Tune 2020

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

www.post27.org

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



William A. Huber

Our last general meeting as a post was on February 10 during which the Combat War Dogs Mazzie and Geli were presented by their guardians, Jim and Linda Crismer. Since then, in accordance with the instructions of the Governor Herbert, we have been restricted from gathering, unable to

THE AMERICAN LEGION
POST 27
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perform military funeral honors for our departed veterans, and conducted our first ever election of officers via email and the phone. During this suspended period of personal contact, the officers have reached out to the members of the Post to check on their general welfare and to offer assistance where we could. In doing so we have been lifted by the warm hearts of you, our fellow comrades. Thank you for your enduring friendship.

There has been growing restlessness among us, each wanting to get together to perform service and enjoy one another's camaraderie. Finally, with the reopening of our community, members of Post 27, Auxiliary Unit 27 and Squadron 27, gathered at the Farmington Cemetery the morning of May 22<sup>nd</sup>, for the annual placement of flags on our veterans' graves. Owing to the soft closure of the schools, we were happily joined by Post 27's three BSA scout troops and their Scout Leaders. In addition, various Post 27 member families were enlisted to come join us. In all we had over fifty participants who were masked, with screwdrivers, clipboards, and bundles of flags in hand. They set out and made quick work in the placing of 508 U.S. flags honoring the graves of the departed. Safe distancing was still the rule of the day but could not put a damper on enjoying the welcomed comradery felt by all. Of course, the abundance of donuts on hand were well received and a deserved treat for a job well done. A similar experience repeated at the Kaysville Cemetery later that morning where more than 1,237 U.S. flags graced row upon row of the emerald green lawns.



Others will speak to the wonderful Post turnout and Memorial Day Programs presented. But I must say, I am honored by your example of faithful and patriotic service and for providing opportunities to parents to teach their children of the sacrifices given by so many.

Ahead of us the COVID-19 Pandemic still looms but, Davis County is now designated "yellow" and our hopes are high as many venture out to embrace the opportunity to work and contribute to our society. Purpose! The feeling we have when we are working, serving, and interacting with our

fellow man is unparalleled. Yet we want to do more. As a Post we have finally been given the green light to once again offer our services to render military funeral honors (MFH). David Layton has taken the lead in notifying the area mortuaries. As we proceed, we will continue to pursue safe practices wearing a mask and keeping safe distances when in public. David will be putting out the guidelines for how we will conduct ourselves when rendering MFH. As always, we will continue to lift where we stand, helping those where and when we can.

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

A common phrase from T-shirts to billboards is "WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER" and we are, in our hearts, if not physically due to social distancing. Reaching out to our fellow active Post members, especially the "Usual Suspects," builds Post 27 unity, and comradery among us Legionnaires. I am so glad we have been able to reconnect by teleconferences and some service events. I look forward to increasing opportunities to reconnect.



. Reaching out to those members who aren't actively able to participate in American Legion functions or attend meetings builds up the humanity with our veterans that is the heart of The American Legion; the same humanity we all felt for our



Boh Anderson

fellow service men and women when we were active and struggled to balance our commitments to our country, needs of our families and our bond with our comrades in arms. Though we are not actively serving with them now, we still feel the bond of the service and love of country we shared

while active and after. Reaching out in this time of social distancing does not mean reaching out at all. It means renewing that bond and humanity from one veteran to another we felt then and will never forget.

Call a veteran. Stop them on the street. Ask them how they served. Remind them of your bond to them. Ask them if they would like to be a part of The American Legion.



# American Legion Post 27 SALUTES

all the Doctors, Nurses, Teachers, Truckers, First Responders and all the courageous folks who have risked their lives to keep us safe and our country working.

We can get through this together.

#### EVENTS CALENDAR\*

June – All possible meetings have yet to be determined.

Both Utah Boys State and Utah Girls State have been cancelled for 2020.

June 14 – Flag Day. Fly the Flag!

June 16 – Auxiliary Unit 27 Meeting, 7:00 pm, via ZOOM

June 21 – Fathers Day. Fly the Flag! --

July 4 – Independence Day. Fly the Flag!

July 11 - Farmington Festival Days Parade-Cancelled

July 24 – Pioneer Day 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>Adiutant</u>

# Membership is Our Lifeblood!



2020 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	<b>2020 TOTAL</b>	% 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 TOTAL</b>	% of Goal
50	32			32	64%



Dale Crockett

The flag is one of the main focal points of Post 27. We recently decorated veteran's graves in the Farmington and Kaysville cemeteries. We do flag ceremonies throughout the year, Eagle Scout Courts of Honor, military funeral honors, school training, flag retirement ceremonies, and many other related flag activities.



Recently also, we raised the flag to half-staff or half-mast for Memorial Day and just prior to that, for remembrance of COVID-19 victims. Half-mast and half-staff refer to a flag flying below the summit of a ship mast, a pole on land, or a pole on a building. In many countries this is seen as a symbol of respect, mourning, distress, or, in some cases, a salute.

Most English-speaking countries use the term half-mast in all instances. In United States, this refers officially only to flags flown on ships, with half-staff used on land. The tradition of flying the flag at half-mast began in the 17th century. According to some sources, the flag is lowered to make room for an "invisible flag of death" flying above. However, there is disagreement about where on a flagpole a flag should be when it is at half-mast.

It is often recommended that a flag at half-mast be lowered only as much as the hoist, or width, of the flag. British flag protocol is that a flag should be flown no less than two-thirds of the way up the flagpole, with at least the height of the flag between the top of the flag and the top of the pole. It is common for the phrase to be taken literally and for a flag to be

flown only halfway up a flagpole, although some authorities deprecate that practice.

When hoisting a flag that is to be displayed at half-mast, it should be raised to the finial of the pole for an instant, then lowered to half-mast. Likewise, when the flag is lowered at the end of the day, it should be hoisted to the finial for an instant, and then lowered.

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 <a href="mailto:dalescrockett@yahoo.com">dalescrockett@yahoo.com</a>

Welcome to our new Post 27 member

# **Kent Cummings**

#### The American Legion Second Century Post is published monthly for members of Post 27, SAL Squadron 27, Auxiliary Unit 27 and

27, SAL Squadron 27, Auxiliary Unit 27 and friends of The American Legion.

Please send your submissions to:

kenthansen7@gmail.com



# **Chaplain**

Flag Day, also called National Flag Day, in the United States, a day honoring the national flag is observed on June 14. The holiday commemorates the date when the United States approved the design for its first national flag and the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also celebrates the U.S. Army birthday on this date.



Steve Steed

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; on August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress Flag Day falls within National Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation's freedom. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days.

May we all proudly fly the flag especially on June 14, and thank God for the blessing of living in this land of freedom which our flag represents.

## Training & FYI

As explained in Commander Huber's Page 1 piece, Post 27 was treated to a visit from a pair of real combat veterans in the form of War Dogs Mazzie and Geli, accompanied by their handlers Jim and Linda Crismer. At the meeting's conclusion, it seemed only right that these folks should be members of the Post 27 Family. Membership offers were made and kindly accepted. Jim joined the SAL and Linda the Auxiliary. But the real veterans here were Mazzie and Geli. Therefore, with appropriately social-distanced



pomp and circumstance, Post 27 Legionnaires gathered at a local park to welcome the two canine veterans into Post 27 as Honorary members..



Mazzie, 9, like Geli, served in Kuwait, and is the model for the War Dog Memorial statue to be located at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Layton. War Dogs were used extensively in Vietnam to find booby traps and trip wires, act as sentries, scouts and trackers, and explore Viet Cong tunnels.

The United States War Dogs Association estimates 4,900 dogs served in Vietnam from 1964 to 1975, and it is estimated they saved more than 10,000 lives. Only about 200 made it out of Vietnam, the group said. Most others were euthanized or turned over to the South Vietnamese army.



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

### Historian



Kent Hansen

#### Flying Aircraft Carriers

Airborne aircraft carriers might seem like the stuff of science fiction, but the U.S. Navy actually experimented with a pair of dirigible "motherships" in the years before World War II. The U.S.S. Akron and the U.S.S. Macon were both rigid airships—lighter-than-air craft that used helium to float through the skies. Unlike most airships, these 800~ foot-long behemoths sported built-in hangars that allowed them to launch,



Small aircraft is released from USS Akron

retrieve and store as many as five Curtiss Sparrowhawk biplanes during flight. The planes were launched from a T-shaped opening in the bottom of the hull, and could be recaptured in mid-air by lowering a trapeze arm and seizing a "skyhook" attached to their wings. The Navy had high hopes for using the Akron and Macon for reconnaissance, but both of the plane-carrying airships eventually crashed. The Akron went down in high winds off the coast of New Jersey in April 1933, and the Macon fell victim to a storm near California in February 1935. Faced with the deaths of some 75 crewmen, the Navy abandoned its flying aircraft carrier program in favor of non-rigid blimps.

# <u>American Legion Auxiliary</u>



Thank you to those who came to help put out flags for Memorial Day. There was a great turnout and flags went up quickly. We enjoyed our first virtual meeting this month. We had a nice attendance and hope to have even more for our next meeting on Tuesday, June 16 at 7:00 pm. Instructions to join the meeting will be sent in a future e-mail.

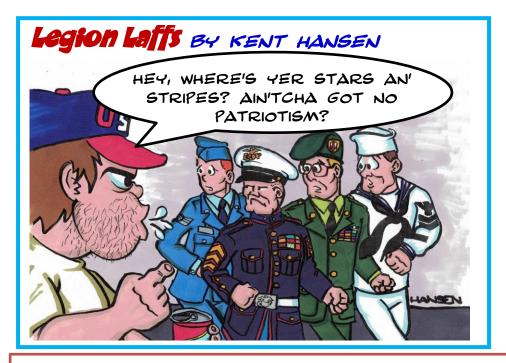
Poppy Day was May 22. The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by our veterans while protecting our freedoms. Wear a Marcie Mojica poppy to honor those who have worn our nation's uniform.



June 14, 2020 FLY IT. SALUTE IT. RESPECT IT.











#### **AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS**

### BASIC TRAINING COURSE

Learn why we do what we do



It's a FREE on-line course for members of The American Legion Family

Go to: WWW.LEGION.ORG/ALEI

## 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 at 801-662-8256.

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







# 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 <a href="mailto:stphnsnc@aol.com">stphnsnc@aol.com</a> or 80 I-589-287 I.

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.

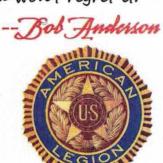


#### Through ARUP:

- 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 proud, 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, 1st Vice Commander American Legion Post 27 – Farmington (801) 347-8735



# Legion Family Membership Coupons







# American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name	(First)	(M.I.)		(Last)			
Address	7						
City			State		ZIP		
Home Phone			Cell Phone		Email Address		
- 1	1	☐ Birth - 17	☐ 18 and over	27	Farmington, UT		
Date of Birth (F	Required)			Unit #	Location		
Have you been	a member previous	y? 🗋 Yes	☐ No (If yes, fill in t	pelow.)			
Previous Unit City/State					ALA ID # (if known)		
					1		
Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18)					Date		

f Living:				11			
American Legion Member ID #			Post # City			State	
	teran is deceased, contac 0214 Discharge Papers: w						
eteran Served:							
WWI (4/6/1917-	11/11/1918) /7/1941 (check all that ap	nly):					
☐ Global War on Terror ☐ Panama			☐ Vietnam	□ wwii			
☐ Gulf War ☐ Lebanon/Gren			☐ Korea	Other Conflicts			
pplicant's Rela	tionship to the Vetera	n:					
Male Spouse	☐ Female Spouse	☐ Mother	Grandmother	☐ Sister	☐ Self		
Daughter	☐ Granddaughter						
o Be Complete	d By The American Le	gion Post Adiu	tant/Officer				
	ve named individual serve			ne dates marked above	e and was hon	orably discharged	
r is still serving hor	norably.						
				/	/		





