



The American Legion
Department of Kansas
E-NEWSLETTER
1314 SW Topeka Blvd
Topeka, KS, 66612-1886



THE Voice for Today's Veterans and Military

Department Commander
R.C. "Chuck" Shoemaker

July 2019

Department Adjutant
Jimmie L. Foster

Notes from the Department Commander

This past month was a very busy one for our Legion. American Legion Leadership College, ALLC, was held in Concordia to a very appreciative contingent of Legion members. Educational classes were presented in using myLegion.org, Service Officer responsibilities, increasing Membership activities, reviewing the Consolidated Post Report and other valuable information. Membership packets were distributed to attendees. If your post has not received a packet, please contact your District Commander or District Membership Chairman.

An item of interest was a review of statistics on the number of posts that use the mylegion.org Online Membership Processing, a very easy way of updating information at National. Turns out that only a small percentage of posts use this system for reporting numbers. This is an effective, inexpensive, time saving way for a post to transmit information. The Mylegion.org website is self explanatory and easy to utilize.

A reminder that if you are thinking about joining fellow Kansas Legionnaires at the 101st National American Legion Convention in Indianapolis August 23rd through the 29th, now is the time to begin making plans. The information has been sent out so taking care of reservations now will ensure staying at the closest hotel to the convention center is possible for our delegates, members and guests. This will be a rewarding and exceptional experience!

We are now beginning our 2019/2020 Membership campaign. Each post's membership committee should be poised to begin the process of renewing our members. The District Membership plans were reviewed and discussed with the Department Membership Committee at ALLC, the use of which can lead to a successful membership campaign this year. By utilizing the resources we have, prospective and existing member information on myLegion.org, ideas from the Department Membership Committee and the Area Vice Commanders, we have a great opportunity to make improvement in our numbers, and lest we forget, it is our duty to our predecessors to do so.

Jeff Bond received word that volunteers are needed to help flood victims in our state. They are basically in south central and south east Kansas. They are looking for teams from posts that can volunteer now or perhaps a month from now depending on the weather. The work will most likely take most of the summer. Please call Rev. Hollie Tapley, Disaster Recovery Coordinator at her office 316-684-0266 or cell 904-468-0529 if able to help. The history of the American Legion is replete in helping communities that face devastating events. If you can, let's lend a hand.

Join The American Legion...and you join a Family.

The Commanders Homecoming is scheduled for Saturday, August 17th beginning at noon at Shawnee Post #327. A flyer outlining the program is included in this mailing. Kansas City is a wonderful venue with lots to do. Shaping up to be a great experience. We are looking forward to seeing our Legion Family Members and guests for camaraderie and fellowship...and some fun...at our organization's annual gathering.

Pat and I wish everyone a great time with family and friends celebrating our country's birthday. Happy 4th of July!

For God and Country

R.C. "Chuck" Shoemaker.
Department Commander
The American Legion, Department of Kansas
chuckshoemaker@sbcglobal.net

Notes from the Department Vice-Commander and Membership Chairman

Greetings Department of Kansas!

I am so excited to be your new Department Vice-Commander, thank you for your support, and for believing in me. I look forward to working with all of you to ensure the American Legion Family is around and relevant in another 100 years. As the Department Vice-Commander, I am also the membership chairperson, so if it seems what I have to say always revolves around membership, that's the reason.

The 2019 membership drive is now over. Kansas didn't end up where some of us were hoping in the National membership rankings, but I think we laid some ground work for a bright future. Communication is a key factor in any organization, the e-newsletter and our social media presence are huge steps in the right direction and are just a couple examples of what we are doing differently. The e-newsletter keeps our members informed while social media keeps the public informed, curious, and ultimately interested in membership. Constantly improving communication will continue to be a priority at all levels of the American Legion Family.

It's that time of year again, time to renew your membership; the 2020 membership drive has begun! Save time and a stamp and renew your membership online; this also saves your post time and money. All you need to do to renew online is go to www.ksamlegion.org. At the top of the page, click on renew. You will need your membership number, last name, and a form of payment. This will also prevent additional renewal notices in the mail. If you do it the old-fashioned way with snail mail, it takes much longer and you might get a renewal notice after you have already paid which is not only annoying for you, but it can also be confusing to everyone involved.

Department and many if not all the Districts have membership contests in place, you and/or your post could win a variety of different prizes, including money! So, get out there, recruit new members and collect renewals for your post, you just never know what kind of rewards you might earn. If your post needs help with a membership plan, reach out to your District representatives, their job is to help your post succeed. Department officers will also provide support and help wherever/whenever possible. Bottom-line, we are not mind readers, you need to let us know when you're needing a hand.

Have a blessed Summer, For God and Country!

Join The American Legion...and you join a Family.

Marri Krupco
Department Vice-Commander
The American Legion, Department of Kansas
mkrupco@gmail.com

Department Adjutant's Newsletter July 2019

KANSAS LIFE MEMBERS

A reminder of the memorandum that was sent to all Post Commanders and Post Adjutants of the manner in which a Kansas Life Membership (KLM) will be processed for the 2020 membership year and beyond. As of July 1, 2016 the Kansas Life Membership Plan was changed to require each Post to submit \$18.50 to the Department for each KLM. A second change was the termination of Life Member Credit Memo. A Post has the option to pay \$18.50 from its own funds or require the KLM to pay \$18.50. In either case the Post Adjutant will submit to the Department \$18.50 along with the 2020 Department and American Legion Record card for KLM members. If the Post elects not to pay for each KLM, the KLM has four options: (a) Pay the \$18.50; (b) Let membership lapse; (c) Terminate Life Membership and pay Post dues at current rates; (d) Become a National Paid Up for Life Member (PUFL).

This applies only to Kansas Life Members; all other members are transmitted at \$35.00 as usual. Those PUFL members in your post are handled as usual and you will receive their credit, etc. from National.

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR MEMBERSHIP CARDS Upon receiving your Post's 2020 membership cards and roster the first order of business should be a comparison with your 2019 roster to:

(A) Remove the cards of any deceased members, mark them appropriately and then forward them to Department Headquarters. (B) Remove and correct any duplications (example: Adam Smith and Adam R. Smith.) (C) Delete the card of any member who transferred from your Post -- if you received notice of transfer on a Member Data Form. (D) If you do not have a pre-printed card for any new member of your Post from the 2019 membership campaign set aside a blank card for use when the member renews. Ditto for members who transferred into your Post who may not have a pre-printed card. If you need any member's ID number contact Department Headquarters or myLegion. (E) Review who paid their 2019 dues late (March, April, May) to enter in the correct number of continuous years the member has belonged to The American Legion. Be certain to use a #2 lead pencil whenever making corrections on the member's card or submit the change on a Member Data Form.

THE SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS is to transmit Life Members with payment to Department Headquarters as well as the dues of every Post Officer.

CAMPORAMA - MILFORD LAKE, AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2019. This is a great family event. Make plans now to attend.

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING, AUGUST 17. Department Commander Chuck Shoemaker, President Paula Sellens and Commander Terry Harris invite all Legion, Auxiliary and S.A.L. members to attend the American Legion Family Homecoming in Shawnee, Kansas on Saturday, August 17, 2019. See enclosed flyer. There will be a membership turn-in, but please do not hold membership. Post Adjutants should make a membership transmittal every two weeks, more often if necessary.

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POST QUOTA WILL BE the 2018 or 2019 membership as of June 30, whichever is higher. Dues notices for 2020 membership will be mailed by National Headquarters to reach members appearing on your 2019 roster on or about July 1, 2019. Members are to send their dues directly to their local Post Adjutant or they may renew online with National Headquarters and your Post will receive a credit memo along with a list of those members who renewed online.

Post Adjutants are to furnish members their card and LegionCare enrollment card immediately upon payment of dues (including those who renew online). Posts are to transmit record cards and \$35.00 per member at least every two weeks.

SAL SQUADRONS: The requirement to turn in all unused 2019 S.A.L. cards to Department Headquarters was rescinded at the Detachment and Department Conventions. All 2020 S.A.L. membership cards will be mailed to the Posts.

AMERICAN LEGION LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS: National Headquarters established the American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund to help provide financial assistance in the form of scholarships to the children of military personnel killed while on active duty since the 9-11 attacks against our nation. National Headquarters relies upon donations from The American Legion Family, particularly the Legion Riders, for annual donations to the scholarship fund with the goal of building the fund to a level that interest earned will begin to finance future scholarships while still be able to award scholarships now. All Posts, Squadrons, Rider Chapters and Auxiliary Units are encouraged to conduct a special event to increase awareness of, and donations to, the Legacy Scholarship program. Naturally personal donations are always welcome. Dept. Headquarters asks that all donations be sent to Dept. Finance Office, 1314 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, KS 66612 so that all contributions from Kansas can be recorded and proper recognition may be made in the Sunflower Legionnaire.

CLINGS: Department Headquarters has a supply of static clings that can be moved from vehicle to vehicle for \$3.00 each. Two sizes are available 2"x26" Kansas American Legion Riders (the "Riders" can be trimmed off for those who are not riders) and 2"x20" American Legion Riders. Minimum orders of 5 are available and sizes can be mixed.

STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT will be held at Great Life Golf and Fitness at Shawnee Country Club in Topeka, September 28, 2019. For further information contact State Golf Chairman Lonny Cook, 785-286-2134, email kickaron01@sbcglobal.net or Dan Wiley, 913-680-7199, email dwiley@yahoo.com.

NATIONAL CONVENTION IN INDIANAPOLIS IS SHAPING UP: The Kansas Delegation is to be housed at Crowne Plaza Downtown Hotel. Housing request must be made through Headquarters for all Delegates, Alternates and Guests. Everyone wishing to arrange for housing should notify Department Headquarters immediately. Dates for the convention are August 23 - 29, 2019.

THERE IS STILL TIME...It is not too late to pay 2019 dues. Check your roster and be sure your members have one last opportunity to keep their continuous membership in The American Legion. Stress this and give them one more opportunity.

ENCLOSED is a listing of the District Officers and their addresses. Please keep this sheet handy for future reference.

Join The American Legion...and you join a Family.

RECENTLY the Kansas Legion launched the Kansas American Legion Membership Verification Project, the purpose of which was to ensure correct membership information was in our Department records. The project was reviewed, approved and forwarded by the National Adjutant as a Company authorized to do business with the Departments of The American Legion for their use in obtaining and updating member information. To date, 32 American Legion Departments have implemented the service, including our own, which includes offering a publication of veteran's bios' and ultimately making the State of Kansas American Legion history book available to the member. After consideration, a member may accept or reject the offer.

The information gathered by the approved organization is for our use only and is not shared with any outside company, organization or agency per the list protection agreement.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Highland and Wetmore for making GOAL. (As of June 21.)

DISTRICT STANDINGS AS OF JUNE 21, 2019: District II, 3,998 - 93.78%; District IV, 3,362 - 90.38%; District V, 3,269 - 88.81%; District VII, 1,760 - 88.62%; District I, 4,321 - 87.36%; District VIII, 989 - 84.46%; District III, 2,350 - 83.96% and District VI, 2,622 - 83.26%. Department Headquarters Post 58 (included in Dept. total) is 940. Total membership is 23,611. Membership last year this date was 25,055. We are BEHIND 1,444 members.

Upcoming Events

July 19-20, 2019

- Erie Bean Feed and Parade, Erie

August 17, 2019

- Homecoming event at Shawnee American Legion Post 327 for Department Commander, Department Auxiliary President and Department SAL Commander. See below flyer for more details.

August 23-29, 2019

- 101st National Convention, Indianapolis (Legion's 100th Birthday Party)

September 7-15, 2019

- Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson

September 20-22, 2019

- State ALR Rally, Topeka 400

September 28, 2019

- Department Charity Golf Classic, Shawnee Country Club, Topeka

September 29, 2019

- National Commanders Tour, (Eastern part of State)

October 12, 2019

- Eisenhower Pilgrimage, Abilene
- Department Vice Commander's Homecoming, Abilene

November 23, 2019

- Big Red One Turkey Run, Fort Riley

Join The American Legion...and you join a Family.

December 13-14, 2019

- Operation North Pole, Fort Riley

February 1-2, 2020

- Midwinter Conference... Fort Scott Post 25 North Pole, Fort Riley



Sergeant Kevin A. Gilbertson

1982 - 2007

*Keeley Frank
American Gold Star Mother
Cordially invites you to attend the
Memorial and Dedication of the
Sgt. Kevin A. Gilbertson Memorial Bridge
31333 61st Lane, Arkansas City, Kansas
(S.E. Corner of the South Summit River Bridge.)*

*In honor of
Sergeant Kevin A. Gilbertson
1-77 AR, 1st Infantry Division
Saturday, August 3, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.*



Please R.S.V.P. to randyfrank@csema.com

Join The American Legion...and you join a Family.



AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER'S HOMECOMING

HONORING:

RC 'CHUCK' SHOEMAKER - DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

PAULA SELLENS - DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

TERRY HARRIS - S.A.L. DETACHMENT COMMANDER

Saturday, NOON, AUGUST 17TH, 2019
Shawnee American Legion Post #327
6521 Nieman Road Shawnee, Kansas 66203

Key Note Speaker:

Dr. David Mills

Command and General Staff College Fort Leavenworth
Department of Military History

Social hour at Noon. Luncheon 1 pm

HONORED GUEST: Medal of Honor Recipient Roger Donlon

Events Throughout the Day:

Silent Auction to benefit Children and Youth
50/50 Raffle to support Dan Wiley's Candidacy
Complimentary Caricatures

Area Attractions:

The Royals in town against the Mets. Fri, 16th at 7:15 pm///Sat. 17th at 6:15 pm. (Bobble Head). 816-504-4040 for tickets. National WW-I Liberty Memorial open. Fri and Sat 9 am-5 pm. Sun 10 am -5 pm. Worlds of Fun. Sat 10 am-10 pm and Sun 10 am-7 pm. All Casinos open.

Hotel: Quality Inn, 6401 E. Frontage Road, Merriam, Kansas, 66202 913-262-2622

\$70 for King single, \$80 for queen doubles. (Rates good if made by July 19th) **Luncheon Tickets:** \$15.00 per person; (\$18 after August 10th) Children under ten \$8.

Checks payable to RC Shoemaker, PO Box 3277, Shawnee, Kansas 66203

Please cut and mail

Name _____ Post/Unit/Squadron/Chapter _____

Guest Names _____

Meal Ticket # _____ Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Join The American Legion...and you join a Family.



American Legion Department of Kansas
Golf Classic
1314 SW Topeka Blvd
Topeka KS 66612

Join Us!

For nearly a century, The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion and since 2007 American Legion Riders have worked steadfastly, side by side, promoting patriotism and national security while supporting youth and advocating for veterans and active-duty military. While members of The American Legion Family are individually unique, collectively we are a multi-million member powerhouse of caring advocates dedicated to service. You and your family can join us!

Eligibility Requirements

The American Legion

If you are currently on active duty, serving the United States honorably, anywhere in the world, or have served honorably during any of the following eligible war eras, we invite you to become a member of The American Legion.

- Aug 2, 1990 to today (Gulf War / War on Terrorism)
- Dec 20, 1989 to Jan 31, 1990 (Panama)
- Aug 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984 (Lebanon / Grenada)
- Feb 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975 (Vietnam War)
- June 25, 1950 to Jan 31, 1955 (Korean War)
- Dec 7, 1941 – Dec 31, 1946 (World War II)
- April 6, 1917 to Nov 11, 1918 (World War I)

American Legion Auxiliary

Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of The American Legion eligibility periods and who died in the line of duty during such service, or who, having received an Honorable Discharge, died after service. A woman who is eligible for American Legion membership is eligible to join the American Legion Auxiliary under her own service.

Sons of The American Legion

All male descendants, adopted sons and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died during Service during the eligibility periods as defined by The American Legion eligibility requirements, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for Membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

For More Information
The American Legion • 1314 SW Topeka Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66612 • 785-232-9315
www.ksamlegion.org

What We Do and Why We Matter

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest wartime veteran's service organization, committed to mentoring youth and sponsor ship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans.

We Make a Difference in Kansas

- Legislative Advocacy for Veterans and Veterans' Issues
- American Legion Baseball
- American Legion Boys State
- Care and Support for Veterans and their Families
- Help and Comfort to Veterans in VA Facilities
- American Legion Auxiliary Girls State
- Distribution of Memorial Poppies
- Care and Financial Support to Children of Veterans
- Scholarship Opportunities for Children of Veterans
- Awareness of Veterans' Health Issues and PTSD
- Financial Support to Wounded Warriors
- End Veteran Homelessness Initiatives
- Family Support Networks
- Emergency Financial Support to Veterans
- Flag Etiquette and Advocacy
- Youth Activities and Education
- Americanism and Get Out the Vote
- POW / MIA Initiatives
- Veteran Suicide Prevention and Awareness

...and so much more



Your Donations
Make a Difference!

American Legion Department of Kansas 2019 Golf Classic



GreatLIFE
Live. Play. Better.
at Shawnee Country Club



September 28th, 2019
4 Person Scramble • Luncheon
On Course Events • Prizes



A Little Background...

For 100 years, The American Legion has been the "go to" Veterans' Service Organization in support of veterans, active duty military and their families. Through our core outreach programs, which include Children and Youth, Legislative advocacy and Americanism, we reach those who are at greatest need via a grassroots support network of nearly 300 American Legion posts located throughout Kansas.



Please Support Us!

Proceeds from the tournament will go to support the programs and services of The American Legion Family in Kansas.

About our Event

Saturday, September 28, 2019 at

GreatLIFE

Golf & Fitness at Shawnee Country Club
913 S.E. 29th Street • Topeka, KS 66605

Four Person Scramble (Flighted)
Double Shotgun Start at 8am & 1:00pm

Cost: \$80.00/person • \$320.00/team
Includes Green Fees, Cart, Range Balls,
Luncheon, Gift Certificate & Hole in One Prize

On Course Events: \$20.00/player
Closest to the Pin (Men & Women)
Longest Drive (Men & Women)
Longest Putt (Men & Women)
Silent, and 50/50 Auctions

FLIGHT PAYOUTS

First: \$240

Second: \$140

Third: \$100

Deadline for Entry: September 15, 2019

Luncheon by:

Starts at 12pm

- Pulled Pork
- Smoked Baked Beans
- Homemade Cole Slaw
- Homemade BBQ Sauce

• SPECIAL HOTEL RATES AVAILABLE •

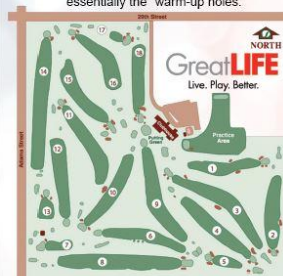
For More Golf Classic Information Contact:

Gaylord Sanneman: 620-290-3482

Lonny Cook: kickaron1@bsglobal.net
785-286-2134

About the Course

The course was designed by Donald J. Ross. From the standpoint of play, the course has remained essentially the same since it was first opened, complete with the subtle challenges that typify the designer's work. The opening holes are challenging, but Donald Ross designed the first third of the course to be comparatively simple and non-punishing, essentially the "warm-up holes."



A variety of mature trees, flowers, and rolling hills give the golf course its unique appeal. This very narrow course was constructed on rolling terrain. The fairways are narrow and tree lined. Water hazards come into play on some holes. The back-to-back par fours from number nine through number twelve are among the longest and most challenging in the Midwest. The eighteenth hole was designed to be a match play tie-breaker; its severely sloped putting surface gives the edge to the golfer making the most skillful approach shot. The course measures 6,598 yards from the back tees and plays to a par-71. The course rating is 72.4 and the slope rating is 125.



OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM
Cost (Donation): \$80 Per Person / \$320 Per Team. Make Checks Payable to:
American Legion Department of Kansas Golf Classic
Send to: American Legion Department of Kansas Golf Classic • 1314 SW Topeka Blvd. • Topeka, KS 66612
Need more info? Contact Gaylord Sanneman: 620-290-3482 or Lonny Cook: 785-286-2134 • Entry Deadline: Sept. 15th, 2019



TEAM CAPTAIN	PLAYER 1	PLAYER 2	PLAYER 3	PLAYER 4
Name:	Name:	Name:	Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:	Address:	Address:	Address:
Email:	Email:	Email:	Email:	Email:
Phone:	Phone:	Phone:	Phone:	Phone:

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