

# The American Legion Centennial Post



October 2018

The Official Newsletter of Post 27 ★ Squadron 27 ★ Unit 27 ★ Farmington, UT

www.post27.org

## Post 27 Programs & Activities

- Flag Education
- High School Constitution Oratorical Scholarship Contest
- American Legion Utah Boys State & American Legion Auxiliary Girls State
- Military Funeral Honors
- Sons of The American Legion
- 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
- DTC-Davis Tech Veterans Center support
- VA Outreach support at Post
- Medal of Honor Character Development Program in Davis County schools
- POW/MIA updates
- Meet The Candidate sponsor
- Farmington/Kaysville Cemetery Flag project
- Memorial Day weekend
- Parade participation
- American Legion charities support

## Commander's Corner

### DON'T DRINK THE VITRIOL

What a wonderful country we live in! I suppose most of you would agree with that statement as each of us has worn its uniform and served its flag. Sadly, many of our fellow citizens have adopted the habit of attacking those who disagree with them and demonizing those whose philosophy does not match their own.

We, in Post 27, enjoy a special camaraderie that is somewhat unique in many organizations. We share a fraternal unity that eclipses our diverse beliefs. It got me to thinking about what membership in the Legion means. So let's break it down into the basic essentials.

**AMERICAN:** To be an American is a distinct honor. We are the world's all-star team, melding together so many cultures, ethnicities, religions and philosophies. And many of these citizens have donned the uniform and served along with us to keep our nation free.

**LEGION:** The very word "legion" means that we are many. We are not just a group or a gang or a club. Our Legion is united in service, sealed in brotherhood and bonded in loyalty.

Because we are a diverse unit, we will never agree on everything. And there is no harm in that. Our country thrives on a diversity of ideas and practices. But we can always show respect, decency and kindness to those we encounter regardless of those things that differ from us.

A favorite film of mine is "Harvey," starring James Stewart. In it, he plays Elwood P. Dowd, kind man thought crazy by an angry and bitter world. Dowd's philosophy was simple: *"I always have a wonderful time, wherever I am, whomever I'm with."* When asked by a psychiatrist why he was the way he was, Elwood replied, *"Years ago, my mother used to say to me, 'In this world, you can be oh so smart, or oh so pleasant.'" Well, for years I was smart... I recommend pleasant. You may quote me."*



There is eloquent wisdom in his credo. And it's an axiom that would serve us all well. In fact, when representing The Legion, the kindness we display can only enhance the image of the magnificent organization we represent. We are entrenched in an unfortunate era of polarization and tribalism that only seems to escalate daily. Those who occupy "the other side of the aisle," once friends and neighbors, have become enemies to be shunned and ridiculed. Perhaps President Abraham Lincoln in his second inaugural address said it best: ***"We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory will swell when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."***

We, in The American Legion, must be better than the rancor that infests our land. Indeed, the principles for which we stand **ARE** better than that. So, as we live in a society filled with vitriol, let us be the ones who take the high road and render the respect everyone deserves. In that way, we honor the flag we serve.



Kent Hansen

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander

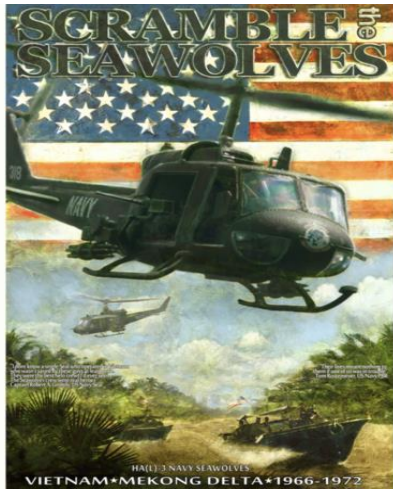


Ron Jugenitz

This month I'm writing about a Navy Squadron that was the most decorated and least known in the Vietnam War. I found out about it from an e-mail that my wife received from her cousin Larry Blandin. He stated "this was the last Squadron I was in while in the Navy."

On September 16, 2018 a guy by the name of Mike Rowe wrote:

*"The most decorated Navy Squadron ever assembled is the*



*least known. This is a sad but undeniable fact. They were called The Seawolves, and what they did in Vietnam is absolutely mind-boggling. A few months ago, I was honored to narrate a long-overdue documentary that finally tells their incredible story. It*

*recently premiered in San Diego on the deck of the [aircraft carrier] Midway to a very emotional audience. The documentary is called 'Scramble the Seawolves.' Now that the*

*documentary is finished, I'm off to New Mexico to do something far safer than flying helicopters in The Mekong River Delta."*

You can learn more about the documentary and see actual photos of the men that served in this Squadron by going to <https://www.scrambletheseawolves.com/>

## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

**Oct. 6 – SAL Meeting.** 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.

**Oct. 10 – Special Post 27 Meeting.** 6:30 pm, Davis County Municipal Building (across the parking lot from the Memorial Courthouse), Room 131. *This is the gathering of Boys and Girls State graduates who will be reporting on their experience. Don't miss this one.*

**Nov. 1 – SAL Meeting.** 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.

**Nov. 8 – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armistice,** 11 am – noon, Utah State Capitol Rotunda.

**Nov. 8 – DTC Flag Raising/Taps.** 11 am, Veterans lunch

**Nov. 8 – ALA Unit 27 Meeting.** 6:00 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 114.

**Nov 8 – Post 27 Meeting.** 6:30 pm, Davis County Memorial Courthouse, Room 116.

**Nov. 10 – Veterans Day Parade, Layton.** 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, ends at Vietnam War Memorial.

**Nov. 11 – Veterans Day.** Fly the flag.

**Nov. 11 – Farmington Veterans Day Ceremony.**

Farmington City Cemetery, 11:00 am.

**Nov. 22 – Thanksgiving Day.** Fly the flag.

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

This past September 15<sup>th</sup> our Post 27 Legion family gathered for a great picnic at Farmington Heritage Park. Barbecue pulled pork furnished by the Auxiliary and an assortment complimentary side dishes rounded out the meal. Great conversation was had among friends and new acquaintances; an addition to this year's event were the several flight worthy model airplanes on display, furnished by Dale Crocket and Dave Parker. The stiff winds kept all put one plane grounded from flight. Dave Parker displayed great skill as he entertained us as he flew one of his hand made electric powered planes.



William Huber

Just around the corner on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> a Special Post 27 Meeting will be held at 6:30 pm, Davis County Municipal Building (across the parking lot from the Memorial Courthouse), in Room 131. We will welcome and acknowledge the graduates of Boys and Girls State who will be reporting on their experiences.

October 8<sup>th</sup> will be marked with observance of Columbus Day, a federal holiday and a day to fly your flag. Although it is not a veterans' related holiday, Columbus's discovery of the Americas set the ball rolling for the eventual establishment of the United States of America with the freedoms and rights as citizens we now all enjoy and have had bequeathed to us by the ensuing generations. These rights and freedoms have been preserved through the efforts of faithful veterans like you and others who have given selflessly for our nation, and by those currently



serving in our military. Among the many citizens rights we hold are the right to vote for the political candidates of our own choosing. In addition to the election of officials, this year's ballot also includes 3 Constitutional Amendments: A, B and C; one nonbinding opinion question and Propositions Number 2, Number 3 and Number 4. Seven of these eight items will have a legal binding effect on Utahans. To aide us in our responsibility to be an informed

electorate, a good deal of information and analysis on these matters may be found at <https://elections.utah.gov/2018-election-information>

**2018 Election Information**

**Important Election Dates**

- **General Election:** November 6, 2018
- **Mail ballots are mailed to voters:** between October 8, 2018 and October 16, 2018
- **In-person early voting:** October 23, 2018 through November 2, 2018
- **Mail ballot postmark deadline:** on or before November 5, 2018 (the day before the Election)

You can register to vote at the polls on Election Day or during the Early Voting Period, but if you register beforehand:

- **October 9, 2018:** is the last day to register to vote by mailing in a registration form.
- **October 30, 2018:** is the last day to register to vote [online](#) or at your county clerk's office.

**Adjutant**

**Membership is Our Lifeblood!**

*American Legion Membership:* Statistics are membership numbers through 1 Oct. 2018.

2019 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2019 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
120	15	39	18	3	1	76	64%



**Dale Crockett**

*Sons of the American Legion Membership:* Statistics are membership numbers through 1 Oct. 2018.

2019 GOAL		REGULAR		NEW	TRANSFERS	2019 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
46		28		0	0	28	61%

**Welcome to Post 27: Brian Knox, U.S. Army**

I joined the Military in January of 1969 when Vietnam was still ragging and many soldiers were in harm's way. I honor the brave veterans of that war and pay tribute to them. I never went overseas, so I cannot even comprehend what they went



through, but I know it was a sacrifice for them. It makes me feel good when I see now the many ceremonies and commemoration stories about those who fought to keep us free. More than 58,000 Americans were killed and 304,000 were injured and though it officially ended in 1975, it is still hurting veterans and their families today. There were many that lost loved ones there, and many who continue to lose loved ones because of Agent Orange, suicide and other side effects of war. As a member of the American Legion, we can serve and help veterans who are having difficulties. We are always looking for ways to help. If there is anything we can do to help you, please let us know and we will bring it up in our meetings.

*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 [dalecrockett@yahoo.com](mailto:dalecrockett@yahoo.com).*

**The Post 27 Centennial Post**

is published monthly for members of Post 27, SAL Squadron 27, Auxiliary Unit 27 and friends of The American Legion.

**Editor: Kent Hansen**

*Please have your submissions in by the last week of the month prior to publication.*

Submit to: [kenthansen7@gmail.com](mailto:kenthansen7@gmail.com)

**Sergeant-at-Arms**



**David Lavton**

Fellow Legionnaires, "Thank You" for your willingness to continue to serve our community and the Veterans that we honor. In September, Post 27 provided seven Military Funeral Honors (MFH) for deceased Veterans.

What is a Veteran? A Veteran, whether active duty, discharged, retired or reserve, is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America" for an amount of "up to and including their life." That is honor, and there are too many people in this country today, who no longer understand that fact.

Veterans are entitled to Military Funeral Honors consisting of a rifle volley, the playing of Taps and the folding of the American flag that is presented to next of kin. The participation and service you have rendered this year in community activities has been exemplary and has brought high praise from the communities and families we serve. Without you, Post 27 cannot operate and provide this service.

As members of the American Legion, we volunteer as needed to meet the demands that we are asked to perform. Let us remember when we are asked to participate in Post 27 events that it is a privilege to serve our country, our service branch and our Post. 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.

## Chaplain

I'm greatly honored to be associated with my American Legion comrades and thankful that many of our Post members take time with great effort to perform military funeral honors when asked to attend. As we get closer to Veterans Day we remember comrades who have passed. We also remember comrades who continue to need our prayers and help. Please let us know if any of our members is in need of a visit or needs assistance with something. Sometimes just a visit or phone call will help in lifting somebody's spirits. We are there as veterans supporting comrades that have served.



Michael Blewitt

## POW/MIA News



Jay Hess

Among those who gave all in defense of freedom was Captain John "Buzz" Ellison. Ellison lived in Layton, UT, graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1952 and was a member of Attack Squadron 85, Carrier Air Wing 11 aboard the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk (CVA-63).

On March 24, 1967, he was the pilot of a Grumman Attack Aircraft Intruder (A-6A) to suppress surface to air missile sites around the Bac Giang Thermal Power Plant in North Vietnam. After completing the mission the aircraft continued north about 11 miles where contact was lost.



On September 5, 1975 the Secretary of the Navy approved a Presumptive Finding of Death. His remains were never recovered. His name is inscribed on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Hawaii. He is honored on panel 17E, Row 35 of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC.

There are 13 other Utah service members "unaccounted for" from the Vietnam War.

For more details see Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund web page: <http://www.vvmf.org>



## **Legion Nuggets**

Oct. 16, 1989

The long-standing objective of the Legion to improve adjudication procedures for veterans claims is achieved when the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals becomes operational. Most of the provisions contained in the law creating the court were originally included in the Veterans Reassurance Act, written by the Legion and introduced in Congress in 1988.

## American Legion Auxiliary



Deb Hefner Hansen

It was so fun to see so many of you at our Legion family picnic on September 15! Wow...you all brought such fun side dishes and desserts! It was warmer this year than last year...but windier! It was a nice turnout and a fun tradition! One of the best parts of the picnic was when Paula and Chuck Stephenson presented us with our own American Legion Auxiliary flag! This flag will be proudly displayed with the other flags in the meeting room at the Courthouse! Thank you to Chuck and Paula for this generous gift!

Our next meeting will be on a Wednesday, October 10 at 6:30 pm and we will be hearing from our Boys and Girls State graduates from Viewmont, Davis and NUAMES! Also be thinking of items we can donate to the Veterans shopping event at the VA Medical Center, SLC in December! I think the books donated last year were a hit!

Thank you to Michele Done who is our new Auxiliary Secretary! We appreciate Leslie Hefner and her service as Secretary for our Unit! Looking forward to seeing you on October 10!

## Sons of the American Legion



Our October 2018 goal is to complete **Point 3, Discipline** on the **Five Star Award**. Discipline is a critical factor in life and in any organization. Self-control is a personal form of discipline. To become an Eagle Scout, a young man must establish short and long-term goals. It starts at 8 years old and concludes in some cases as late as a scout's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Setting goals is a lot like attempting to eat an elephant. It is impossible to consume such a large animal in one sitting. Like in Scouting, you can't be an Eagle Scout overnight. Just the rank advancement coupled with obtaining 21 merit badges, campouts, attendance and participation, and other requirements it takes as a minimum from 11-13 years of age. Most scouts get their Eagle Scout Award in the 14-15 age range.



**Ron Craig**  
**SAL Squadron 27**  
**Commander**

I would like to challenge each of the adults and youth of our Sons of the American Legion Squadron to set a goal to receive their **Ten Ideas Award**, and each **individual Star Award** that leads to the **Five Star Award**. The training program we have established helps each boy who participates in our monthly meeting and activities the opportunity to complete parts of these awards.

To date, we have 10 members that have completed 4-8 of the Ten Ideals on route to completion by December of this year. We also have 8 members that have completed 3-4 of the Five Star requirements. In most cases all they must do is have a conference with our advancement committee. We are looking at January to present these awards. Participation is the key to success. Set a goal and you can achieve almost anything.

### Discipline

1. What is **discipline** and how might it be developed?

*Answer - Discipline is training to live within the rules determined by parents, schools, government and churches. It is developed by constant practice in living up to the goals that have been set.*

2. Why is discipline essential in the handling of all group activities?

*Answer - Group activities are effective only when you have rules. This includes following the rules, establishing discipline and developing the ability to take direction from whoever is the leader.*

3. Briefly outline why discipline is essential to law and order.

*Answer - The basic need for law and order is to enable people to live within a group and with each other. The rights and opinions of each person must be respected at the same time you are respecting fundamental rights of the group. Discipline is the cornerstone from which law and order develops.*

4. Demonstrate **good conduct** in squadron meetings.
5. Demonstrate **good grades** in school.
6. **Participate** on drill teams, rifle teams, athletic teams, bands, drum corps, etc.
7. **Show respect** for older people (Refer to Point 8 of the Ten Ideals).
8. Practice **self-control** in every respect,

*Answer - Demonstrate ability to start projects or establish goals and to work with others.*

9. **Obey orders** given.
10. **Support and help** your squadron, post and Auxiliary in achieving good relations



**SGT.  
SAGE  
SEZ:**

**"A slipping gear could let your M203 grenade launcher fire when you least expect it. That would make you quite unpopular in what's left of your unit."**

# Legion Laughs by Kent Hansen



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

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



## Take advantage of our Veterans Outreach Program

Every first and third Wednesday from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm, a representative of the Department of Veteran and Military Affairs 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 385-272-8852 (Dave Tomczak).

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

**Veterans Outreach Schedule**

**October: 3 & 17    November: 7 & 21**

## AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS



## BASIC TRAINING COURSE



***Learn why we do what we do***

**It's a FREE on-line course for members of The American Legion Family**

**Go to: [WWW.LEGION.ORG/ALEI](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/ALEI)**