

Sunflower Legionnaire

The American Legion -



Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

VOL LXXIII NO. 1

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

July, August, September 2019



R.C. 'Chuck' Shoemaker, Department Commander



Marri Krupco, Department Vice Commander

R.C. 'CHUCK' SHOEMAKER ELECTED DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

R.C. 'Chuck' Shoemaker was elected Department Commander during the closing session of the 101st annual State Convention in Hutchinson on May 19. Commander Shoemaker is a member of Shawnee Post #327. Chuck served in the United States Air Force, and has served as Department Vice Commander, Department Master-At-Arms, National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms (4 years), Second District Vice Commander and Commander.

Marri Krupco, a 19-year member of Blue Mound Post #279, was elected Department Vice Commander. Mar-

ri served in the United States Navy, and has served as Second District Executive Committeewoman (3 years), Vice Commander and Commander.

James Snyder was elected Area East Vice Commander and will assist Posts in Districts I, II, III, and IV when called upon to do so. He is an 8 year member at Oskaloosa Post #36.

Gary Foos was elected as Area West Vice Commander. Gary will be available to respond to requests for assistance from Posts in District V, VI, VII, VIII, and IX. He is a 22-year member currently with Post #392 in Bazine.



James Snyder, Area East Vice Commander



Gary Foos, Area West Vice Commander

SWEEPSTAKES SUPPORTS KANSAS' VETERANS, YOUTH

The Spring Sweepstakes provides much needed funding for Kansas Department's state-wide Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation programs as well as Children and Youth programs.

In a partnership with the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs Office, the Kansas American Legion employs four Veterans Service Officers and their staff to assist veterans obtaining their earned veterans' benefits. Under this program, the American Legion maintains an office in each of the three VA hospitals in Kansas. This important service is available to any veteran, free of charge.

Sweepstakes proceeds also go to the Department Children and Youth (C&Y) fund. Department C&Y pays for the State Oratorical Contest, various scholarships, and the Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program. These worthy programs could not exist without the generous support of Kansas Legionnaires.

The drawing was held in Topeka, May 19, during the Department Convention. The Grand Prize of \$2,500 went to Donald Koch of Leavenworth.

The second place winner was David Epps from Pleasanton who received \$1,000. Charles Mitchell of Wichita, was the recipient of the Third Place drawing of \$500.

Winners of the five \$250 prizes were William Dalton of Virgil Linda Dudley of Shawnee, Terry Patton of Wichita, John Hermreck of Garnett, and John Hagar of Thayer.

Winners of the five \$200 prizes were Ivan Schmidt of Topeka, Joe Johnston of Cawker City, William Edmonson of Longton, James Bost of Lawrence, and Phillip Boring of Parsons. Joe Johnston received an additional bonus \$200 for being present at the drawing.

CAMPORAMA WITH US

Camporama remains an economical mini-vacation opportunity for all American Legion Family members. Now in its 47th year, Camporama takes place over the Labor Day weekend, August 30 - September 2. The festivities will be held in the Wakefield City Park adjacent to Milford Lake.

Registration is still \$15.00 per adult as it has been for years; for those under 16 and at least 10 years old the charge is \$5.00, and for those under ten for price is \$2.00. Additionally there is a \$20.00 per camper per night Corps of Engineering fee. Registrations must be made by August 15, by calling the Park Manager at 785-461-5774.

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

Registration begins on Friday, August 30, with free hot dogs available while everyone settles in for a weekend of fun. Registration continues on Saturday and planned activities will include contests, games, supper, and a White Elephant Bingo (please bring prizes).

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

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

The Department Camporama Committee members include Chairman Wiley Simhisier of Lehigh, Charles Reinhardt of Salina, and Tom Emerson of Garnett.

COMMANDER

Chuck Shoemaker

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To begin, may I express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to continue service to the Kansas American Legion as your Commander. Over 30 years ago the decision was made to join the organization and honor my parents, both of whom served in WW-II in Europe. Little did I suspect that some day my service would continue in this current capacity. Pat and I have travelled the state, meeting remarkable members, dedicated to the Legion's mission. We will continue this journey in the same spirit that is evident in our posts, one that will enable us to fulfill our promise to our veterans.

The 100th year Centennial celebration is in full swing. Many posts have conducted gatherings of Legion members, Auxiliary, S.A.L. and Riders observing the founding of the World's Largest Veterans Organization. In addition, there are posts that were chartered in 1919 that are conducting ceremonies for the 100 years of service to our veterans. The public has been notified of these historic events resulting in attendance and participation by local officials as well as potential Legion members. We certainly hope that post members will take the opportunity to attend these functions and support this once in a lifetime Legion experience.

The first week of June was a challenge due to the schedule of our various programs. ALLC in Concordia was well attended with significant educational information in many subjects presented to attendees. Brian Page, 5th District Commander, presented a most informative overview of Legion.Org to a packed classroom. Dan Bartlett, Department Service Officer, gave a detailed presentation on Post Service Officer tasks, duties and functions. And Michele

Steinmetz, Member Engagement Coordinator at National, spoke thoroughly on Membership and the Consolidated Post Report.

The states' 82nd Boys State program began on Sunday, June 2nd and finished with closing ceremonies at K-State in Manhattan on Friday, June 7th. This year Cadet Law program was also held on these dates in Salina at the Highway Patrol Training Center. Additionally, the Kansas ALR Legacy Run which started in Wichita on Thursday, June 6th and ended in El Dorado on Sunday, June 9th, saw more than 50 members ride for the children of veterans. I was able to attend all the functions including the closing ceremonies at Girls State where the Governor was capped for 2019/2020. Lots of miles with lots of enjoyment with those that participated and orchestrated the events.

A word on the Commander's Homecoming scheduled for Saturday, August 17th with Ladies Auxiliary President Paula Sellens and S.A.L. Commander Terry Harris. This year it will be held at the Shawnee Legion Post #327, 6521 Nieman Road, Shawnee, Kansas, kicking off at noon. We are honored to have as our guest speaker Dr. David Mills, author, lecturer and historian from the Command and General Staff College in Ft. Leavenworth. (See article and registration in this edition.)

I am looking forward to visiting many posts and hearing about the outstanding plans each has for this 101st year of the organization. It will be my pleasure to participate in any functions, social, revitalizations, membership oriented, in order to help reach our goals for the year. Working as a team, we can and will make this an outstanding year.

For God and Country

VICE COMMANDER

Marri Krupco

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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!

**AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
HOMECOMING**

Dr. David Mills, Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth

The Homecoming Celebration for Department Commander Chuck Shoemaker, Auxiliary President Paula Sellens, and S.A.L. Commander Terry Harris will be held Saturday, August 17th at Shawnee Post #24 located at 6521 Nieman Road.

The festivities will begin with social hour starting at 12:00 PM and lunch at 1:00PM. Dr. David Mills from the Command and General Staff College Fort Leavenworth Department of Military History, will be the key note speaker. Tickets are \$15 per person (\$20 after August 10), and \$8 for children under 10.

See page 9 for registration coupon.

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

Dan Bartlett**2200 SW Gage
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Vietnam Blue Water Navy Veterans

Blue Water Navy Veterans are now entitled to presumption of service connection for conditions related to Agent Orange exposure. This extension of presumption is a result of Public Law 116-23, the Blue Water Navy Act of 2019, signed into law on June 25, 2019. The law takes effect January 1, 2019.

The law states that Veterans aboard a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia as defined in Public Law 116-23, between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, are presumed to have been exposed to herbicides such as Agent Orange and may be entitled to service connection for conditions related to that exposure.

What will the effective date for Benefits be for Blue Water Veterans claim?

Presumptive Agent Orange conditions granted for Blue Water Navy Veterans may be retro-

**AMERICAN LEGION DAYS at the State Fair**

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:

Fri, Sept. 6..... 6th District

Sat, Sept. 7 7th District

Sun, Sept. 8 9th District

Mon, Sept. 9.... 4th District

Tues Sept. 10... 8th District

Wed, Sept. 11 .. 5th District

Thu, Sept. 12 ...2nd District

Fri, Sept. 13..... 7th District

Sat, Sept. 141st District

Sun, Sept. 15 ... 3rd District

active to the date VA received your original claim. If you had a previously denied claim and resubmit your claim, the effective date will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

May the surviving spouse of a Blue Water Navy Veteran who passed away from condition related to Agent Orange exposure, and who was previously denied compensation for such condition, become entitled to Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)?

If the Veteran served on a Navy or Coast Guard Ship as defined in Public Law 116-23, and the cause of death was from a condition related to exposure to Agent Orange, the Department of Veterans Affairs may award the entitlement (DIC) on that Basis.

Veterans seeking more information should contact an American Legion Veterans Service Representative. Or visit www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/navy-coast-guard-ships-vietnam/.

**HISTORIAN
JOE JOHNSTON**

Have you ever wondered what life would be like if Germany had won World War II. If it had not been for the courage of 156,000 men from the United States and ten other countries on June 6, 1944 we would probably have found out.

A brother-in-law from Holland informed me that life under the Nazis during the war was not much fun. His parents hid him from the Germans, a brother was sent to Germany as a slave laborer. Confiscation of all firearms was very easy as all guns were registered. Many people starved to death as the Nazis sent much of the food to their troops in other countries.

So thank God for D Day and also the Atomic Bomb, as I don't believe life under the Japanese would be much fun either.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES**BASEBALL**Joe R. Durham
Eric Smith
* Steve Queen**BOYS STATE**Don Whitten
Rich Senften
* Robert Jenkins**BOWLING*** Gary Loucks
Michael Cole
Lynn Wichman**CADET LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY**Ray Vail
* Gaylord Sanneman
Robert Munson**CAMPORAMA**Tom Emerson
Charles Reinhardt
* Wiley Simhiser**CHILDREN & YOUTH,
CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION AND SCOUTING**Larry "Pete" Hall
Rick Miller
* Pat Culver**CIVIL PREPAREDNESS**Tom Emerson
* Dennis Kramer
Bruce Branson**ECONOMICS*** Jim Buterbaugh
Eszter Blair
Larry Collins**EISENHOWER DAY**Paul Sanford
Jim Arwine
* John Meyeres**EMPLOYMENT**Tom Howard
* Jeff Barber
Rick Lowery**ENERGY*** Rick Simpson
Harold Randa
Fred Meyer**FINANCE*** Jim Buterbaugh
Dave Thomas
Robert Munson**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY**Rev. Debra Muylaert
* Rev. Glenn Patterson
Kenny Lehman**FOREIGN RELATIONS**Tim Russell
* George Pogge
Keith Melick**GOLF**Dan Wiley
* Lonny Cook
Richard Geike**LEGION RIDERS**Alan Hagans
* Roger Beckley
Allen H. Longstaff**LEGISLATIVE**Dave Thomas
Terry Marr
* Terry Warner**MEMBERSHIP**Paul Sanford
Myra Jowers
Gaylord Sanneman
* Marri Krupco**MUSIC*** Spencer Madison
Fred Meyer
Basil Pepperd**NATIONAL SECURITY**Mark Radke
* Pat Hewitt
Rod Ziemer**POW / MIA**Jimmy Strachan
Randy Frank
* Bryan Page**PUBLIC RELATIONS**Rick Miller
* Charles Sellens
Gary Slimmer**S.A.L.**Dan Wiley
Don Behrens
* Bryan Page**SCHOLARSHIP AND ORATORICAL**Gary Foos
* Mike Oppy
Ray Vail**SCHOOL AWARDS, COUNTY GOVERNMENT, & FLAG EDUCATION**Dan Stacy
* James Snyder
Kenny Lehman**SHOOTING SPORTS**Duane Clemons
* Larry Warner
Joe Hulse**VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION*** Pat Culver
Jeremy Ehart
Clint Williard**AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**Ray Vail
Jim Arwine
* Gaylord Sanneman

* Indicates Committee Chairman

**FIRST DISTRICT
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CLINT VAWTER
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VICE CMDR.
DAN WENTLING
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First, I want to thank you for your support by electing me your commander for Legion year 2019-2020. It will be an honor serving you. Last year the district was in fourth and fifth place most of the year for membership. In the past we have been in first place. We must all strive to turn this around, and putting the first district in first place. I am planning to hold two re-vitalizations this year. One in the eastern part of the district and one in the western side. I am looking at some time in late October. Hopefully by holding two revitalizations this will enable more posts to participate. While revitalizations are a good tool, they are not the only tool for membership. Another good tool is "Ask a friend". Just think, if every Legion member would bring in one new member where we would be. The National convention is just around the corner August 23 to 29, 2019 in Indianapolis, IN. The Kansas State Fair is in September. The first districts day is Saturday September 14, 2019. We need volunteers to man the booth that day. Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons are all welcome to help out. First District commanders home coming is October 19 at Post 400. If I can be of help to your post, please call on me.

**SECOND DISTRICT
COMMANDER
JEFFREY BARBER
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(913) 908-5255
VICE CMDR.
MYRA JOWERS
725 Fairway Dr.
Fort Scott, KS 66701
(620) 215-1286**

I'd like to start off with saying Thank You to the Legion-

naires of the 2nd District for your support and for electing me as your Commander for the 2019-2020 year. With the help of Vice CMDR Myra and the rest of the 2nd District Officers, we look forward to a great year and are always available for support. Please utilize our 2nd District website (<http://kslegiondistrict2.org/>) for calendar information on functions. You can also find our District Facebook page at (American Legion Department of Kansas - District 2). Last year as the Vice CMDR, I visited many posts for the first time. All were wonderful and unique. My focus this year is making sure all the posts are educated on the paperwork that needs to be annually filed. I'm also happy to share fundraising and post function ideas. You can really learn a lot by visiting other surrounding posts and observe one of their meetings. We all face the same issues. A large one is membership. We lose more and more each year to the Post of Everlasting. We have room for improvement on recruiting and retaining our members. We as the 2nd District Officers look forward to assisting in doing just that. Enjoy your Summer and be safe. Jeff Barber (jeffabarber@hotmail.com).

**THIRD DISTRICT
COMMANDER
JOHN MELVIN
202 W. Jefferson
Arma, KS 66712
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VICE CMDR.
ED BORING, Sr.
313 20000 Rd.
Cherryvale, KS 67335
(620) 332-9942**

Hello Legion Members of the Third District. I want to thank my fellow Third District Legionnaires for electing me as your Commander for the 2019-2020 Term. I would like to start the year off on a positive note, Congratulations to Andrew McBride of Post 138 in Caney, KS who was named the Third District Commander of the Year for 2018-2019. To achieve this honor the Caney post was a 100% Reporting Post meaning that they had turned in all of their reports on time and achieved 100% membership quota before the Department convention.

The American Legion stands on four pillars; Veteran's Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children and Youth. The Reports that the post is required to submit to The District and Department level are an in-depth view of what your post has accomplished in the past year. The membership of the post should be aware of the contents of these reports. This will assist in membership recruiting efforts. When a prospect asks "What does the American Legion Do?" they can be answered with hard facts about what the local post does for their community. More importantly the information in the reports can be used for public relations to let your community as a whole know what the Legion does for them. The more information that you can get out to the community that shines a positive light on the Legion activities in the community the more community support your Post will receive.

If you need any assistance of any kind get in touch with me or any of the 3rd District Executive Committee. Have a Great Year! God Bless the American Legion, all of its members and the USA.

**FIFTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER
BRYAN PAGE
6015 S. Kansas
Wichita, KS 67216
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VICE CMDR.
CHARLES EATON
21275 SW Meadowlark Rd.
Douglass, KS 67216
(316) 648-4072**

Since last we spoke we have had a very busy time, we held our Department Convention, in which we elected our new Department Commander, Chuck Shoemaker, and our American Legion Leadership College, we have celebrated the 100th Birthday of two of our posts, Post 4 in Wichita and Post 2 in Newton Kansas, we have rededicated a War World II Memorial at the VA Hospital and kicked off the starting and closing legs of the 2019 Kansas Legacy Runs. We had Post 73 conduct a very successful community outreach day and recruited 1 for sure and possibly three new members. We had Post 408 in Derby stand up an American Legion baseball team, The Derby Bandits, and volunteer at the Smoke on the Plains BBQ and Music Festival by manning an information booth and providing seating and waiting staff to over 1000 military service members and their families. They also provided an ALR ride-in to kick off the closing ceremony. The Kansas Honor Flight, with the assistance of American Legions have sent two full flights of deserving veterans to Washington D.C.

This all says one thing to me, involvement. We must, as a Legion family become involved in our Post and community. We need to reach out to our members and invite them to participate in the Post programs. We must reach out to our community leadership and establish a partnership which enhances our image while serving our veterans, our children and youths and our community as a whole.

As we accomplish the above we must also remember that we are entering into our primary recruiting and membership renewal season. Take the lessons we learned from previous years and start an aggressive recruiting and retention plan early. Think beyond just sending out letters, develop a social calendar focusing (Continued on Page 5)

**FOURTH DISTRICT
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KEITH MELICK
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Hello District IV! The American Legion 2020 Fiscal year has begun and we are off to the races.

After the Department Convention District IV has hit the ground with Leadership College, Boys State and Cadet Law. We are looking forward to the upcoming events with you to include the National Convention in Indianapolis.

We now have 100 years of foundation to strengthen our resolve as we plunge into the next century with the hunger to uphold our predecessors dream.

Your District IV Leadership has some new ideas for working the Membership challenge along with supporting your post activities. Soon your Membership Committee Members will be in touch and give you all the help you ask for.

(Continued from Page 4)

on membership. Reach out to your district officers for help and assistance and keep your lines of communications open at all times.

Just a final note to remind the District that on July 4th we have the VA Hospital 4th of July BBQ and on August 2,3 and 4th we have the Central State Camporama. Please come out and enjoy the companionship of our American Legion Family and our proud veterans who have given so much of our country.

**SIXTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER**
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District Convention was held April 6th in Phillipsburg where we elected our officers for the 2020 membership year. All that was changed was Commander and Vice-Commander all other officers held their positions.

Department Convention in Hutchinson May 17-19. During that time Department held a drawing for what Districts will work the State Fair booth September 6-15. District 6th is working September 6th. We are in need of volunteers to help with the booth. Can be for one hour or however long you like to stay. Parking passes will be available. Get with me ASAP.

Leadership Collage was held in Concordia June 1-2. After Leadership Collage was over I held a District Officers meeting at Concordia Post 76. This meeting was with the Legion, Auxiliary and S.A.L. Our meeting was about our plans for the 2020 membership year. During that meeting it was decided to bring back the Fall Conference. Our Fall Conference will be held at Post 174 in Ellsworth October 5th. After the conference that evening will be the District Commanders' Homecoming. The idea to hold both on the same date is trying to avoid the foul weather. There will be a mailing going out to all the Posts, 30 days before

the conference.

District Convention will be April 4th 2020 at Concordia Post 76. Remember, it is important to have your post represented at convention. Each post that attends can take part in the discussions and vote if needed.

October 5, 2019 will be our Fall Conference at Ellsworth Post 174, beginning at 10:00 AM. Following the conference will be our Commander Homecoming. Social Hour begins at 4:00 and the Banquet begins at 5:00.

**SEVENTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER**
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VICE CMDR.
MIKE JURY
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Greetings 7th District

I was honored to be able to go over to Normandy, France to witness the 75th Anniversary of the D-Day celebration. Before I went I was careful not to call it a celebration, but instead a ceremony. I suppose I thought it would be a solemn occasion about remembrance and triumph from past Veterans. Please don't get me wrong it was definitely about remembering those that fought during WWII. But it was also a celebration, the French celebrate their freedom, they celebrate the Americans and allies that fought to liberate them, and they celebrate the memories of those that paid the ultimate price for their freedom. It was a great reminder of how great a country we actually live in.

So my goal going forward is to celebrate.

Celebrate next year and those years after, celebrate our rights and freedom, celebrate our membership in the Legion, and celebrate our prior service to this great country. Celebrate this life for what we have and remember those that gave their life for us. Remember what we have and why we have it, honor those that fought to give us these rights, and honor yourself by treating those around you with decency and respect. Celebrate today, tomorrow, and forever.

**EIGHTH DISTRICT
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Dear 8th District

It's been a busy and exciting year so far. It is also been a challenge with the health issues that have hit some of our district members. Please keep Brett Anderson and his family in your prayers. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at our 100th birthday party on August 17th. Times will be announced. Also remember to sell those raffle tickets to support our Honor Guard. This is also the department homecoming and if you want to attend the department homecoming please do not hesitate but I do ask you attend the birthday party and our district homecoming. Keep up the good work with membership and always remember to get one more. I look forward to seeing you all in August.

God bless you all and God bless America

**NINTH DISTRICT
COMMANDER**
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VICE CMDR.
ALAN MARIETTA
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As you may be aware, the 6th District is being split into the 6th and 9th. Those posts located in Phillips, Rooks, Ellis, Trego, Graham, Norton, Decatur, Sheridan, Gove, Logan, Thomas, Rawlins, Cheyenne, Sherman and Wallace Counties will be in the 9th District effective 1 July 2019.

During the 6th District Convention held in Phillipsburg on April 6, 2019 we elected the 9th District Officers. Those individuals are as follows:

Ray Palmer, Post 173, District Commander

Alan Marietta, Post 70, Dis-

trict Vice Commander

Pat Hewitt, Post 252, Adjutant/Finance Officer

Charles Possen, Post 63, Sergeant at Arms

Kenneth Craig, Post 252, District Executive Committee

James Vap, Post 363, District Executive Committee

Monte Lewis, Post 363, District Executive Committee

We are still in need of a District Historian, Chaplain and Judge Advocate. Anyone interested in these positions are encouraged to contact the District Commander.

Welcome to the new 9th District fellow legionnaires we are glad to have the opportunity to have all of you in our district. On behalf of the Officers of the district I want to let you know that we are all here to help you and your post in any way that we can. I have assigned each officer of the district with 4 or 5 posts that they will be helping. With this help we are hoping to get all posts to 100% as soon as possible. I am also asking you to please keep us updated on your Officers and Post information as things change. You can contact myself and/or our district Adjutant Pat Hewitt anytime. The one thing I want everybody to know is that we are here to help you. We are also asking you to keep us updated on events at your post so we can attend as many as possible during this new year.

We have picked up the new 2020 membership cards at Leadership College in Concordia and will get them out to you as soon as we can. Speaking of leadership college if you are able to attend next year, please do. It is well worth it the cost is \$45.00. This includes lodging, and meals for Friday evening thru Sunday morning. You will learn a lot about what is needed to be the Commander, Adjutant and Service Officer just to name a few.

We are hoping to have a great year and with all of us helping we are sure it will be.

2020 Membership Plan

1 – Each District Officer will select the lowest percentage post in their assigned area and with the assistance of the District we will conduct a revitalization to increase membership.

2 – Posts who are at or below 50% of their quota this year will be requested to conduct a revitalization with District support.

3 – All posts which turn in their life members before August 1st will be entered in a drawing. Three places will be paid with 1st

(Continued on Page 9)



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Paula Sellens513 Andrews St.
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It is with great pride that I accept the position of Department President to serve the 2019-2020 year. National's theme for this next year is "Celebrating a Century of Service, The Health and Well-being of our Veterans, Military and Their Families". My theme is "100 Years of the Yellow Brick Road in Kansas" which will feature characters from the Wizard of Oz. A 100 Years of Service to Veterans pin and Trish Ward's Wizard of Oz themed Passport will be on sale for \$5 each. Proceeds from both of these sales will go to the Department Veterans and Rehabilitation Fund.

My project is the National Creative Arts Festival. Nationwide, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities use the creative arts as one form of rehabilitative treatment to help Veterans recover from and cope with physical and emotional disabilities. Proceeds from tickets sales and silent and live auctions will go to the National Creative Arts Festival. A Run, Walk and Roll is being planned for the spring. Proceeds from this event will also go to the Veterans Creative Art fund.

Specific goals for the Yellow Brick Road to Success are:

- Monitoring officers and Chairwomen to ensure Auxiliary goals are being met
- Accepting responsibility for the success of this year's programs
- Upholding the four great principles expressed in the Preamble of our Constitution: Justice, Freedom, Democracy, and Loyalty.

The national president and national chairwomen expect that department chairwomen will:

Communicate with national chairwomen on a regular basis; Reply to emails and phone calls; Report on activities in the department; and Submit mid-year and end-of-year reports. In the area of accountability, I will ask for help in developing job descriptions for chairwomen and officers. All chairwomen and officers will be encouraged to hold themselves accountable. Each chairwoman is expected to help underperforming leaders succeed.

Units need continuity. Unit members need time to adjust to changes so improvements will be made in small increments. The department needs continuity and we are fortunate to have a department secretary with many years of successful service. Also, the National Organization will help provide continuity with a 5-year Action Plan and a 5-year Plan for Awards.

I will begin developing a timeline to document the achievements of the Department Auxiliary in meeting its goals. Additionally, I want to develop a timeline for the past 100 years to celebrate our birthday. And finally, I intend to generate publicity to make the public aware of the auxiliary's accomplishments and service to veterans.

SUPPORT LEGION BASEBALL

Baseball is alive and well in Kansas. Over the month of July, 64 Kansas American Legion Baseball teams will battle for the title of state champion.

There are three classes of Legion Baseball in Kansas. Class 'A' is our junior league for ages 13 to 17. Class 'AA' is our rural senior league for ages 13 to 19. 'AA' Teams can only recruit from a pool of high schools whose sophomore to senior enrollment totals to less than 500. Class 'AAA' is also a senior league for ages 13 to 19. 'AAA' can recruit from a pool of high schools whose sophomore to senior enrollment totals 5,000 students.

The state tournament for each of the three classes will be an eight team tournament with two, four-team pools. The winner from each pool will face off to determine the state champion.

As Class A and AA do not have a regional tournament to participate in this year, the top team from each AA Zone Tournament will compete against the top team from each AAA Zone Tournament. Those 7 teams plus the State Tournament Host compete for the honor to represent Kansas at the regional tournament in Hastings, NE.

Scores from the State Tournaments will be updated daily on the Department web page www.ksamericanlegion.org.

CLASS A

State Championship
Lake Shawnee - July 24-28

CLASS AA/AAA

State Championship
Hays - July 31-August 4

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS

By Department Adjutant Jimmie L. Foster

Now, that the 101st Department Convention is behind us and we have a New slate of Department Officers to lead us into and through the 2019-2020 Membership Year it is time to keep finding Veterans that want to join Our Great Organization.

The Delegates of the Convention were given the opportunity to hear their National Leaders from two Entities of The American Legion Family. Legion National Vice Commander Steve Sweet from Mississippi, National Judge Advocate Kevin Bartlett from Indianapolis, Indiana and American Legion Auxiliary National Vice President Teresa Isensee from the Department of Wisconsin enlightened us with a vast amount of knowledge about their individual Organizations and thanked the Department of Kansas for their support and camaraderie.

National Judge Advocate Kevin Bartlett talked about the authorized documents in accepting a Veteran to become a Member of The American Legion. He passed around DD 214's with various SPD Codes and narratives in the reason for separation section that he had received at his Office from Various Departments and asked individual Department of Kansas American Legion Members to review them and make their determination on their eligibility. It was quite interesting to say the least. Some Members came up with the correct answer very quickly and others seemed to be baffled by the document and ultimately made the WRONG decision on eligibility. Kevin left us with this, if you are unsure, call Department or National for the final determination. Sometimes the Veteran will NOT be happy with the answer, but right is right!

He also talked about the Federal Copyright and Trademark Act which is extremely important in the use of The American Legion Name and The American Legion Emblem. There are existing forms that need to be filled out and submitted with a sketch of the item to be made or reproduced, the business making them, the amount being

made and the price of the item to be sold or given out as an award. The request must be sent by mail or e-mail to the Department Headquarters for review and then submitted to National Emblem Sales for ultimate approval. The National Judge Advocate receives a courtesy copy from National Emblem Sales to make sure that NO individual or Post is violating the law. When in doubt reach out to a higher headquarters.

All Our Guests stated that they looked forward to returning the Great State of Kansas, so all of you must be doing things right. Keep up the Great Work!!!

Both, the Kansas Boys State Program and the Kansas Law Cadet Program was well attended this year and well educated and highly motivated young Adults represented their individual Cities and Towns across the State of Kansas very well. Every time I attend one of these events, I get rejuvenated that there is still hope for America's youth.

The American Legion Leadership College in Concordia was also well attended and those there were eager to learn new things to help Our Organization continue to march forward.

National Assistant Membership Engagement Coordinator Michelle Steinmetz from the National Headquarters Office in Indianapolis, Indiana, presented two classes of instruction: One for Post commanders and one for Post Adjutants. Everyone was very pleased with his classes of instruction. A good interaction between the Instructor and those in attendance transpired.

Fifth District Commander Bryan Page gave a Class of Instruction on MyLegion.org. He had over forty Legion Members attend his class. Most brought their own laptop or iPad to get a real hands on effect of his class. Everyone I talked to afterward was really impressed and said, they learned a lot about the new modules. Thank you, Bryan!

Joe Burke, the Eastern Kansas Veterans Affairs Public Affairs Director from the Leaven-

(Continued on Page 7)



**DETACHMENT
COMMANDER**

Terry Harris
1222 Toles Ave.
Larned, KS 67550
(620) 910-7998



It has been a great year as the Detachment of Kansas Commander. I first want to thank Past Department Commander Dan Wiley for all you have done as not only the Department Commander, but as my friend. You have included me on most everything and allowed me to be with you on many occasions during your travels. I couldn't imagine this past year if you hadn't invited me to all those events. First and foremost, I cherish our friendship and the bond that we have established. I also appreciate your confidence in me as the Kansas Detachment Commander.

The year wouldn't be complete without thank the 2 lovely ladies from the Auxiliary and

the Jr. Auxiliary. A big thank you goes out to Karen Hastings and Brianna Burton. I also feel like we will be friends for life. Thank you both for a great year!

If you are wondering why I am still writing for the Detachment of Kansas, it is because I was re-elected as the Detachment Commander. I do appreciate all the support and courtesy I have been shown over this past year. I do appreciate each and everyone of you. Let's make this year the best that it can possibly be. Remember to "Just Ask" each and everyone you see if they are a Legion Family Member. We cannot survive without them.

Until Next Time. "Always Remember the Mission"

KANSAS LEGIONNAIRE ENDORSED FOR NATIONAL COMMANDER

Delegates at the 101st Annual American Legion Department of Kansas Convention in Hutchinson on May 19, 2019 unanimously endorsed outgoing Department Commander Dan K. Wiley for the high office of National Commander of The American Legion. Dan, a Kansas Life Member of Leavenworth Post 23, served in the United States Air Force from 1986-90 and has been a member of The American Legion since 1993. He served as Department Commander in 2018-19, and previously as Department Vice Commander; and Department Judge Advocate.

Dan's distinguished service as Department Commander included creating the Department's E-Newsletter; increasing public awareness of The American Legion by placing an emphasis on public relations through media releases, radio and television appearances, and Gubernatorial Proclama-

tions; utilizing social media such as the video series "Kansas Connection;" and playing a significant part in revitalizing the Department's Cadet Law Enforcement Academy.

Dan has served on the National Media and Communications Commission (formerly the Magazine Commission) since 2010, and served 9 years as Chairman of the Department Flag Education, School Awards, and County Government Day Committee. Dan has served in numerous leadership roles both in his local veteran community and as a civic leader in his local community. Dan is also a member of the Sons of the American Legion Oskaloosa Squadron 36. Dan lives in Leavenworth with his wife Sonia, who is an American Legion Auxiliary member of Leavenworth Unit 23, and his two children are members of the American Legion Family.

ADJUTANT'S BRIEFS (Continued from Page 6)

worth Veterans Administration Medical Center gave an excellent update on the ins and outs of the V. A. System and how to navigate around the different avenues involved. He held a Question and Answer session for some great interaction with the V.A. and the Veteran. Other Members attending from the V.A. to include Staff and Medical Personnel took part. I believe everyone in attendance was thoroughly impressed and gained a vast amount of knowledge from his Session.

We also heard from Kathy Zima-Sauer, the Eastern Kansas V.A. Health Care System's Women Veterans Program Manager at the VAMC (Veterans Affairs Medical Center) located in Topeka. She presented a power point presentation and dialogue pertaining to her Specialty which is dealing with Military Sexual Trauma and the Changing make-up of not only the Military, but the V.A., in dealing with Female Veterans. She then held a Question and Answer Session. Everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed her Session of the Legion College.

At the D.E.C. (Department Executive Committee) Meeting many topics were on the Agenda. The biggest was the presentation and approval of the Department Budgets for the Operation Year 2019-2020 by Department Finance Chairman Jim Buterbaugh.

The Information Letter has been mailed to those that were selected as Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. National Staff has worked hard to ensure that those attending will be rewarded with informational and fun times for The American Legion's 101st Birthday and the Home of The American Legion National Headquarters. Make sure you pay close attention to the submission dates. These dates are non-negotiable by Department and National for contract purposes.

Until next time, continue to support the Greatest Veterans and their Families, in the Greatest Veterans Organization in The Free World, The American Legion (in my opinion).

**CHILDREN
&
YOUTH**
Pat Culver
pculver2@swbell.net

As the newly appointed Chairman for Children and Youth, I would like to "thank" the Commander for this opportunity. At this time, all Consolidated Post Reports (CPR) should have been turned into Department for July 1 reporting to National.

Let's start the 2020 membership year off right. Start adding your Children and Youth activity to your monthly meeting minutes. This will help your Post keep track of the activity that you have completed, and a way for you to maintain information needed for the CPR form that you should fill out in February.

Our Youth programs have just finished up, Cadet Law, Boys State, and Girls State. Consider having a joint meeting and invite these young people to your meeting. Let them address what they experienced and learned. Ask them to talk about their experience with other students. This could help the Post in getting participants for the next year.

The Committee on Children and Youth offers three Post -level Children and Youth programs awards.

1. Annual Children and Youth Citation: this award is available to any Post that has reported an outstanding C&Y program for the year.

2. Special Children and Youth Citation: This award recognizes Posts within a district that have conducted outstanding C&Y programs during the reporting year. This award is broken down by membership categories.

Category 1 - 15 to 99 members
Category 2 - 100 to 299 members
Category 3 - 300 to 499 members
Category 4 - 500+ members

3. Certificate of Meritorious Service: These Posts must have distinguished themselves as having the best Children and Youth program in their respective category.

District Awards: The National Achievement Award is given to Districts achieving 100% Children and Youth reporting by Posts in the District. Percentages of reporting are to be based solely on the CPR forms.

(Continued on Page 8)

+ TAPS +

Alley, Charlotte (Panama).....Mulvane
 Alstrom, Keita (Korea).....Oberlin
 Andreson, Neal (WWII).....Plainville
 Baetz, Leland (Korea).....Smith Center
 Baker, Don (WWII).....Great Bend
 Barns, Dale (WWII).....Clifton
 Belthazor, Robert (Korea) Topeka #400
 Berens, Leo (WWII).....Colby
 Berger, A. R. (Korea).....Atchison
 Bergquist, Raymond (WWII).....Topeka #400
 Betts, Herschel (WWII).....Oberlin
 Blaske, Duane (Persian Gulf) Marysville
 Block, David (Vietnam)....Topeka #58
 Boeckholt, Robert (Vietnam).....Topeka #400
 Bohl, Ford (WWII).....Olathe
 Borth, Marvin (Korea).....Gardner
 Bowlin, E. Blaine (Korea) . Whitewater
 Boxler, Jon (Vietnam).....Norton
 Boyce, E. M. (WWII).....Emporia
 Boyles, Martin (Korea).....Cuba
 Brewer, Glen (WWII).....Frontenac
 Burrows, Bill (Vietnam).....Salina
 Byrd, A. C. (Vietnam).....Lansing
 Cain, Willis (WWII).....Herington
 Call, Arthur (WWII).....Augusta
 Campbell, Don (Korea).....Norton
 Carlson, William (Korea)....Lindsborg
 Case, Rosse (WWII).....Marion
 Caster, Lee, Jr. (WWII) .. Valley Center
 Cather, Robert (WWII).....Harper
 Chesney, Robert (Korea).....Olathe
 Clark, Robert (Korea).....Osborne
 Clay, Malcom (WWII).....Meade
 Clem, Raymond (Korea).....Atchison
 Cluck, Robert (Panama).....Gardner
 Cool, Howard, Jr. (WWII)El Dorado
 Cooper, John (Vietnam).....Olathe
 Critchfield, Herbert (Korea)....Sterling
 Crumpler, Hoke (Korea).....Wamego
 Dain, Michael (Vietnam) ... Whitewater
 Dalme, David (Persian Gulf) Hillsboro
 Dawkins, JackOverland Park
 Degarmo, Rodger (Vietnam)....Meade
 Driscoll, Larry (WWII).....Russell
 Dye, Dennis (Vietnam)Stafford
 Edsall, Donald (WWII).....Isabel
 Egan, Larry (Vietnam).....Mulvane
 Ehlers, Carl (Korea).....Junction City
 Engelken, Ralph (Vietnam).....Wichita #401
 Ensz, Norman (Korea)Hillsboro
 Estes, Donald (Korea).....Olathe
 Eulert, Lewis (Korea).....Russell
 Evans, Don (Persian Gulf)Harper
 Evans, Robert (Vietnam).....Madison
 Falley, Warren (Korea).....Manhattan
 Fansher, Stan (WWII)Garden City
 Feldman, Harold (WWII)....Great Bend
 Ferretti, John (Korea).....Topeka #400
 Fisher, Tom (Vietnam).....Isabel
 Fouts, Farrell.....Topeka #400
 Garner, Bob (WWII).....Hutchinson
 Geiger, Harry (Vietnam)Waverly
 Gibson, Laurence (Korea).....Emporia
 Girton, Ross (Korea).....Herington
 Gish, Richard (Vietnam)Cheney
 Godinez, Joe (WWII).....Chanute
 Gosh, Mike (Vietnam).....McPherson
 Gotche, Irv (Korea).....Great Bend
 Graves, Melvin (Korea).....Dodge City
 Green, John (Vietnam).....Isabel
 Gunja, Frank (Korea) Kansas City #199
 Harvey, Robert (Persian Gulf) Mulvane
 Hawk, Jim (Korea).....Beloit
 Heaton, Warren (WWII).....Norton
 Henderson, L. H. Hutchinson
 Hennigh, Harry, Jr. (Korea)....Atchison
 Heronime, Donald (Korea) Topeka #400
 Herrman, Gerald (WWII).....Jetmore
 Hines, William (WWII)Atchison
 Hobbs, David (Vietnam) ... Yates Center
 Hocevar, John (Vietnam).....Girard
 Hoch, Philip (Korea).....Burlington
 Hodges, Ervin (Korea)Lawrence
 Holland, CarlNewton
 Horn, Earl (Korea)McPherson
 Howbert, Jerre (Vietnam). Topeka #400
 Jackman, Herman (Vietnam) Moran
 Jackson, Charles (Korea).....Fairview
 Jacquet, Roger (Persian Gulf) Chapman
 Jensen, Arthur (Korea)Olathe
 Johnson, Donald (Vietnam) ... Chapman
 Jones, Robert (Korea)Olathe
 Kaiser, Virgil (Korea).....Wichita #401
 Karraker, Clifford (Korea) .. McPherson
 Kelley, Buddy (WWII).....Sterling
 Kelsey, Sherman (Vietnam) Wellington
 Killman, Wilbert (Korea) ... Clay Center
 Kimber, Norman (Korea)....Hoisington
 Kinderknecht, Charles (Vietnam)
Long Island
 Kober, Virgil (Korea)Great Bend
 Koboct, Vincent (Korea) Overland Park
 Kroh, Clifford (Korea)Shawnee
 Langhofer, Darrell (Korea)Plains
 Large, Curtis (Persian Gulf) Gardner
 Lear, Byron (Korea)Bern
 Lee, Rodger (Korea)Topeka #400
 Linaweaver, Linus (Vietnam).....
McPherson
 Longabaugh, Keith (WWII) .. Herington
 Lovelady, Roy (Panama) .. Leavenworth
 Luthy, Wilber (WWII) ... Topeka #400
 Margheim, Elton (WWII)Bazine
 Mathewson, Gerald (Korea).....Seneca
 McIntire, Melvin (Vietnam).....Salina
 Merritt, Carson (Korea)
Kansas City #199
 Miller, Jack (WWII).....Paola
 Miller, Jack (WWII).....Topeka #400
 Miller, Mark (WWII).....Newton
 Millikan, Jack (Vietnam)Chanute
 Moore, Darrel (Vietnam)Howard
 Morgan, Forest (Korea).....Ozawkie
 Morgan, Harry (Korea)Shawnee
 Moriarity, William (WWII).....Colby
 Morris, PhilTopeka #400
 Moser, Carter (Korea)Wellington
 Mosher, John (WWII)Concordia
 Muirhead, Vincent (WWII) .. Lawrence
 Murphy, Gordon (Korea)Troy
 Murphy, John (Vietnam) ... Topeka #58
 Murphy, Larry (Vietnam).....Chapman
 Murphy, Robert (Vietnam).....Pittsburg
 Murray, David, Sr. (Korea)
Overland Park
 Nelson, Derek (Persian Gulf) .. Shawnee
 Newell, Jim (Vietnam)Derby
 Nichols, Richard (WWII)....McPherson
 Nielson, Richard, Sr. (Vietnam).....
Herington
 Noeller, Judith (Vietnam). Topeka #421
 Oberding, August, Jr. (WWII)....Seneca
 Otter, Gilbert (Vietnam)Norton
 Palmer, Marvin (Korea) ... Topeka #400
 Pardee, Fred (WWII)Topeka #400
 Parker, Charles (WWII)Highland
 Parsons, Galen (WWII)Cheney
 Pearson, Ralph (Korea) .. Baldwin City
 Peay, Clarence (Korea)Alma
 Peery, Charles (WWII)Olathe
 Pemberton, Ivan (WWII) ... Winchester
 Peterman, Eugene (Korea) .. Ellsworth
 Peters, Ernest (Vietnam) .. Hutchinson
 Prell, Kay (WWII)Hanover
 Procter, Robert (WWII)Lawrence
 Raymond, Gerald (Korea).....Olathe
 Redinger, Gerald (Vietnam) .. Halstead
 Reinhardt, Don (WWII).....Great Bend
 Rice, George (WWII).....Melvern
 Richards, Virgil (Vietnam)
Sylvan Grove
 Robertson, Larry (Vietnam)
Valley Center
 Rosner, John (Korea)Shawnee
 Roster, Clinton (WWII) ... Leavenworth
 Roth, Theodore (WWII)....Whitewater
 Roush, Marvin (Korea) ... Topeka #400

Russell, Robert (Vietnam).....Lenexa
 Salmans, Norman (Vietnam)....Newton
 Sanchez, Isaac (Korea).....Dodge City
 Sandell, Jim (Vietnam).....Wellington
 Sapp, Larry (Vietnam)Olathe
 Saylor, Rex (Korea)Newton
 Schimmel, Arthur (Vietnam).....
Topeka #400
 Schmidt, Donald (Korea)Burgett
 Schmidt, Marvin (Vietnam)Derby
 Schmoe, Floyd (Korea).....Ottawa
 Schneider, C. L. (Korea)Salina
 Schrag, Stanley (Vietnam) Moundridge
 Schuckman, Willard (Vietnam).....
McPherson
 Schultz, Roger (WWII) .. Overland Park
 Schwertfeger, Alvin (Korea) Hutchinson
 Scott, Richard (WWII).....Russell
 Serrien, Donald (Korea).....Tescott
 Shafer, Weldon (Vietnam) .. Louisberg
 Shay, Frank (Vietnam)Fredonia
 Sheldon, Dale (Korea) .. McPherson
 Shell, Oliver (WWII)Atchison
 Shevchenko, Michael (Vietnam).....
Cawker City
 Shields, Maurice (WWII) ... Whitewater
 Shutt, Earl (WWII).....Lawrence
 Sidebottom, Virgil (WWII)Sterling
 Slaven, Gary (Persian Gulf) Hutchinson
 Smith, Albert (WWII).....Overbrook
 Smith, Richard (Korea).....Olathe
 Smith, Roland (Vietnam)Marysville
 Snedeger, Charles (WWII)....Lawrence
 Spain, Herbert, Jr.Council Grove
 Spillers, Clarence (WWII)
Overland Park
 Statler, Nora (Vietnam)Horton
 Steffens, Robert (Vietnam)Pittsburg
 Sterling, Robert (Korea).....Hardtner
 Steuber, D. H. (Korea) .. McPherson
 Stieben, Clifford (Korea)Bazine
 Stockman, Glenn, Jr. (Korea) .. Gardner
 Strathman, Robert (WWII)Seneca
 Strausbaugh, Phillip (Vietnam) ... Paola
 Suther, John (Vietnam).....Frankfort
 Swan, E. Hamrick, Jr. (Vietnam)
Marysville
 Taylor, Billy (Korea)Sterling
 Teselle, Duane (Vietnam) .. Cawker City
 Thomas, E. L. (WWII).....Paola
 Thompson, Richard (WWII) ... Emporia
 Travis, Kenneth (Korea)Newton
 Treemont, Patrick (Grenada).....
Junction City
 Turnbull, Roger (Vietnam)....Frankfort
 Turner, Thomas (WWII) .. Hutchinson
 Turpin, Larry (Vietnam).....Shawnee
 Ummel, Kenneth (Korea)....Hoisington
 Unrein, Francis (WWII).....Plainville
 Varelman, Kenneth, Sr. (Vietnam).....
Topeka #400
 Varsalona, Paul (WWII).....Arma
 Venskus, Joseph, Jr. (Korea) .. Mulvane
 VonDollen, Ronald (Korea) .. Marysville
 Wagner, Thamas (Korea) .. Atchison
 Walje, Charles (WWII)Paola
 Wangerin, Roy (WWII) .. Kensington
 Warner, Neil (Vietnam) .. Topeka #400
 Watts, Kenneth (WWII) .. Cawker City
 Weber, Silvenus (WWII).....Salina
 Wellman, Eldon (Korea) ... Topeka #58
 Wenger, VirgilPawhuska
 Wetter, Raymond (Korea) .. Hanover
 Wickersheim (Vietnam) .. Lawrence
 Wilkinson, R. L. (Korea)Perry
 Willbern, D. A., Jr. (WWII) Topeka #58
 Williams, Larry (Korea) .. McPherson
 Wilson, Glenn (Vietnam) .. Shawnee
 Wilson, Jess (Vietnam) .. Shawnee
 Winkler, Albert (Korea)Seneca
 Wohler, Douglas (Vietnam) ..
Sylvan Grove
 Wonders, Vernon (WWII) .. Newton
 Workman, Leland (WWII) ... Topeka #1
 Zabel, Frederick (WWII) .. Atchison
 Zimmer, Nobert (WWII) .. Wellington

Children & Youth (Continued from Page 7)

Please contact the Children and Youth Committee for questions or concerns. Your Department Children and Youth Committee are Larry "Pete" Hall (620) 271-8483, Rick Miller (913) 449-1551 or myself (316) 788-5153.

DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN



**Glenn
Patterson**
+ ☩ *

FREEDOM

"The steps of a person are established by the Lord, And They delight in His ways."

Psalm 37:23

America has been design and put forth by God to be a witness to God presence across the land. This year the United States of America is Celebrating 243 years of indepence from the British and our dependence upon God Almighty.

A keen scholar of early history will acknowledge that the blessings of God are clearly present across America. Modern day history has forgotten the many blessings and the witness of God's Almighty hand upon America.

Founder Thomas Paine writes that the history of these early years were "times that try man's souls". Before that day on which our Declaration of Indepence was signed; there was another seven years of war fought against the British.

Today 2019 are not all that much different than 1776. America is besieged by every oppression against America relationship to Almighty God. America is a Godly nation to a people called to surrender their lives to raise up such a Godly nation that will support other nations in distress. That is who we are!

For the 1st 100 years since 1919 The American Legion has pledged it's support and devotion to Almighty God. In turn, The American Legion has declared in its Preamble to be a country devoted to the God who helped America win the victory against our oppressors.

As the Department Chaplain, I celebrate every witness to declare my own faith in the God Almighty. Indeed, "For God and Country we associate ourselves together..." Chaplain Glenn Patterson

LEGION FAMILY HOMECOMING**Saturday, August 17, 2019****Shawnee Post #327
6521 Nieman Rd.****RSVP by August 10****Name _____****Post//Unit/Squadron _____****Guest Names _____**

_____**No. of Adults (\$15 each)
(\$18 after August 10th)****No. of Kids (under 10) (\$8 each)****Enclosed is my check in the amount of _____**

Mail to:
RC Shoemaker
PO BOX 3277
Shawnee, KS 66203

KANSAS SUNFLOWER LEGIONNAIRE**Jimmie L. Foster, Editor**

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News deadline is the 15th of March, June, September and December for the next issue.**THE AMERICAN LEGION****VA HOSPITAL SERVICE OFFICERS**

Robert J. Dole Regional VA Medical Center, Wichita

Local: 316-688-6814, Toll Free: 888-878-6881 Ext. 56814

Dwight D. Eisenhower VA Medical Center, Leavenworth

Local: 913-758-4297, Toll Free: 800-952-8387 Ext. 54297

Colmery-O'Neil VA Medical Center, Topeka

Local: 785-350-4489, Toll Free: 800-574-8387 Ext. 54489

NINTH DISTRICT

(Continued from Page 5)

Upcoming Events

We want to know of your post events. Please send us the information of upcoming events you are planning to 9thdistrictks@gmail.com.

July 3-4, 2019 - Bird City McDonald July 4th Celebration (evening activities in McDonald July 3rd, all day activities in Bird City July 4th)

August 17, 2019 - Dept Commander's Homecoming at Shawnee Post 327, Noon

August 23-29, 2019 - National Convention, Indianapolis, IN

Aug 30 - Sep 2, 2019 - Camporama, Milford Lake, Wakefield

September 8, 2019 - 9th District State Fair Day, Hutchinson

Thanks for all you do and if you ever need to contact please feel free to do so.

prize being \$100.00, 2nd \$50.00 and 3rd \$25.00. Posts submitting life members before August 1st will receive one entry for each paid life member.

4 - Each post that turns membership in before the first department membership report (August 3rd?) will be entered in a drawing for 3 couples Movie passes at AMC in Hays. This will be to prevent goose eggs.

Does your post have a Facebook page?

Love it or not, Facebook is an excellent way to communicate with members. The district has a page which can be found at www.facebook.com/9thdistrictks. Be sure to like and follow the district page, if you aren't already. Here's some examples of things you've already missed.

**38th ANNUAL
EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE**

Enclosed is our payment for a rose to be placed at the Eisenhower Memorial on Saturday, October 12, 2019.

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 11**

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

MAIL TO:**KANSAS AMERICAN LEGION****EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE**

1314 SW Topeka Blvd.

Topeka, KS 66612

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2019