



# THE AMERICAN LEGION

## POST 27 / SQUADRON 27

### NEWSLETTER

#### FARMINGTON, UTAH

DAVIS COUNTY MEMORIAL COURTHOUSE, ROOM 116, 28 EAST STATE STREET, FARMINGTON

September 2015

STILL SERVING AMERICA

www.post27.org

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

It's Patriot Day EVERY Day!



**Kent Hansen**

On September 11, 2001, evil Jihadists crashed two passenger jets into the twin towers of the World Trade Center. Soon after, another crashed into the Pentagon, while still another aimed at the White House, went down in a field

because of the action of heroic passengers. The numb nation was rattled but determined that this vile deed would not go unpunished. Instead of collapsing, as the terrorists expected, the United States did what it always does as Americans rose to their feet more determined than ever to defend the principles of freedom. It wasn't long before the very day of that dastardly attack was proclaimed as Patriot Day, a day of remembrance and a day of rededication.

For many Americans, one day to be a patriot seems hardly enough. From the first shots in 1775 right up to today, patriotic men and women have donned the uniform identifying them as servicemen and women. They have answered the call at Bunker Hill, the Battle of New Orleans, Gettysburg, San Juan Hill, the Argonne, Normandy, Chosin Reservoir, Khe Sahn, Baghdad and Kandahar.

Today, as ever, many of our children and grandchildren are clad in desert cammies and stand as brave sentinels against a cowardly but determined enemy. This distasteful duty requires courage, stamina, alertness and the intestinal fortitude to put others needs before their own. We veterans welcome the post-9/11 generation of soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines because we know that they are our brothers and sisters in arms. Though our wars may be different, we share a brotherhood that few civilians can ever understand. And that's okay. We get it! Let the rest of the country celebrate patriotism once a year. But for we veterans, every day is Patriot Day.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **September 7 – Labor Day.** Fly the flag!
- **September 11 -- Post Picnic.** 6:00 pm, Freedom Hills Park, 2150 North 150 East, Centerville.
- **September 11 – Patriot Day.** Fly the flag!
- **September 25 – Military Retiree Appreciation Day.** Hill AFB, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Free flu shots.
- **October 8 – Post Meeting.** 6:30 pm, new Kaysville Library Auditorium, 44 North Main Street, Kaysville. Boys and Girls Staters will report.
- **October 12 – Columbus Day.** Fly the flag!
- **October 31 – Halloween.** Trick or treat!

## 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE COMMANDER



Frank Ferrante

### THE AMERICAN LEGION PREAMBLE

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 next few months I would like to review each clause separately.

# Americanism

### 3. TO FOSTER AND PERPETUATE A 100 PERCENT AMERICANISM...

Americanism is the gist of the American ideals of freedom, justice, individual rights and unfenced-in opportunities. It embraces all the freedoms we cherish and all the rights that are guaranteed to us. It is the very opposite of hatred, bigotry and intolerance. Americanism is the creed that has blazed the world-wide trail for justice, fair play, and decency, belief in God, private enterprise, universal education, and progress in all human endeavors. It puts a premium on the virtues of loyalty, patriotism, hard work and thrift.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE COMMANDER

September 17<sup>th</sup> is Constitution Day and all that week is Constitution Week. Ask your schools if



there are any special activities or lessons being done during that week. There are many online activities that you and your family can do during that week that will help you to learn more about the Founding Fathers, history and the Constitution. As I have been reading the Constitution and the things that have led to the development of this great document I have come to the realization that if you just study the mechanics and not the spirit behind it you are missing the greatest part. As John Adams put it "Our

Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

As we look at the news of the day it appears that the teaching of morals has been removed from the schools. With the distractions of the family—making a living, education, after school programs, sports on weekends, etc.—it is hard to get the family together to teach these values. Since there is also a decline in church attendance, it is obvious that the country is in a moral decline. There is a video that I recommend everyone to see it is called [“Words of wisdom from a Marxist.”](#) The last part of the video is a statement that says “Because if you take away religion, you can’t hire enough police.”

Ben Franklin was asked after leaving the Constitutional Convention in 1787 "Well, Doctor, what have we got, a Republic or a Monarchy?" And his reply was "A Republic, if you can keep it." As we continue to study the Constitution, let’s remember to think of the spirit behind it and the intent of the forefathers.



Kenneth Hadlev

## ADJUTANT/ EAGLE SCOUT COURTS OF HONOR

### Membership is Our Lifblood



Dale Crockett

*Membership.* Statistics are membership numbers through 1 Sep 2015.

2016 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2015 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
TBD	7	31	13	0	0	51	

**Fifty one Legionnaires** have paid their dues so far. Fifty five Legionnaires still have not paid. The membership price will be increased by \$5 per year by January 20, 2016, so I would love to get the rest of the membership cards out to you as soon as possible. The increase is needed to fulfill the Legion’s mission to assist veterans, troops, youth and those coming home from war. Nearly a decade has passed since the American Legion’s last national per-capita dues increase. During that span, the U.S. cost of living has climbed 13 percent. The National Executive Committee passed a resolution at the 2015 Spring Meeting in Indianapolis to recommend a \$5 per-capita annual increase in national membership dues. From July 1, 2015 to the end of the year you can renew and have the early bird stamp on your 2016 membership card. It is also time to start talking to those around you that have served during a war period to join the American Legion. I believe with all your help, we can exceed the 107% that we had this last year. As always, you may renew by sending your \$30 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).***

**Department of Utah Belt Buckle Pin.** A pin version of the William E. “Bill” Christoffersen “BIG BEE” 50 Years Commemorative Belt Buckles is NEW and is currently available. These beautiful pins are 1 ½ inches across and are an excellent addition to your Legion hat or lapel. We continue to celebrate Bill Christoffersen’s 50 years as the Department of Utah National Executive Committeeman and his long standing support of the American Legion Utah Boys State Program. If you are interested in obtaining one or more of these pins, please let me or Chuck Stephenson know. The cost for the pin is \$10. All profits from the sale of the pins will go to the American Legion Utah Boys State William E. Christoffersen Scholarship Fund. A scholarship will be awarded to each of the two young men elected as Boys Nation Senators each summer at Utah Boys State.



## SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

**September signals** the start of the fall season. Kids are back in school, and Friday Night Light’s signals football is in the air. The last official Holiday of the summer is fast upon us. Regardless of the season, Post 27 of the American Legion continues to serve the families and communities where we are asked to provide ceremonies and honors in remembrance of are fallen comrades. The Executive Committee of Post 27 wants to thank all of you for the service you have rendered this year in community activities and for honoring our fallen with Military Funeral Honors. Without you, Post 27 cannot operate and achieve the recognition we to receive. We need all of us to meet the endless demands we are asked to perform. Let us remember when we are asked to participate in Post 27 duties, some were asked to give all. 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.



David Layton

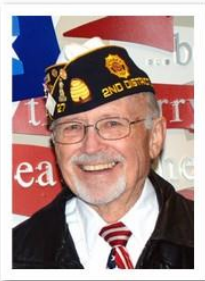
## CHAPLAIN



William Huber

"For God and Country we associate ourselves for the following purposes" These are the opening words of the Preamble to the American Legion Constitution. We recite them at the beginning of all our official meetings. They carry a powerful meaning establishing priorities; acknowledge the hand of the Lord in our lives and the founding of this land. Our precious Constitution preserves the right to Worship God or not to worship him according to the dictates of our consciences. We swore an oath to uphold it against all enemies both foreign and domestic. Although most of us may no longer serve on the battle fronts as active military, we can still do our part in voicing our support of the US Constitution and the freedoms it has preserved through the honored service rendered to it by the citizens of this blessed land. On September 17<sup>th</sup> we celebrate Constitution Day sometimes now referred to as Citizenship Day. May we ever be mindful of the blessing we have to live under such a Constitution and do our part in upholding it always.

## FINANCIAL OFFICER/MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS



John Sheets

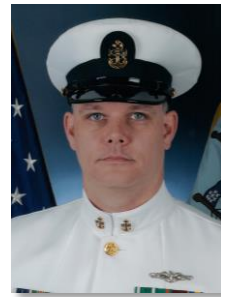
I take a bit of pride in being known by some Post members as a bit of "Scrooge". Reminding myself and others that we revitalized Post 27 in 2005 with our Bank account of \$4.60 in a cigar box. I believe that support of "Children and Youth" events (Boys and Girls State, Oratorical programs, Flag education) and events and needs of Veterans "Veterans Affairs" are of the utmost importance for our support. That being said, I take pleasure in reporting to you that your "Executive Committee" in its last meeting in August approved the request of the Director, Chris Baker of the "Davis Applied Technology Center" (DATC) for seven indoor flag poles cost \$359.25.

The Veterans Center has recently been added as a resource for "young Veterans" attending the DATC to increase their skills and learn a trade. This is a support for Veterans that is close to home; DATC campus in Kaysville. There may be other ways that, we as Post members, will be able to support. The official opening of the Veterans Center will be on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> where the flag poles will be presented, with Governor Herbert officiating, mark your calendars and be there (time to be determined).

## JAKE GARN SEA CADET SQUADRON NEWS



August drill saw the Jake Garn Squadron drilling at Pineview Reservoir with the Department of Public Safety Dive Team. The DPS Dive team is the state-level team responsible for body recovery in lakes and reservoirs within Utah. This elite team spent Saturday teaching the cadets about the complexities of body recovery, including dive techniques and SONAR. Cadets went out on the DPS dive boat and saw the SONAR, first-hand. Divers actively demonstrated the use of their equipment, in the water, and cadets participated in various hands-on activities, including a cold water demonstration and a "blind-folded" find the victim lesson. Lunch was provided, and served, by the Department of Public Safety, Commissioner, Keith Squires, who just happens to be one of our Sea Cadet Instructors. That evening, the squadron camped at Pineview, courtesy of the American Legion, Post 129, and retired several U.S. flags. It was quite an emotional ceremony. The next day, the cadets mustered early for PT, attended poisonous animal training and conducted field exercises. Drill was concluded with an awards ceremony which included the presentation of Plank Owner certificates for the cadets and adult leaders who joined the program within its inaugural year. It was a great drill and we could not have done it without the great support of American Legion, Post 129 and the Department of Public Safety.



Courtney Putnam



## SGT. SAGE SEZ



When the pin  
is pulled,  
Mr. Grenade  
is not our friend.

- USMC

## LEGION LAFFS



### Take advantage of Post 27's Veterans Outreach Program

Every second and fourth 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 Larry Dawson at 801-326-2370.

*Be sure to bring a copy of your DD-214 or other discharge certificate.*



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).