



# The American Legion

## Post 27/Squadron 27

# Newsletter

*Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116, 28 East State Street, Farmington, Utah*

August 2016

*Still Serving America*

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

### Post 27 Programs & Activities

- Flag Education
- High School Constitution Oratorical Contest
- American Legion Utah Boys State & American Legion Auxiliary Girls State
- Military Funeral Honors
- Eagle Scout Court of Honor Flag Ceremonies
- Flag Retirement Ceremonies
- U.S. Flag sales
- Honor Guard & Rifle Team for community events in Kaysville, Fruit Heights, Farmington, Centerville
- Jake Garn Sea Cadet Squadron sponsor
- DATC Veterans Center support
- VA Outreach support at Post location
- Medal of Honor Character Development Program in Davis County schools
- POW/MIA updates
- Meet The Candidate sponsor in Farmington
- Farmington/Kaysville Cemetery Flag project
- Memorial Day weekend
- Parade participation
- American Legion National Emergency Fund support

***Veterans Still Serving!***

## Commander's Corner

Last month really demonstrated the mettle of Post 27 as we appeared in both Farmington and Handcart Days parades, conducted numerous military funeral honors, operated a booth at Farmington Festival Days, performed as the color guard for the State American Legion Baseball Tournament (and was invited back to appear at the championship game providing color guard and throwing out the first ball), and a variety of other activities. Military honors were presented in a back yard at poolside and another was organized and presented with less than an hour's notice.



**Kent Hansen**



This month figures to be almost as hectic. In addition to our regular meeting on August 11, we will also be performing a flag raising at Antelope Island for their military tribute, and be the Honor/Color Guard for the Opening Ceremonies of the Senior Olympics at the River Bend Senior Center. Of course, the big event is our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Flag Retirement and Military Tribute on August 18 at the Davis County Fair. Significant activities are the stuff that makes a Post thrive and thriving is a lot of fun. Come join us as we grow and serve!

### Calendar of Events

**August 11 -- Post 27 meeting.** 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.

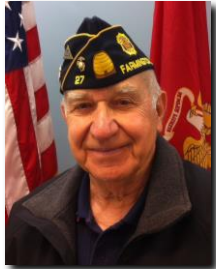
**August 12-14 – SAL Campout.** LaSal, Utah.

**August 13 – Flag Ceremony,** Antelope Island

**August 18 – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Flag Retirement and Military Tribute.** 8:30 pm. Outdoor Arena

**September 16 – Annual Post 27 Picnic.** 6:00 pm, Freedom Hills Park, 2250 North 150 East, Centerville. *All Legionnaires, SAL, Sea Cadets & families are invited.*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander



Frank Ferrante

The American Legion Preamble has been the beacon light of The American Legion for almost 100 years. It has been amended only once in all that time. That amendment consisted of adding the letter “S” to the word “war.” It makes the Preamble read today “Great Wars,” so as to embrace all wars.

*“For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:*

*To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a 100-percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness*

There are 10 clauses of the Preamble, though brief, each clause has a world of meaning. For the next few months I would like to review each clause separately.

### TO SAFEGUARD AND TRANSMIT TO POSTERITY THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE, FREEDOM, AND DEMOCRACY...

All of the youth-training programs of The American Legion are built on this ideal of safeguarding and transmitting to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy. All Americans can be proud that in our international relations we have tried to live by the golden rule, the mark of justice. We have granted to others, as we prize it ourselves, the great boon of freedom. Through the Monroe Doctrine, we call a halt to foreign imperialism in the Western Hemisphere. We gave freedom to the Philippines. These principles are part of the American heritage. Legionnaires are pledged to protect and preserve that heritage

***Reminder, the American Legion is only as strong as its membership base. The more devoted members it has, the better the organization can advocate for veterans and serve the military community which has given much to our country. Invite a potential member to our meetings.***

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

One of the four pillars the American Legion stands on is Americanism. This is the Pillar that is closest to my heart. What is Americanism? “Americanism is the love of America; loyalty to her institutions as the best yet devised by man to secure life, liberty, individual dignity, and happiness; and the willingness to defend our country and flag against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

It is a vital, active, living force. Americanism means peace, strength, the will and the courage to live as free men in a free land. It means a friendly hand to people everywhere who respect our institutions and our thinking. It is not a word, it is a cause, a way of life – the best way of life ever known – a challenge and a hope in this world.



Americanism is an ideal of loyal patriotism, religious tolerance, righteous freedom, fearless courage, honest integrity, abiding faith in the commanding destiny of the United States, and a fathomless love for the principles that led our forefathers to found this country. It is complete and unqualified loyalty to the ideals of government as set forth in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. It is respect for, and ready obedience to, duly constituted authority and the laws of the land. It is freedom without license, religion without bigotry, charity without bias, and a desire to secure the blessings

of liberty for our nation and for our posterity.”

There are many programs in the American Legion that are under the Americanism pillar. Some of them are Boys/Girls State, the Oratorical Contest which is coming up soon, shooting sports for the youth - and there has been some interest in this - and coming up this month is the flag retirement ceremony. Thanks for all the help. I encourage everyone to support these programs because they help build patriotism, knowledge and love for the Constitution of the United States, and integrity in the youth of our community.



Kenneth Hadley

# Adjutant/ Eagle Scout Courts of Honor

**Membership is Our Lifblood**

**Membership.** Statistics are membership numbers through 1 August 2016.

2017 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2017 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
	7	4	12	2	0	25	%

If you have had the Legionnaire Insurance Trust, they changed some insurance regulations and so everyone needs to reapply. You simply go to [www.thelit.com](http://www.thelit.com) and enter your member ID#. The good thing is, once you have signed up under the new program, you will automatically be covered as long as your membership continues. If you have never signed up, this is a great insurance plan so take advantage of this free offer. All dues-paying American Legion members will be given up to \$5,000.00 of Accidental Death Insurance at NO Cost if he/she is traveling to, attending, or returning from an official function at which the legionnaire represents his/her Post, District, Department, or National Organization in an official capacity. Benefits include \$1,000 for all other covered accidents. For more information please call 1-855-837-2639 or 1-800-235-6943. I have application cards that I can send to you or you can go to the above web site in the first paragraph to sign up.

You also have access to special plans and rates with this insurance. There is emergency assistance plus, hospital indemnity, cancer care, travel accident, accident protection, Medicare supplement, Lifelock, long term care, auto and homeowners.

**Our \$35 annual membership dues** for the 2017 membership year can be paid starting on 1 July 2016. We would like all members to renew by the end of the year. You can send it to our Post: P.O. Box 427, Farmington, UT 84025-0427. An even easier option is to go to [www.Legion.org/renew](http://www.Legion.org/renew) and renew online. All you need is your current American Legion Membership Number and a valid credit card. Your renewal is instant, and the Post can see your renewal on-line within 24-48 hours. If you do not know your membership number, please give me a call or e-mail me. ***If I can do anything for you to make your membership renewal easier or more convenient, or answer any questions you may have regarding membership, please let me know. I can be reached at H (801) 451-9493 / C (801) 560-2186 or email [dalescrockett@yahoo.com](mailto:dalescrockett@yahoo.com).***



**Dale Crockett**

## Sergeant-at-Arms



**David Layton**

Thank you all who have stepped up during this past HOT busy month of July. We have participated in Flag Ceremonies, Eagle Courts of Honor, Parades and of course Military Funeral Honors. For this we want to thank you. Without you, Post 27 cannot operate and provide this service.

However, August continues to be a busy month, with the focus on the Davis County Fair and the American Legion, Post 27 Fourth Annual Flag Retirement & Military Tribute, August 18<sup>th</sup>. We can use all your help in staging and completing this event. If you are available to pick up firewood, cut grommets out of flags to be retired, assist in the Flag Ceremony or Firing Detail that evening, please contact Ron Craig (POC) at (801) 628-3480.

We do invite all to help us meet the endless demands we are asked to perform. Let us remember when we are asked to participate in Post 27 duties, some were asked to give all. Let's be ready to assist the post as we can. Post 27, ready to

## Past Department Commander/ Training Officer

**CELLPHONES & FACEBOOK:** Show your children and grandchildren how you are a 21<sup>st</sup> Century person with electronic media stuff (unless you are savvy already). At our next monthly meeting on Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M., our Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Vice Commander and Boys State 2016 graduate Tim Hansen, will be teaching us with our cellphones "in hand" how to connect to Post 27's and the American Legion Department of Utah's Facebooks. If you don't already have a Facebook account, he can teach you how to set one up immediately. This will keep you up to date with fun information on what is happening with Post 27 and around the state with the American Legion. It is a fast way to put out information on activities/events and follow-up photos of Post members participating in the events within our communities. Be Facebook friendly.



**Paula Stephenson**



**AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL:** Utah's American Legion Baseball Tournament 2016 (5 days) ended on July 29<sup>th</sup> in Layton. The winning team, The Bees from Cache Valley beat the St. George team, and continues on to Boulder, Colorado for the Western Regionals on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The winners of all Regional Tournaments go on to Shelby, North Carolina where they will be televised through ESPN. Follow American Legion Baseball on your computers, iPads, cellphones, etc. by going to [LEGION.ORG/baseball/tournaments/regional](http://LEGION.ORG/baseball/tournaments/regional) and click on GameTracker, beginning August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Go Bees!!

## POW/MIA News



Jay Hess

Half a century has passed since the Vietnam War. Commemoration of that endeavor extends from Memorial Day 2012 through Veterans Day 2025. One of the significant activities this year was the distribution of 47,000 copies of the book 'A time to Honor' and the accompanying video documentary 'The Journey Home' to Utah Vietnam Veterans. Thanks to Sharlene Hawkes President of Remember My Service Productions and to many, many contributing sponsors.

Vietnam Veterans who have not received their copy may contact the Utah Department of Veterans Affairs. An expanded e-book version containing the stories of over 200 Utah Vietnam veterans is available. To request access to this file go to <http://www.vietnam50gift.com/ebook-download>.

Congress articulated five objectives for the 50<sup>th</sup> commemoration. The first objective is "To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war, or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans."

Nine million Americans served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces during the period of the Vietnam War: approximately 7 million were living in 2015. At the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in 1982, there were **57,939 names** inscribed on the Memorial. As of Memorial Day 2015, there are **58,307** names. These are names of military personnel who were wounded in Vietnam between 1957 and 1975 and ultimately died of their wounds. (1959 and 1975 are the years inscribed on The Wall. In 1973 there were 2,646 United States service members and civilians missing in action. Today more than 1,600 Americans remain accounted for from the conflict. Six hundred sixty two American POWs got out of Vietnam alive in 1973. I was excited to be one of them. As of January 2016, 183 have flown West.



## Sons of the American Legion



Dave Parker  
Squadron 27  
Commander

I would like to introduce myself; My name is **David Parker** and I am the new Commander of Squadron 27, Sons of the American Legion (SAL). I recently transferred to Post 27 back in March, and then became a dual member after joining SAL in July this year. My experience with Post 27 has been very rewarding, and I am very grateful for their warm welcome and acceptance. Now I find myself in the role of Commander of Squadron 27, and I hope to be able to make it a successful venture. My Vice Commander, Tim Hansen and I, are trying to bring on new members, and make it fun and rewarding experience for everyone. We are discussing The prospect of starting a shooting sports program for the post that includes the SAL members as well. We will be putting a proposal together to present to the Executive Committee in hopes of getting this activity up and going as soon as possible. I want to thank everyone for all your help and support thus far, and if I can be of further service, I can be reached at (801) 725-6134 cell / (801) 451-5580 home or email [dparker5580@comcast.net](mailto:dparker5580@comcast.net).

Hello fellow post members, I'm new to the Post. I was recruited at the 2016 Utah Boys State, thanks to 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Ken Hadley. Ken found me at a local political caucus. He asked me if I was going to Boys State. I said "What the heck is that?" He explained and told me to apply online. I applied and off I went to Boys State. Boys State was incredible; I cannot put into words the comradeship I felt at Boys State. The "Experience" I had at Boys State will go with me till I am as old as Finance Officer John Sheets. I would just like to thank Post 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Ken Hadley, Post Commander Kent Hansen, and Squadron Commander Dave Parker for helping me in this organization.



**Tim Hansen**  
**Squadron 27**  
**Vice Commander**

## Jake Garn Sea Cadet Squadron



**Courtney Putnam**

June drill was full of fun and hard work in preparation for summer training at Camp Williams. Saturday started off with our squadron supporting the Sounds of Freedom Festival. The morning started off great but the rainy weather got the best of us and we had to secure early. The cadets supported the vendors in putting up their canopies and shared information about the Sea Cadet program. The remainder of Saturday was filled with uniform preparation and training. Sunday was entirely training in support of our cadet's summer training. We have five cadets attending Recruit Training, a couple in Advanced Training, two supporting Staff positions and four officers supporting Staff Officer positions at Camp Williams. As a result, July drill was cancelled. The Sunday training was intensive but the cadets did well. We called a lot of "audible's" during June drill, but the officers and cadets adapted and overcame. Later in the month, our Honor Guard supported the Bountiful Coats for Kids campaign, parading the colors for the opening ceremony and during the "burn-out" competitions. I made a short presentation on how to respect the flag of the United States of America and accepted a flag that will be retired later in the year.

### Legion Laffs



Check us out on  
Facebook at  
"American Legion  
Post 27 Farmington  
Utah"



or the link from our  
Post website at  
[www.post27.org](http://www.post27.org).



### Take advantage of our Veterans Outreach Program

Every first and third Wednesday from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, a representative of the Veterans Administration will be at the Post (Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116) to assist you with your questions. Call for an appointment with the Veterans Service Office at 801-326-2370 or 801-326-2372.

**Be sure to bring a DD-214 or Discharge Certificate with you.**

## From the Department Commander

***What a Great Time to be a Member of The American Legion.*** It is always exciting when the opportunity arises to attend a Meeting, Conference, or Workshop at the National Headquarters in Indianapolis. This past weekend was no exception. PDC Paula Stephenson, Department Vice Commander Alex Aerts, and I attended the 53<sup>rd</sup> National Membership Workshop held 28-30 July. You could feel the positive energy in every session. Throughout the meetings we heard many ideas, thoughts and examples of how Posts across the country are succeeding and doing great things in membership. The thought I would like to share in this issue is this: we currently call our Post – American Legion Post 27. Wouldn't it make more sense to call our Post – American Legion Family



**Chuck Stephenson**  
Department  
Commander

Post 27. It was suggested at the Membership Workshop that when you recruit someone into The American Legion, you should ask if there are family members who may be eligible to become members of the Sons of The American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary. We are a Family and we should share that with our local communities and potential members.



*Membership is Our Lifeblood*

