



The American Legion

Post 27/Squadron 27

Newsletter

Farmington, Utah

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

February 2016

Still Serving America

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

Commander's Corner

Not Finished Yet...

We veterans all joined our respective military services for a variety of reasons: a job, money for college, adventure, cool uniforms, a chance to see the world. And yet still another, even more important reason: to serve the country we love. Some of us served our time and moved on to civilian life; others of us made a career of it before retiring to enter the strange new world of civilian life. But many of us, either by choice or retirement, are not yet through serving the United States.

Fortunately, there are a number of excellent veterans service organizations that offer opportunities to serve. Yet The American Legion offers some elements that others lack. For example, to become eligible to become members of The American Legion, one must simply be veterans who have served in a time of war, as determined by the U.S. Congress. The Legion has always understood the importance of those serving in support roles rather than restricting membership to those who had boots on the ground. In addition, our comradeship began nearly 100 years ago. During that time The Legion has been busy advocating for veterans and helping to groom future generations in the principles of freedom and patriotism. In fact, it was The American Legion that spearheaded the GI Bill and the Veterans Administration. It was The American Legion that instituted the Boys State and (later through The American Legion Auxiliary) Girls State. Our High School Oratorical Contests have not only raised awareness and appreciation of the U.S. Constitution but also have provided countless scholarship dollars toward future education.

We are now in a new era of our U.S. military history with our young veterans battling terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan. Many of these folks may think that they cannot become members of a VSO until they are old and retired. Some of them don't even realize they are veterans. If you know a young man or woman who is serving or has served, invite him or her to one of our meetings or events. Then they can discover, like we did, that serving your country doesn't only have to be in past tense.



Kent Hansen

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 6 -- Dept. of Utah Oratorical Contest.
Spanish Fork. 1 pm

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

February 15 – Presidents' Day. Fly the flag.

February 16 – Military Funeral Honors Training.
7:00 to 9:00 pm, Farmington Firehouse.

March 10 -- Post 27 meeting. 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.

March 13 – Daylight Savings Time begins.

March 15-17 – The American Legion Birthday
Fly the flag!

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day. Wear the green and the red, white and blue!

1st Vice Commander



THE AMERICAN LEGION PREAMBLE

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**

Frank Ferrante

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.

5. TO INCULCATE A SENSE OF INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATION TO THE COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATION.

Always interested in building a better nation, the founders of The American Legion believed that such building must start first with the individual in his own community. So they made it one of the cardinal principles of The American Legion to inculcate that sense of personal obligation to the community, state and nation into the individual citizen. That means educating the citizen-young, old and future-in his and her responsibility to be active in making the hometown a better place in which to live, in discharging the duty of voting in elections, in paying taxes promptly, in contributing to community chest funds and to blood banks. The word “inculcate” means “to impress by frequent admonitions” and “to enforce by frequent repetitions.” Like the duties themselves, the reminders that they remain to be carried forward, are never finished.

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.

2nd Vice Commander



Post 27 conducted another successful Oratorical contest with a fine showing from Post Legionnaires on January 13. Both contestants showed an exceptional knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and its amendments. First Place and a gold medal went to **Carson** **Robb** of Davis High School. In addition, he received a check for \$150. Carson went on to compete in the District II competition where he finished in second place. **Natalie Olsen**, also from Davis, took second and was awarded \$100. Now it's time to turn our attention to the Boys State interview process as we prepare these young men for a life changing event.



Kenneth Hadley

I am also looking for some Legionnaires to help me on a committee to research the history of the Post. If you would like to help, please contact me at kphadley07@msn.com.

Adjutant/ Eagle Scout Courts of Honor

Membership is Our Lifeblood



Dale Crockett

Membership. Statistics are membership numbers through 1 Feb 2016.

2016 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2015 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
106	7	47	30	6	1	91	86%

Thank you so much for your dues because membership is our lifeblood. One of the many benefits provided to you as a member of The American Legion is a Guaranteed (up to) \$5,000 Accidental Death Benefit provided by Legionnaire Insurance Trust Program, Phoenix, AZ. Regardless of your age, health or occupation, your acceptance is guaranteed. If you have an accidental death while traveling on official American Legion business, your family/beneficiary will receive \$5,000. If you are not on official American Legion business, your family/beneficiary will receive \$1000. This is at **no cost** to you! You can't do better than **free**. All you need to do is fill a short form out that I have and will send to you or you can call a toll free number of 1-800-235-6943 and sign over the phone. You will also need your member ID number. Please call the Post Adjutant below for your



membership number if you cannot find it. If you have signed up in the past and it has been a few years ago, it would be best to resign up again or call the toll free number to see if you are still in the system. If you need additional information on this program, please contact Post Adjutant Dale Crockett. We would like 100% participation of this program in Post 27. Please take advantage of this insurance because it only takes a minute to get this free coverage. This plan was developed solely for the protection of Legion Members, and no other individuals will be allowed to participate in this special program.

We still have a few out there that have not paid yet. Please let me know if you will be renewing your membership or not with a short email back to me. That way I won't keep trying to contact you in the future. For those who have paid, please see if you have friends or neighbors that would like to join us. We have a lot of fun doing Eagle courts, military honors, flag ceremonies and a lot more. The service we provide to our community brings great joy to us. Just a reminder, the membership price has increased by \$5 per year this January, so I would love to get the rest of the membership cards out to you as soon as possible. As always, you may renew by sending your \$35 annual membership dues to our Post: P.O. Box 427, Farmington, UT 84025-0427. An even easier option is to go to 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) 4561-9493 / C (801) 560-2186 or email dalescrockett@yahoo.com.***

Department of Utah Belt Buckle Pin. A pin version of the William E. "Bill" Christoffersen "BIG BEE" 50 Years Commemorative Belt Buckles is NEW and is currently available. These beautiful pins are 1 ½ inches across and are an excellent addition to your Legion hat or lapel. We continue to celebrate Bill Christoffersen's 50 years as the Department of Utah National Executive Committeeman and his long standing support of the American Legion Utah Boys State Program. If you are interested in obtaining one or more of these pins, please let me or Chuck Stephenson know. The cost for the pin is \$10. All profits from the sale of the pins will go to the American Legion Utah Boys State William E. Christoffersen Scholarship Fund. A scholarship will be awarded to each of the two young men elected as Boys Nation Senators each summer at Utah Boys State.





SGT.
SAGE
SEZ

"Try to look unimportant;
they may be low on ammo."

- INFANTRY JOURNAL

Sergeant-at-Arms

We, have started off the year with a bang. We have participated in several graveside services for fellow veterans. We held a successful Post Oratorical contest. This Post has been referred to as "The Little Post that Could, Can and Does." I would like to invite any of our members to find the time and come and join us in our activities and enjoy the comradery that we have with one another. We have a good Post and with more of our members joining us we can make it a great Post. We are gearing up for Boys State which will be at Weber State in June. Our fourth Flag retirement at the Davis County Fair in August. These are some of the bigger events we have planned and with more members helping there is more service we can provide. Come and join us.



Frank Lennartz

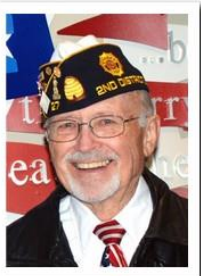
Chaplain



William A. Huber

Winter's blanket has come to rest upon us. Amid the bleakness of the days, Post 27's Honor Guard continues to bring moments of brightness coupled with a sense of pride to the families of veterans as they have laid their loved ones in their final resting place. At Post 27's Oratorical Contest, two of our brightest high school youth stepped forward and gave inspirational and moving speeches on our Constitution; in doing so they affirmed a feeling that our country will be left in good hands. We have much to be grateful for to the God of all creation that has sustained and blessed this land of liberty. In military garb we once gave some of our best years of service to preserve the land of the free and the home of the brave. May the Lord's blessing smile upon us as we continue to lift the hearts and burdens of our fellow veterans, their families and our many neighbors throughout our communities by doing quite acts of service and extending hands of friendship. -- **Chaplain Huber**

Financial Officer/Military Funeral Honors



John Sheets

January was again a very busy month for Military Funeral Honors with a total of eight funerals for departed comrades who loyally served our country. We invite all who would like to join our group for flag folding and rifle volley training on February 16 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Farmington Fire Department.



As a financial report we end the 2015 year with a positive bank balance that helps Post 27 continue to serve our communities.

Past Department Commander/Training Officer



Paula
Stephenson

TRAINING IN FEBRUARY: Sharpen your skills on flag folding, ceremonial handling of rifles, and ceremonial handling of the bugle. **Tuesday, February 16, 2016, 7-9 P.M. at the Farmington City Fire Station, 82 N. 100 E., Farmington.** Instructors will be the Utah Army National Guard Military Funeral Honors Team, who were trained by the Army's Arlington Cemetery Unit. Those who complete this training will be given a Military Funeral Honors Flag Pin and Certificate of Training. Fine tune your skills that are used for Eagle Courts, flag education activities, military funeral honors, and other events.

PURPLE HEART PROCLAMATION: On Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 10:00 A.M. in the Davis County Commission Chambers, 3rd Floor, Davis County Admin Bldg, 61 S. Main Street, Farmington, the Davis County Commission will present a proclamation designating Davis County as the first "Purple Heart County" in the state of Utah. All veterans are invited to attend and support our fellow veterans who are Purple Heart recipients. This project was spearheaded by our own Post

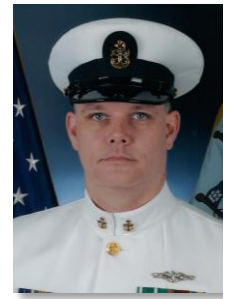
27 member Harry Trease, who is also a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 995. Thank you, Harry, for all that you do.

“VETERANS VOICE”: The January issue of the **Veterans Voice** is now online at www.veterans.utah.gov under “Resources and Publications”. This veterans newsletter is published every other month by the Department of Utah Veterans and Military Affairs, and is jammed packed with helpful information, which you can use or pass on to other Veterans. Copies are also available in our magazine rack in the hallway of our Post 27 home in Room 116, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, 28 East State Street, Farmington. You can obtain copies during regular business hours when you are in the neighborhood.

NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES: The 36th National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) will be held June 27-July 2, 2016 in Salt Lake City, sponsored by the VA in Salt Lake. They need over 2,000 volunteers. If you are a Veteran interested in participating or a member of the community wanting to volunteer, please visit: <http://wheelchairgames.org/>. Get involved today!

Jake Garn Sea Cadet Squadron

The Jake Garn Sea Cadets had a pretty interesting drill for December. It started off with a dress blues Inspection in preparation for the annual awards dinner that would be held later that evening. The cadets really looked great. They truly take a lot of pride in their appearance. I did find some discrepancies but we maintain a high standard at Jake Garn and the cadets expect it. Later that day came the annual awards dinner/pot luck. Everyone had a great meal and some significant awards were presented. Petty Officer Second Class Keithlan Rojas was awarded the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Medal. The medal was presented by Douglas R. McGregor, President of the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution. President McGregor gave a fantastic speech on the history of the beginning of the Revolutionary War and expressed the significance of it. The Jake Garn Plankowners (those who were members when the squadron was formed) were issued their challenge coins and several other awards were presented.



Courtney Putnam

For January, the cadets focused on correspondence courses, conducted a human game of Battleship (using phonetic alphabet and two-way radios) and received training on the Basic Military Requirements. Several awards were presented, including two awards for the Navy League of the United States Theodore Roosevelt Medal. Cadets Luke Brown and Jace Dieren received the award which is given for outstanding performance of duty and was established to honor those cadets who best exemplify Roosevelt’s values of energy, spirit, competition and fair play. Congratulations to Luke, Jace and everyone who received awards.



Petty Officer Second Class Keithlan Rojas is awarded the Utah Society Sons of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Medal.



Jake Garn Sea Cadets prepare to attend their annual Awards Dinner.

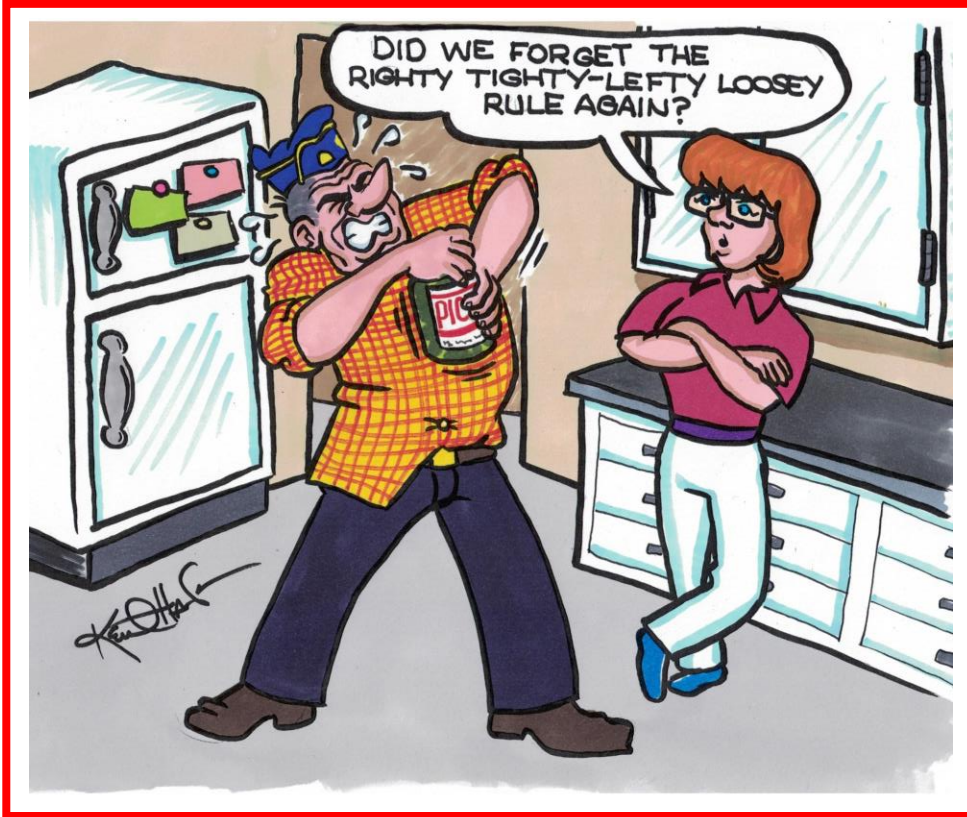


Take advantage of our Veterans Outreach Program

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 Larry Dawson at 801-326-2370 or 801-326-2372.

Be sure to bring a DD-214 or Discharge certificate with you

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.



From the Department Vice Commander

"I am a member of The American Legion because . . .

- I am a veteran
- I am still active in the military and it is nice to know an organization is watching out for my benefits and a strong military
- The American Legion supports veterans and our military
- My Post keeps me informed of veterans' events in my community
- My Dad/Mom was a member and I am carrying on a tradition
- The Legion has great programs and scholarships for our Youth
- I feel good about what my annual membership dues support
- I like what the American Legion does in my community/state/nation
- I am a proud Legionnaire
- I used the GI Bill, which was the Legion's idea
- I went to American Legion Boys State
- I went to American Legion Auxiliary Girls State
- I can support the Legion without physically participating in all the events and activities
- I am proud to participate in Military Funeral Honors
- Just because...



Chuck Stephenson
Department
Vice Commander

. . .RENEW---RECRUIT!