

July 2020

The Official Newsletter of Post 27 **★** Unit 27 **★** Squadron 27 **★** Farmington, Utah

www.post27.org

### <u>Commander's Corner</u>



William A. Huber

**Farewell to a Dear Friend** Fellow members of the Post 27 Family, it is my sad duty to advise that Post 27-member, Keith H. Gardner recently passed away owing to an ATV accident. Keith has been a good friend within American Legion Post 27 and served us faithfully as Post 27's 2nd Vice THE AMERICAN LEGION Post 27 P.O. Box 427 Farmington, UT 84025

Commander. In this capacity, he was the program lead who interfaced with the area high schools' counseling staffs inviting their students to participate in the American Legion Post 27's Constitutional Oratorical Speech Contest and the American Legion Utah Boys State programs. Coincidentally, on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, Post 27 received a thank you letter of appreciation from a student contestant from Davis High School, Mackenzie Spackman. She was a participant in Post 27's and District 2's 2020 Oratorical contest. Unfortunately, the American Legion Department competition was cancelled. As Keith was among those,

to whom her comments were directed, I include some of her thoughts here.

"When I constructed my speech and prepared to compete, I learned about our government and constitution I otherwise likely would never learned about. ... I am so grateful that I was able to compete in the American Legion Oratorical Competition before I graduated from High School. This competition has given me knowledge and memories that I will treasure throughout my life. The scholarship money will help me in my future time spent in college and I am so appreciative of that. Additionally, I would like to thank each and every member of the American Legion Post 27. You showed me kindness and members such as Mr. Gardner helped to see me through to the next level of the competition."



Keith's willingness to help Mackenzie and so many others was typical of Keith. He provided sound counsel to me and was one I could always count on. Prior to his service as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Cdr., Keith also served as the Post 27 Chaplain, magnifying the essence of the American Legion's Preamble that begins, "For God and Country..."

Throughout his time with the Post he also was an active member of the rifle team that rendered military funeral honors for many veterans throughout Davis County.

I was especially pleased to see Keith's shining countenance at the Bountiful Temple where he served admirably as an ordinance worker on the Wednesday 1 shift. I followed on the second shift; I salute him as I could never handle those early morning hours. I will miss Keith, his quiet manner and trueness to God and Country.

Post 27 Military Funeral Honors team rendered these honors admirably for the Gardner family at the Riverside Cemetery this past Saturday, June 20, 2020. Thank you to David Layton for taking the lead to coordinate this effort and all those serving with him.

Honor Guard for a Fallen Hero On Friday, June 26, 2020, 10 members of Post 27 furnished an Honor Guard of American flag bearers at the Russon Brothers Farmington Mortuary on behalf of 1<sup>st</sup>Lt. Kenneth "Kage" Allen, an Air Force pilot. 1<sup>st</sup>Lt. Allen of Perry, Utah, recently lost his life in a training accident while flying a F-15C Eagle over the United Kingdom's North Sea. The group "Follow The Flag" had thousands of US flag bears waving the flag along the procession route beginning at the Salt Lake City Airport was led by hundreds of Utah Highway Patrolman motorcyclists and military veteran motorcyclists. At the mortuary, these hundreds stood side by side, flags in hand, in conjunction with our Post 27 Honor Guard, to pay a final tribute to the



sacrifice of 1Lt. Allen and extend a symbolic condolence to members of the Allen family. 1<sup>st</sup>Lt. Allen's funeral service will be held on Independence Day at Box Elder High School in Brigham City. Additional details are yet to be released. We extend appreciation to David Layton for organizing our Post 27 Honor Guard, to Dale Crockett for obtaining the necessary flags for the team and being the onsite coordinator at the mortuary, and to the members of Post 27 who participated as members of the team: Dale Crockett, Frank Ferrante, Kent Hansen, Jay Hess, William Huber, Paul Hubenthal, Frank Lennartz, Kent Servoss, David Standing, Paula Stephensen and Steve Steed.

**Save your DD-214** Post 27 members are reminded of the free service provided at the Davis County Recorder Office of recording your military discharge document. For many this is a form DD-214, for others it may be a different document. You will need to bring in the original document. It will be scanned and recorded. The original and one certified copy will be returned to you free of charge. Having this document easily available, and known to your family members, will help ensure your future eligibility to receive military funeral honors in due course and to aid your surviving spouse to receive veterans benefits to which they may be eligible.

**Post General Meetings to Resume** It has been several months since the outbreak of COVID-19 and the shutting down of our monthly Post 27 general meetings. Notwithstanding, we have recently started to stretch our wings, oh so carefully, having now done three Memorial Day programs, performed a flag ceremony for the Mangus family in remembrance of the passing of WW2 veteran LeGrand Mangus who died during the Normandy invasion, preformed military funeral honors for Post member Keith Gardner and a flag Honor Guard for 1Lt Allen's family. Post 27 is once again looking to have its first general post meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 6:30 PM with special deserts and appetizers welcoming our safe get together. We are looking to do this at the Heritage Park on 1075 West, Farmington subject to its ongoing availability. If there is a site change of venue, it will be announced in the email distributing this newsletter. Bring your masks and hope to see you there, ~ Post 27 auxiliary has been kind enough to make masks available to those who may need one.

### **EVENTS CALENDAR**\*

July 4 – Independence Day. *Fly the Flag!* July 9 – Post 27/Auxiliary Unit General Meeting, 6:30 pm, Heritage Park. *Wear a mask.* July 24 – Pioneer Day *Fly the Flag!* 

August events are still being worked out. August 4 – Coast Guard Birthday. *Fly the Flag!* 

\*All dates and events are subject to current health constraints. Information on events and meetings will be sent to members via e-mail.

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

I hope all available have been contacted by a Post member with a "Buddy Check" at least once, if not multiple times, since the outbreak of the epidemic. If you were assigned names to call and have not talked to our fellow veterans, please do so. They need to know we are with them and are available to help, when needed.

I know we should be excited about the upcoming Independence Day, though most of the events and celebrations appear to be cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns. Despite how important the holiday is and its meaning to this country (and to me personally), I am feeling the saddest I have felt in a long while having lost a strong leader and good friend in **Keith Gardner, Post 27 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander**. He was a dynamic part of the "Usual Suspects"; almost always there to support a flag-raising or a Military Funeral Honors for a fellow veteran.



**Bob Anderson** 

He was a valuable resource to the Post Commander in Post 27 business decisions and proactive in all his projects. Boys State would have been well prepared and executed with his efforts. I have little else to add that would not be trivial to losing him. I know all that knew him in the American Legion Post 27 will miss him.





Dale Crockett

American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through 1 July 2020.

2020 Goal	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2020 Total	PERCENT OF GOAL
145	14	60	40	5	8	127	88%

Sons of the American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through 1 June 2020.

2020 Goal	REGULAR	NEW	TRANSFERS	<b>2020</b> Total	PERCENT OF GOAL
50	32			32	64%

July 1 is the start of the 2021 membership year. If you have not renewed for 2020 yet, it is not too late, however, if you want to skip 2020 renewal, you can start fresh by renewing for 2021. In that case, you will have a break for continuous membership if that does not matter to you. For those who are current on their 2020 membership, you can renew beginning on July 1. If all members were to complete their memberships each July, we could easily get our 100 percent goal early in the membership year.

The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly interrupted our lives here in post 27, but we continue to try and help each other and support others where we can. It has affected the way we do business, but it has not affected the way

our post fulfills their duties to serve. The funds from our membership dues help with all the programs we support. This does not happen without an incredible membership of dedicated military veterans and their families. We thank you for your continued membership and we hope to find you well and safe doing this stressful time.

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 <u>dalescrockett@yahoo.com</u>.

## <u>Sergeant~at~Arms</u>



We invite all Post 27 Members to obtain the MFH uniform and become familiar with the ceremony. The correct MFH uniform is purchased online from Emblem Sales Catalog. The MFH uniform consists of: Legion Cap, Legion long-sleeved shirt with uniform tie. Items that may be purchased or are already in your closet are: black pants, black shoes, and black jacket worn in inclement weather. White gloves are provided by Post 27.

David Layton

Veterans are entitled to military funeral honors consisting of rifle volley, playing of Taps and folding of American flag. Post 27 also offers a token of three shell casings for the family to remember the elements of the ceremony.

Without you, Post 27 cannot operate and provide this MFH ceremony.

As members of The American Legion, we volunteer to meet the requirements that 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 serve for the good of the Legion, the country and funeral honors for the deceased. Please let me know if you are interested and would like to participate with this ceremony. Cell:801- 450-7242 or Email: cdksl@msn.com

## <u>Chaplain</u>

During the American Revolution, the legal separation of the 13 colonies from Great Britain in 1776 actually occurred on July 2, when the Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence that had been proposed in June by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia declaring the United States independent from Great Britain's rule. After voting for independence, Congress turned its attention to the Declaration of Independence, a statement explaining this decision, which had been prepared by a Committee of Five, with Thomas Jefferson as its principal author. Congress debated and revised the wording of the Declaration, finally approving it two days, later on July 4.



### Steve Steed

### A day earlier, John Adams had written to his wife Abigail:

"The second day of July 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

Adams's prediction was off by two days. From the outset, Americans celebrated independence on July 4, the date shown on the much-publicized Declaration of Independence, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

My we give thanks to God for the blessings of the liberty and freedom we enjoy that this day represents.

<u>Training & FYI</u>

Auxiliary Unit 27 is leading the way with a food drive for the Homeless Veterans Fellowship in Ogden. These veterans are housed in individual apartments at the facility. Our unit has collected \$125.00 from the SMITH'S INSPIRING DONATIONS over the past year, through signups with your Smith's Rewards cards. *A BIG THANK YOU*. Unit 27 will be using this money to purchase needed items for the homeless veterans at this facility. In addition, we will have a food donation box to collect food items at our monthly Post meeting on Thursday, July 9. Please bring what you are able.

If you have not already registered for the SMITH'S INSPIRING DONATIONS program to help the donations that Smith's provides to our Post, see the attached flyer with instructions located in this newsletter. If you print front-to-back the instructions with the recommended list of food items, this will make it



easy for you. Share with your friends and families. This is at no cost to you. Thank you for helping us help our veterans.

### **ITEMS NEEDED:**

Soup (chicken noodle, tomato, etc.) SPAM (original flavor) Beef Stew (individual smaller servings) Tuna fish Canned ham Oatmeal (individual servings) Coffee Bananas Oranges (*no clementines*) Onions Fresh carrots, beans, etc. Meats (*individual serving cans*) Anything that comes in individual servings

No paper goods No Manwich cans No large cereal boxes No apples

4



Never pick a fight with a pig. You'll only get dirty and the pig enjoys it.

## <u>Historian</u>



Kent Hansen

automotive companies for a quarter-ton, four-wheel drive reconnaissance car capable of carrying useful loads, with proposals to be submitted within just 11 days. Only three contenders responded, and by late November 1940 American

The Birth of the leep

After World War I mechanization soared in importance among the world's armies, leading to a proliferation in all types and sizes

standardization, if mass production

of vehicles. As another war loomed, so did the need for

was to be achieved. On July 11, 1940, the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps issued a specification to 135 American



Bantam Car Co., Ford Motor Co. and Willys-Overland Motors had delivered prototypes for comprehensive Army trials at Fort Knox, Ky.

Each of the contenders had its merits, but in the end, it was Willys' "Quad"—powered by a 60-hp L134 "Go Devil" engine that produced 105 foot-pounds of torque, compared to 83 for Bantam's pilot and 85 for Ford's "Pygmy"—that got the contract. Willys continued to refine its design as the MA in 1941 and finally the MB, of which more than 360,000 were produced between 1941 and 1945. Nearly one-third of that output went to Britain and the Soviet Union.

Soldiers found so many uses for the small general purpose (GP) vehicle that it seemed natural to name it a "jeep," after the versatile magical creature from the popular *Popeye* theatrical cartoon shorts. The wheeled jeep became legendary for its exploits over the most inhospitable terrain, and improved versions—including the M151 Mutt, built by Ford—served through the 1990s.

WWII Jeeps weren't only used to carry troops. When it was necessary, they were also capable of being converted for rail use. Once the conversation had been completed, these Jeeps were capable of pulling up to ten tons via rail. Jeeps were made with sturdiness in

mind. Therefore, it shouldn't come as a surprise that they can haul up to 600 to 1,000 pounds. And they weren't just used in Europe against the Germans. They were also used on the Japanese front as well. On the battlefront, Jeeps were often used to ferry around high-ranking officers. Jeeps were also designed to carry the wounded, as the back seat was able to convert into a stretcher. Jeeps were also used often to lay communication lines. A total of 600,000 military jeeps were built during World War II, and countless such vehicles drive on in civilian hands.

## **POW/MIA News**

wim or sink, live or die, survive or perish with my country was my unalterable determination John Adams Rewnitionary Previet Sinter and President of the United States

## Major Jay Criddle Hess

Prisoner of War, who shared his sentiments. Presented August, 1973 by Grateful Americans, the employees of Fairchild Industries.

Edward h. une Edward G. Uhl President and Chief Executive Office

### Sentiments

A memorable item I received soon after being released from the Hanoi Hilton was this statement by John Adams from the company that built the F-105. It expressed the sentiments of my cellmates then. It expresses the sentiments of members of Post 27 now.



Jay Hess

On July 3, 1776, the day after the Second Continental Congress voted on a resolution to declare independence from the British, John Adams



sent a letter to his wife, Abigail, back home in Massachusetts. He predicted a grand celebration of America's independence.

"It ought to be commemorated as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shews, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other from this time forward, forever more."

## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Coincidently, Thomas Jefferson died at Monticello (age 83) and John Adams died at Quincy, Massachusetts (age 90) on July 4, 1826. They were the last surviving signers of the Declaration of Independence.

## American Legion Auxiliary



Happy 4th to you all! We had another great Zoom meeting this month, it's amazing how technology allows us to carry on with our purposes. July's meeting will be on July 9, 6:30 pm, with the Legion and featuring a dessert social. For this month's dessert social, please refer to the needs list for our food drive, and bring any items that you are able, (and of course a delicious dessert).

"And I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died, who gave that right to Marcie Mojica me." ~~ Lee Greenwood

## <u>Scoutmaster</u>

Well, we finally started meeting together again. Outside and "social distancing," of course. BSA has restrictions in place that are making it amazingly difficult to camp together, but we're cobbling it together. Despite all the mess, we are having our summer camp in mid-July at Camp Loll. For those who don't know, this is wedged in a small amount of ground between Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks in Wyoming; an absolutely beautiful location! Our boys have continued to earn merit badges as possible and we have several boys working diligently on rank advancements. We appreciated the opportunity to once again participate in placing flags on veterans' graves for Memorial Day. It was very meaningful for our youth and leaders. Thank you all for your continued support.



Brian Knox













# Post 27/Unit 27 Project:

## Assure our Legion Family and immediate families have masks to wear in public. If you, as a member of Post 27/Aux. Unit 27/SAL Sqn. 27 or your immediate family, need one, please e-mail Paula at <u>stphnsnc@aol.com</u> or 801-589-2871. Other veterans/families will be accommodated as supplies dictate.

Come one! Come all!



## Your Community & American Legion Post 27 need you. ...or at least your blood.

## Giving **Blood** is Giving Life!

- Looking for a great reason to get out of your virus-imposed isolation while providing a vital public service?
- · Join your fellow Legionnaires in giving blood, plasma, or platelets.
- The need cannot be overstated!
- · Every donation reflects on our Post to our community and the National office
- It shows the John Sheets American Legion Post 27 doesn't just stop helping others even in a pandemic!
- It is safe, vital, and a service to your community to be proud of
- Looking for location or how to schedule an appointment?
- It's just four easy steps...



### **Through the American Red Cross:**

- 1. Go to www.redcross.org
- 2. Click on "Give Blood".
- 3. Click on "Find a Drive".
- 4. Enter zip code.



### **Through ARUP:**

- 1. Go to www.utahblood.org
- 2. Click on "Schedule an Appointment".
- 3. Click on "Locate a Blood Drive".
- 4. Enter zip code.

If you have given before and this is nothing new; be proved, get out of your house, and keep up the effort to help your fellow man. If you have never donated, find out about donating, and give it a try. You won't regret it.

Contact: Bob Anderson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander American Legion Post 27 – Farmington (801) 347-8735



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The American Legion Membership Application		
(Name)     (Date of Birth)       (Mailing Address)     (Phone Number)       (City)     (State)       (State)     (State)<	Receipt of Dues Prease frant From \$ \$35.000 for 20, bost # 27 Recutter's Signature Recutter's Signature	Fill this out and get it to t Post Adjutant with \$35.0
American Legion A	uxiliary	
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APPLICANT INFORMATIO	N	
Name (First) (M.I.)	(Last)	
Address		
City State	ZIP	
Home Phone Cell Phone	Email Address	
/ / Date of Birth ( <i>Required</i> ) Birth - 17 18 and over 27 Unit #	Farmington, UT	
Have you been a member previously? Yes No (If yes, fill in below.)		
Previous Unit City/State	ALA ID # (if known)	
Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18)	/ / Date	
ELIGIBILITY INFORMATIO	N	
Eligible Through-Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name) If Living:		Fill this out and get it to the
American Legion Member ID # Post # Deceased—If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military rec	City State	Unit Secretary with \$35.00.
For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service- Veteran Served:		l
WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)     Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):		
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Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:		
Male Spouse     Female Spouse     Mother     Grandmother	Sister Self	
Daughter Granddaughter		
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Then, every time you shop at Smith's with your Rewards Card, they donate 0.5% of your total order to our nonprofit.\*

#### Helpful Information:

What purchases qualify? Just about everything you purchase during your regular shopping trips! The only exclusions are alcohol, tobacco, postage stamps, Smith's Gift Cards, re-locadable Gift Cards and debit cards, lottery and promotional tickets, Western Union, fuel and sales tax.

There's no cost to participate in this program, and you'll still earn fuel points on eligible purchases every time you shop! \*0.5% based on eligible purchases. See Helpful information for exclusions.

# Smith's States

Support American Legion Post 27

every time you shop at Smith's. Signing up is free and easy!

### 1. Go to SmithsFoodandDrug.com/inspire

2. Sign into your digital account or choose "Create an Account" and fill in the information.

3. Link your Rewards Card to your organization: Enter your organization's number: **XN453** or at least 3 letters of your organization's name and click 'Search', select the organization and choose 'Save'.

Then, every time you shop at Smith's with your Rewards Card, they donate 0.5% of your total order to our nonprofit.\*

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### ITEMS NEEDED for the HOMELESS VETERANS FELLOWSHIP American Legion Post 27 will deliver

Soup (chicken noodle, tomato, etc.) SPAM (original flavor) Beef Stew (individual smaller servings) Tuna fish Canned ham Oatmeal (individual servings) Coffee Bananas Oranges (no clementines) Onions Fresh carrots, beans, etc. Meats (individual serving cans) Anything that comes in individual servings No paper goods No Manwich cans No large cereal boxes No apples

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