

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! We have successfully moved-in to our office and storage space in the refurbished Davis County Memorial Courthouse!! Thank you to those that pitched in to move items, especially the heavy safe, and to our Adjutant Dale Crockett for spending some time gathering the remaining items and



**Jon Rue**



temporarily storing it in a shed on his property. But the most important thanks must go to our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander, Bob Anderson, for his extensive work behind the scenes with the county personnel and the County Director of Facilities.

As a Legion Family we have once again been active in supporting veterans and their families with our Honor Guard, the Auxiliary's two service projects (which will be discussed later in this newsletter), and planning for other activities.

Speaking of the Honor Guard, our group will participate with the Farmington Fire Department for 9/11 remembrances early on Sunday, September 11. All are welcome to attend and pay respects.

Plans are currently underway for our Annual Picnic in September on Friday the 16 at Heritage Park in FARMINGTON. Please RSVP to Frank so we know how much meat to provide!

How is your flag? Is it worn? Soiled? Ripped or tattered? Post 27 can help! We have US Flags in a variety of sizes and materials at reasonable prices. We greatly need to reduce our overflowing inventory. Please reach out to our Dale Crockett for information.

In closing, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the picnic!!

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



The 21st anniversary of the vicious terrorist attacks on our nation will be observed on September 11. We plan to have a ceremony for Farmington City at the Farmington City Fire Department 6:30 to 8:00 am. Everyone who can, please come out and remember that fateful day; the many people who suffered and the many heroes that stepped forward to help them.

We've had a great effort in contacting our fellow Legionnaires through Buddy Checks. If you haven't been contacted lately, you should be soon. For all our Buddy Checkers, thank you for making an effort to make our Post 27 members welcome and appreciated.



## EVENTS CALENDAR

September 5—Labor Day. *Fly the flag.*  
 September 11 – Patriot Day. *Fly the flag.*  
 September 16 – POW/MIA Recognition Day. *Fly the flag.*  
 September 16 – Post 27 Family Picnic. Heritage Park,  
 1591 North 1075 West, Farmington, 5:00 pm

October 10 – Columbus Day. *Fly the flag.*  
 October 13 – U.S. Navy Birthday. *Fly the flag.*  
 October 18 –Post 27 Family General meeting.  
 Davis County Memorial Courthouse, 7:00 pm

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

September 2, 1945. VJ Day. Victory over Japan and the end of WWII with the signing of the surrender documents on the USS Missouri. I can't even imagine how those Citizen Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen felt, but I know how their journeys started. They all took that awesome step and volunteer to end the tyranny that was sweeping the world. They completed that mission. And at great cost, to some.



Everyone receiving this newsletter has a similar beginning to their own journey. You all took that leap and decided to put the Constitution and this Country over your own self. This gives you the title Veteran. A retired CA ARNG LTC I know posted a definition of what a Veteran is. The descriptions are wide and varied. Here are some: As young men and women we said goodbye to what we knew and embarked for the unknown. Some of us saw combat, and some did not. Some travelled far and saw the world, and some not so far. We made new



**Dan Woodward**

friends. We all became brothers and sisters. Some of us never came home. But all are entitled to be called Veteran.

This year we will be having our Post Oratorical contest on January 26, 2023. We have powerful Constitutional topics: Amendments VI, X, XIV and XVI. Dealing with the right to a speedy trial, states' rights, naturalization and taxes. Great amendments to our Constitution. Please consider helping out that day and support our young students talking about the Freedoms that each of you swore an oath to defend. Thank you!

## Adjutant

**Welcome to the newest members of Post 27**  
**Paul Clawson, Thomas J. Cowan**  
**& Melvin Ives**



**Dale Crockett**

**Membership is our Lifeblood!**



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

2023 GOAL	PUFL	REGULAR	ONLINE	NEW	TRANSFERS	2023 TOTAL	PERCENT OF GOAL
134	20	34	17		5	76	57%

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

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

Our post has American flags for sale. We sell them at a great price/donation. The 30”X48” banner flag that mounts using a bracket that screws onto the house is \$10. The metal bracket is \$10. The printed 3X5 flags are \$5. The embroidered 3X5 flags are \$10. The 4X6 flags are \$20. The 5X8 flags are \$30. The 5X9.5 casket flags are \$45. We have hundreds of 2’X3.5” Shirt size flag patches for \$1.50. We have 4”X6” and mini 2”X3” celebration flags mounted on a stick at a very low cost. I think we even have a 15’X25’ flag where we can negotiate a fair price. We also have a number of out-of-state flags and some flags from other countries. The list is too long, so ask and we can let you know which ones we have. We are not trying to make a big profit, but the sale of these flags go to support the programs that we sponsor. It’s like making a donation to us and getting a nice prize.

***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](mailto:dalescrockett@yahoo.com). You can also Venmo me to renew @Dale-Crockett-7 if you have the app.***

## **For Your Information**

# 988

### **988 SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE GOES LIVE**

No veteran, military, or family member should go through a crisis alone. **The Veterans Crisis Line number – dial 988 then press 1.** The 988 universal telephone number for national suicide prevention and mental health hotline officially went live on July 16, 2022. All telecommunications carriers must provide access to 988. This option will direct calls to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, a switchboard that provides free crisis counseling and emotional support to callers. This will serve as a universal entry point so that can reach a trained counselor who can provide care no matter where you live.

## **Chaplain**

There are several legends concerning the origin of "Taps". The most widely circulated one states that a Union Army infantry officer, whose name often is given as Captain Robert Ellicombe, first ordered "Taps" performed at the funeral of his son, a Confederate soldier killed during the Peninsula Campaign. This apocryphal story claims that Ellicombe found the tune in the pocket of his son's clothing and performed it to honor his memory.

That Daniel Butterfield composed "Taps" has been sworn to by numerous reputable witnesses including his bugler Norton, who first performed the tune. While scholars continue to debate whether or not the tune was original or based on an earlier melody, few researchers doubt that Butterfield is responsible for the current tune.

Another, perhaps more historically verifiable, account of "Taps" first being used in the context of a military funeral involves John C. Tidball, a Union artillery captain who during a break in fighting ordered the tune sounded for a deceased soldier in lieu of the more traditional—and much less discreet—three volley tribute. Army Col. James A. Moss, in an Officer's Manual initially published in 1911, reports the following:



Steve Steed

During the Peninsula Campaign in 1862, a soldier of Tidball's Battery A of the 2nd Artillery was buried at a time when the battery occupied an advanced position concealed in the woods. It was not safe to fire the customary three volleys over the grave, on account of the proximity of the enemy, and it occurred to Capt. Tidball that the sounding of Taps would be the most appropriate ceremony that could be substituted.

While not necessarily addressing the origin of "Taps", this does represent the first recorded instance of "Taps" being sounded as part of a military funeral. Until then, while the tune had meant that the soldiers' day of work was finished, it had little to none of the connotation or overtone of death, with which it so often is associated today.

"Taps" is a bugle call – a signal, not a song. As such, there is no associated lyric. Many bugle calls had words associated with them as a mnemonic device, but these are not lyrics. A Horace Lorenzo Trim wrote a set of words intended to accompany the music:

Day is done, gone the sun,  
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky;  
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Fading light, dims the sight,  
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright.  
From afar, drawing nigh, falls the night.

Thanks and praise, for our days,  
'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, neath the sky;

As we go, this we know, God is nigh.

Sun has set, shadows come,  
Time has fled, Scouts must go to their beds  
Always true to the promise that they made.

While the light fades from sight,  
And the stars gleaming rays softly send,  
To thy hands we our souls, Lord, commend.

## Historian



Kent Hansen

### No Man to Mess With

Everyone in the neighborhood knew it. Each morning, the old man would putter out to the 21-foot flagpole in front of his Virginia home and reverently raise the American flag to the top of the staff and each evening, he would retrieve it, folding it, according the U.S. flag code, into a star-spangled triangle.

What could be more right? What could be more American?



Well, it seems that the members of the old man's home owner's association took exception and decided that the pole diminished the neighborhood curb appeal and directed him to take it down. Now, in the history of bad group decisions, this one easily leaps into the top ten.

What the HOA perceived was a feeble 90-year-old man. What they didn't see was that this old man was retired Col. Van T. Barfoot, Medal of Honor recipient and veteran of World War II, Korea and Vietnam. So, after refusing to surrender to the demands, the HOA brought in their law firm to demand compliance. Had the lawyers done their homework, they might have thought better of trying to flex their legal muscle on this tough, old Texan.

Even before the start of WW II, Barfoot joined the Army Infantry and by 1944, he was in Italy taking on a machine gun nest, all alone. His buddies were under a hail of fire and the only way to save them was to hot-foot it through a mine field and destroy the machine gun.

So, he did.



And since he was there, he took out two more machine guns and captured 17 Nazi prisoners. When three German tanks took exception to Barfoot's actions and attempted to retake the field, he knocked them out, too, justifiably earning him the Medal of Honor. But he would store away the pale blue-ribboned medal to climb back into olive drab to fight in Korea and Vietnam before retiring in 1974.

If mines, machine guns and Nazi tanks didn't scare him, what chance does a suburban HOA have? Barfoot quietly explained to the reporters, "In the time I have left, I plan to fly the flag without interference." Then came the letter of intimidation from the HOA's law firm. He would either remove the flagpole or be sued for violating the neighborhood's restrictive covenants.

This time though, Barfoot didn't have to face the enemy alone. His story had hit the media and had gone viral. A powerhouse Virginia law firm offered to take Barfoot's case *pro bono*. Virginia Senator Mark Warner weighed in to help and even his old unit, the 157<sup>th</sup> Infantry rallied around him.

Everyone loves a good Hollywood happy ending, so here's one. The homeowner's association lost the lawsuit (no surprise) and because of the attention brought on by the story, the Virginia legislature introduced a bill that would prevent HOAs from banning flagpoles unless they could prove they caused harm. Good luck with that.

Col. Barfoot quietly continued to raise his precious flag every day until his death in 2012, just two years after his victory in the Battle of the Flag Pole.



Deb Hansen

## **American Legion Auxiliary**

What a great month we have had as a Unit!! It was awesome to meet in the remodeled Davis County building. Thank you to all those who came to our August meeting!

We also completed two service projects. Chris Backer spearheaded our Stuffed Animals for First Responders and wow...we had a huge bag of stuffed animals for the Farmington Fire Department to have when they need one for a child! The bag was so large that John, Chris' husband, took the task of carrying it in to the Fire Station! Our second project was to provide 24 backpacks for the children of Farmington Elementary. Thanks to Marlys Jugenitz for scooping up 24 adorable backpacks (on sale!) and being the inspiration for that project. Thank you for all who donated items for the backpacks and the stuffed animals! Our next project will be our Food Drive for the Airmen's Attic at Hill...stay tuned!

Welcome to two new members! Fran Coughlan and Brandy Tilt! We look forward to serving with you!

The Picnic is September 16 and details are in this newsletter! I'm so grateful to serve with such amazing people!



# Legion Lafts BY KENT HANSEN

I JUST WANTED TO INVITE YOU  
TO JOIN THE AMERICAN LEGION  
... OR IS THIS A BAD TIME?



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

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.***





**THE AMERICAN LEGION**



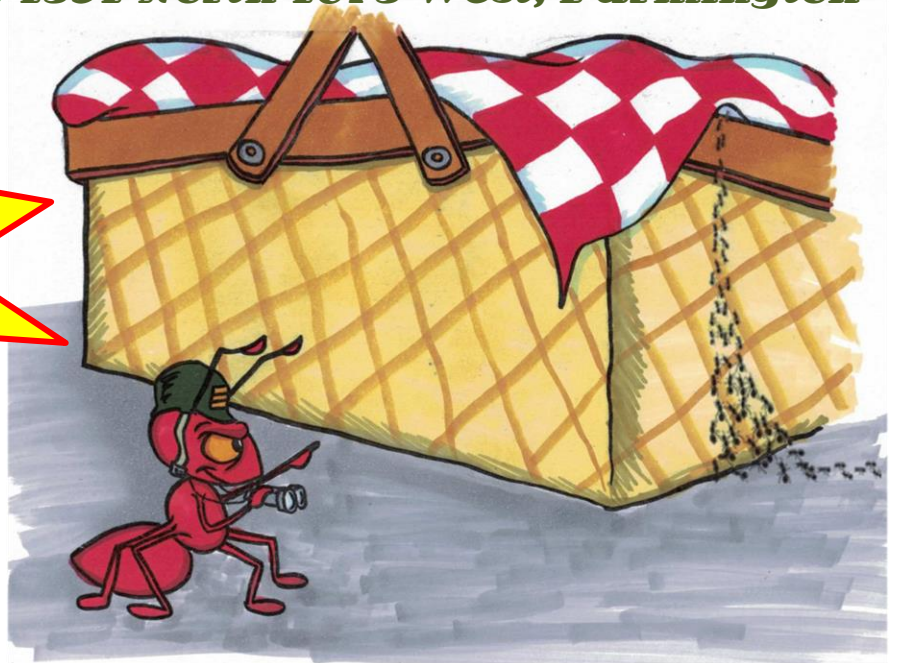
**JOHN W. SHEETS POST 27**  
**FARMINGTON, UT**



# Annual Picnic

**Friday, September 16**  
**5:00 pm**

**Heritage Park, 1591 North 1075 West, Farmington**



Please **RSVP** no later than **September 9**  
to **Frank Ferrante (801) 589-3292** or email [bferrante@aol.com](mailto:bferrante@aol.com)  
and sign up to bring a side dish or dessert.  
**Meat provided by Post 27**

# Legion Family Membership Coupons

**The American Legion Membership Application**

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date of Birth) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Mailing Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone Number) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_ (Post #) **27**  
 (E-mail) \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female **\$35.00**  
 (Gender) (Dues)

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.  
**Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below**

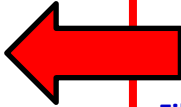
Global War on Terror  U.S. Army  
 Gulf War  U.S. Navy  
 Panama  U.S. Air Force  
 Lebanon/Grenada  U.S. Marines  
 Vietnam  U.S. Coast Guard  
 Korea  Merchant Marines (WWII only)  
 WWII  
 Other Conflicts

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Name of recruiter \_\_\_\_\_

**Receipt of Dues**  
 (Please Print)  
 From \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$ **\$35.00** for Post # **27**  
 Recruiter's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recruiter's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recruiter's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_



Fill this out and get it to the Post Adjutant with \$35.00.



**American Legion Auxiliary MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (M.I.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth (Required)  Birth - 17  18 and over **27 Farmington, UT**  
 Unit # \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Have you been a member previously?  Yes  No (If yes, fill in below.)  
 Previous Unit City/State \_\_\_\_\_ ALA ID # (if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
 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: American Legion Member ID # \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Deceased—If veteran is deceased, contact ALA unit about the necessary military records.  
 For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: [www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records)

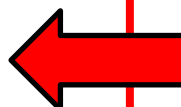
**Veteran Served:**  
 WWI (4/6/1917-11/11/1918)  
 Anytime After 12/7/1941 (check all that apply):  
 Global War on Terror  Panama  Vietnam  WWII  
 Gulf War  Lebanon/Grenada  Korea  Other Conflicts

**Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:**  
 Male Spouse  Female Spouse  Mother  Grandmother  Sister  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 and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.  
 Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Fill this out and get it to the Unit Secretary with \$35.00.



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION - MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

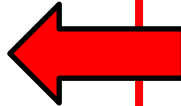
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Detachment of \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by (Initial) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Veteran through whom eligibility is established \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No. \_\_\_\_\_ Department of \_\_\_\_\_  
 OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
 (c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran \_\_\_\_\_  
 Has Applicant previously been a member of the SAL? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_  
 I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Transmit \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ annual membership dues  
 Signed By Applicant (or Parent) \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility certified by \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES RECEIPT**  
 (Please Print)  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Received From \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Dues  
 Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Department of \_\_\_\_\_



Fill this out and get it to the Squadron Adjutant with \$15.00.





15.00 23  
27  
UT