



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

THE AMERICAN LEGION
JOHN W. SHEETS POST 27
P.O. BOX 427
FARMINGTON, UT
84025
WWW.POST27.ORG

COMMANDER'S CALL

Greetings fellow veterans, family, and friends of The American Legion. I think we made it through most of the hot spells and I'm looking forward to a little cooler weather. In spite of the heat, Post 27 was still active with a few funerals for fellow veterans. We also conducted a Memorial Service on Sunday morning, September 11th in remembrance of the tragic terrorist attacks that



Jon Rue

fateful morning. My thanks to the Farmington Fire Department that participated with their ladder truck and giant American Flag.

On a brighter note, later that week we held our annual Post Picnic at Heritage Park. Once again, thank you to Frank Ferrante for organizing and coordinating the side dishes, Bob Anderson for reserving the Park facility, and Chris Decker for taking care of the Pulled Pork! It was delicious! I think once again we had close to 40 people sharing our comradery that evening.

A new event this month for Post 27 was hosting a reunion and awards presentation for the 321st Medical Detachment (HA) and Aviation Support Facility 24/Det 1. This group of aviators and support personnel usually get together annually for a reunion in a local park. This year in conjunction with their reunion they wanted to present the Utah Cold War Victory Medal and also Vietnam Recognition Pins to eligible members of their units. Utah is one of only four states to recognize veterans with a Cold War Victory Medal. It was an honor to host these veterans and the program. Reach out to me if you are interested in either of these awards.

In closing, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible during the October Meeting and also at Veteran's Day Ceremonies coming up in November.



Post 27 Family EVENTS CALENDAR



October 10 – Columbus Day. *Fly the flag.*
October 11 – Auxiliary Unit 27 meeting.
Davis County Memorial Courthouse, 7:00 pm
October 13 – U.S. Navy Birthday. *Fly the flag.*
October 13 – Post 27 Family General meeting.
Davis County Memorial Courthouse, 7:00 pm

November 10 – U.S. Marine Corps Birthday. *Semper Paratus!*
November 10 – Post 27 Family General meeting.
Davis County Memorial Courthouse, 7:00 pm
November 11 – Veterans Day. *Fly the flag.*
November 11 – Veterans Day Ceremony. 11:00 am,
Farmington Cemetery

1st Vice Commander

The Patriot Day (9/11) 2022 ceremony in front of Farmington City's Fire Department commemorated the victims and first responders who lost their lives during and after the tragic terrorist attacks. The ceremony went off beautifully, with 15 Legionnaires of Post 27 supporting the ceremony. Ironically, only one FCFD fireman was able to see it as they were all called out on a run just before the ceremony started. There were five observers also there, one of which was a retired New York policeman who survived the attacks. It was inspiring to have an actual hero of



Bob Anderson

9/11 see the ceremony. Thank you to all who participated and supported this solemn event.

We are busy planning the annual Post 27 Holiday party, planned for December 16. I would expect a flyer by direct email with details when we know the final details.

Veterans Day is coming up soon and the Post will be looking for maximum participation from the membership. There may be as many as three ceremonies we will support – Farmington, Kaysville, and Centerville. Let your friends, family, and even people whom you meet know so we can have a good showing of our support for our veterans past and present. Once again, details are pending.



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.

Keep talking up The American Legion, SAL, and the Auxiliary! Tell everyone The American Legion is worth being a part of.

2nd Vice Commander



Dan Woodward

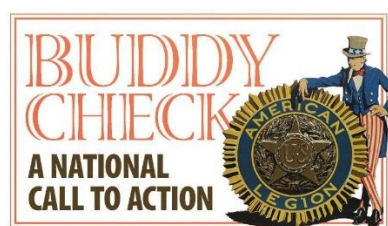
Who doesn't like a good march? October 1, 1880. John Philip Sousa was appointed leader of the United States Marine Band. Born in 1854 this composer is primarily known for his American military marches. He enlisted in the Marine Corps at age 13! There, he was an apprentice musician. As the leader for the Marine Band, he brought it up to be the

country's premier military band. During WW1, he was appointed a Lieutenant Commander and led the Naval Reserve Band in Illinois. Here is a fine American who focused his efforts to promote and celebrate his country through music.



I think we have all passed in review to one of these grand songs. How can you not pick up your step when you hear one of his marches? If we can all endeavor to celebrate and praise this country, this will be a better place to live. However, that is, it is up to you to find that path. It certainly starts with being part of the American Legion. Consider helping out with the upcoming Oratorical Program! Participate in the Military Funeral Honors! Whatever you do, it will certainly help promote Americanism, just as John Philip Sousa did.

Call a Buddy TODAY!



Adjutant

Membership is our Lifeblood!



Dale Crockett

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

2023 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
134	20	38	17		5	80	60%

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

2023 GOAL		REGULAR		NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
34		23		1		24	71%

After three months since our membership drive started, we are up to 60% for The Legion and 71% for the Sons. Our strength is our members. Every member and every membership counts. In a white letter that was sent out to all Post Commanders and Adjutants, the Department Commander, Doug Case, has a goal to make significant strides in turning our membership around and time is of the essence. He would like to see every member renew by the end of the year, December 31, 2022, for the 2023 membership year.

He states, "I thank you for your service and membership in the American legion. As we embark on a 104th year as our country's largest wartime veteran's organization, I think it fitting to pause and reflect on some of the many challenges that those who preceded us overcome. In 1919, little could they imagine a second world war, the great depression, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq & Afghanistan, not to mention putting a man on the moon and the digital technology that we enjoy today.

Our founders created our preamble in 1919 and since its adoption; it has been our guiding light, laying down a concise set of principles that continue to challenge each of us to live up to something bigger than self." His objective is to advocate for every member and strive to welcome all-hands into the Legion family. I urge the 40% of the legion and the 29% of the Sons to quickly send in your renewals so we can get to our 100% goal. Every member is valued, as is every membership.

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. You can also Venmo me to renew @Dale-Crockett-7 if you have the app.

Chaplain

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

George Washington Parke Custis, grandson of Martha Washington and adopted grandson of George Washington, acquired the land that now is Arlington National Cemetery in 1802, and began construction of Arlington House, which was ultimately named after the village of Arlington, Gloucestershire, England, where his family was originally from. The estate passed to Custis's daughter, Mary Anna, who had married United States Army officer Robert E. Lee.



Steve Steed

When Virginia seceded from the Union after the start of the American Civil War at Fort Sumter, Robert E. Lee resigned his commission on April 20, 1861, and ultimately took command of the armed forces of the Confederate States of America.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, most military personnel who died in battle near Washington, D.C., were buried at the United States Soldiers' Cemetery in Washington, D.C., or Alexandria Cemetery in Alexandria, Virginia, but by late 1863 both were nearly full. On July 16, 1862, Congress passed legislation authorizing the U.S. federal government to purchase land for national cemeteries for military dead, It was determined that Arlington Estate was the most suitable property in the area. The property was high and free from floods and had a view of the District of Columbia. It was also the home of the leader of the armed forces of the Confederate States of America



and denying Robert E. Lee use of his home after the war was a valuable political consideration. The first military burial at Arlington, for William Henry Christman, was made on May 13, 1864, Arlington did not desegregate its burial practices until President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order 9981 on July 26, 1948

The government acquired Arlington at a tax sale in 1864 for \$26,800, equal to \$464,324

today. Mrs. Lee had not appeared in person but rather had sent an agent, attempting to pay the \$92.07 in property taxes (equal to \$1,595 today) assessed on the estate in a timely manner. The government turned away her agent, refusing to accept the tendered payment. In 1874, Custis Lee, heir under his grandfather's will passing the estate in trust to his mother, sued the United States, claiming ownership of Arlington. On December 9, 1882, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5–4 in Lee's favor in *United States v. Lee*, deciding that Arlington had been confiscated without due process. After that decision, Congress returned the estate to him, and on March 3, 1883, Custis Lee sold it back to the government for \$150,000 (equal to \$3,701,364 in 2022) at a signing ceremony with Secretary of War Robert Todd Lincoln. The land then became a military reservation

Funerals, including interments and inurnments, average between 27 and 30 per day. The cemetery conducts approximately 6,900 burials each year. Part 553 (Army National Military Cemeteries) of Title 32 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) establishes regulations for the cemetery, including eligibility for interment (ground burial) and inurnment. Due to limited space, the criteria for ground burial eligibility are more restrictive than at other national cemeteries.

Respectful silence is requested at the Arlington National Cemetery.

For Your Information

 AMERICAN
LEGION

BE THE ONE

- Today, the #1 issue facing those who served is **veteran suicide**.
 - **Let's stop talking about how many veterans we are losing and start talking about The One we can save.**
- The stigma associated with mental health issues is a barrier to veterans seeking assistance. They fear loss of their job, think they can handle their situation themselves, or don't think others can understand their situation.
 - The American Legion is activating a national ad campaign to **destigmatize** mental health issues. Make it okay for veterans to ask for help.
- Family members may be the first to recognize the signs that their veteran needs help, but they may lack the knowledge of how to approach the situation.
 - The American Legion will increase **peer-to-peer education and resources** for local communities. (Example: Buddy Check)
- There are several innovative programs either funded by the government or private non-governmental organizations that help veterans in crisis, but they often lack funding or broad-based visibility. (Example: Digital Therapeutics, One More Day)
 - The American Legion has begun exploring ways to help these organizations amplify their efforts, in turn helping save **more** veterans.

PUBLIC

The American Legion needs your help in ending veteran suicide.

Be the One to:

- **Ask** veterans in your life how they are doing.
- **Listen** when a veteran needs to talk.
- **Reach out** when a veteran is struggling.
- **Sign up** for email updates: betheone.org.

VETERAN

Be the One to:

- **Talk** to others about how you are feeling.
- **Ask** for help when you know you need it.

If you are a veteran in crisis:

- **Call 988** and press 1.
- www.veteranscrisisline.net

Historian



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, U.S. NAVY

Our Navy was born 247 years ago. To help the old salts among us celebrate, here are a few nautical tidbits about our sea service.

The Stories Behind Navy Tattoos

Tattoos are often used by Navy sailors to symbolize significant moments or accomplishments during their service. For hundreds of years, sailors have joined in the longstanding cultural tradition of tattooing themselves as a way to

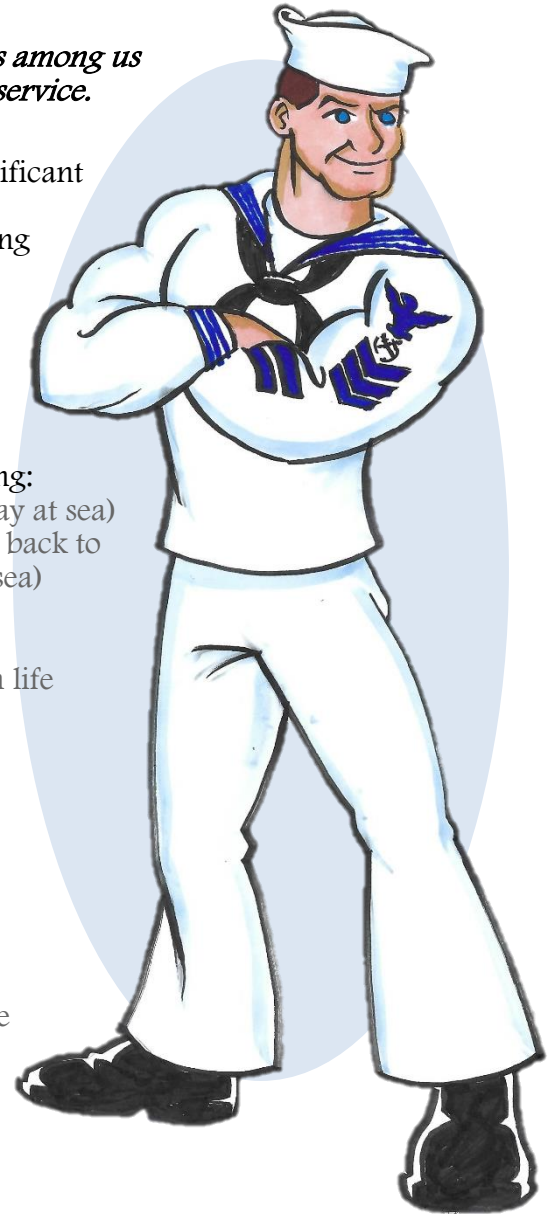
Kent Hansen show

where they'd been and what they'd gone through during their service.

Today, the Navy is the least restrictive U.S. military branch in terms of tattoo regulations. Here is a short (and far from comprehensive)

list of images often used in tattoos by Navy sailors, as well as their meaning:

- **Swallows:** Home (each tattooed swallow denotes 5,000 miles underway at sea)
- **Compass/Nautical Star:** Worn so that one would never lose their way back to port (each compass/nautical star denotes 10,000 miles underway at sea)
- **Trident:** Special warfare
- **Rose:** A significant other left at home
- **Twin screws or props on one's backside:** Propels one forward through life
- **Rope:** Deckhand (often tattooed on the left wrist)
- **Octopus:** Navy diver
- **Dolphin:** Wards off sharks
- **Sharks:** Rescue swimmer
- **Polar Bear:** Sailed the Arctic Circle
- **Dragon:** Sailed the Pacific
- **Fouled Anchor:** Sailed the Atlantic
- **Shellback Turtle:** Crossed the equator
- **Gold Dragon:** Crossed the International Dateline
- **Gold Turtle:** Crossed the International Dateline and the Equator where they intersect
- **Emerald Fouled Anchor:** Crossed the Prime Meridian
- **Emerald Turtle:** Crossed the Prime Meridian and the Equator where they intersect
- **Full-Rigged Ship:** Sailed around Cape Horn
- **Helm:** Quartermaster
- **Hula Girls:** Sailed to, or ported in, Hawaii
- **Dagger Through a Swallow:** Signifies a lost comrade
- **Pig and Chicken/Rooster:** Superstition to keep from drowning
- **The Words "HOLD FAST":** Signifies a deckhand's tight grip on the lines



**SGT.
SAGE
SEZ**

When you're short of everything
but the enemy, you're in combat.

POW/MIA News

Fourteen known Americans are held overseas. As of Sept 1, 2022, the number of Americans Missing and Unaccounted for from the Vietnam War remains at 1,582. There are 81,614 still unaccounted for US Military personnel since 1941.



Jay Hess

Americans Held Overseas

NAME	WHERE	CHARGE	DATE	AGE	DETAILS
Austin Tice	Syria Damascus	Kidnapped	8/2012	31	Former US Marine kidnapped while freelance reporting in Damascus on uprising against Syrian President Bashar al-Assad
Emad Shargi	Iran Tehran	Espionage	1/2021	56	Iranian American businessman. Sentenced to ten years without trial.
David Barnes	Russia Moscow	Criminal activity in U.S. Child abuse	1/2022	65	Alabama native. Accusation bewilders family, American prosecutors, local congressman. Ex-Russian wife took children illegally to Russia. Child custody dispute. Trial Oct 26.
Brittney Griner	Russia Moscow	Drug possession	2/2022	31	Houston native, plays professional basketball for the Phoenix Mercury. Sentenced 9 years, Maybe prisoner swap for Viktor Bout, Russian arms dealer
Paul Whelan	Russia	Espionage	12/2018	52	Former Marine. May be released with Brittney Griner. Michigan-based corporate security executive. Sentenced to 16 years hard labor 6/2020
Marc Fogel	Russia	Drug smuggler	8/2021	60	American teaching International Baccalaureate history courses at schools attended by the children of U.S. diplomats in Colombia, Venezuela, Oman, Malaysia and, for the past 10 years, in Russia. Sentenced 14 years in June
Sarah Krivanek	Russia	Assault	2021	46	Colorado Teacher. Retaliated when her abusive, drunk Russian boyfriend beat her by cutting his nose
Kai Li	China	Espionage	2018	60	Long Island resident. Sentenced 10 years . U.N. stated he was denied due process and asked for his immediate release. He suffered a stroke in captivity.
Matthew Heath	Venezuela	Terrorist plot to sabotage oil refineries	2020	40	US Marine veteran from Knoxville
Mark Randall Frerichs	Afghanistan	kidnapped	2020	60	Civil Engineer, former US Navy diver. Seen in video pleading for his release.
Baquer & Siamak Nazami	Iran	Spying Collaborating w/foreign government	2015	75 51	Father & son, son is Iranian-American businessman. Sentenced 10/2016 to 10 years in prison
Suedi Murekezi	Pro-Russian Ukraine	Captured	7/2022	35	8-year USAF veteran Rwanda-born Minnesota resident. Living in Ukraine past 2 years.
Lt Ridge Alkonis, USN	Japan	Car accident killed 2 Japanese	5/2021	29	California native, Naval Academy, LDS mission to Japan. Sentence \$1.65 M to victims' relatives, 3 years jail.

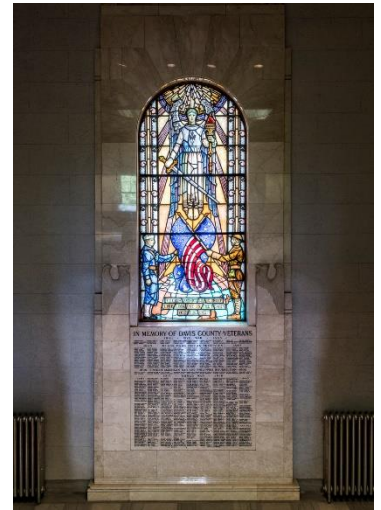
American Legion Auxiliary



Deb Hansen

Our Unit is amazing! Thank you to all who have renewed your membership! Paula takes very good care of us and our membership information and renewals! We are on track to get another 100% award so let's get all our renewals in!

Our October meeting is October 11 at 7 pm at our newly remodeled home! The old Davis County Courthouse! If it's dark when we adjourn, you can see the beautiful stained glass on the south side enhanced by the interior light!



We are gathering items for the Veterans Christmas Shopping event which will be held in late November. It is a wonderful event to "work" at! We will get you more info on how to do that.. but for now, any new presents you might have to donate would be very appreciated!!

Thank you for all you do! We will talk about recording our service hours at our meeting!

Legion Laffs BY KENT HANSEN



Check us out on Facebook at

"American Legion Post 27 Farmington Utah"



or the link from our Post website at

www.post27.org



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: 801-662-8256.

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

