

The Official Newsletter of The American Legion John W. Sheets Post 27 ★ Unit 27 ★ Squadron 27 ★ Farmington, Utah

COMMANDER'S CORNER

As you all know, the month of May is a time of remembrance, we are frequently thanked for our service when checking out at stores that have veteran's discounts, or when we are wearing a hat or shirt that signifies our service. My wife goes out of her way to thank service members anytime she sees a hat or shirt. Memorial Day has always



Jon Rue

Never Forget Their Service da

seemed awkward to me, when civilians wished me a "Happy" Memorial Day. It just seemed uncomfortable that a day of remembrance of fallen soldiers have a "Happy" association. A classmate of mine penned an article a little over a year

Memorial Day and changing that greeting. In his article, Denton Knapp (BG, US Army Ret.) wrote about service members earning our respect and admiration. He opined that we should strive to have and remind each other to have a "Worthy Memorial Day". My writing skills and paraphrasing won't do his speech justice, so if you'd like to read a transcript, please let me know (and I do have his permission to share).

Additionally, during the month of May many choose to wear a Poppy flower as a token of remembrance of service members whom died in service. Most of us know the historical roots of that practice and that it originates from the poppies that bloomed after WWI in Flanders Field spanning Belgium & France, and immortalized in the poem "In Flanders Field" by John McCrae. I encourage each of you to wear a poppy during May as remembrance for our fallen soldiers. If you need one, reach out to a member of our Auxiliary, as they have a program to distribute poppies as a fund raiser.

Armed Forces Day: This day may not be highlighted on many calendars or get publicity, but for us, it is of significance and may present an opportunity to educate family members and neighbors. It is held annually on the third Saturday of May, this year on Saturday, May 21. Many of us may not have been thanked during the time of our service owing to the national sentiment then, as discussed above, those sentiments have changed. Whenever you have a chance, please take a moment to thank and recognize those men and women who are currently serving in the armed forces in the United States. We can also clarify for others that Veterans Day honors all those who have previously served in the military. As well as Memorial Day, when we honor those men and women who have died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

<u>Davis Heritage Festival</u>: This inaugural event is being held at the USU Botanical Center in Kaysville. It is a replacement for the Davis County Fair. Whether or not it becomes permanent, or the fair returns to its original location when it finishes being renovated is unknown. The Festival is scheduled for Thursday, May 19th thru Saturday, May 21st. Post 27 intends to do a Flag Retirement Ceremony one of the evenings. Details are still being worked out and will be communicated as we approach the event, but plan on joining us by participating, or just observing this solemn event.

Memorial Day: For a number of years now, Post 27 has participated in the observance of Memorial Day. Members of the Post are invited to come to participate in the placement of US flags on veterans' grave at the Kaysville and Farmington City Cemeteries. Mark your calendars for Friday, May 27. Bring a long screwdriver for starting a hole in the ground for placing the flags. We will be working in two-person teams. This year Kaysville City has planned a ceremony at 10am at the Kaysville City Cemetery. Our own Kent Hansen is the emcee, with Jay Hess delivering the Key Note Speech. William Huber will lead and explain the 13-Fold American Flag Ceremony. Post 27 will again hold its own Memorial Day Program at 12 noon at the Farmington City Cemetery.

In closing, I'd like to thank all of you for your service, and ask that you have a "Worthy Memorial Day".

EVENTS CALENDAR

May 8 – Mother's Day.

May 12 - Post 27 Family General meeting. 7:00 pm,

Farmington City Community Arts Center

May 21 - Armed Forces Day Fly the flag.

May 21 – Linking Families Day at Hogle Zoo.

May 27 – Veteran Flag placement. Farmington Cemetery:

9:00 am. Kaysville Cemetery, 5:00 pm.

May 30 – Memorial Day. Fly the flag.

May 30 – Memorial Day ceremonies. Kaysville Cemetery,

10:00 am, Farmington Cemetery, noon.

June 6-10 – American Legion Auxiliary Girls State, Weber State University

June 12-17 – American Legion Utah Boys State, Weber State University

June 14 – Flag Day. Fly the...well, you know!

June 14— U.S. Army Birthday. Fly the flag.

June 19 – Juneteenth & Fathers Day.

June 21 -- Post 27 Family General meeting. 7:00 pm,

Farmington City Community Arts Center

1st Vice Commander



Come one, Come all! Celebrate with friends and legionnaires this Memorial Day, May 30. The Kaysville City ceremony is at 10:00 am and the Farmington City ceremony is at noon. Post 27 is providing most of the participants for the two ceremonies. Please help make both memorable by coming out and enjoying them with your Post. There will be plenty of chairs.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
JOHN W. SHEETS POST 27
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www.post27.org

Coming up: Girls State and Boys State in June. As usual, Post 27 has recruited a boatload of fine students from the local high schools to participate. Although it is too late for you to be

new support for the two events, think about if you could for next year. Contact Deb Hansen and Kent Hansen (not related), for their respective programs. They are still looking for logistics and supply help.

Remember our veterans and keep looking out for more potential Legionnaires!

2nd Vice Commander



Why do we have a Flag Retirement Ceremony? The U.S. Flag code, Title 4, Section 8k says: "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

We have all signed up to protect that grand old flag at one point in our lives. Some of us, more years ago than we want to think about. Many of our best comrades have been laid to rest under that flag. But I would say to you, that the oath we took is still valid and true to this day. And that United



States Flag that we took our oath next to is a dear friend. And with all important friendships in your life, you want to take care of them all the way to the end.



While there is not an official ceremony, it should be done in a respectful manner. There is great guidance on the National American Legion website (https://www.legion.org/flag/ceremony). Post 27 will be conducting a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Davis Heritage Festival.

Like our MFH (Military Funeral Honors) program, this is one of those important functions we provide to show respect to our Flag and to our Country. We are honored to take care of our friend.

Adjutant

A sad and heart-felt farewell on the passing of our fellow Legionnaire Loren T. Busker



Dale Crockett

Membership is Our Lifeblood!

American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through May 1 2022.

2022 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2022 Total	PERCENT OF GOAL
124	19	65	31	1	11	127	102%

Sons of the American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through may 1 2022.

2022 GOAL	REGULAR	NEW	TRANSFERS	2022 Total	PERCENT OF GOAL
33	31		1	32	97%

Memorial Day observance is coming up on May 30, 2022. We, as a post, will be participating in several programs that day which will be noted in our newsletter you are reading. We will also be doing a flag retirement ceremony in Kaysville burning hundreds of tattered and torn flags which you can also find in our newsletter. These programs are very important to our members and we hope you join us in honoring the flag and honoring more than one million men and woman who have lost their lives defending America since the Revolutionary War. Flag folding is also very sacred and we do it at our Military Funeral Honors and at Eagle Courts of Honors for both Boy and Girl Scouts. The flag-folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which our great country was originally founded. The portion of the flag denoting honor is the canton of blue containing the stars representing states our veterans served in uniform. The canton field of blue dresses from left to right and is inverted only when draped as a pall on the casket of a veteran who has served our country honorably in uniform. In the U.S. Armed Forces, at the ceremony of retreat, the flag is lowered, folded in a triangle fold and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nation's honored dead. The next morning it is brought out and, at the ceremony of reveille, run aloft as a symbol of our belief in the resurrection of the body. Let us all always remember our veterans and what they died for and respect our flag and fly it high for them.

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.



If you can keep your head while those around you are losing theirs, you may have misjudged the situation.

Chaplain

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. It is celebrated on different days in many parts of the world.



The modern holiday in America was first celebrated in 1907, when Anna Jarvis held the first Mother's Day service of worship at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. Her



Steve Steed

campaign to make Mother's Day a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, died. Ann Jarvis had been a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the American_Civil War. She and another peace activist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe had been urging for the creation of a "Mother's Day For Peace" where mothers would ask that their husbands and sons were no longer killed in wars. 40 years before it became an official holiday, Ward Howe had made her Mother's Day Proclamation in 1870, which called upon mothers of all nationalities to band together to promote the "amicable settlement of international

questions, the great and general interests of peace". Anna Jarvis wanted to honor this and to set aside a day to honor all mothers because she believed a mother is "the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world".

In 1908, the U.S. Congress rejected a proposal to make Mother's Day an official holiday, joking that they would also have to proclaim a "Mother-in-law's Day". However, owing to the efforts of Anna Jarvis, by 1911 all U.S. states observed the holiday, with some of them officially recognizing Mother's Day as a local holiday. In 1914, Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day, held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers.

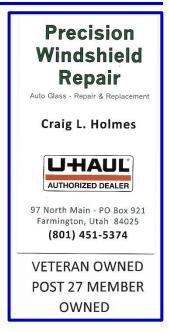
In 1912, Anna Jarvis trademarked the phrase "Second Sunday in May, Mother's Day, Anna Jarvis, Founder", and created the Mother's Day International Association. She specifically noted that "Mother's" should "be a singular possessive, for each family to honor its own mother, not a plural possessive commemorating all mothers in the world. May each of us appreciate and be eternally grateful for our mothers as we celebrate Mother's Day this year on May 8th.

For Your Information

LINKING FAMILIES DAY AT THE ZOO

After a two-year COVID-mandated hiatus, the annual Linking Families event is back at Hogle Zoo again! In cooperation with Utah's Hogle Zoo, the Linking Families event will be held on May 21 (National Armed Forces Day) with free Zoo admission to all CAC holders and Military retirees, dependents, Gold Star families, etc.

The Linking Families event is in its 13th year. The event provides an opportunity to promote Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness, the Month of the Military Child, Sexual Assault Awareness month, Military Spouse Appreciation, and most importantly a gathering and celebration of Utah's Military Family. We will be providing a fair amount of SWAG to participants and are also planning on a cake-cutting ceremony in honor of Armed Forces Day. The military affiliated attendance for this event traditionally runs well over 10,000, so this is a great opportunity to meet the community and promote your organization.



Historian

Ways to Honor Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice for Our Freedoms

The following is from a podcast by Ahndrea Blue of the Making A Difference Foundation. It is very appropriate and used by permission.

Memorial Day is a day for honoring and remembering all military men and women who died while in military service, especially those who died while in combat or as a result of injuries sustained during battle. It is always observed on the last Monday of May, which for 2022 is May 30.

While we can no longer personally thank or help those who gave their lives for our freedoms, we Kent Hansen can of take some specific and meaningful actions to honor those who have fallen as well as thank current veterans and serving military members while we still can. So, while most people are off enjoying a three-day weekend full of sunshine, barbeques, and the start of boating season, we at Making A Difference Foundation would like to offer up eight ways that you can better celebrate the meaning of this special holiday.

- 1. If you have family members who served and died in the military, get pictures and stories of them and place around at your Memorial Day picnic or festivities. Remember them with honor, even if you didn't know them all that well or never met them. You could also create a scrapbook of them and share with other family members and future generations.
- 2. Be of service by reaching out to a military family who has a loved one away on duty overseas. Honor these brave military members by assisting their families back home in whatever way you can. Help ease stress and worry by cooking a meal, mowing a lawn, or doing a home improvement project that might be needed and letting them know the community is behind them and appreciate their sacrifice.
- 3. Take full advantage of the holiday weekend to create new memories with your family, friends, loved ones, knowing that you can because of the sacrifices made by those people who fought for our liberties. Take time off work for the day and focus on what the people and freedoms in your life really mean to you.
- 4. Plant trees or perineal flowers in fallen heroes' honor. If you have family members of your own who have fought and died in past wars or conflicts, then plant them in their memory. If not, visit one of the war memorials or look online for names of military members who gave their lives in service and plant them in their honor.
- 5. Craft poppies to hand out as a reminder of fallen military men and women. Inspired by the World War I poem "In Flanders Fields", and promoted by Moina Michael, poppies were first adopted by the American Legion to commemorate American soldiers killed in that war. They have now been observed to recognize all service members who have been killed in all conflicts. Not sure how to create a poppy? Check out Hey, Let's Make Stuff, DIY Network, or Satsuma Designs.



- 6. Visit an American Legion posts or a veterans' hospital to give thanks for those who did survive the military conflicts throughout the world. Spend the day or even just a few hours with some of them and listen to their stories. Make sure they know they are valued and appreciated.
- 7. Create a care package for a family who's loved one was a service member who didn't make it back home. Show you care and honor their fallen hero by making and delivering a box that can help them through a tough time. Some items you could include in the box

are personal care items, gift cards for restaurants or personal care services, gift certificates for things like home repairs, lawn service, or family activities, or items for children.

8. Create a care package or write a letter of thank you to a current military member overseas thanking them for the valuable service. Our service men and women always appreciate tokens from back home while they are deployed. You can also send some needed personal care items, especially snacks, postcards, and more.

POW/MIA News



THE CONFIDENCE MEN

Two WW I British Officers got themselves out of a prisoner-of-war camp deep in the mountains 100 miles south of the Black Sea by means of a Ouija board and feigning mental illness. They became master mind manipulators. The Ouija board was hand made from salvaged parts with the intent of raising their cell mate's spirits and helping fill the long, empty hours of confinement. When the camp commander's helper got hooked on the night time séances, the board manipulators began to think beyond entertaining cellmates.



Jay Hess

Kent Hansen searches for the latest and the best. He loaned me *The Confidence Men* by Margalit Fox last year. The Washington Post said it is one of 50 most Notable books of 2021 and it makes NPR's "Books We Love" of 2021. I'd bet it's on every Survival Schools book list now. I was told about POWs who acted crazy but no mention of *The tap Code* or *Ouija Boards*.

Editor's Note: The book, though non-fiction, reads more like "Hogan's Heroes" than "Stalag 17." I'd be happy to loan it out again if anyone's interested. -KH

American Legion Auxiliary

April has flown by and we are very busy getting ready for Girls State and Boys State! There are still slots available for both programs, so contact Deb if you know anyone who would love to go.

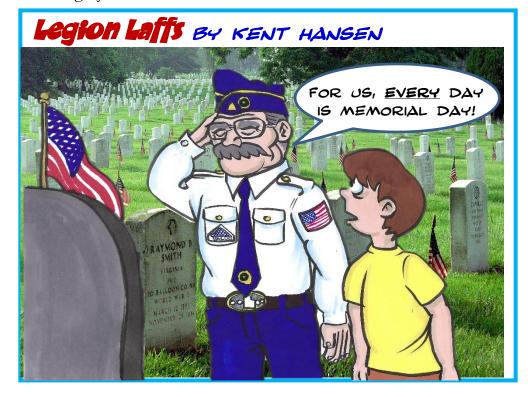
I just finished our report to the State and wow...we have a lot of service hours for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022. Our total number of hours was 2,001! That's just shy of what one full-time working person works in a year!! Bravo, my friends! I am sure there were unreported hours, so please start keeping track of any service hours and also monetary donations you make to assist our active-duty military and our veterans!!



Deb Hansen

ANZAC Day was just celebrated in Australia and Facebook was flooded with pictures of the observances. Many simply set up a small tribute at the end of their driveway at like 6:30 am and pay tribute. Lest we forget...

We have several projects we will start so stay tuned!! Please keep Marlys and Ron in your prayers as he recovers from surgery.







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.

Department of Veterans & Military Affairs

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

Call for an appointment with a Service Officer at







A TIME TO REMEMBER ★ A TIME TO HONOR

Legion Family Membership Coupons







American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

			APPLICANTI	NFORWATIO	
Name	(First)		(N	f.i.)	(Last)
Address			2		
City			St	ate	ZIP
Home Phone			Cell Phone		Email Address
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Date of Birth (Re	equired)			Unit #	Location
Have you been	a member previous	y? 🗋 Yes	☐ No (If yes, fill	in below.)	
Previous Unit Ci	ty/State				ALA ID # (if known)
					1
Signature of App	olicant (or legal guar	dian if under 1	8)		Date

Eligible Through—N	lame of Veteran (Female	Veterans: List Your	Own Name)			
If Living:			5 82	7		
Americ	an Legion Member ID #	Post	#	City		State
	teran is deceased, contact 0214 Discharge Papers: v					
	77/1941 (check all that ap					
☐ Global War ☐ Gulf War	☐ Global War on Terror ☐ Panama ☐ Gulf War ☐ Lebanon/G		☐ Vietnam☐ Korea	☐ WWII☐ Other Conflicts		
Applicant's Rela	tionship to the Vetera	in:				
Male Spouse Daughter	☐ Female Spouse ☐ Granddaughter	☐ Mother	☐ Grandmother	☐ Sister	☐ Self	
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