



# The American Legion

## Post 27/Squadron 27

# Newsletter

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

May 2016

*Still Serving America*

[www.post27.org](http://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

### The Price We Paid

I was sitting in the waiting room at the VA Medical Center in Salt Lake City. The staff of doctors, nurses and volunteers have provided me with excellent care. But my focus that day was drawn to the hundreds of my fellow veterans who walked, limped, shuffled and rolled through the corridors. The vision brought to my mind the awful cost that many of our veterans have paid through their service to their country. When we took the oath of service, none of us considered the effects we would suffer years from then. After all, we were young and invulnerable. Combat affected many of us early on but the years have taken a toll on all of us made worse by the demands of our military duties. I thought to myself "If only other folks could see what I'm seeing now, they would have a much greater appreciation for the men and women who wore and wear uniform." In times of the nation's need, we were the ones who ran toward the danger rather than from it. We were the ones who often left our homes and families for meager pay to stand as sentinels against our country's enemies. We do not crave parades or medals. We simply want folks to remember what we did and respect the efforts we made. I know of none of my fellow veterans who feels he or she was a hero – among them many who **ARE** bone fide heroes. We all feel like we were just doing our job. And we did it so our children and our children's children would not have to do it. Perhaps that's just a pipe dream but my fellow veterans and I did make the effort. As you enjoy the bountiful life, thank a veteran.



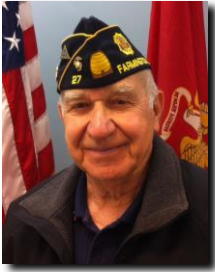
Kent Hansen



### Calendar of Events

- May 10 – VA Health Care Town Hall**, American Legion Post 112, 320 E. 3900 S., SLC
- May 12 -- Post 27 meeting**. 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.
- May 13 – Utah Veterans Business Conference** at SLCC, Sandy, UT
- May 21 – Armed Forces Day**. *Fly the flag.*
- May 26 – Hero2Hired Job Fair**, Davis Conv. Ctr., 11 am to 3 pm
- May 26 – 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Memorial Gold Scramble**, Hill AFB Golf Course.
- May 30 – Memorial Day**. *Fly the flag.*
- June 9 -- Post 27 meeting**. 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.
- June 13-17 – Utah Boys State**, Weber State University
- June 24-26 – Department of Utah Convention**, Uintah Conference Center, 313 E 200 S, Vernal, UT

## 1<sup>st</sup> 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 MAKE RIGHT THE MASTER OF MIGHT...

All wars from the Veterans of which The American Legion draws its membership were started by dictators who wanted their might to be the right. If human freedom is not to perish from the earth, right must always be master of might. The rights of small nations must be protected against the tyranny that powerful neighbors may seek to impose on them—just as the rights of minorities in our society must be protected and respected. Our belief in enthroning right over might is the main essence of our ideological conflict with Communism today. Legionnaires are pledged by this clause always to stand with the right, protect the weak and preserve the liberties of the individual. This concept is the basis of The American Legion’s continued advocacy of a strong national preparedness so as to achieve the ideal situation that right will be backed by adequate might.



**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**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

We had the meeting with the Davis County School District and Patty Norman, who is in charge of the curriculum in the schools and also one of our judges for the Oratorical Contest in our Post introduced Carson Robb, his school counselor and our Post attendees. Carson then gave his 10-minute talk on the Constitution. He gave an outstanding oration and when finished he received a standing ovation, then the president of the board presented him with a plaque and commented that he gets a lot of calls that there is not enough emphasis in teaching the students about the Constitution in the schools. I agree with the callers and that is the reason the American Legion has the Oratorical Contest, to encourage students to learn about the Constitution and their responsibilities to it. After the President’s presentation and comments we were invited to have pictures taken. There will be an article written in the Board’s monthly newsletter that will go out to all the schools in Davis County and to the parents of these students.



**Kenneth Hadley**

**Random Thoughts:** Boys State is coming up next month. Let’s support this great program.

- I was reading on the internet that the 21-gun salute came about by adding the numbers 1776.
- Our Legionnaire, Dorene Smith, passed away last month and it was suggested that we have a guard at the casket during the viewing. The family was ok with it so we had a guard at the head and foot of the casket and changed guard every 15 minutes. It went very well and there were many good comments about it. I think it was a great idea and it is a good way we could honor our Post members when they pass on.



# Adjutant/ Eagle Scout Courts of Honor

**Membership is Our Lifeblood**

**Membership.** Statistics are membership numbers through 1 May 2016.

2016 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2015 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
<u>106</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>91%</u>



**Dale Crockett**

Thank you so much for your dues because membership is our lifeblood. One of the best programs that The American Legion sponsors is Boys and Girls State. Last year I had a grandson go and this year I have a granddaughter going. My grandson had a great time and he learned so much. I went to Boys State for a few of the sessions to see what they were like. I was so impressed. Everyone in our post, if they can, should stop by at Weber State June 13 through June 17 and see the excellent work that is going on. You can stop by anytime and for as long as you want. Boys State puts men on a track to succeed. It is a week that shapes a lifetime and has a remarkable influence on this country since two Illinois Legionnaires established the first Boys State in 1935. Please see for yourselves what a wonderful program it is.

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](http://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](mailto:dalescrockett@yahoo.com).***

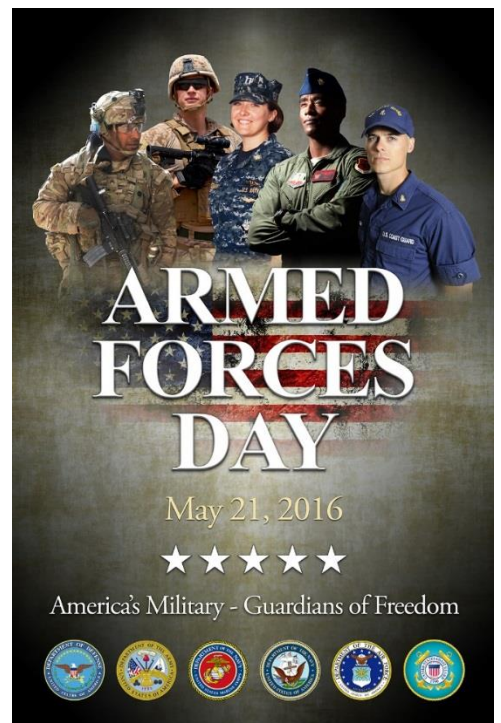
## Chaplain



**William Huber**

Each year on the third Saturday of May, we recognize Armed Services Day. It is a poignant day for we Americans to give pause, consideration and acknowledgement to the men and women of our military serving our country. This year's theme "Guardians of Freedom" is very befitting. As veterans we know all too well the sacrifice made by the service members and their families who have stepped up to the plate to protect the citizens of this blessed land. Let us reach out in support of those living in our communities by recognizing their service, displaying the flag with pride and attending celebratory events. One such location this year will be at the Gallivan Center, 239 Main Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84111 where an Armed Services Day Concert will be held at 7:30 pm.

May is an especially rich month for recognizing those serving in the military particularly as we gather on Memorial Day to acknowledge those fallen heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice in giving their lives in the defense of our country. Let us do our part to teach our youth of the rising generation of sacrifices made by those who have passed on from within our family groups and within our communities to ensure our God given unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are never taken for granted. Come out and support with your families and attend one of the several Memorial Day programs being held at Farmington, Kaysville or other community cemeteries. See details as outlined elsewhere in this newsletter.





**SGT. SAGE SEZ** *The easy way is always mined.*

## Sergeant-at-Arms



David Layton

Wow! Here we are five months into 2016 and time is moving fast. We hope you are geared up for the next few months of American Legion activities. Starting right off with Memorial Day activities on Monday, May 30. We'll conduct two special Legion programs, one in Kaysville and another in Farmington. We'll need everyone to get involved to make this a continued success as we honor our fallen comrades.

The Executive Committee of Post 27 wants 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.

We do request that all of us assist in meeting the opportunities we are asked to perform. Let us remember that when we are asked to perform American Legion duties, we represent all of our military comrades and those who gave all. Let's be ready to assist the Post as we can. We're Post 27, ready to serve for the good of The Legion, the country, the community and provide funeral honors for the fallen.

## Financial Officer/Military Funeral Honors

### Leadership and the Janitor (Part 2) by James Moschgat, USAF (Ret.)

Last month, we shared the story of **William "Bill" Crawford**, a janitor at the Air Force Academy, who, by the way, just happened to have earned the Medal of Honor for his service in Italy in 1943. This shy, unassuming man taught some great lessons in leadership to the young cadets – and the rest of us as well. This is the second part of the story.

A wise person once said, "It's not life that's important, but those you meet along the way that make the difference." Bill was one who made a difference for me. Bill Crawford, our janitor, taught me many valuable, unforgettable leadership lessons, and I think of him often. Here are ten I'd like to share:



John Sheets

- 1.) **Be Cautious of Labels.** Labels you place on people may define your relationship to them and bind their potential. Sadly, and for a long time, we labeled Bill as just a janitor, but he was so much more. Therefore, be cautious of a leader who callously says, "Hey, he's just an Airman." Likewise, don't tolerate the O-1, who says, "I can't do that, I'm just a lieutenant."
- 2.) **Everyone Deserves Respect.** Because we hung the "janitor" label on Mr. Crawford, we often wrongly treated him with less respect than others. He deserved much more, and not just because he was received the Medal of Honor. Bill deserved respect because he was a janitor, walked among us, and was a part of our team.
- 3.) **Courtesy Makes a Difference.** Be courteous to all around you, regardless of rank or position. Military customs, as well as common courtesies, help bond a team. When our daily words to Mr. Crawford turned from perfunctory "hellos" to heartfelt greetings, his demeanor and personality outwardly changed. It made a difference for all of us.
- 4.) **Take Time to Know Your People.** Life in the military is hectic, but that's no excuse for not knowing the people you work for and with. For years a hero walked among us at the Academy and we never knew it. Who are the heroes that walk in your midst?
- 5.) **Anyone Can Be a Hero.** Mr. Crawford certainly didn't fit anyone's standard definition of a hero. Moreover, he was just a private on the day he earned his Medal. Don't sell your people short, for any one of them may be the hero who rises to the occasion when duty calls. On the other hand, it's easy to turn to your proven performers when the chips are down, but don't ignore the rest of the team. Today's rookie could and should be tomorrow's superstar.
- 6.) **Leaders Should Be Humble.** Most modern day heroes, and some leaders, are anything but humble, especially if you calibrate your "hero meter" on today's athletic fields. End zone celebrations and self-aggrandizement are what we've come to expect from sports greats. Not Mr. Crawford—he was too busy working to celebrate his past heroics. Leaders would be well served to do the same.
- 7.) **Life Won't Always Hand You What You Think You Deserve.** We in the military work hard and, dang it, we deserve recognition, right? However, sometimes you just have to persevere, even when accolades don't come your way. Perhaps you weren't nominated for junior officer or airman of the quarter as you thought you should -- don't let that stop you.

Don't pursue glory; pursue excellence. Private Bill Crawford didn't pursue glory -- he did his duty and then swept floors for a living.

8.) **No Job is Beneath a Leader.** If Bill Crawford, a Medal of Honor recipient, could clean latrines and smile, is there a job beneath your dignity? Think about it.

9.) **Pursue Excellence.** No matter what task life hands you, do it well. Dr. Martin Luther King said, "If life makes you a street sweeper, be the best street sweeper you can be." Mr. Crawford modeled that philosophy and helped make our dormitory area a home.

10.) **Life is a Leadership Laboratory.** All too often we look to some school or class to teach us about leadership when, in fact, life is a leadership laboratory. Those you meet every day will teach you enduring lessons if you just take time to stop, look, and listen. I spent four years at the Air Force Academy, took dozens of classes, read hundreds of books, and met thousands of great people. I gleaned leadership skills from all of them, but one of the people I remember most is Mr. Bill Crawford and the lessons he unknowingly taught. Don't miss your opportunity to learn.

Bill Crawford was a janitor. However, he was also a teacher, friend, role model, and one great American hero.



**Paula Stephenson**

## **Past Department Commander/Training Officer**

**BLUE STAR/GOLD STAR FAMILIES:** From time to time, situations arise to support our Blue Star and Gold Star families. The problem with support is that we do NOT know who they are. We can start with offering our American Legion Post 27 "home" in the Davis County Memorial Courthouse as a meeting place (free) for these groups to meet and discuss their daily challenges. There doesn't have to be a connection with a Post 27 member. Just contact one of our Post Officers to coordinate opening our doors, or contact Paula

Stephenson at (801) 589-2871 or email: [stphnsnc@aol.com](mailto:stphnsnc@aol.com).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** for **June 27-July 2, 2016** for the **National Veterans Wheelchair Games** in Salt Lake City. Go to the Utah American Legion website at [www.utlegion.org](http://www.utlegion.org) and scroll down on the first page to "Volunteers Needed" and click on National Veterans Wheelchair Games. It tells you events, times, venues, etc. Another experience of a lifetime you should not pass up.

**"A SYSTEM WORTH SAVING":** Our national American Legion staff will be in Salt Lake City looking at VA operations through "A System Worth Saving" project. An important event to put on your calendar if you are a recipient of VA healthcare is a town hall meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, May 10, 5:30 P.M. at American Legion Post 112, 320 East 3900 South, Salt Lake City.**

**CULINARY COMMAND:** This new training program has come to Utah from New York. Winner of two Congressional Awards and specifically targeted to Veterans and active military personnel, we have been told this 6-week course/ 6 days a week is harder than basic training, and the end product is worth it to the student and community. The website will tell you more about this great training program at: [www.CulinaryCommand.com](http://www.CulinaryCommand.com)



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The next **6-WEEK INTENSIVE** COURSE will be held at Salt Lake Community Action Program in Salt Lake City, Utah from **MAY 31 - JULY 9.**

salt lake community action \* head start

Go to [www.CulinaryCommand.com](http://www.CulinaryCommand.com) to learn more and apply today.



# POW/MIA News

## Lost Since WWII, Remains Repatriated



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), in conjunction with the Department of Defense, U.S. Embassy New Delhi and the Government of India, held a repatriation ceremony Apr. 13 in **New Delhi, India** to pay full honors to what they believe are the possible remains of crew members of a B-24 and C-119 aircraft that were lost in India in January 1944 and July 1945 respectively.

Attended by Defense Secretary Ash Carter, this event marks the first time the U.S. has repatriated remains from the country of India.

**Jay Hess** Remains from the B-24 bomber were recovered by a DPAA expeditionary team last fall from steep terrain at the 9000 ft. level in the Indian Himalayas. Eight personnel assigned to the 14th Air Force, 308th Bomb Group were aboard the aircraft at the time of its loss, with all unaccounted for.

Family members of the B-24 aircrew were in Hawaii when the remains arrived. The remains will undergo DNA testing as well as dental and biological analysis at the DPAA lab there.

The remains turned over from a third-party organization are believed to belong to members of a four-man Army Air Force crew that was aboard a C-119 that crashed as it travelled from Jorhat, India to Hsinching, China.



## Jake Garn Sea Cadet Squadron



April drill offered an opportunity to visit the newest fire station on Hill Air Force Base. The cadets had a fantastic time and our hosts did a great job teaching the cadets about fire equipment and procedures. This was our second opportunity, in two years to visit this firehouse and this tour was every bit as good as the first. The cadets worked on correspondence courses in preparation for this year's upcoming summer training opportunities. Later in the week, cadets performed their quarterly Physical Readiness Test, which is required to attend any training opportunity. Training, this month, was a challenge due to minimal adult



**Courtney Putnam**

attendance during drill. We are always looking for adults willing to volunteer with the cadets. If you are interested in being a part of this fantastic program, please contact the Executive Officer, Jeremy Hughes at [jo@seacadetsutah.org](mailto:jo@seacadetsutah.org).





## 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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**SUPPORTING VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES!**

## Legion Laffs



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



or the link from our Post website at  
[www.post27.org](http://www.post27.org).







**36<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES**  
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For Volunteer Information:  
<http://wheelchairgames.org/volunteers>

Fans in the Stands Information:  
<http://wheelchairgames.org/volunteers>




[www.wheelchairgames.org](http://www.wheelchairgames.org)





**FARMINGTON CITY MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM**  
**Monday, May 30, 2016 at Noon**  
**Farmington City Cemetery**  
**500 South 200 East, Farmington, UT**  
*With Farmington City Officials  
 & American Legion Post 27 - Farmington*  
**Bring your lawn chairs.**

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Kaysville City Memorial Day Program**  
**Monday, May 30, 2016**  
**10:00 am**  
**Kaysville City Cemetery**



**Featuring**  
**Colonel David B. Lyons**  
**Commander, 388<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing**  
**Hill Air Force Base**



**Military Honors provided by American Legion Post 27**