

# Second Century POST

December 2022



The Official Newsletter of The American Legion John W. Sheets Post 27 ★ Unit 27 ★ Squadron 27 ★ Farmington, Utah

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**JOHN W. SHEETS POST 27**  
P.O. BOX 427  
FARMINGTON, UT  
84025  
[WWW.POST27.ORG](http://WWW.POST27.ORG)

## COMMANDER'S CALL

Welcome and THANK YOU for taking the time to read our monthly newsletter. We try to pack it full of information that is pertinent to YOU: our veterans, families, and friends. Quite a bit of effort goes on behind the scenes to prepare it. Most importantly by our editor, Kent Hansen, and also Paula Stephenson in e-mailing/ mailing out the newsletters.



Jon Rue

Now ~ Happy Holidays from the Rue Family and the members of the post's Executive Team. I also feel a need to repeat last years' message. With the season of peace and goodwill upon us, please reach out to a post member, veteran, family member or even neighbor and check in on them. As happy as this season should be, for some it is equally sad and depressing, as they remember the loss of a loved one.

This year our Holiday Party has had a slight schedule change and hopefully you heard. It will be at the Davis Tech College on THURSDAY, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Please join us at 5:00pm for a social start and a buffet dinner shortly after that. Additional details are provided in separate flyer and e-mail(s) throughout December. Please reply to Frank Ferrante at [fbferrante@aol.com](mailto:fbferrante@aol.com) with whether you and your spouse (and other family members) will be able to join us.


The Post's Military Funeral Honor Team is still busy. Please consider getting involved in this worthwhile activity. Additionally, continue to use our website for information on our events, links to services, and other important information! Keep an eye on [www.post27.org](http://www.post27.org)



## MAKE THIS HOLIDAY SPECIAL

# GIVE A BUDDY A CALL!

### Post 27 Family EVENTS CALENDAR



December 7 – Pearl Harbor Day. <i>Fly the flag.</i>	January 1 – New Year's Day. <i>Fly the flag.</i>
December 13 – National Guard Birthday. <i>Fly the flag.</i>	January 12 – Post 27 General Meeting. 7:00 pm Davis County Memorial Courthouse
December 15 – Post 27 Holiday Party. Davis Technical College, 5:00 pm ( <i>See the flyer in this newsletter</i> )	January 16 – Martin Luther King Day. <i>Fly the flag.</i>
December 17 – Wreaths Across America. Lindquist Mortuary, Layton, 10:00 am	January 26 – Post Oratorical Contest. 5:00 pm Davis County Memorial Courthouse
December 20 – U.S. Space Force Birthday. <i>Fly the flag.</i>	

# Adjutant

Welcome to the newest member of Post 27  
**Warren H. Toone**



Dale Crockett



## Membership is our Lifeblood!

American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through Dec. 1 2022.

2023 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
134	20	44	19	1	5	89	66%

Sons of the American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through Dec. 1 2022.

2023 GOAL	REGULAR	NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
34	28	1		29	85%

Our deadline/Goal is to have 100% membership renewal for the 2023 year in the Legion and Sons by the end of the year. As you can see above, we are not quite there. Please, if there is a way for the ones who have not renewed, can you send in your renewal *As Soon As Possible?* Of course, you can still pay for your membership after the first of the year, but you may not be able to keep getting your Legion magazine.

For those who are wondering why they should keep on renewing, here are some reasons why. The American Legion offers volunteer opportunities that fulfill needs in local communities throughout the country and beyond. The Legion and the Sons of The American Legion provide millions of hours of free community service, assistance at VA medical facilities and help at military installations each year. The American Legion is the nation's most influential, effective and dependable advocate of veteran affairs fighting for better active-duty pay, improved housing for active-duty families and helping to ensure that the VA's medical system can properly care for veterans. The American Legion offers members and their family's practical, money-saving discounts that can easily save many times the cost of annual membership dues.

American Legion honor guards provide official services at thousands of veteran funerals around the world each year. The Legion is also a leader at every level in the establishment and maintenance of memorials and monuments that honor military sacrifice. The American Legion offers hundreds of opportunities for homeless veterans across the country, including temporary housing, mentoring and job training. Cash grants and volunteer aid are among the ways The American Legion reaches out to families of military service members and veterans during times of financial difficulty, short-handedness at home or natural disaster.

The American Legion offers expert advice, support and representation for veterans and families seeking government benefits they are eligible to receive at the federal, state and local levels. Our nation's leaders speak directly to citizens on the pages of The American Legion Magazine. The American Legion's organizational goals are promoted using the words of talented writers, professional journalists, and world leaders. There are probably more reasons than the ones I have stated above, but your membership adds to the thousands of voices that can reach the Nations House and the Senate in passing great laws for the benefit of all veterans. Thank you for your membership.

It is our hope that we are a post that represents this community with the support of each of our members. We need each of you to keep renewing and our goal for doing that is to renew by the end of the year. Thank you for your support.

**If I can do anything for you to make your membership renewal easier or more convenient in the future, or answer any questions you may have regarding membership, please let me know. I can be reached at Home (801) 451-9493/Cell (801) 560-2186 or email [dalescrockett@yahoo.com](mailto:dalescrockett@yahoo.com). You can also Venmo me to renew @Dale-Crockett-7 if you have the app.**

# Chaplain

## DECEMBER HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

In addition to **Christmas, December 25**, which celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, there are other holidays celebrated in December.



Happy Holidays

**Hanukkah**, meaning “to dedicate”, also known as the **Festival of Lights**, is a Jewish festival commemorating the recovery of Jerusalem and subsequent rededication of the Temple in 160 BC. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the Gregorian calendar. In 2022, the dates are **December 18-26**. The festival is observed by lighting the candles of a menorah. Each night, one additional candle is lit until all eight candles are lit together on the final night of the festival.

When, on the twenty-fifth of Kislev, the Jews had emerged victorious over their foes and destroyed them, they re-entered the Temple where they found only one jar of pure oil, enough to be lit for only a single day; yet they used it for lighting the required set of lamps for eight days, until they managed to press olives and produce pure oil. Because of this, the sages of that generation ruled that the eight days beginning with the twenty-fifth of Kislev should be observed as days of rejoicing and praising the Lord. Lamps are lit in the evening over the doors of the homes, on each of the eight nights, so as to display the miracle.

**Kwanzaa** is an annual celebration of African-American culture from **December 26 to January 1**.

American Maulana Karenga created Kwanzaa in 1966 during the aftermath of the Watts riots as a specifically African-American holiday, based on African harvest festival traditions from various parts of West and Southeast Africa. Karenga said his goal was to "give blacks an alternative to the existing holiday of Christmas and give blacks an opportunity to celebrate themselves and their history".

According to Karenga, the name Kwanzaa means “first fruits”. First fruits festivals exist in Southern Africa celebrated in December/January with the southern solstice, It was decided to spell the holiday's name with an additional "a" so that it would have a symbolic seven letters.

Kwanzaa celebrates what its founder called the seven principles of Kwanzaa, the seven principles of African Heritage. These seven principles together comprise the "common" philosophy, a blending of nationalist, pan-Africanist, and socialist values. Each of the seven days of Kwanzaa is dedicated to one of the principles:

1)Unity, 2)Self-determination, 3)Collective work and responsibility, 3)Cooperative economics, 5)Purpose, 6)Creativity and 7)Faith. Bill Clinton gave the first presidential declaration marking the holiday. Subsequent presidents George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and Donald Trump also issued greetings to celebrate Kwanzaa.

**Whichever holiday you are celebrating, may God grant all a safe and enjoyable holiday season.**

## For Your Information

### SUCCESSFUL FOOD DRIVE FOR OUR MILITARY!

Auxiliary Unit 27 planned a food drive for January 2023, but also quickly planned a food drive for the Hill Air Force Base Airman's Attic Food Pantry in early November before Thanksgiving. Word spread quickly, with grocery items gathered up along with \$270 in money donations. All total, 491 items were delivered to the HAFB Food Pantry on November 20 by Dale and Roleane Crockett, Chuck and Paula Stephenson, and an earlier delivery by Chris and John Decker.



The staff there said the next day was a start to their big food drive event so they appreciated our items coming in early. Stay tuned for the next food drive in early 2023 . . . Thank you all who donated and participated, and for supporting our military and their families.

# Historian



Kent Hansen

## A PERSONAL CHRISTMAS MEMORY

No one likes to be away from home during the holidays and I was certainly no different. And as the 1968 Christmas season rolled around in DaNang, South Vietnam, I was feeling pretty sorry for myself. Still, to keep my mind on other things, I spent my off-hours teaching classes at the Phan Chu Trinh Public Secondary School.

There were some wonderful times at the school, too. After class one night, a bunch of us (a couple of GI teachers and a group of Vietnamese students) were sitting

around and we started singing, just for the fun of it. Now, these young Vietnamese girls had a beautiful harmony and we GIs just stopped and listened to them.

It occurred to me that I should form them into a group and under the auspices of the Vietnamese-American Association (VAA), I did just that. They named themselves the *East-West Ca Nhac Kich* (meaning Players and Singers of Music). Rehearsing several nights a week, we put together a nice program of Vietnamese and American music, including an ample sampling of Christmas music. We played the Navy hospital ship USS Sanctuary, the China Beach USO and the NSA Station Hospital.



Some of our performances were for the guys who couldn't get in to see the Bob Hope Show that was in DaNang on Christmas Day. The Station Hospital performance was very sobering. This hospital was one of the places where broken men were brought directly from the fields of combat. I was surprised that the staff let us visit but they assured us that we might cheer the patients up. We would sing two or three songs in one ward and then move on to another.

During one of our Christmas carols in the burn ward, one soldier died screaming in pain. In the amputee ward, the girls had just finished singing "Silent Night" in Vietnamese and were moving on to the next ward, when a big Marine gunnery sergeant who had lost both legs and an arm reached out and grabbed one of the girls. I was immediately on alert as I wasn't certain of his intentions. But this good man, with tears rolling down his cheeks, only wanted to thank the girls "for the only Christmas I'm gonna have." At that moment, I knew that my personal, selfish homesickness didn't amount to much and that I was exactly where I needed to be.



SGT.  
SAGE  
SEZ

"The more you sweat in peace,  
The less you bleed in war."

## American Legion Auxiliary



This month of Thanksgiving reminds us to be grateful for our blessings! I am so grateful for our Post #27 American Legion family! I watched with great pride as our Post participated in the Veterans' Day observance at the Farmington Cemetery. The presence of our Legion family and how we

carry out the rifle volley, Taps and the folding of the flag never ceases to inspire me! It was a great day with the Farmington Elementary 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades singing wonderful patriotic songs! Our mayor, Brett Anderson's remarks were so appropriate and I love how he teaches the students in his remarks. We are fortunate to have him as our mayor!



Deb Hansen

Thank you to Paula for leading our food drive for the Hill AFB Airman's Attic! She has a great summary and picture of this very successful event! We will see you at our Christmas party on December 15! Note the change in date!

### UNIT 27 REACHES 100% MEMBERSHIP GOAL!

Thanks to ALL members of Unit 27 for getting their renewals in before the end of the year. Your dues helps our organization to carry on the projects we do yearround (food drives, stuffed animals for First Responders, school backpacks for our elementary school, assisting our Post and SAL programs). And we should not see those crazy notices from National reminding us to renew our memberships (LOL). In addition to reaching our renewal goal, we have also recruited two new members this year. Keep those applications coming in. Our Department thinks we can recruit a total of seven for the Member Year 2023. What do you think?

## Legion Laffs BY KENT HANSEN



Check us out on Facebook  
at

"American Legion Post  
27 Farmington Utah"



Find us on

Facebook

or the link from our Post  
website at

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



### Take Advantage of our Veterans Outreach Program

A representative from the Utah Department of Veteran and Military Affairs can assist veterans with benefit questions, disability and benefit applications, and families of veterans. Call for an

appointment with a Service Officer: **801-662-8256**.

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



Department of Veterans & Military Affairs  
STATE OF UTAH

**MINDY HONEYCUTT**

Outreach Program Specialist / VSO

mihoneycutt@utah.gov  
801.662.8256 (Cell)  
801.326.2369 (Fax)  
1102 N 1200 W, Ogden, UT 84404



# Post 27 Family Holiday Party

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15**

**5:00 PM**

**DAVIS TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

**550 E. 300 S., KAYSVILLE, UT 84037  
HEALTH BLDG. (NEXT TO MAIN BLDG.)  
2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR - USE LARGE ELEVATOR**

**\$20/ PERSON IN ADVANCE \$25 AT THE DOOR**

***Please RSVP no later than December 10  
to Frank Ferrante (801) 589-3292 or email  
[fbferrante@aol.com](mailto:fbferrante@aol.com)***