... Olathe	Rockenbach, Floyd (Korea) ..... Derby/Haysville
Flickinger, Robert (WWII) ..... Sterling	Rostine, Boyd L. (WWII) ..... Hutchinson
Fraker, Robert N. (WWII) ..... Oberlin	Rutledge, Eben D., Jr. (WWII) ..... Topeka 400
Frakes, Perry W. (WWII) ..... Girard	Rynerson, Max (Korea) ..... Isabel
Francka, Tony C. (Korea) ..... Cottonwood Falls	Salyer, Lester H. (Korea) ..... Meade
George, Donald R. (WWII)..... Topeks 58	Schankie, Leo H. (Korea) ..... Emporia
Gill, Dwain G. (Korea) ..... Stafford	Schauvliere, Roy (Vietnam) ..... Jetmore
Gonzalez, Raymond (Korea) ..... Newton	Scott, James E. (Vietnam) ..... McPherson
Graham, Donald I. (WWII)..... Caney	Scott, Stuart L. .... Leoti
Grindol, Wayne W. (WWII) ..... Jewell	Seagraves, Dick (WWII) ..... Wellington
Habegger, Roy A. (Vietnam)..... Melvern	Shotwell, Thomas E. (Korea)..... Salina 62
Ham, Robert L. (Vietnam) ..... Atchison	Smiley, Frank D. (Korea) ..... Stafford
Harrison, William A. (WWII) ..... Atchison	Smith, Larnard (WWII) ..... Andover
Henshaw, John D. (Persian Gulf).....Lansing	Stallsmith, Eugene L. (WWII) ..... Topeka 400
Hettic, William R. (WWII) ..... Liberal	Swan, Steven P. (Persian Gulf) ..... Topeka 400
Hitchcock, Duane (WWII).....Topeka 400	Teeter, James A. (Vietnam) ..... Marquette
Hodges, Delmar W. (WWII) ..... Overland Park	Temaat, Anthony F. (Korea) ..... Hutchinson
Horvath, David K. (WWII) ..... Manhattan	Toomay, Howard M. (WWII) ..... Shawnee
Johnson, Oren T. (Vietnam) .....El Dorado	Towner, John B. (WWII) ..... Pittsburg 64
Jones, Dwayne (Korea) ..... Oberlin	Vaughn, Willie H., Jr. (WWII) ..... Winfield
Jones, Jack L. (WWII) ..... Kansas City 111	Venegas, Primo (WWII) ..... Arkansas City
Kashkin, Leon P. (Korea) ..... Salina 62	Wasilewski, Paul D. (Vietnam) ..... Mulvane
Kearby, Charles J. (Vietnam) ..... Manhattan	Waymaster, Wilmer F. (WWII) ..... Russell
Keating, Donald R. (Korea) ..... Wamego	Wheatley, Thomas P. .... Chanute
Kennelley, J. C. (Vietnam) .....Topeka 58	White, William H. (Vietnam)..... Council Grove
Kenney, William J. (WWII) ..... Oskaloosa	Willis, Robert (WWII) ..... Topeka 58
Kirkpatrick, James W. (Korea).....Council Grove	Wilson, Douglas E. (Vietnam) ..... Salina 62
Koester, Norman W. (Vietnam) .....Topeka 400	Wilson, John (Vietnam) ..... Winfield
Kuehn, Kenneth (Vietnam) ..... Bazine	Wilson, Walter E. (Korea)..... Everest
Ladehoff, William D. (Vietnam) ..... Oberlin	Wullschlegler, H. D. (Vietnam)..... Beattie
Layton, Robert H. (WWII).....Caney	Yonning, Dee R. (Korea) ..... Manhattan
Lohmeyer, Clarence E. (WWII)..... Girard	

**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

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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**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



USAA is The American Legion's preferred provider of financial services. Offering a range of top-rated financial and insurance products and services. USAA welcomes honorably discharged U.S. military veterans, active-duty troops and qualified family members and descendants of those who have served. USAA contributes funds to American Legion programs when members join through a dedicated channel: usaa.com/legion or call toll-free at 1-877-699-2654.

# GET OUT THE VOTE

It is not too early to start thinking of the National Elections coming up.

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.

**VICE COMMANDER ROBERT MUNSON  
 HOMECOMING  
 Eisenhower Library  
 Immediately following the Pilgrimage  
 Saturday, October 10**

No. of Luncheon Reservations, \$15.00 each \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:  
 Kansas American Legion  
 1314 SW Topeka Blvd.  
 Topeka, KS 66612**

**DEADLINE: OCTOBER 6, 2015**

## 34th ANNUAL EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE

Enclosed is our payment for a rose to be placed at the Eisenhower Memorial on Saturday, October 10, 2015.

Purchaser \_\_\_\_\_  
 Post - Unit - Other (Please be Specific)

No. of Roses \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
 (\$10 for each rose requested)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Person Placing the Rose

\_\_\_\_\_ Please appoint an appropriate individual to place our rose.

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Day Time) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**RECEPTION & DINNER  
 Chapman Post #240  
 Friday, October 9**

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

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

**ABSOLUTE DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2015**