



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
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COMMANDER'S CALL

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! As we set course on a new year, it is fitting to pause a moment and reflect on all of the accomplishments and services that you and your fellow Legionnaires from Post 27 completed. Local patriotic events in the surrounding communities, American Legion

Oratorical contest and the Boys State and Girls State programs, and supporting our own youth scouting programs.

Most importantly, our Military Funeral Honors Team still provides honors for deceased veterans and their families. We can't complete these solemn services without volunteers. Please take a moment to consider assisting us. You can reach out to me, or look for more details in this monthly newsletter.



Jon Rue



We recently had our "annual" Holiday Party which we were able to hold once again in person at the Davis Tech Center in Kaysville. Highlights included holiday trivia with prizes (and only a few controversial answers 😊), holiday themed "dad" jokes by our 1st Vice, great food with seconds and thirds, and a visit by a special guest, seen to your left. (BTW, the "guest" is the one in the middle). Plan on joining us next year to see what tricks we have up our sleeves for entertainment!!

Once again, we participated in the annual Wreaths Across America event hosted by Lindquist Mortuary in Layton. This event is designed to help the members of our communities to REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom. Following hearing several patriotic messages, our 2nd Vice, Dan Woodward, had the honor of placing the wreath for the US Army, and our honorary members, the Crimsers, together with War Dog Gelli, placed a

wreath for remembrance of the valuable service of War Dogs. Members of Post 27 then furnished a rifle team to give a three-rifle volley salute to both living and deceased veterans.

As we turn to the new year and planning for events including the Oratorical Contest, please join us for our General Meeting on Thursday, January 11.

Please come and join us as we plan for upcoming events.

Post 27 Family EVENTS CALENDAR



January 1 – New Year’s Day. *Fly the flag!*
January 11 – Post 27 General Meeting. 7:00 pm,
Davis County Memorial Courthouse
January 15 – Martin Luther King Day. *Fly the flag!*
January 25 – Post Oratorical Contest

February 2 – Groundhog Day. *Fly the flag! Fly the flag!
Fly the flag! Fly the flag! Fly the flag! Fly the flag!*
February 8 – Post 27 General Meeting. 7:00 pm,
Davis County Memorial Courthouse
Presidents Day. *Fly the flag!*

1st Vice Commander



Bob Anderson

It is my hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season and have a great start on a fantastic 2024. I am looking forward to our Post events in 2024. We, as Post 27 and the American Legion as a whole, do so much in supporting our veteran community, Americanism, our youth, and National Security. I have so much appreciation for the active members of our Post and the American Legion at the start this new year – Thank you all.

The Holiday party this year was terrific! It came together by the efforts of so many people. The DTC’s Kristie Binks, an Auxiliary member, did her magic to coordinate, set up and teardown the room. The ladies of the Auxiliary decorated everything. The tables looked great, thanks to the Auxiliary led by Deb Hansen. Again, as last year, Bryan Rue and Rebecca picked up and delivered all the goodies for us to eat. Frank Ferrante once again managed the RSVPs and money.

Commander Jon Rue did a great job of emceeing and providing Christmas quizzes for the attendees to solve. Willam Huber and Steve Steed did a moving POW/MIA ceremony. Chuck and Paula Stephenson updated and displayed Post 27’s year in pictures and set up a fun raffle. I got to tell as many hilarious holiday-related jokes as the audience could tolerate and then I told some more. Well, I thought they were funny; at least one person in the room laughed. Thank you to all the many people who added to the festivities; it was a fun and delicious evening. Plan to come to the fun next year, please.

My PSA Again: If you can’t get to a Post 27 Monthly meeting due to your own health or transportation issues, but would like to, we can help. Any active member who wants to attend a Post 27 meeting, call me, 801-347-8735 or any other Executive Group member as shown in this newsletter. Someone will come pick you up. Just give us a call or text the day prior and that should do it. We want there to be no obstacles to your participating in the Post. Give it a try.

2nd Vice Commander

As a reminder, on January 25, we will be conducting our Post American Legion Oratorical contest. Consider helping us out and seeing the youth of our community present on the values of this great Nation, which you all sacrificed to protect.

The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation’s laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.



Dan Woodward

Eligible participants must be citizens of or lawful permanent residents of the United States. All contestants must be bona fide students herein described as any student under the age of 20 years on the date of the national contest who is presently enrolled in a high school or junior high school (public, parochial, military, private or home school). The curriculum of the school must be considered to be of high school level, commencing with grade 9 and terminating with grade 12. Students must be enrolled in high school or junior high school during the time of participation at any level of The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest. Contestants must either be legally domiciled within or attend an educational institution within the department that they enter competition. Contestants can enter competition through only one department.

High school students that graduate early during the school year are eligible to compete if they are not enrolled in a college, university, trade school or other institution of higher learning at the time of the department finals contest.

Adjutant

Welcome aboard to our new Post 27 member!
Charles F. Davis



Dale Crockett

Membership is our Lifeblood!



American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through Jan 1 2024.

2024 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
128	21	53	26	1	2	103	80%

Sons of the American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through Jan 1 2024.

2024 GOAL		REGULAR		NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
32		24	6	1		31	97%

Well, if you have not mailed me your membership of \$35 to PO Box 427, Farmington, UT 84025 or logged into legion.org/renew, you are now late. However, you can still renew for the 2024 membership year. As you can see above, we only have 20% that have not renewed yet. I am going to start calling folks after the first of the year, so if you don't want me to bug you, please send in your membership ASAP. We want you to be involved with us if your health allows that, but if not, I hope our monthly newsletter keeps you up to date with the things we are doing. We are very concern with all of our members and we try to connect with you once in a while through Buddy Checks. If you never hear from us, please let me know and I will do a follow-up with you making sure your phone number and email is correct. We do not want to lose members for any reason. We love serving our veterans and we try to find new ways to ensure your involvement with us and solving membership needs. Please see below for my contact info.

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. You can also VENMO me to renew @Dale-Crockett-7 if you have the app. It does not cost you anything and you can get it from the APP Store.

Chaplain

The first United States Presidential Election

The 1788–89 United States presidential election was the first quadrennial presidential election. It was held from Monday, December 15, 1788, to Wednesday, January 7, 1789, under the new Constitution ratified that same year. George Washington was unanimously elected for the first of his two terms as president and John Adams became the first vice president. This was the only U.S. presidential election that spanned two calendar years without a contingent election and the first national presidential election in American history.



Steve Steed



No nomination process existed at the time of planning, and thus, the framers of the Constitution presumed that Washington would be elected unopposed. Alexander Hamilton spoke for national opinion when in a letter to Washington attempting to persuade him to leave retirement on his farm in Mount Vernon to serve as the first President, he wrote that "...the point of light in which you stand at home and abroad will make an infinite difference in the respectability in which the government will begin its operations in the alternative of your being

or not being the head of state."

The Constitution created the offices of President and Vice President, fully separating these offices from Congress. The Constitution established an Electoral College, based on each state's Congressional representation, in which each elector would cast two votes for two candidates,

The enormously popular Washington was distinguished as the former Commander of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. After he agreed to come out of retirement, he was elected with ease unanimously; Washington did not select a running mate as that concept was not yet developed.

All 69 electors present cast one vote for Washington, making his election unanimous. Adams won 34 electoral votes and the vice presidency. The remaining 35 electoral votes were split among 10 candidates, including John Jay, who finished third with nine electoral votes

George Washington stated the following: "It is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."

May God continue to bless and watch over America.

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF UTAH TRAINING THURSDAYS

WHEN: First Thursday each month through May 2024, 6:00-7:00 PM

Added subjects as needed LAST Thursday of each month

ZOOM.COM: Meeting ID: 895 1643 2296 Password: 716204

SUBJECT OF THE MONTH:

January 4, 2023: Success in Legion Programs and Due Dates
For Recognition and Scholarships

(Boys State, Oratorical Program, Eagle Scouts, American Legion Baseball,
Police Officer of the Year, Firefighter/EMS of the Year, Temporary Financial
Assistance "TFA" Program)

All Legion family members are welcome to join the Zoom training.



Historian

New Year's Resolutions

Every year at this time, folks resolve to improve themselves by making promises that they inevitably break. Perhaps that's because our self-promises are realistically unattainable. Maybe it's time to attempt the attainable. Here are a few suggestions of some resolutions that are within the realm of possibility. Use them at your own peril.

- Embrace the chaos: aspire to make my bed at least once a month.
- Practice the fine art of remembering where I left my keys at least twice a week.
- Attempt to become fluent in emoji to communicate complex emotions more effectively.
- Promise to conquer the pile of unread books by turning them into stylish furniture.
- Try yoga – or at least learn how to touch my toes without toppling over.
- Experiment with new recipes, with a goal to cook something that actually looks like the recipe picture.
- Aim to become a Zoom pro by mastering the mute/unmute button without embarrassing incidents.
- Commit to finding a plant I can't kill in less than a week – a botanical challenge!
- Promise to resist the urge to start a new TV series until I finish at least one I've already started.
- Exercise...my right to eat more chocolate!
- Committing to a daily workout routine: laughing at my jokes.
- Embrace my inner couch potato, guilt-free.
- Perfect the art of pretending to listen during Zoom meetings.
- I will attempt to fold fitted sheets without summoning dark forces.
- Master the art of parallel parking (or continue to avoid it).
- I will limit my screen time to only 8 hours of Netflix per day.
- Become a morning person... starting at noon.
- I promise to use the gym membership I've been paying for all year.
- I will try not to judge my cat for sleeping 18 hours a day.
- Develop the ability to remember names, even if it's just mine.
- I will strive to say 'no' more often... unless it involves dessert.



Kent Hansen



American Legion Auxiliary



Deb Hansen

Happy New Year to our awesome Unit members!! We have had so many fun projects this past year and we are looking forward to continuing to serve in 2024! As I write 2024, I wonder where 2023 went!

Well, for our Unit, it was a crazy busy year!! Through the efforts of our Unit members, more than 2000 units were donated to the Airman's Attic at Hill Air Force Base! We have even gotten a bit smarter with the addition of Sharaya Woodwick, who directs the Attic, as a member of our Unit! She helps identify what our Airmen's needs are and we are using our Smith's donation dollars, as well as the funds you and your families donate, to target those specific needs! Paula is our "Queen of Costco!"

We collected as a Unit enough stuffed animals to provide these toys to both the Layton and Kaysville Fire Departments! These toys provide comfort when a child is in a situation where there is an emergency.



Poppies! We made poppies and some Unit members sold them at the Park City Outlet Mall. Our backpack project was so appreciated by Leadership Learning Academy, a Purple Star School in Layton. Those students were so proud to have a brand-new backpack filled with school supplies.

Many of you supported the Military Funeral Honors as our veterans were laid to rest...and some helped make the fleece blankets for the family member of those we lost from our Post. Does this sound like service? It sure does....many, many hours...even when some of you have been battling your own health issues and could have benefited from being on the receiving end of the service! Please remember to document your hours for our annual report! Happy New Year dear friends! Welcome new members and next month, we will spotlight them!

Legion Lafts 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



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UTAH DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN & MILITARY AFFAIRS:

www.veterans.utah.gov

- In the subjects scrolling at the beginning, select the **CONTACT US** button under the subject "VA Benefits & Claims Assistance"
- A veteran can make an appointment in person or virtually from this source