



# AMERICAN LEGION POST 27

## Farmington, Utah

### January, 2012 Newsletter

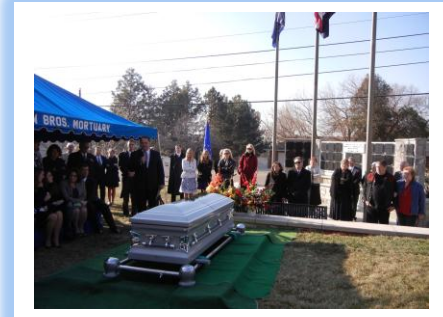


Website: [www.post27.org](http://www.post27.org)



#### COMMANDER'S MESSAGE :

Our Commander, Jim Hefner, passed away on December 3, 2011. On December 10<sup>th</sup>, Post 27 provided full Military Funeral Honors, with Bugles Across America, for this great American hero. Thank you, Jim, for your service to our country, your leadership, and always, your friendship. We will miss you . . .



#### POST BUSINESS / INFORMATION

**NEW MEMBERS:** We want to **WELCOME** our newest members to the American Legion and Post 27:

- Stan Walker, U. S. Army / Korean Era / from Farmington
- Robert Walker, U.S. Army / Korean Era / from Centerville
- Kent Hansen, U.S. Navy / Viet Nam Era to Present Operations / from Centerville
- Bill Hazelwood, U.S. Army Air Corps / WWII / from Layton



#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Cdr. William Huber:

The Oratorical Contest (a.k.a. "Constitution Contest") is in its final stages. The Post level contest will be on January 20<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 P.M. at Davis High School. The winner goes on to the District level competition on January 27, 4:00 P.M. at Davis High School. All members and guests are welcome at these events. State level competition is set for February 11 at the VAMC Campus Salt Lake City. The winners at each level are provided scholarship monies, with the National prize at \$18,000.

**Boys State 2012:** Boys State 2012 is scheduled at Weber State University from June 4-8. Candidates are currently submitting on-line applications, with Post 27 doing the interviews in March for NUAMES and Davis High Schools. The application deadline is April 1, 2012 to the Boys State organization. Please encourage any student who will have completed their junior year and will be attending their senior year of high school in the fall of 2012, to apply for either Boys or Girls State. Girls State is held the same week at Southern Utah University and is managed through the American Legion Auxiliary.



**Adjutant Paula Stephenson:** 10 members still need to renew their valuable membership for 2012. Look at your card from last year and if it says 2011, then you are one of the ten. We met the 100 percent goal because of the new members we have added to our rolls. Membership renewal **can now be done on-line through The American Legion National website:** [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew). You can also mail the renewal dues of \$30.00 to John Sheets, 1368 W. Fairway Circle, Farmington, UT 84025 (checks made to "American Legion Post 27").

The Post newsletters are now on Post 27's website at [www.post27.org](http://www.post27.org), as well as several other new items and links. Thanks to our Post 27 Webmaster, Kent Hansen, from Farmington.

The Post has been busy since our last newsletter in November. We dedicated the Farmington City Cemetery Veterans Memorial that was created through the efforts of Jim Hefner, John Sheets, and other Post 27 members. Our Post was front and center at this event, and the dedication drew a very large crowd of 200+. The Post Christmas Party was well attended, fun, and we welcomed two new members. On December 11, four of us were invited to participate in a weekend drill with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Medical Training Brigade at Fort Douglas. John Sheets and Dan Miller were

part of the Class A Inspection Team, Paula and Chuck Stephenson presented information about the American Legion and Veterans Service Organizations, and Norm Nelson, our Area Commander, also gave information about other Veterans Service Organizations. We hope to maintain this relationship with this active Reserve Unit.

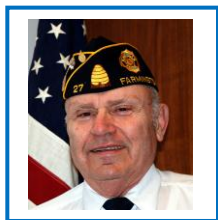


### **Finance Officer-Post 27/Commander, District 2 John Sheets**

December was a trying, hectic month, with planning for our Christmas party and several other events. I want to thank Paula and Chuck Stephenson for their great efforts in preparing the menu and making food assignments to those attending. I would also be remiss if I did not thank all who pitched in for the cleanup. Thanks to the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection for the use of their fine facility.

The Post received a total of \$925.00 toward the Post commitment for the Farmington City Cemetery Veterans Memorial. ***Thanks to all who contributed.***

As District 2 Commander, I would like to commend Post 27 in attaining over 100% of the membership objective for Post level. This assisted the District in exceeding the membership objective resulting in incentive funds from the National American Legion for our District budgets. It is always nice to get money from National.



### **Sergeant-At-Arms Frank Lennartz:**

As we start this new year, let us make a resolution to renew our commitment to help make this Post the best in Utah. This includes service to our fellow Veterans and supporting the great programs Post 27 is involved with. Our next meeting is a great place to start. See you on January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

### **Training Officer Paula Stephenson:**



Bronze medallions (5-inch, 3-inch, 1 ½ inch) for civilian headstones signifying a deceased's status as a Veteran are now available. Information and an application (VA Form 40-1330) are available at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) > Veterans Services > Burials & Memorials > Headstones & Markers. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact me at (801)444-7189, and I will mail you the application and instructions. If you need help, we have volunteers that can assist you. **NOTE: A sample will be on display at our regular meetings.**

**Military Funeral Honors training** will be held on Tuesday, January 31, 7:00-9:00 P.M., Farmington City Fire Station, 82 N. 100 E, Farmington (one block north of Davis County Courthouse). The training will be provided by the Army National Guard Funeral Honors Team. You will learn about Military Funeral Honors with folding flags, conduct of the ceremony, and the rifle squad. At the end of the training you receive a certificate and "Folded Flag" pin for your Legion cap. If interested, contact Paula Stephenson at email: [stphnsnc@aol.com](mailto:stphnsnc@aol.com) or call (801)444-7189. Completing the training does not commit you to participating with our Military Funeral Honors Team. But, if you really want to, it would feel good and we always need more.



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (SAL):** Post 27's SAL Squadron now has eight members—three dual status (American Legionnaires and SAL) and five sons and grandsons. Future plans for this group complimenting our Post activities are in the works. Anyone interested in this group, please contact Paula or Chuck Stephenson at (801) 444-7189 or email at [stphnsnc@aol.com](mailto:stphnsnc@aol.com). Applications are also available at each monthly meeting.

***Do you have a family member currently on active duty stationed in CONUS or OCONUS, or active with the Guard or Reserve locally? Or know of a neighbor, friend, other? Please let us know. We are looking for ways we can support our troops, starting with a list for the Blue Star program. We currently have a list of four families.***



**Post Chaplain J. Golden Barton:** It is fitting that our commander, Jim Hefner, was buried within the shadow of the Veterans Memorial that he worked so long and hard to bring into existence. With Department officials and Bugles Across America Utah Director, American Legion Post 27 members, honor guard, and rifle squad, firmly standing to provide Military Honors, our special friend was laid to rest in December with the American flag adorning his casket and flying high above, each bidding goodbye to our patriot airman. Three rifle volleys and the resounding bugle call of taps, provided a loud, clear, farewell and God speed, to our departed comrade. It is with

a prayer in our hearts that we folded and presented the casket flag to his adoring wife, Deb. It was a solemn tribute for his service to God and Country.

Brent Christensen, the bugler and Utah State Director for Bugles Across America, who has performed at hundreds of such events sent a note suggesting he had never witnessed a better Military Honor Guard presentation. A compliment to our Post 27 members. We thank all who participated.

**DID YOU KNOW?**



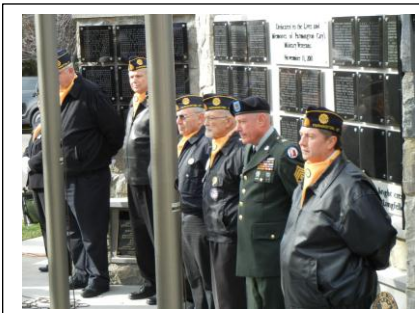
Why do military members wear chevrons? Chevrons have been worn as emblems of military rank or badges of honor since the 1100s, according to the "Complete Guide to United States Army Medals, Badges and Insignia." One legend says chevrons were awarded to knights for capturing castles, towns or buildings, and its shape was believed to resemble a roof, the guide said. The U.S. Army likely adopted the custom in the late 1700s from the French who wore chevrons as "length of service and good conduct" badges. During its early years, the Army allowed sergeants to wear epaulettes or stripes of red cloth as distinguishing marks since it lacked official insignia for noncommissioned officers. The War Department first ordered the wear of the insignia in 1821, according to Army documents, and since 1902, the chevron has been worn "point up". (Extracted from The Army Times, 12/19/11).

**EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR FLAG CEREMONIES:** Interested in participating with Post 27 in the Eagle Scout Court of Honor Flag Ceremonies? Contact Post 27 Program Coordinator, Dale Crockett at (801)451-9493, to participate in this great youth program. If you know of a scout wanting this ceremony for the Eagle Scout award, let Dale know.

**NEXT MONTHLY MEETING: Thursday, Jan. 12th, 7:00 pm, Davis County Courthouse, Rm 114, Farmington**  
**NOTE: Executive Committee meeting at 6:30 P.M. same location and date.**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST:**

- Jan 12 - Post 27 monthly meeting, for this month only it starts at 7:00 P.M., Davis County Courthouse (East entrance), Rm 114.
- Jan 16 - Martin Luther King Day (federal holiday)
- Feb 9 - 6:30 P.M., Post 27 monthly meeting, Davis County Courthouse (East entrance), Rm 114
- Feb 13 - World War II Speaker Series at the Salt Lake City Library, 7 P.M., Big Band Era Music at 6:10 P.M.,  
 Speaker: Gordon E. Walton, Army Air Force, Pilot, 89 missions
- Mar 21 - Hill AFB / Ogden Career Expo
- May 26-27 - Hill AFB Air Show
- May 31 - 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament, Hill AFB Golf Course
- Jun 4-8 - Boys State at Weber State University
- Jun 4-9 - Girls State at Southern Utah University
- Jun 15, 16, 17 - Department of Utah State Convention, Fillmore, UT



Veterans Memorial Dedication  
Nov 11, 2011



New member  
Kent Hansen  
Dec 9, 2011



New member Bill Hazelwood, Dec 9, 2011



Inspection of Troops at Ft Douglas  
Dec 11, 2011



Briefing the soldiers at Ft Douglas  
Dec 11, 2011