

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

### <u>Commander's Corner</u>



William A. Huber

**Patriot Day, September 11, 2020** found recognition and observance notwithstanding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Members of Post 27 in conjunction with the Farmington Fire Department, Farmington Trails committee and general citizenry gathered at the west face of the Farmington Fire Station. Post Chaplain Steve Steed gave a heartfelt invocation invoking the blessings of Almighty God upon us and our nation. A bell THE AMERICAN LEGION Post 27 P.O. Box 427 FARMINGTON, UT 84025 <u>www.post27.org</u>

sounded at 6:46 AM followed by a moment of silence. This marked the time that the first plane flew into the World Trade Center. The federal flag was lowered to half-staff by members of the Farmington Fire Department in remembrance of the fallen.

Remarks of the events of that day in New York, Washington DC, Stonycreek Township in Pennsylvania were made by Post members: Commander William Huber, Kent Hansen and Jay

Hess as well as other community members. The Fireman's Prayer was read. A bell tolled once again at 7:03 AM marking the time the second plane struck the North World Trade Center Tower. Following it, Post 27's Rifle Team fired a 3-volley salute and the playing of TAPS. Gathering that morning provided an opportunity to reflect on the values we hold dear as Americans. They are enshrined in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution and must never be taken for granted.

**Post 27 Picnic September 15 – Was great fun.** The Post 27 Legion Family gathered for a picnic at Heritage Park. A generous amount of smoked pulled pork was furnished by the Post. Delicious side dishes and desserts were on hand and enjoyed by all; thank you to all who contributed. Post members had a new look this year with their dawned face masks almost making the event a pseudo masquerade. It was great to gather to enjoy tasty food and socialize.



Military Funeral Honors Training Early on in September on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, our planned training was dashed by an unanticipated windstorm ravaging our communities with 99 mph winds. Just about all post members were



touched to some degree. The upshot was our training was cancelled with a hopeful rescheduling to occur in October. Our Utah Army National Guard Honor Guard trainers left on the 9<sup>th</sup> for annual training. Upon their return we plan to re-schedule the military funeral honors training. We will keep you notified.

Despite the weather challenges Post 27 did provide military funeral honors for the

Korean War veteran families of James W. Seely and Rodney Ford Call. Fortunately, on the days of the funerals the weather had turned to sunshine.

#### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

October 12 – Columbus Day. *Fly the Flag!* October 13 – U.S. Navy Birthday. *Fly the Flag!* October 15 – Military Funeral Honors Training, 6:30 pm Farmington Fire Department. October 26 – General Post & Auxiliary meeting. 6:30 pm, Farmington City Cultural Arts Center. November 10 – USMC Birthday. Fly the Flag! November 11 – Veterans Day. Fly the Flag! November 18 – General Post & Auxiliary meeting. 6:30 pm, Farmington City Cultural Arts Center.

### Please wear a mask to all events. Thank you.

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



I want to "tip my hat" to an individual who has always gone the extra mile for The American Legion and this Post. To recognize an individual's continued support is to appreciate them and to acknowledge that what they do matters. With COVID-19 impacting everyone's lives and livelihood, some can barely cope, much less run a Post program. **Dave Layton** has done an outstanding job as Military Funeral Honors Coordinator for several years now. He has had his battle with health problems, and the extensive damage to his home from the hurricane-level storm, and yet he has kept his bride, Kathy, of 55 years, happy. How does he do it? Dedication comes to mind. Thank you, Dave, for all you do.



Bob Anderson

He is not alone, of course. We have many people in the Post who are dealing with health and other personal issues who contribute to contribute to the mission and programs of the American Legion. Some in small ways and some in ways that can never be measured. We have an extensive list of quiet heroes, doing the job in the name of The American Legion.

As I looked over the The American Legion website (www.legion.org), I discovered one terrific idea I would like to suggest to our ranks. Some of our members may find it difficult to get to the Post 27 meetings due to their own health or transportation issues. Anyone who reads this newsletter who wants to attend a Post 27 meeting, but cannot for one reason or another, call me and I will come get you or find another Post member to pick you up. With sufficient lead-time, we can make it happen. That said, you "Usual Suspects" I may need your support on occasion.

# <u>Adjutant</u>

# Membership is Our Lifeblood! 🖤

American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through Oct. 1 2020.

2021 Goal	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	<b>2021</b> Total	PERCENT OF GOAL
131	14	34	28		7	83	63%

Sons of the American Legion Membership: Statistics are membership numbers through Oct. 2020.

2021 Goal	REGULAR	NEW	TRANSFERS	<b>2021</b> Total	PERCENT OF GOAL
31	22			16	71%

The COVID-19 pandemic is proving difficult for a lot of folks these days along with high winds, flooding and fires. The American Legion has a National Emergency Fund (NEF) which is a great example of veterans helping veterans. This "no-strings-attached" disaster relief program has helped thousands of American Legion members and their families to recover from declared disasters. There are no premiums to pay into the NEF program. Rather, grants are made to Legionnaires and Sons of The American Legion members in need. If ever you



Dale Crockett

are in need, contact me and I will let you know if you are eligible and how to fill out an application and apply.



Of course, if you would like to help your fellow Legionnaires and you have a few extra bucks, you can contribute to this fund. Since October 1989, the NEF program has provided more than \$10 million in direct financial assistance to Legionaries, SAL members and posts. All contributions made to this fund are distributed directly to the Legion family member in need. There are no administration or fulfillment costs. Every dollar raised goes directly to assist members and post in need. For more information about how to donate, visit legion.org/emergency.

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 <u>dalescrockett@yahoo.com</u>.

### <u>Sergeant~at~Arms</u>



**David Layton** 

Fellow Legionnaires, Post 27 encourages each member to consider volunteering to be trained for participation in our most important Service to our Veterans and their families, Military Funeral Honors (MFH). Participation in the MFH Ceremony is a great privilege and an honor. We help to heal the wounds of the family members of the

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kenthansen7@gmail.com

deceased, by providing the culmination of the service the Veteran rendered to our country. Volunteering to be trained as a MFH Team member and to participate as your schedule allows, is paramount to the successful MFH Mission of Post 27.

Please consider how you would want to have your loved ones remember your life. With the MFH Ceremony, Veterans families remember love of country, love of the American flag, and service to our country. Why would you not want to be a part of this ceremony? Remember, Post 27 is only as strong as the members who volunteer to support its various programs. For MFH to be truly effective, we need everyone to know the duties of the MFH Ceremony, consisting of Team Commander, Rifle Team members, a bugler (TAPS), two members for folding of American Flag, and a "Three Shell Casing" presenter.

Military Funeral Honors Training has been rescheduled due to weather conditions and COVID-19. The new date for MFH training is October 15 at the Farmington Fire Department, at 6:30 pm. In addition, you are invited to any of the MFH ceremonies we have to observe and for on-the-job training. Please consider attending this training opportunity for MFH familiarization. Post 27 encourages all to volunteer to be a participating members of MFH Team. We need your help now and in the future.

# <u>Chaplain</u>

#### WHY VETERANS SHOULD VOTE

The 2020 presidential election will be one of most important elections in our history. Americans (veterans) must vote to protect our liberties and freedoms. To maintain our values and freedoms, we must have strong military and dedicated leaders. There must be a strong participation in our political system to maintain our form of government by voting. Voting is the biggest weapon that the American citizen has to protect our constitution from foreign and domestic enemies.



Steve Steed

Ben Franklin, after the Constitution was approved, is said to have told someone that the founders gave the American citizen a Republic: if they can keep it. He meant that everyone

must participate in the political system and vote to keep the government of the people, by the people and for the people. Elections seldom provide clear-cut choices between good and evil. You must decide who best matches your personal preferences as to public problems. Research their background and don't depend on stump speeches. Many look at the personal characteristic of candidates to determine how they will perform in office. We

usually prefer candidates who are honest, moral and qualified since we are entrusting them to make decisions that affect our futures.

A lot of blood has been shed through American history so that you have the right to choose your own leaders in government. Many wars have been fought to preserve our liberty. The American military is still fighting and dying in wars so that we have the freedom to choose our leaders and protect our freedoms. Our freedom is not possible without the people's vote. It has been important since our government was founded and it always will be, as long as people do their duty by taking part in the single and easy process of registering to vote and voting.

### Election day is November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Plan to vote early.

A benevolent God has been watching over this country from its very conception. May God continue to bless and protect our nation.

# <u>Training & FYI</u>

PUBLIC CONTACT ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE TO UTAH VETERANS

**From the Veterans Administration:** As we all know, COVID has impacted our ability to meet with our Utah Veterans and customers. We have established a procedure to be able to meet with our clients on the phone. This process will allow us to



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

better assist our Utah Veterans and Families. The Salt Lake City VA Regional Office now has a local telephone number where Utah Veterans, Family Members and authorized 3<sup>rd</sup> parties can contact the VA and receive assistance. We do not want this to substitute for the National Call Center. This number is to emulate the services that we would normally provide to walk-in clients.

If you have a client that would like to have us meet with them on the phone, please have them call 801-708-8229 and listen to the message and provide a date and time for a call back from one of our very knowledgeable VA Representatives. We will typically be able to call the person back and set up an interview within 2 hours.

This is a tremendous opportunity for us to remain in contact with our Utah Veterans. This process does not preclude you, the POA/Stakeholder, from reaching out to us, this just allows our customers to get a real person on the phone.

Thanks for letting us provide this opportunity to serve you and Utah's Veterans. Here is what you will hear on the phone— *it will ring 6~7 times before the message will play* 

#### THE TELEPHONE VOICEMAIL:

Hello, you have reached the virtual interview appointment line for the VA Salt Lake City Regional Benefits Office. This extension facilitates the scheduling of virtual interviews for customers in Utah.

At the tone, please speak slowly and clearly state your first and last name, reason for calling, provide your geographical location and a telephone number. An employee will respond to your request within 2-hours. If your message is received after 2:30pm, or on a holiday, or on the weekend, you will be notified the next business day of your scheduled virtual interview date/time.

*Thank you for calling. Have a great day.* \*\*End\*\*

- **COMMUNITY URGENT CARE PROVIDERS**: On 10/1/2020, TriWest will transition all Community Urgent Care Providers from the old contract (PC3) to their new contract (CCN). This change may impact which community urgent care facilities are "in network" on 10/1/2020. Some community urgent care providers that were "in network" this week may not be "in network" next week. It is very important that all staff use <u>VA Facility Locator</u> tool and guide Veterans towards this tool as well. Also, they can call 877-881-7618 to reach the OCC National Contact Center to get a list of "in network" providers for community urgent care.
- Below are resources that will assist you in locating these providers. Please tuck this email away.
- VA Community Urgent Care Home Page
- <u>https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/Urgent\_Care.asp</u>

#### **USE OF AMERICAN LEGION SYMBOLS**

As we move into our second century, we must continue to be mindful of legal restrictions regarding our emblem's usage. Whether it is the circle gold emblem, the words "The American Legion," the American Legion Riders emblems or even "Boys State," the numerous trademarks are important to The American Legion and are patented.

All of The American Legion emblems are owned by the national organization and licensed for use by posts, departments and other organizations that request, in advance for review to National Headquarters, their use. Yet this license always requires preapproval from the National Adjutant whenever there is any type of financial exchange. All uses may not be approved – for example, adding a different color or changing the emblem's design. The design of a new logo with the additional use of a current logo may not be legal, either. Additionally, The American Legion does not want any emblem to appear on tobacco, beer and alcohol products because such placement does not help our public image. Most important to remember is that the non-approved use of any American Legion-owned emblem is illegal and will not be



tolerated. This advisory does not, of course, preclude posts, districts or departments from normal promotions of American Legion activities, nor does it mean that respectful commercial uses of the emblem will always be denied. The key questions to ask when emblem use is desired or requested can be found in Resolution 1: Rules and Regulations Governing Use of the Name and Emblem of The American Legion, passed by the National Executive Committee May 9-10, 2018. Those questions are:

#### 1. Is the request of use for commercial purpose, outside normal post event promotion? 2. Does the request involve, in any way, reproduction of the name or trademarked emblems for commercial use by any entity other than the American Legion post?

3. If the emblem, other American Legion-trademarked logos and/or the words "The American Legion" or "American Legion" involve sale of any merchandise, does my post, district or department have prior written permission from the National Adjutant or the National Adjutant's designated representative, specific to that use?

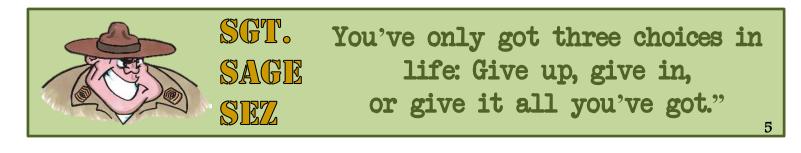
Everyone in The American Legion is excited about our next 100 years and all the opportunities the organization has to brand itself now and in the future. Unfortunately, the opportunity also exists for The American Legion's brand to be misused, exploited and even modified for the benefit of others outside the organization, occasionally for their financial gain. The American Legion has spent a century making itself one of the most trusted brands in U.S. history. Let's be sure to keep it that way as we enter a second century of service to veterans, servicemembers, families and communities worldwide.

## **POST 27/UNIT 27 FACE MASK PROJECT**

If you are a member of Post 27, Auxiliary Unit 27 or SAL Squadron 27, or your immediate family needs a washable face mask (red, white, blue colors), please email Paula at <u>STPHNSNC@AOL.COM</u> or call 801-589-2871 (leave message if no answer).



#### Masks are FREE!



### SMITH'S "INSPIRING DONATIONS" PROGRAM

American Legion Post 27 has successfully partnered with Smith's Food and Drug with their INSPIRING DONATIONS Program.



SMITH's will donate 0.5% of what you purchase (eligible purchases) at their locations throughout the state. All you need is a Smith's Rewards card and register that card by going to

SmithsFoodandDrug.com/Inspire. Create an Account and link your Rewards card to "American Legion Post 27" (Organization number XN453), select the organization and choose "save". Then every time you shop at Smith's with your Rewards Card, Smith's will donate 0.5% of your total order to our Post 27. It's that easy. Donations through this valuable program will go specifically towards Post 27 and

Auxiliary Unit 27 projects supporting our Veteran, Military, and communities.

### <u>Historian</u>

#### SAILORS PUT COUNTRY BEFORE SELF



October 13 marks the 245<sup>th</sup> birthday of the United States Navy. To honor these intrepid mariners, we share a few stories of sailors who have demonstrated their understanding of country before self.

On June 1, 1813, James Lawrence was just two months removed from being promoted to Captain when his frigate — USS Chesapeake encountered the blockading Royal Navy frigate Shannon on his way to Boston. By this point, the United States of America was just 37 years old, and the War of 1812 presented a grave threat to the fledgling nation. Lawrence knew his duty, and he engaged the Shannon in one of the fiercest battles in



Kent Hansen

U.S. Navy history. Through the chaos and smoke, the Chesapeake was disabled by the British

ship, and Lawrence himself lay on her deck, mortally wounded by small arms fire. But he still managed to deliver a message to his men: "Don't give up the ship. Fight her till she sinks." He died of his wounds three days later after being captured by British forces, never seeing the United States ultimately prevail with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent a year later.



One hundred and twenty-eight years later, Doris "Dorie" Miller, a Messman Third Class, was collecting laundry aboard the battleship USS West Virginia when the alarms went off. He headed for his battle station, an anti-aircraft battery, only to find that it had been completely destroyed by a torpedo. In the chaos and confusion that surrounded him and all the other men at Pearl Harbor on that fateful day, Miller knew his duty and found the ship's captain with a serious wound in his abdomen from shrapnel, carrying him to a sheltered area on board. Following orders, he helped man anti-aircraft machine guns that he was not familiar with to battle the incoming Japanese aircraft. And when the attack subsided, he saved countless lives by moving injured sailors through oil and water and smoke. For his actions, he was awarded the Navy Cross a few months later, but the war was

nowhere near over. And despite his narrow escape during Pearl Harbor, Miller would fall in battle in 1943 after his ship was struck by a torpedo from a Japanese submarine.

Seventy-six years after Miller's heroic actions, it was just a normal day for Fire Controlman 1st Class Gary Leo Rehm Ir, aboard the destroyer USS Fitzgerald near the coast of Japan. Suddenly, a massive collision on the starboard side shook the entire ship. The vessel had inadvertently collided with a Philippine-flagged container ship. It was a devastating blow, cutting the Fitzgerald open below the waterline. Rehm knew his duty and sprang into action, and he was credited with saving the lives of at least 20 sailors. But Rehm he knew that there were still six sailors unaccounted for who were trapped in the flooded compartments below. And so down he went. The ship was taking on too much water, and the hatch had to be closed to save the vessel and everyone else aboard. Seven souls were later found in those compartments. But were it not for Rehm's actions, there would have been 27.



As we celebrate the U.S. Navy's birthday this month, let's remember that no matter what era in history, Navy sailors have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country. It's something we know in our heads but sometimes it's hard to fully grasp just what it takes to give one's life for others.

# <u>American Legion Auxiliary</u>



I hope some of you are able to enjoy our annual picnic this year. Thank you to all those who organized and helped out.

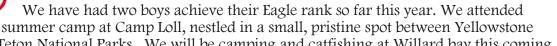
We are moving towards the holiday time of year. As a unit, we would like to continue to support the Ogden Homeless Veterans Fellowship by collecting bath towels and twin sheets. Also, for the annual Christmas store: for now they are only looking for gift Marcie Mojica cards. Please keep these in mind as you are shopping.



"Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause." Abraham Lincoln

### <u>Scoutmaster</u>

I won't try to sugar coat anything. Pushing forward with scouting in the COVID world has been a handful. Luckily, we have some wonderful adult leaders who have stepped forward and been positive for the youth. We have been meeting once again for the past couple months at the Centerville Sports Park under the pavilion. We will soon need to find another place to meet indoors for the winter.



and Grand Teton National Parks. We will be camping and catfishing at Willard bay this coming weekend (in the past by the time you receive this newsletter). Great times are had in scouting and we appreciate your support of the boys and the adult leaders. We couldn't do this without you."







**Brian Knox** 

### **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

\* EVERY LEGIONNAIRE SHOULD TAKE THIS! \*

### 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. Call for an appointment with a Service Officer at 801-662-8256.







www.bearnakedbodycare.com

#### Patronize Veteran's businesses.

### BE THE SOLUTION NOT THE PROBLEM. WEAR A MASK!



# Come one! Come all! Your Community & American Legion John W. Sheets Post 27, Farmington, Utah need you –

# or at least your blood. Giving Blood is Giving Life!

- Looking for a great reason to get out of your virus-imposed isolation while providing a vital public service?
- · Join your fellow Legionnaires in giving blood, plasma, or platelets.
- The need cannot be overstated!
- Every donation reflects on our Post to our community and the National office
- It shows the John Sheets American Legion Post 27 doesn't just stop helping others even in a pandemic!
- It is safe, vital, and a service to your community to be proud of
- Looking for location or how to schedule an appointment?
- It's just four easy steps...



#### **Through the American Red Cross:**

- 1. Go to www.redcross.org
- 2. Click on "Give Blood".
- 3. Click on "Find a Drive".
- 4. Enter zip code.



#### **Through ARUP:**

- 1. Go to www.utahblood.org
- 2. Click on "Schedule an Appointment".
- 3. Click on "Locate a Blood Drive".
- 4. Enter zip code.

If you have given before and this is nothing new; be proved, get out of your house, and keep up the effort to help your fellow man. If you have never donated, find out about donating, and give it a try. You won't regret it.

Contact: Bob Anderson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander American Legion John W. Sheets Post 27 – Farmington, UT (801) 347-8735



Legion Family Men	bersh	ip Coupons
The American Legion Membership Application		
(Name)       (Date of Birth)         (Mailing Address)       (Phone Number)         27       (If yone Number)         (City)       (State)       (Zip)         (E-mail)       (Bate of Birth)         (E-mail)       (Bate of Birth)         (E-mail)       (City)       (State)         (E-mail)       (City)       (State)         (E-mail)       (City)       (State)         (Bate of Birth)       (Dies)       (Dies)         (Gate of Birth)       (Dies)       (Dies)         (Bate of Birth)       (Dies)       (Dies)       (Die	From	Fill this out and get it to the Post Adjutant with \$35.00.
American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIO	N	
APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Name (First) (M.I.)	(Last)	
Address		
City State	ZIP	
	ail Address	
/ / Date of Birth ( <i>Required</i> ) Birth - 17 18 and over <u>27 Farmingto</u> Unit #	ocation	
Have you been a member previously?  Yes No (If yes, fill in below.)		
	# (if known)	- db-
Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18)	/ Date	
ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION		
Eligible Through-Name of Veteran (Female Veterans: List Your Own Name)		
If Living:		Fill this out and get it to the
American Legion Member ID # Post # City Deceased—If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records.	State	Unit Secretary with \$35.00.
For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records Veteran Served:		
WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)     Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):		
Global War on Terror     Panama     Vietnam     WWII     Gulf War     Lebanon/Grenada     Korea     Other Conflicts		
Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:	Self	
Daughter Granddaughter		
To Be Completed By The American Legion Post Adjutant/Officer I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above a or is still serving honorably.	nd was honorably discharged	
Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification	Date	
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIO	N	
Date Detachment ofBinh Date	-	
NameRecruited by(Initia) (Last)(Initia) (Last)	DUES RECEIPT     (Please Print)	
Address		
Veteran through whom eligibility is established	Dale	
(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No Department of On Al Above is a member in good standing of Post No Department of On Al Above is a member in good standing of Post No Department of	Received From	Fill this out and get it to the
OR (b) Abore is a deceased relatan who served honorably from to	\$Dues	Squadron Adjutant with
Has Applicant previously been a member of the SAL? Where?	Squadron No.	\$10.00.
I hereby subsorbe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and Canad Address Tenramit § for 20 annual members	ship dues	
Email Address In ear	Department of	10
		10