



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

COMMANDER'S CALL

Greetings once again! I hope you all had a “Worthy Memorial Day”. Remembering our veterans that gave the ultimate sacrifice, and participating in community events dedicated to that remembrance, are some of my most cherished activities. Hopefully, you were able to participate in placing flags at fellow veterans’ grave markers in Farmington, Kaysville, or at a cemetery



Jon Rue

of your choosing.

I also thank those that participated in or attended the Memorial Day Ceremony at Kaysville, where you saw our own Post prominently present and involved.



This year the arrival of June again brings out thoughts of Normandy and the D-Day Allied Invasion. I’ll also reflect on the Poppies that my family will help the American Legion Auxiliary distribute.

June also has significance for our American Legion Family with the activities of Girls State and Boys State. Our Post has members involved in significant roles for Boys State.

Flag Day: Remember that June 14 is Flag Day. Celebrated on the anniversary of the original flag’s official adoption. Fly your flag – I DO!

We have now been in our office and meeting at the refurbished Davis Memorial Courthouse for almost a year! What a wonderful facility it is. It is so great to have a consistent location and date to have our meetings. We look forward to seeing you at our events and meetings.

We want your photos of American Legion and other veteran’s activities. Please reach out to our 2nd Vice Dan Woodward, who is also our Webmaster, and determine the best way to get pictures to him.

Post 27 Family EVENTS CALENDAR



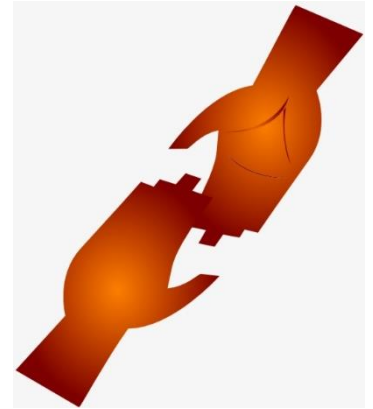
June 5-10 **ALA Utah Girls State**
June 8 – Post 27 **General Meeting** 7:00 pm
Davis County Memorial Courthouse
June 11-16 **Utah Boys State**
June 14 – **Flag Day**. *Fly the flag.*
June 24 – **Armed Forces Day**. *Fly the flag.*
June 23-25 – **Department of Utah Convention**,
Utah Valley Convention Center,
220 West Center Street, Provo.

July 4 – **Independence Day**. *Fly the flag.*
July 4 – **Flag Ceremony**. Davis Tech, 8:00 am
July 13 – **Post 27 General Meeting**, 7:00 pm
Davis County Memorial Courthouse
July 15 – **Farmington Festival Days Parade**, 9:00 am
July 24 – **Pioneer Day**. *Fly the flag.*

1st Vice Commander



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 fellow service men and women when we were active and struggled to balance our commitments to our country, needs of our family, 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 means renewing that bond and humanity from one veteran to another we felt then and will never forget.



Remember our veterans and keep looking out for more potential Legionnaires! Call a veteran. Stop them on the street. Ask them how they served. Remind them of your bond to them. Share with them how much you appreciate their service and how proud you are of yours. Ask them if they would like to be a part of the American Legion and Post 27 especially.

2nd Vice Commander

One of our big events this year is happening in June: Boys State and Girls State! This is a hands-on introduction to our form of government for the youth of our state. The 2023 program starts June 11 through June 16. If you feel you can help out, be sure to contact them at 435-790-4782 or utahboysstate@gmail.com.



Dan Woodward



Another big June event of course was D-Day, June 6th 1944. The invasion of Europe to root out tyranny. One of the forgotten stories of WWII was the participation of the Merchant Marine. More than 168,000 men served during the war and over 6,000 of them paid the ultimate price. The famous Mulberries (pre-fabricated piers) were towed across the English Channel by the Merchant Marine, so that needed troops and supplies could be landed to support the inward invasion. Operation Overlord numbered 6,939 ships, boats and amphibious craft.

I had the chance to know a Merchant Marine. My father-in-law, Gene, had served on a ship during WWII. And his ship was right off the beaches during the invasion. He saw the direct aftermath of the invasion when they brought the wounded back aboard his ship for transport back to England. To his last day, he found the subject just too painful to talk about, because he saw some of the true cost of the war. I think we all owe recognition and respect to these Merchant Marine Officers and Sailors, who helped this country stamp out fascism.

Adjutant

Membership is our Lifeblood!



American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through June 1, 2023.

2023 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
134	20	57	34	2	9	121	91%

Sons of the American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through June 1, 2023.

2023 GOAL	REGULAR	NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	% OF GOAL
34	30	1		31	91%



Dale Crockett

We have one more month to reach 100% which is not looking good. I have asked those who have not renewed to give me an email/text/call, but have had no responses back to me. Thank you to all who have renewed for the 2023 membership. On July 1, 2023, we will again be asking everyone to renew for 2024 and try to complete the 2024 renewal process by the end of December 2023. I don't understand why some don't renew, but those that do not renew will miss the monthly American Legion magazine and our monthly Post 27 newsletter in which we try to keep everyone up to date on post activities and current events. I would really like to hear from folks as to why they want to leave as post members of this great organization. We are willing to take your comments to our leadership to try to resolve any concerns you may have. There is strength in numbers to help pass bills benefitting veterans and future benefits. I know there are many veterans and current folks that are serving in the military who are eligible to join our post and help serve one another. Please, if you have any thoughts you can share, send them back to me at the contact info below.

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

United States Army

The Continental Army was created on 14 June 1775 by the Second Continental Congress as a unified army for the colonies to fight Great Britain, with George Washington appointed as its commander. The army was initially led by men who had served in the British Army or colonial militias and who brought much of British military heritage with them.



Washington led victories against the British at Trenton and Princeton, but lost a series of battles in the New York and New Jersey campaign in 1776 and the Philadelphia campaign in 1777. With a decisive victory at Yorktown and the help of the French, the Continental Army prevailed against the British.

The **United States Army (USA)** is the land service branch of the United States Armed Forces. It is one of the eight U.S. uniformed services, and is designated as the Army of the United States in the U.S. Constitution. The oldest and most senior branch of the U.S. military in order of precedence. The uniformed services are, in order of precedence:

1. Army
2. Marine Corps
3. Navy
4. Air Force
5. Space Force
6. Coast Guard
7. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps
8. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps

Each of the uniformed services is administratively headed by a federal executive department and its corresponding civilian Cabinet leader.

After the Revolutionary War, the Congress of the Confederation created the United States Army on 3 June 1784 to replace the disbanded Continental Army. The United States Army considers itself to be a continuation of the Continental Army, and thus considers its institutional inception to be the origin of that armed force in 1775.

The Regular Army was reorganized as the Legion of the United States in 1791 and renamed the United States Army in 1796.

The U.S. Army is a uniformed service of the United States and is part of the Department of the Army, which is one of the three military departments of the Department of Defense. The U.S. Army is headed by



Steve Steed

a civilian senior appointed civil servant, the secretary of the Army (SECARMY) and by a chief military officer, the chief of staff of the Army (CSA) who is also a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It is the largest military branch, and in the fiscal year 2020, the projected end strength for the Regular Army (USA) was 480,893 soldiers; the (ARNG) had 336,129 soldiers and the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) had 188,703 soldiers; the combined-component strength of the U.S. Army was 1,005,725 soldiers. As a branch of the armed forces, the mission of the U.S. Army is "to fight and win our Nation's wars, by providing prompt, sustained land dominance, across the full range of military operations and the spectrum of conflict". The branch participates in conflicts worldwide and is the major ground-based offensive and defensive force of the United States.

May God watch over the members of our armed forces as they continue to protect our freedom and liberty.

For Your Information



Utah's Cold War Medal

Post 27 members: Utah has an award for veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the Cold War. I believe almost everyone in Post 27 is eligible for this award. It is called "The Utah Cold War Victory Medal". It is awarded along with a certificate from the state. We would like all members who have not received this award to receive it. If you served in any component or branch between 02 September 1945 and 26 December 1991, you are eligible.

If you would email your full name and dates of service to Jim Mercer: gembau@aol.com, I will arrange for your award. The sponsors like to award them in a ceremony in person and we will arrange that when we finalize the list of recipients. If you have friends or relatives who qualify for the award, please get their information and submit it to me also and I will sign them up.

1948 Women's Armed Services Integration Act – 75th Anniversary Celebration

The Military Women's Memorial at Arlington Cemetery in Washington DC is celebrating a milestone for military women: the enactment of the 1948 Women's Armed Services Integration Act. Seventy-five years later, Servicewomen continue to break down barriers and defend this country. On June 12, 1948 with the stroke of the President's pen, granted a permanent place and an opportunity for a career in the nation's military. Today, 17% of U.S. military services are women. Let us honor all of our Lady Legionnaires for their service and a big thank you.



Unserviceable flag Drop Box Locations

If you have a flag that is tattered, torn, soiled or otherwise unserviceable, you may drop it off at any of the following locations:

Davis County Memorial Courthouse, 2nd Floor West

Kaysville Fire Station

Farmington Fire Station

Davis County Admin Building

Centerville City Hall

Fruit Heights City Hall

Bowmans Grocery, Kaysville

Historian



Origins of Some of our More Colorful Phrases

We've had a request to repeat this interesting piece that we published a while ago. Enjoy!

Balls to the Wall

Early aircraft throttles had a ball on the end of it. In order to go full throttle, the pilot had to push the throttle all the way forward into the wall of the instrument panel. Hence, "balls to the wall" to go very fast.

The Whole Nine Yards

Kent Hansen During WWII, U.S. Airplanes were armed with belts of bullets which they would shoot during dogfights and on strafing runs. These belts were folded into the wing compartments that fed their machine guns. These belts measure 27 feet and contained hundreds of rounds of bullets. Often times, the pilots would return from their missions having expended all of their bullets on various targets.

It'll Cost You An Arm And A Leg

In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, "Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg." (Artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint.)



God Willing and The Creek Don't Rise

Did you know the saying "God willing and the Creek don't rise" was in reference to the Creek Indians and not a body of water? It was written by Benjamin Hawkins in the late 18th century. He was a politician and Indian diplomat. While in the south, Hawkins was requested by the President to return to Washington. In his response, he wrote, "God willing and the Creek don't rise." Because he capitalized the word "Creek", he was referring to the Creek Indian tribe, and not a body of water.

Big Wig

As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October). Women kept their hair covered, while many times men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term, "big wig." Today we often use the term "here comes a Big Wig," because someone appears to be powerful and wealthy.

Chairman of the Board

In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The "head of the household" always sat in the lone chair, while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the "chair man." Today in business, we use the expression "Chairman" or "Chairman of the Board."

Not Playing With A Full Deck

Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards, but only applicable to the "Ace of Spades." To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't "playing with a full deck."

Gossip

Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars for information. They were told to "go sip some Ale and listen to people's conversations and political concerns." Many assistants were dispatched at different times "To go sip here" and "You go sip there." The two words "go sip" were eventually combined, when referring to local opinion and thus we have the term "gossip."

Mind Your P's and Q's

At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in "pints" and who was drinking in "quarts," hence the phrase "mind your P's and Q's."

Cold Enough to Freeze The Balls Off A Brass Monkey

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, the problem was, "how do you prevent them from rolling about the deck?" The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem.... how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a "Monkey," with 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the



rusting problem was to make "Brass Monkeys." Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much faster than iron when it's chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would roll right off the monkey; Thus, it was quite literally, "Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey."



**SGT.
SAGE
SEZ**

**You, you, and you... panic.
The rest of you, come with me.**

American Legion Auxiliary



Deb Hansen

May was such a great month! This is the month we get to celebrate Memorial Day! It is a wonderful tradition that our Post has to place flags on the graves of those who have served in the military! We place flags at the Farmington Cemetery and at the Kaysville cemetery! Our Memorial Day programs at both cemeteries mean a lot to those who attend!

Stay tuned for our next food drive! The Airman's Attic at Hill Air Force Base loves to see Paula drive up with her truck full of food and supplies!

There will be no Unit meeting in June as Chris and Deb will be counselors for the Leavitt City at Girls State! Wish us luck as we work with 22 amazing young women!

Be on the lookout for stuffed animals for our Stuffed Animal Drive, which will benefit the Kaysville Fire Department! Thank you to Hilary and Jon for selling poppies at the outlet mall in Park City over Memorial Day weekend!

There are several of our members to keep in your prayers! We are so grateful for the service you all give!

**AMERICAN
LEGION
AUXILIARY**

***Legion Laffs* BY KENT HANSEN**



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Gregory Popp

Veteran Service Officer
The American Legion
State of Utah



550 Foothill Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84113
Gregory.popp@va.gov

Office: (801) 326-2380
Cell: (435) 255-5265
Fax: (801) 708-8074

The American Legion

American Legion STATE OF UTAH

WAYNE JACKSON

Past Utah State Commander
The American Legion

Nolen.Jackson@VA.gov

801-326-2380 (Office)

435-253-2975 (Cell)

45 West 200 North, Fillmore, UT 84631

 AMERICAN
LEGION

TERRY SCHOW
(801) 644-2058

ALSO, CHECK THIS OUT:

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"
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