



AMERICAN LEGION POST 27

Farmington, Utah

March, 2012 Newsletter

Website: www.post27.org



COMMANDER'S MESSAGE : First, I want to thank those members who had the confidence to elect me as your Commander. I will do my best in fulfilling this leadership role. Second, my goals are to continue to support the four pillars of the American Legion and expand that commitment with what we do in our communities. Being visible in supporting our communities will potentially increase our membership. My expectations are simple: I will be point on initiating many contacts with other community leaders, and ask Post members to step up and assist in following through to achieve our goals. We are not in this great organization alone—the joy and rewards come from teamwork. Above all, have fun and enjoy all that we do. We also want to improve out meetings. The Adjutant will have more to say about that in this newsletter.

POST BUSINESS / INFORMATION



1st Vice Commander Ron Craig: One of the American Legion pillars is Americanism, and one objective is to promote understanding of the principles of democratic government, develop interest in governmental problems, and bring more citizens to think seriously of the duties of citizenship. The American Legion cannot endorse any incumbent or candidate for elected or appointed offices in government, but we can offer elected officials advice on veterans and active military issues. Utah political party caucuses will be taking place for Democrats on March 13, and Republicans on March 15. Watch the local news for times and locations for all political party activities.



2nd Vice Commander William Huber:

The application deadline for attending this year's American Legion Utah Boys State is April 1, 2012 to the Boys State organization. We interviewed an impressive group of 18 boys at NUAMES this past week, with Davis and Viewmont Highs scheduled in March. If **you** are interested in volunteering as a counselor June 3-8, please let me know NLT April 1 at william.a.huber@comcast.net or 801-597-9807.

CONGRATULATIONS to Taylor Greenwell, Davis High School, for winning first place at the state level American Legion Oratorical Scholarship Contest on Feb. 11. He will represent Utah at the national competition in Indianapolis in April. Top scholarship prize at the national level is \$18,000.



Adjutant Chuck Stephenson:

Annual elections for Post 27 Officers and the Executive Committee were held last month. Here are the leaders for 2012:

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| Commander: Paula Stephenson | Judge Advocate: Steven Walkenhorst |
| 1 st Vice Commander: Ronald Craig | Chaplain: J. Golden Barton |
| 2 nd Vice Commander: William Huber | Sgt-At-Arms: Frank Lennartz |
| Adjutant: Chuck Stephenson | Historian: Kent Hansen (Centerville) |
| Finance Officer: John Sheets | Executive Committee Members: above officers plus |
| Service Officers: Dr. David Warden | Dale Crockett |
| Mary Lou Warden | David S. Layton |

CONGRATULATIONS !

Mailing costs are going up. If you receive this newsletter by USPS mail, and have an email address, please let me know so we can get the newsletter to you electronically. Every little bit helps. Newsletters are also available on our website now at www.post27.org.

A new feature for the newsletter starts this month. Thanks to the talents of our new Historian/Public Relations Officer Kent Hansen from Centerville, he has volunteered to create a cartoon for us each month called "Legion Laffs". He draws and creates the cartoons himself. Great work, Kent!



Finance Officer-Post 27/Commander, District 2 John Sheets The current bank balance for Post 27 is \$878.02, this after the deduction of our check for the Veterans Memorial at the Farmington City Cemetery, which will be delivered to the Farmington City Council later this month. I will offer a motion to consider spending \$250.85 to purchase one of each branch of Service flags and an aluminum flag pole, which would be used to display at funerals and other events. Remember, we still have flags for sale (donations). We are coming into the time of year when U.S. flags will be more in demand, so put on your "sales" hat. A 3'x5' quality U.S. flag is a bargain at \$10.00.

Please join us at the Farmington City Council meeting on March 20th, 7:00 P.M., to deliver the Post contribution of \$1000 to the Veterans Memorial. A large contingent of Veterans with Blue Hats would be impressive and appreciated.

Nominations for District 2 Commander, and 1st and 2nd Vice Commanders will be held at Post 9, 845 West 24th Street, Ogden at 10:00 A.M. on March 10. All Legion members are invited. Come and nominate and or vote for your choice.



Sergeant-At-Arms Frank Lennartz:

Please join your fellow veterans in Post meetings, events, and activities. We understand it is difficult for some to get out or drive at night, but all are welcome. We hope that this newsletter keeps everyone informed on many things. The more members we get participating, the more we can do to continue serving our community, state, and nation . . . Still Serving America!

Military Funeral Honors: Two funerals were supported by Post 27 in February. We always welcome Legion and SAL members age 18 and older to join our Military Funeral Honors Team. Time commitment is not much -- rewards are heart warming.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (SAL): Anyone interested in becoming members of our SAL squadron, please contact Chuck Stephenson at (801) 444-7189 or email at stphsnc@aol.com. If you have neighbors that never served in the military, but their fathers did during wartime, they may be eligible. Applications are also available at each monthly meeting.

BLUE STAR PROGRAM Do you have a family member currently on active duty stationed in CONUS or OCONUS, or active with the Guard or Reserve locally? Or know of a neighbor, friend, other? Let us know. We are looking for ways we can support our troops, starting with a list for the Blue Star program. We currently have a list of four families. Let our Adjutant, Chuck Stephenson, know.



Post Chaplain J. Golden Barton:

Please let me or one of our Officers know if one of our members is in need of a visit, hospitalized, or needs assistance with something. Sometimes just a phone call will do in lifting our spirits. We are veterans supporting veterans.

Jay Hess, POW-MIA Chairman: We have all seen in the news recently those individuals who are wearing unearned medals. Another example is fake warriors. There were 771 who at any one time were POWs in Vietnam. We are now up to 3,000 wannabe phony NAM-POWs. If any show up in your neighborhood, please let me know so I can confirm with our official POW list. We are watching with interest the case before the Supreme Court about the Stolen Valor Act.



DID YOU KNOW?



Why are the five-gallon containers used to transport fuel and water called jerry cans? The cans were first invented by the German military during the 1930s. During the early years of World War II, the British military began using captured German cans because they were superior to the flimsy British fuel containers. By then, the slang term for Germans among allied troops was "jerry". This nickname came because the German helmet resembled a chamber pot, which, in British slang, is called a jerry. So their containers were dubbed "jerry cans". (The Army Times, 23 January 2012)

EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR FLAG CEREMONIES: Are you interested in participating with Post 27 in the Eagle Scout Court of Honor Flag Ceremonies? Contact our Program Coordinator, Dale Crockett at (801)451-9493, to participate in this great youth program. If you know of a scout wanting this ceremony for the Eagle Scout award, let Dale know.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING: Thursday, March 8th, 6:30 P.M., Davis County Courthouse, Rm 114, Farmington

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST:

- Mar 8 - Post 27 monthly meeting, Davis County Courthouse (East entrance), Rm 114, 6:30 P.M.
- Mar 11 - Daylight Savings Time begins
- Mar 12 - World War II Speaker Series at the Salt Lake City Library, 7 P.M., Big Band Era Music at 6:10 P.M., Speaker: M. Allen Tibbitts, Army, 334th Quartermaster, Europe
- Mar 21 - Hill AFB / Ogden Career Expo
- Mar 24 - Tooele Military Vehicle Collection Field Trip, through the Ft Douglas Military Museum, RSVP NLT Mar 20
- Apr 9 - World War II Speaker Series at the Salt Lake City Library, 7 P.M., Big Band Era music at 6:10 P.M., Speaker: Lynn Poulsen, Army, 20th Corps, 3rd Army, Europe
- Apr 12 - Post 27 monthly meeting, location TBD
- May 26-27 - Hill AFB Air Show
- May 31 - 8th Annual Veterans Memorial Golf Tournament, Hill AFB Golf Course
- Jun 4-8 - Boys State at Weber State University
- Jun 4-9 - Girls State at Southern Utah University
- Jun 15, 16, 17 - Department of Utah State Convention, Fillmore, UT



Department Oratorical Scholarship Contest
Feb 11, 2012

John Sheets, District 2 Commander, Taylor Greenwell, 1st Place winner from Davis High, Hunter Poe, 2nd Place winner from Clearfield High, Frank Lennartz, District 2 Adjutant



MILITARY HISTORIES OF OUR POST MEMBERS:

In the past, we have asked our members to present a brief account of their military time. It is always interesting to learn more about our friends and fellow Veterans. This will become a regular "agenda" item. Featured this month will be our new Post Commander, Paula Stephenson (U.S. Army/Retired).