



AMERICAN LEGION POST 27

Farmington, Utah

August, 2011 Newsletter

Email: www.post27.org



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE - Jim Hefner:

Comrades, I am proud of all that took part in the Farmington Festival Days Parade on July 9th. After the Kaysville July 4th flag raising and parade, and the Farmington parade on the 9th, July has been pretty quiet for the Legion. I hope all is well with you and your families. Please join us at our next meeting on Thursday, August 11th, to plan our fall activities. We could use your talents.

POST BUSINESS / INFORMATION



2nd Vice Cdr. William Huber:

Congratulations to our own Chuck Stephenson for being elected as the Utah Boys State Secretary/Treasurer. He was a city counselor at Boys State this year, and says he looks forward to the new year and the challenges ahead. Richard Fisher stepped down as the President, Utah Boys State and Bob Jones, former Secretary/Treasurer, was elected as the new President.

New Members: We want to welcome our newest member to the American Legion and Post 27, Lynn Averett. He is an Army, Viet Nam Era veteran from Farmington. WELCOME, Lynn!



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION: We have started reactivating our Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron with Chuck Stephenson becoming a member of the SAL. He is now a dual-status Legionnaire and SAL. We only need four more SAL members to make this work. Talk to your friends or family members who are eligible for either organization or both. For more information, you can reach Chuck at stphnsnc@aol.com or 801-444-7189.



Adjutant Paula Stephenson: Everyone should have received their notices for renewing their 2012 Legion Memberships. This can be accomplished by either sending a check to John Sheets or by renewing on-line. The on-line renewal process was tested the past three years by five other states, and so far it is working well. To date, we have five members who renewed on-line, 27 have renewed the check/mail method, and five are Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL). That brings our current membership renewal to 50% for 2012. Thanks for taking care of this small investment and supporting The American Legion. Your dues help keep our great programs going.

I will be attending the American Legion National Convention in Minneapolis this year in my role as the Department of Utah Historian, and a delegate from Utah. They have selected me to sit on the Foreign Relations Committee. If anyone has input that I can take with me, please forward the information to me not later than August 24th. Thanks.

The Department of Veterans Affairs will be sponsoring a booth at the Utah State Fair, Sept 8-18, 2011. They are asking for volunteers from all the American Legion Posts in Utah, in particular the relatively "local" Posts, to help staff the booth during the entire time and from opening to closing of the Fair each day. If anyone is interested, please contact me at 801-444-7189 or stphnsnc@aol.com.

I want to thank Deb Hefner for helping with photography this month: The Farmington parade photos are the direct result of her talents, and our continuing efforts to document the Post 27 history!!

If anyone needs membership brochures and American Legion applications, let one of the officers know. Attached is a membership application. Our dues is \$30 per year and checks are made payable to "American Legion Post 27".



Finance Officer-Post 27/Commander, District 2 John Sheets: This is a great time of year that we all have a chance to renew our commitment to The American Legion by paying our dues. We try to process each one quickly. The process for the check and mail system is that your check comes to the Finance Officer (me), I deposit the check into the Post account, then forward the 2012 documents for the member to The Department of Utah. They in turn must remit part of the renewal fee to National. For this reason, there may be a second billing which comes from National because of the time lag. If you have any questions please call me at (801) 549-8596.

While I am on the subject of membership, please remember and realize that to be a strong organization, we need members. Every member should act as a membership committee of one. Our Adjutant will include a membership application form with each newsletter as a constant reminder for you to talk to your eligible friends. Tell them of the importance of Legion membership.

Do you know of anyone who would like a flag for a small donation? We have many different sizes and materials. The prices cannot be beat anywhere.



Sergeant-At-Arms Frank Lennartz:

We are putting the finishing touches on our outing to the Miller Sports Park in September. Mark your calendars for September 18th! This should be a fun event for our members and families.



Chaplain J. Golden Barton:

June and July have been busy and interesting months for members of Farmington Post 27. It has brought us all a great deal closer in our association. New members have made a significant contribution and I believe we have all benefited from the activities. We continue to pray for those that are having difficulties with health issues. Likewise, we remember all members, men and women, who are in harms way protecting the liberty and freedom of the United States and providing assistance to those who would be free in many other countries of the world. It is our duty to God and country to support them.

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 > 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.**

DID YOU KNOW?

Prisoner of War/Missing In Action flags, a symbol of supreme sacrifice, display a silhouette of a bowed head, barbed wire and a watchtower. Here's the story behind the design. In 1971, a member of the National League of Families requested a banner to honor missing troops, according to the National League of POW/MIA Families. That same year, veteran and professional designer Newt Heisley drew the image, evoked in part by his son's gaunt appearance after returning from pre-Vietnam training, the Los Angeles Times reported in 2009.

Heisley's memories as a pilot in World War II inspired the flag's slogan, "You are not forgotten", the paper reported. In 1990, Congress officially designated the flag the sign for those unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, according to the Veterans Affairs Department. Heisley died in 2009. He was 88. (Extracted from The Army Times, 7/25/11) Each year, POW-MIA Recognition Day is on September 16. Let us not forget.

STAY TUNED: We have some volunteers that are working on Eagle Scout Court of Honor Flag Ceremonies with Post 27 involvement. Planning is moving forward; more to come . . .

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING: Thursday, August 11th, 6:30 pm, Davis County Courthouse, Rm 114, Farmington

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST:

- Aug 9 - Military Career Expo, Davis Conference Center, 1651 N. 700 W., Layton, 10AM to 2PM. Businesses and educational institutions will be there.
- Aug 11- Post 27 Monthly meeting, 6:30 P.M., Davis County Courthouse, Room 114, Farmington (enter East side of the building)
- Aug 17-20 Davis County Fair
- Sep 8 - Post 27 Monthly meeting, 6:30 P.M., Davis County Courthouse, Room 114, Farmington (enter East side of the building)
- Sep 8-18 Utah State Fair
- Sep 11 - Patriot Day
- Sep 16 - POW-MIA Recognition Day
- Sep 18 - Post 27 Outing to Miller Sports Park



Post 27 participants in the Farmington Festival Days Parade on July 9th



Post 27 Color Guard, vehicle, and marchers leading the parade



Post 27's borrowed vehicle carrying Post members



Members handing out American flags to the crowd



Chaplain Barton working the crowds from the tailgate.