



The American Legion

Post 27/Squadron 27

Newsletter

Farmington, Utah

Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116, 28 East State Street, Farmington

March 2016

Still Serving America

www.post27.org

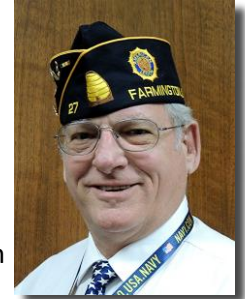
Post 27 Programs & Activities

- Flag Education
 - High School Constitution Oratorical Contest
 - American Legion Utah Boys State & American Legion Auxiliary Girls State
 - Military Funeral Honors
 - Eagle Scout Court of Honor Flag Ceremonies
 - Flag Retirement Ceremonies
 - U.S. Flag sales
 - Honor Guard & Rifle Team for community events in Kaysville, Fruit Heights, Farmington, Centerville
 - Jake Garn Sea Cadet Squadron sponsor
 - DATC Veterans Center support
 - VA Outreach support at Post location
 - Medal of Honor Character Development Program in Davis County schools
 - POW/MIA updates
 - Meet The Candidate sponsor in Farmington
 - Farmington/Kaysville Cemetery Flag project
 - Memorial Day weekend
 - Parade participation
 - American Legion National Emergency Fund support
- Veterans Still Serving!**

Commander's Corner

Trained for a Vital Mission

Nothing we do is more important than providing military funeral honors for our fallen comrades. But simply doing it is not enough. Our real duty is to perform the folding of the national ensign with precision and professionalism. In addition, we must operate our weapons in performance of the rifle volley in perfect synchronization and render Taps clearly and distinctly. Regardless of our military experience, each of us can always use refresher training to keep our skills honed. Each year, we in Post 27 are privileged to receive training from the Utah



Kent Hansen

Army National Guard Military Funeral Honors Team. We have seen the team's outstanding precision at numerous funerals and it is always an honor to work with these stellar, dedicated soldiers.



Left: Post 27 Commander Kent Hansen (second from left) presents a Certificate of Appreciation to members of the National Guard Military Funeral Honors Team. From left: Military Funeral Honors Coordinator Stephan Vogl and team members Sgt. Gerome Quichocho and Sgt. Antion Newsome.

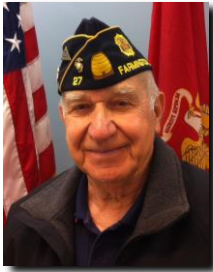
March is also the time to celebrate the birthday of The American Legion on March 15-17. Ninety seven years ago on those dates veterans of the Great War gathered in Paris, France to establish ways in which these veterans could continue to serve and preserve friendships that no dictionary can ever truly define. This special union would transcend rank and service affiliation. And those visionaries could not imagine what would evolve from their fraternal idea. The GI Bill of Rights, Veterans Administration and Boys State all can trace their origins to The American Legion. Deceased veterans, who might otherwise be forgotten, receive military funeral honors from comrades who will never forget.

Happy Birthday American Legion!

Calendar of Events

- March 10 -- Post 27 meeting.** 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.
- March 13 -- Daylight Savings Time begins.**
- March 15-17 -- The American Legion Birthday**
Fly the flag!
- March 17 -- St. Patrick's Day.** Wear the *green & the red, white and blue!*
- March 29 -- Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day.** 2:00 pm, Capitol Rotunda.
- April 2 -- Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day.** 6:00 pm. Central Davis Junior High School.
- April 14 -- Post 27 meeting.** 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.

1st Vice Commander



Frank Ferrante

The American Legion Preamble has been the beacon light of The American Legion for almost 100 years. It has been amended only once in all that time. That amendment consisted of adding the letter “S” to the word “war.” It makes the Preamble read today “Great Wars,” so as to embrace all wars.

“For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a 100-percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.”

There are 10 clauses of the Preamble, though brief, each clause has a world of meaning. For the following months I would like to review each clause separately.

TO COMBAT THE AUTOCRACY OF CLASSES AND MASSES...

This clause places The Legionnaire on the side of right in opposing autocracy by either class or mass when this threatens. In a democracy such as ours, composed as it is of all nationalities, races, creeds and economic groups, they are bound to both classes and masses. Indeed, the masses are composed of classes-but all groups within the mass must feel assured that in this nation, reason and fairness will prevail in all human activities and relations. There must be no hyphenated Americans-just Americans all.

Reminder, the American Legion is only as strong as its membership base. The more devoted members it has, the better the organization can advocate for veterans and serve the military community which has given much to our country. Invite a potential member to our meetings.

Adjutant/ Eagle Scout Courts of Honor

Membership is Our Lifeblood

Membership. Statistics are membership numbers through 1 Mar 2016.

2016 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2015 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
106	7	47	34	6	1	95	90%



Dale Crockett

Thank you so much for your dues because membership is our lifeblood. One way to stay on track with our membership drive and to meet our goal of 100% is to stay active in our community through American Legion activities and to have people that see these activities, ask what we are doing and for us to tell why we are a member of The American Legion Family. That is something we may have lost in this organization: we don't tell our story. On our general meetings on the 2nd Thursday, we have Legion Legends where members get to tell their story of their military experiences. They are very interesting and fun to listen to. It makes us want to be in this family. We need to promote our programs. If we do our programs and serve our community, we are going to end up serving veterans and those veterans are going to find out who we are and what we stand for. That will help bring in our membership and I know we can grow, but it's got to be a team effort. Please ask your friends to join with us and let's get to our goal of 100%.

We still have a few out there that have not paid yet. Please let me know if you will be renewing your membership or not with a short email back to me. That way I won't keep trying to contact you in the future. For those who have paid, please see if you have friends or neighbors that would like to join us. We have a lot of fun doing Eagle courts, military honors, flag ceremonies and a lot more. The service we provide to our community brings great joy to us. Just a reminder, the membership price has increased by \$5 per year this January, so I would love to get the rest of the membership cards out to you as soon as possible. As always, you may renew by sending your \$35 annual membership dues to our Post: P.O. Box 427, Farmington, UT 84025-0427. An even easier option is to go to www.Legion.org/renew and renew online. All you need is your current American Legion Membership Number and a valid credit card. Your

renewal is instant, and the Post can see your renewal on-line within 24-48 hours. If you do not know your membership number, please give me a call or e-mail me. ***If I can do anything for you to make your membership renewal easier or more convenient, or answer any questions you may have regarding membership, please let me know. I can be reached at H (801) 4561-9493 / C (801) 560-2186 or email dalescrockett@yahoo.com.***

Department of Utah Belt Buckle Pin. A pin version of the William E. "Bill" Christoffersen "BIG BEE" 50 Years Commemorative Belt Buckles is NEW and is currently available. These beautiful pins are 1 ½ inches across and are an excellent addition to your Legion hat or lapel. We continue to celebrate Bill Christoffersen's 50 years as the Department of Utah National Executive Committeeman and his long standing support of the American Legion Utah Boys State Program. If you are interested in obtaining one or more of these pins, please let me or Chuck Stephenson know. The cost for the pin is \$10. All profits from the sale of the pins will go to the American Legion Utah Boys State William E. Christoffersen Scholarship Fund. A scholarship will be awarded to each of the two young men elected as Boys Nation Senators each summer at Utah Boys State.



Sergeant-at-Arms



David Layton

The Executive Committee of Post 27 want to thank all of you for the service you have rendered in community activities and for honoring our fallen with Military Funeral Honors. Without you, Post 27 cannot operate and provide this service. Post 27 of the American Legion continues to serve the families and communities where we are asked to provide ceremonies and honors in remembrance of are fallen comrades. We do invite all of us to meet the endless demands 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 fallen.

Financial Officer/Military Funeral Honors

February was again a very busy month for our Military Funeral Honors Team. We assisted in five funerals and our dedicated and much sought after Bugler Brent Christensen went one more.

Whenever possible I like to read the Obituaries. One I found very interesting was William M. Perkins, who enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1943 He participated in the D-Day invasions, dropped Paratroopers in Holland, supplies at Bastogne, participated in the Berlin Airlift and flew a rescue mission to the North Pole saving a research expedition. He retired as a Lt. Col. in 1965, was the recipient of the Purple Heart and many other citations.



John Sheets

Finances of the Post are in good shape.

Past Department Commander/Training Officer

The American Legion's four pillars -- "It's Who We Are"

What does this mean for Post 27 and our communities?

The American Legion was founded on four pillars: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Americanism, Children and Youth, and National Security. The programs of The American Legion are based on these pillars -- Post level, District, Department, and National.

Post 27 lists its programs and activities on the first page of this newsletter every month, and you will notice some fall under two pillars:



Paula Stephenson

Pillar I-Veteran and the Military: Military Funeral Honors, Support of DATC Veterans Center, VA Outreach, POW-MIA updates, placing cemetery flags, National Emergency Fund support, supporting Veteran owned businesses, partnerships with military units.

Pillar II-Americanism: Flag education, High School Oratorical Contest, Boys State, Flag Ceremonies for Eagle Courts, Flag Retirement Ceremonies, Flag Sales, Honor Guard activities, Medal of Honor Character Development Program for schools, Meet the Candidate events, parade participation.

Pillar III-Children & Youth: Flag education, High School Oratorical Contest, Boys State, Flag ceremonies for Eagle Courts, sponsorship of the Sea Cadet Program, Medal of Honor Character Development Program.

Pillar IV-National Security: CERT (individual certification within communities), American Legion Radio Amateur Club (individual license).

This is not an all-inclusive list for Post 27. It is currently a snapshot in time. As new members and talent arrive, doors open for us to “still serve America”.

POW/MIA News



Each year, by Presidential Proclamation, April 9th is named **National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day**. United States forces on the Bataan Peninsula surrendered to the Japanese on April 9, 1942. This keenly distressing event with the Bataan Death March that followed is the reason this date was chosen.



Jay Hess

The Salt Lake City Region VA and the Utah Department of Veterans and Military affairs will host former POWs and their guests for lunch on Friday April 8, 2016 at the Founder’s Room Zion Bank Building Salt Lake City. There are about 30 living former POWs in the region that includes parts of Idaho and Wyoming.

Jake Garn Sea Cadet Squadron



February was a drill full of new adventures and plan modifications. The Jake Garn Squadron was fortunate to be invited to visit the 75th Operational Support Squadron (OSS). This included a visit of their weather center, flight operations center and a tour of the airfield. One group was able to watch the launch of eight F-16 fighter aircraft right next to the flight line. It was an incredible experience. A tour of the control tower was also offered which included a demonstration of their control tower simulator. After lunch, the cadets visited the 75th OSS Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) unit. The EOD unit briefed the squadron on their mission



and demonstrated several EOD-related devices, including robotics, bomb suits and various other pieces of equipment. Our hosts were very hospitable and were great ambassadors for the U.S. Air Force. The next day, on Sunday, the cadets drilled at the Utah Military Academy in Riverdale, UT. The UMA offered their facility so that our squadron could prepare for our upcoming annual inspection in March. The cadets participated in a vigorous physical training session, at which time, many cadets were pushed to their limits. Drill was concluded with a very thorough dress-blue inspection. Next month, the unit will be inspected by USNSCC National Headquarters. Our inspection score will compete with hundreds of other Sea Cadet units from around the United States. I am confident our unit will do well as both our cadets and officers are highly committed to the success of our program. I am proud to be involved with such a great group of cadets and leaders.

Courtney Putnam



Jake Garn Sea Cadets learn explosive ordnance disposal skills.



Take advantage of our Veterans Outreach Program

Every first and third Wednesday from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, a representative of the Veterans Administration will be at the Post (*Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116*) to assist you with your questions. Call for an appointment with the Veterans Service Office at 801-326-2370 or 801-326-2372.

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

Do business with your fellow Legionnaires!

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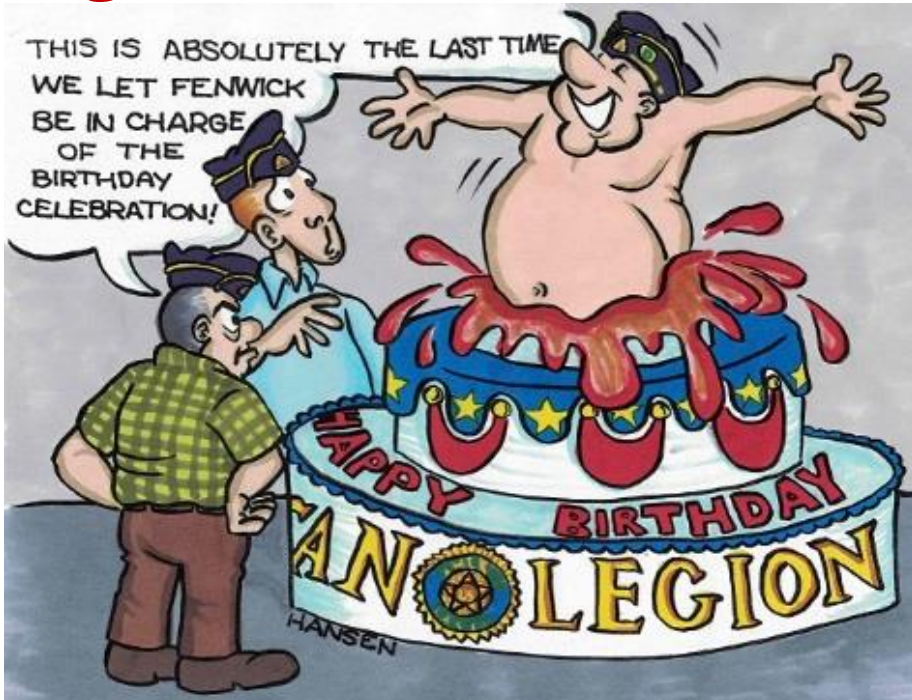
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Legionnaires: Send us your business information and we will post it here for FREE as space allows. Use this free service so your customers know where to get their goods and services. **SUPPORTING VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES!**

Legion Laughs



Check us out on Facebook at "American Legion Post 27 Farmington Utah"



or the link from our Post website at www.post27.org.

