Commander’s Corner
- Commander Mike Cooke

Unlike the New Year, we have been working the 2021 Membership since July of 2020. Many people forget or do not realize that follows a fiscal year, July to July. Another way to look at it is, the membership year follows the Department Commander election at the Department Convention.

In all actuality, many members think of membership as the yearly dues that you pay to be able to go to your local post; however, it is far more than that, so I would like to take a moment to cover some of the things it does directly affect.

When I was a new member, I often wondered how our organization was able to pay for scholarships, and all the various programs we had. Naively, I figured it was very generous individuals in my local town. I had not fully grasped the wide reach of The American Legion, and the impact my membership actually had.

Veterans assistance funds in local Posts are a prime example of you membership money. Most posts have created and established some sort of Veterans assistance fund and its sole purpose it to assist Veterans, their families in times of need. If you think about that, it is such a novel concept, a group of individuals getting together for the greater good for their fellow veterans and their families. This is just one of the many publically know services we proudly take on, but it is also one of the most vital to the morale and wellbeing of our communities Veterans and their families!

Scholarships are another benefit provided by membership money. From post level scholarships all the way to National Scholarships, ranging from a couple hundred dollars to thousands of dollars. Our youth are being provided valuable education opportunities that may never have been afforded, if not for you and your membership.

So to answer the question I hear so often, you membership does make a difference, you are providing someone in need, the little push to make it one more day. You are providing the opportunity for a brilliant young mind to make a difference in the world. Most of all, you are continuing to watch out for your Brothers and Sisters in arms and their families. Now more than ever your membership is making a difference, members are working shorter schedules, getting paid less or outright unemployed due to the current situations caused by the COVID Pandemic. Many Posts throughout Wyoming are feeling the financial strain of helping their veterans, their families in times of need. If you think about that, it is such a novel concept, a group of individuals getting together for the greater good for their fellow veterans and their families.

Hello Wyoming
I would like to start out by saying THANK YOU for all the work you are doing to keep membership moving in the right direction. We have met our 85% goal due on 10 Feb 2021. We are 4.35% away from our next goal of 90%. Members who have not renewed by 24 Feb 2021 will receive another renewal notice from national.

The LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act) opens the door for approximately 6 million veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible. The American Legion’s eligibility criteria immediately changes from seven war eras to two: April 6, 1917, to Nov. 11, 1918, and Dec. 7, 1941 to a time later determined by the federal government. No other restrictions to American Legion membership are changed.

In the Clouds

Thank you for all the calls, prayers and cards. Commander Cooke put out at Mid Winter that I was not doing well health wise. That’s not correct I am an essential employee at work and my boss would not let me attend Mid Winter.

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So if you have served one day on active duty and have an honorable discharge you are now eligible to join the American Legion.

Our Department Commanders goal is to get all posts on My Legion. Call your district Commander they will show you how easy it is. You can do it on a smart phone also.

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Commander’s Corner From page 1

Since being elected Department Commander in June of 2019, I have witnessed how the members of The Department of Wyoming have selflessly given to their fellow legionnaires, Families and Local Veterans. It has been almost a year since our world spun into chaos and without skipping a beat you all stepped up and have done extraordinary things in you communities. Keep up the great work and continue making a difference!

“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

— President John Quincy Adams (1825-1829)

God Bless America
Mike Cooke
Department Commander

The American Legion Department of Wyoming 2021 Membership Report

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**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to WYOMING Legionnaire-Auxiliary, The American Legion, Dept. of Wyoming, 1320 Huger Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001.
THE AMERICAN LEGION
HEART MOUNTAIN POST 91
PROUDLY SUPPORTS AND
ENDORSES

JERRY CLARK
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
2021-2022

Deanna Hurless
for Department Finance Officer
Husted-Pendleton Post 14
Endorses Deanna Hurless for Department of Wyoming Finance Officer and
would like your full support

Deanna joined the American Legion in 2009. She served in the U.S. Air Force as a Ground Radio
Communications Specialist and was stationed at F.E. Warren AFB. She currently works for a
credit union as the Real Estate Lending Manager, she has worked there for 25 years. She served
as Post 14 2nd Vice-Commander (appointed) Dec 2010-2011 and (elected) 2011-2012, Post 14
Commander 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, Post 14 Finance Officer 2014-2015 and 2015-2016,
District 6 Vice-Commander 2015-2016 and Department Finance Officer since 2016. She is
currently Post 14’s Adjutant since 2017. She also is a member of the Laramie Veterans Honor
Guard.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The American Legion
Department of Wyoming

****PRESENTS****

Wyoming
Game and Fish
Commissioners License Raffle

Drawing May 8, 2021
$50 / ticket
Tickets available at your
local Wyoming posts or Department Headquarters
307-634-3035

*Once issued, license can’t be cancelled, fees refunded or transferred to another individual
*Elk hunts in Grand Teton Nat. Park aren’t covered by this license

Proceeds to benefit the programs of the American Legion Department of Wyoming
# Wyoming Veterans Service Officer Coverage

As of January 21, 2021

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<th>Organization</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>VSO Name</th>
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<td>WVC 1</td>
<td>Ms. Stephanie Davis</td>
<td>307-274-7747, 307-256-1778</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stephanie.davis@wyo.gov">stephanie.davis@wyo.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Ms. Crystal Emig</td>
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<td>Veterans Commission</td>
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<td>Mr. Dave McDonell</td>
<td>307-258-1100, 307-315-4187</td>
<td><a href="mailto:david.mcdonell@wyo.gov">david.mcdonell@wyo.gov</a></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Mr. Marshall Griffin</td>
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<td>Veterans Commission</td>
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<td>Veterans Commission</td>
<td>WVC 4</td>
<td>Mr. Brad Cline</td>
<td>307-250-3890</td>
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<td>Veterans Commission</td>
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<td>Ms. Sandy McFarland</td>
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<td>Veterans Commission</td>
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<td>Veterans Home</td>
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<td>Ms. Lisa Griffith</td>
<td>307-620-0884</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lisa.griffith@wyo.gov">lisa.griffith@wyo.gov</a></td>
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<td>Sweetwater County</td>
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<td>Ms. Sam Esquibel</td>
<td>307-922-5442</td>
<td><a href="mailto:esquibels@sweet.wy.us">esquibels@sweet.wy.us</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincoln County</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Ms. Nancy Stafford</td>
<td>307-877-3110</td>
<td><a href="mailto:staffordn@sweet.wy.us">staffordn@sweet.wy.us</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sublette County</td>
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<td>Ms. Billie Hamby</td>
<td>307-367-4877</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hambyb@sweet.wy.us">hambyb@sweet.wy.us</a></td>
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<td>American Legion</td>
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<td>Mr. Dwight Null</td>
<td>307-433-2751</td>
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<td>DAV</td>
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Greetings, Fellow Legionnaires!

We have a great group of people in and around the post who make us look good. One such group is our very own, Post 6 Honor Guard! These men and women are led by Honor Guard Commander Terry Harbick and Drill Commander Bruce Koerwitz.

Before going out to an interment, members are given assignments by Terry. Members either carry a flag or are on the firing team/squad. One member is assigned as the bugler. Once they get to the assigned site, they go through a quick dry run. This ensures everyone is on the same page. Bruce gives several commands to the firing team/squad to ensure they are ready. Afterwards, they wait for the funeral procession to arrive. As of this writing, the Honor Guard has performed 95 military honors for our fallen comrades in 2020. Of these, four have been at the Cheyenne National Cemetery.

The Honor Guard does more than just perform military honors. They received a special invite to the Cheyenne National Cemetery opening ceremony. They also, march in the Cheyenne Frontier Parade, The Christmas Parade, sporting events opening ceremonies and the list goes on. They sometimes hold flag folding classes for school age children. Explaining not only the proper way to fold a flag, but why it’s folded that way. For more information on how to join the Honor Guard contact Terry Harbick. He can be reached at the post most normal business hours.

So, if you see any of these fine men and women at the post, please, thank them for what they do. They make us PROUD!

For God and Country, Bill Barnes, Commander - Post 6
Congratulations Post 42.

L-R – Cmdr Mike Cooke – District 5 Cmdr Deb French – 2nd VC Mike Hobbs – Post 3 All Time High Award.

L-R – Cmdr Mike Cooke – District 2 Cmdr Doug Johnson – 2nd VC Mike Hobbs – Post 75 All Time High Award.

L-R – Cmdr Mike Cooke – Lin Bashford – 1st VC Post 26 – 2nd VC Mike Hobbs – Post 26 All Time High Award.
2021 – Mid-Winter – Gillette


L-R – Cmdr Mike Cooke – 2nd VC Mike Hobbs – District 1 VC Rich Keating – Post 28 All Time High Award.

L-R – Cmdr Mike Cooke – District 2 Cmdr Doug Johnson – 2nd VC Mike Hobbs – Post 15 All Time High Award.

Members of the Sons attending Mid-Winter.
From the Heart of the Hive

Welcome to 2021! I hope you all had a safe and healthy holiday season, and that the new year has brought more sunshine than the last.

I want to thank everyone for getting their midyear reports in! Each member contributes to these from members at the Unit level participating in the programs, to Unit Chairmen writing up reports, to Department Chairmen who compile these individual stories into a cohesive narrative that accurately represents the Department of Wyoming.

The reports compiled are important not only on the National stage but a critical part of the Department of Wyoming’s history.

Please plan to attend the Spring Meeting for your district! The schedule, with locations and times, are printed in this issue of the paper. If you have trouble finding it please do not hesitate to reach out to your Unit or District President, or to me!

If your Unit has not had a visit and would like to there is still time! Just give me a call or send me an email and we can work together to come up with a date. I look forward to seeing you all at Spring meetings!

In service of our Country and her Veterans,
Gina Dusel

---

Buzzin’ Around from the DEPARTMENT OFFICE

Thank you to all the Units that have emailed or called with questions. It is great to hear from you and to try and boost morale.

District Assessments and Poppy Invoices will be emailed by March 15, 2021. If you’ve paid for your poppies, the amount won’t be listed. Has your Unit changed the Dues Amount for next year? If so, please notify the Department by April 15, 2021.

I don’t know if you feel the same, but Covid has had an affect on Auxiliary. We don’t seem to have the comradery due to not having meetings. The personal touches and perhaps “pride” is dimming. Let’s try and bring back the light of helping Veterans and our Community. Plan on attending your Spring Conference and get a spark.

---

SPRING CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

PLAN ON ATTENDING

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BE WATCHING -- District Presidents will be sending information to their Units.

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News from the Hive

Tammy Harris Membership Chairman

I hope that this article finds you all in good health. As I sit here trying to write this article, the wind is blowing outside and I am thankful to be in a warm house where I am sheltered from the storm that is blowing in. It is a good day to hunker down, make a cup of tea or hot chocolate and snuggle under a blanket. Just as I want to stay in, my bees are staying in and sheltered. Even though they are staying in, they are still busy. My bees are busy keeping each other warm and taking care of their home. Just like bees, this is the time of year for us to take care of each other and to take care of our Units.

The last year has been very challenging for us all. The shutdowns a year ago kept many of us from meeting or getting together for any type of social gathering. Your unit may have members who do not feel comfortable coming out, or being around groups of people. The limits on gatherings, the not wanting to be in large groups and now the cold, winter weather all serve to keep people home and away from others. All of this helps contribute to a feeling of being disconnected from others. I know I’ve felt it these last few months. Now, more than ever, we need to be checking in on our members who we don’t see, or who haven’t renewed their memberships yet.

This membership year has certainly been challenging for many of our units. As a Department, we are sitting a little behind where we were at a year ago. We have approximately 300 fewer members transmitted this year than we did at this time last year. There could be many reasons for this. Is your Unit membership chair getting renewals in? Is the chair transmitting those renewals or new memberships to Department? Or, are you just not getting the renewals you normally get? These can all be contributing to our lower numbers this year.

Even in the midst of all that is going on for our units this year, I have every confidence that we can reach our goals of just one new member over last year for each of our Units. The week of caring and sharing will be coming up in April. It is a week that National has set aside for Units to reachout to all of our members, and especially to those who haven’t renewed yet. We can reach out to our members before this week to check on them, tell them they are missed and to see if they need anything. Knowing that someone cares might make the difference for them.

One of the areas that also might get overlooked for membership is our junior membership. If you don’t have an active Junior program, you may not get renewals. One Unit in the Department helps offset this by passing the hat at its Christmas party to take donations to pay for junior memberships. They ensure that all junior members keep their membership current. Perhaps your Unit has someone who has traditionally been an active member but can’t afford to renew this year. Could your unit pay that members dues for the year? Our members are facing a variety of challenges this year but if we pull together we can make it through this crazy time.

I want to leave you with a small word of encouragement from Helen Keller as we move through the last half of this membership year—“alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much.” Keep up the great work and together, we will all survive and thrive through these challenging times.
**In Memoriam**

- Barbara Bessler, Unit 26
- Delores Quashnick, Unit 15, 46 yrs a member
- Michele Hindel, Unit 47
- Elaine Perreault, Unit 77
- Betty Taberna, Unit 7
- Sandy Ziher, Unit 7, Sgt at Arms
- Janice Lytle, Unit 26
- Leong, Member since 1965, Unit 26
- Edna Dooley

**Get Well**

- Jeannie Hale, Cataract Surgery, Unit 47
- Margaret Nobell, Illness, Unit 47
- Diana Stirling, Illness, Unit 47
- Keith and Kathy Davidson, Illness, Unit 7
- Alice Cootel, Surgery, Unit 26
- Terry Gray, Illness
- Maggie Jacobs, Illness, Unit 26
- Lilly Duncan, Illness, Unit 28
- Tony Nemic, Illness, Unit 28
- Shane Harris, Illness, Unit 28
- Melba Bennett, Broken Ribs, Unit 7
- Judy Thorson, Back surgery, Unit 15
- Eva Burton, Illness, Unit 15
- Mike Fetsch, Recovering, Unit 15
- Dorothy Williams, Illness, Unit 15
- Glenn Robbins, Recovering, Unit 15
- Josie Sanchez Pacheco, Illness, Unit 6
- Katherine Martinez, Illness, Unit 6
- Willene Nedens, Surgery, Unit 63
- Pauline Fitchner, Ill, Unit 7
- Rhonda Manke, Knee Surgery, Unit 25
- Shirley Anderson, Illness, Unit 80
- Chas Nemic, Unit 28

**Thinking of You**

- Susan Nagel, Unit 7
- Mary Lee Stopha, Unit 7
- Bernice Gertsch, Unit 6
- Dora Jones, Unit 6
- Congratulations
- Baylee and Zack Fryer, Wedding, Unit 28
- Stephanie Dupape, Unit 28
- Gina Harding-Dusel

**Thank You**

- Diane Meidinger, Unit 26
- Martie Harbick, Unit 6
- Larry Simons, Unit 26, For carved cowboys
- Sherry Bushman and Veterans Run Team, Unit 28, For a great Veterans Run
- Willene Nedens, Unit 63, Service
- Brenda Widhalm, Unit 46, Service
- Brenda Albow, Unit 40, Service
- Anne Metzler, Unit 19, Service and Cards
- Senator Barasso, Girls State Material
- Miss Daisy, Unit 28, Caring and Sharing
- District 1, Hosting Fall Workshop

**Congratulatons**

- Rebecca and Brady Turnbull, Birth of Sailor, Unit 28
- Casey Turnbull, engagement, Unit 28

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**From the Chaplains Desk: Finding Our Perspective**

It feels like forever since we have chatted. Much has happened in my personal life as I am sure it has in yours. In our public and community lives there seems to be change, unrest, mistrust, and a plethora of other emotions and actions which create a sense of unsettledness. Let’s face it, as Thomas Paine once said, these are the times that try men’s souls. We cannot deny that America is in crisis, from within and without. We face new threats of terrorism on our shores, millions of angry and disenfranchised citizens, a reduction in moral standards, and a secular elite intent on restricting foundational principles such as religious liberty and freedom of speech. Although we are protected from the backlash of much of this just by the fact that we live in a rural area, we still feel the rumbling tremors of unrest unlike anything we have felt before. As I sit at the Chaplains Desk I am, now more than ever overwhelmed by the need to pray for our country, our leaders, those in authority at all levels, and those who have the responsibility of protecting our freedoms. Praying for our country, on all levels is more important now than it has ever been. I am not talking about praying politics-I am talking about real bible-based prayer.

Praying for our country puts us in good company. Abraham Lincoln once said, “I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day.” We pray because, in our own wisdom and strength, we are insufficient for the challenges we face. While one of the most appealing things about American people is our indomitable “can-do” spirit, the fact is, sometimes we “can’t do it!” We have nowhere else to go, except to God and His Son, Jesus Christ. Kneeling before God in times of overwhelming crisis is also a part of our American DNA.

In 2 Chronicles 7:14 we read: “Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face…” God calls His people to pray for the needs of their community, their nation, their world. If we want God to move on our behalf, we must humble ourselves in prayer. All prayer is most effective when practiced in faith. Though it’s easy to become discouraged, we must remember that nothing is too hard for the Lord. He can turn any situation around and draw anyone to Himself. It is not our responsibility to judge the situation but our responsibility to be persistent in faith. James 5:16 tells us: “The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” When we seek The Lord in prayer on behalf of our nation, there are God-ordained results. We may never meet the political leaders whom we pray for on a daily basis. We may never meet the citizens that our prayers affect, but God’s word promises that our prayers do, in fact, make a difference. It’s a promise we can trust. Investing time in prayer is investing time in God, in God’s plan. It is investing in the future of our families and the legacies of our freedoms.

As we pray for our nation and our leaders there are some things we should keep in mind. We must always remember to put our personal desires and agendas aside and be willing to pray for those whose agenda we may not always support. Praying for them does not mean we support them. We can ask that God grant them wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. These things alone could change their outlook, change their policies, change how they do things. Asking God to reveal truth to them or to show them how to practice truth in what they do does not support their private agendas. It takes the process out of the realm of the personal and puts the situation into Gods Hands. “The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results” James 5:16. Pray the earnest prayer for our leaders and our country and in that prayer give God the power to make the intervention, instead of asking Him to do your will. As believers, we are called to pray for all our leaders in government. This can be difficult since we may strongly disagree with our elected or appointed leaders. God does not...
Chaplain From page 9

tell us to only pray for those we agree with or even those who are Christian. No, we are to pray for all those in authority. “I urge you, first, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. For, there is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone” –1 Timothy 2:1-6. We are all called to this kind of prayer.

So, to pray effectively for our country and our leaders here are some steps

As with all prayer start by praise and thanksgiving-recognizing God for being God.
Be thankful for being blessed and being forgiven and ask forgiveness for collective sin.
Pray for our leaders: world-national-local—it is all our responsibility.
Pray that truth and justice will prevail over political correctness and tolerance in our lives and in our culture.
Trust that God is faithful to His word concerning your nation. (Isaiah 55:11)
Thank Him for all He is doing—whether you see the results you want or not. (Psalm 100:4)
I urge you to join me in fervent prayer for our communities, our states, our nation, our world as we journey through these times that try men’s souls. Let us truly rise above these situations as people of faith and power because our time and placement was ordained for such a time as this!

Poppy Poster Update

Crystal Daulton, Program Manager has given updated rules for judging poppy posters at Northwest and National are as follows:

➢ There must be a red poppy somewhere on the poster, but there are no rules from National saying that there can NOT be other flowers of other colors on the poster;
➢ Poppies can have four petals or be like the “In Memoriam” poppy which the children usually blur the petals together;
➢ There are NO rules stating color of the center;
➢ Yes, they “are kids” and there are NO rules at the National level regarding spelling.

Membership by Unit

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Make checks Payable to: American Legion Post #6; 2001 E. Lincolnway
Cheyenne, WY 82001

DUE DATE: 20 MAY 2021

2021 Department Convention Registration

17-20 June 2021

Pre Registration (Prior to 5 June 2021) Includes Convention Pin $12 x ____ = $___
(Registration - at the Door) $5 x ____ = $___

Thursday - 17 June
Dinner - Pay as you go

Friday - 18 June
Past Commander/Adjutant Breakfast $8 x ____ = $___
Lunch $8 x ____ = $___
Commander/President Banquet Steak $12 x ____ = $___
Chicken $12 x ____ = $___

Saturday - 19 June
Continental Breakfast FREE
Lunch $8 x ____ = $___
New Commander/President Dinner

Wyoming Boys State Donation: $_______
Wyoming Girls State Donation: $_______

TOTAL $_______

Name: ____________________________ Post ______  SAL _____ ALA _______ALR________
**President**

**Department of Wyoming American Legion Auxiliary**

**2021-2022**

Don Stough Unit #33 of Lander would like to endorse Shareen Johnson for the office of Department President for 2021-2022 year.

In addition to serving as Unit President/Treasurer for the past 17 years, Shareen has served in all of the Department offices including District #3 President in 1993 – 1994 & 1994 – 1995 as well as Department President in 1998-1999 & 2013-2014. She has held many chairmanships on the Department level including National Security, Past Presidents Parley, Finance Committee, and Membership. The chairmanship she is most familiar with is Girls State, having served on staff for a total of 30 years, 13 of those as Director. She also served as a Northwestern Division Vice Chairman for two years – National Security and Poppies.

Shareen has been a member of the Auxiliary for 39 years and is eligible for membership under her father, John Sturgeon, a Korean & Vietnam veteran. He was a naval submariner, who retired after 20 years of service as a Master Chief Petty Officer, and who served as the Department of Wyoming Commander in 1986-1987. She is also eligible through her twin sister, Kathleen Ebert, who retired after 20 years in the U.S. Navy.

Shareen is definitely part of a Legion Family with two sisters, two daughters, and four granddaughters all belonging to the Auxiliary. In addition, her son, son-in-law, and grandson are members of the Sons of The American Legion.

Personally, after working as a medical transcriptionist for 21 years for a group of orthopedic surgeons, in 2008, Shareen began working for the State of Wyoming, Department of Health, at the Wyoming Life Resource Center, a facility for the intellectually disabled, where she manages the health care clinic and the clients’ medical records. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, bowling, crocheting/knitting, and reading.

Your support for Shareen Johnson as the 2021-2022 President, Department of Wyoming, American Legion Auxiliary, would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Members of Don Stough Unit #33, Lander, Wyoming

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**Department Executive Secretary - Treasurer**

Powder River Unit 13 is proud to endorse Peggy Sillivan for the Office of Department Secretary Treasurer. Peg likes her position saying, “It gives her a reason to get going in the day”. We ask that you consider Peg for the Office of Department Secretary Treasurer.

---

**Endorsement National Executive Committeewoman**

Unit 25 of Moorcroft proudly endorses Vicki Paddock for the office of National Executive Committeewoman for the 2021-22 and 2022-2023 terms.

Vicki Paddock is currently serving as the National Executive Committeewoman for the American Legion Auxiliary of Wyoming. She was born in Gillette, Wyoming and has lived her all her life in or near Moorcroft.

At the Department level, she has served as President, Vice President, Chaplain and Historian. She also served Chairman for the following: Community, Junior Activities, Constitution and By-Laws, Public Relations and Membership. Vicki has been her Unit President for 17 years and District 5 President for 4 years.

She has been a member for 18 years and is eligible under her father Melburn (Bill) Moser who served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Other family members who belong to Unit 25 are her daughter Jessi Polk and her granddaughters, Taya Davis, Brook Paddock, Ruby and Gracie Polk. Her son, Cody Davis, is also a member of the SAL in Moorcroft. Her father and mother were both members of the Legion and the Auxiliary until their passing.

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**Endorsement ALA Department of Wyoming Vice President**

Tom Whitmore Unit 28, of Green River, Wyoming proudly supports and endorses Tammy Harris for the position of ALA Department of Wyoming Vice President, for the 2021-2022 Auxiliary year.

Tammy has held many and varied positions at the Unit, District, and Department level for both the Auxiliary and WALRUS throughout her seven years as an Auxiliary volunteer. With the experience gleaned working as a membership chair, secretary, historian, and president Tammy feels confident in her ability to work with all levels of membership, from individual member to the National stage.

Tammy holds her Auxiliary membership through her husband of 23 years, Shane Harris. Shane proudly served in the Marine Corps from 1991-1995 as an armorer. She is also eligible under her grandfather Albert Walker, who served as a soldier during WWII.

Tammy has helped countless members of her community as an attorney, is an active member of her church, and enjoys tending her bees and chickens. In her spare time, Tammy loves exploring the great Wyoming outdoors with Shane, and their son Garrett.

Tammy looks forward to the opportunity of serving Wyoming veterans and the Department of Wyoming Auxiliary membership in expanded ways, if elected to this position.

---

**Attention Wyoming Veterans!**

If you are looking for a job, please contact your nearest Department of Workforce Services office. Our trained staff will assist you in all aspects of the job search.

Remember, all of our services are free. You served our country, now let us serve you.
We thank the brave men and women of our Armed Forces for their dedication and sacrifice. As we mark Memorial Day, we also honor and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation. God Bless America.
The 2021 Wyoming Girls State Session will be held on the Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne, starting on Sunday, June 6th, and ending on Saturday, June 12th. As participation in the Girls State program has dwindled over the several years, it is our goal this year to share information about the Girls State program with every resource, reach out to all qualified female Junior & Senior students who might wish to participate, and consequently increase the level of participation. Allowing Seniors to apply/attend is a change the Department feels is very important as, through no fault of their own, they were unable to attend the 2020 Wyoming Girls State session due to it being cancelled secondary to the pandemic. It would be helpful if all Auxiliary members would help get the word out to eligible candidates that now is the time to apply for Girls State. If you personally know of a student you feel would make a good Girls State Delegate, either provide the student with information concerning the program or contact your Unit Girls State chairman. For this year, please contact Linda Feezer by March 15, 2021 at Linda Feezer by March 15, 2021 at (307)-349-9479 or shareen.lander@gmail.com. The first deadline isn’t until April 1st, so there is still plenty of time increase the number of Delegates and provide our young people with this wonderful educational experience.

Quota sheets were due by November 15th; however, I have not yet heard from all of the Units. As we use the quota sheet information for session planning, it is very important that each Unit submit one, even if it is just to say that a Unit will not be participating in the Girls State program this year. Please mail or email them to us as soon as possible. Girls State packet information has been uploaded onto the Department webpage. Please make sure that information is shared with the Unit Girls State chairman.

Girls State fees will include the $30 Delegate processing fee which is due with the first set of paperwork on April 1st as well as the Delegate fee which is due on May 1st. Please remember that the Delegate fee has been raised to $300. Although all paperwork is sent to the Director, all monies are to be sent to the Department office. As we hope to increase participation this year, Units should not allow a lack of funding to limit the number of Delegates they select. If local fundraising efforts are insufficient, funding may be available from another Unit or through the Department Girls State Committee as there are funds available in the Girls State savings account.

Weather permitting, I hope to attend all the Spring Conferences to share information about the session and answer questions. To raise funds for the Girls State program, we have started a project called “Recycling the Brand”. Members have donated Auxiliary items (clothing, jewelry, etc.) in good repair that they no longer need, use, or want. These items will be available for a monetary donation to the Girls State program at the Spring Conferences as well as the Department Convention. We are also in need of donations. If you have any Auxiliary, Legion, or SAL branded items that you no longer need, please consider donating them to the project.

If anyone is interested in serving on Girls State Staff, please contact me, as we are always looking to recruit new staff who are interested or in helping with the program. It does require a commitment to stay the entire week, but the rewards are worth it! Looking forward to a very successful 2021 Girls State Session!

Respectfully submitted,
Shareen Johnson, Director (307-349-9479 or shareen.lander@gmail.com)
Dawn Kenneda, Assistant Director (307-321-0848 or rdkenneda@yahoo.com)

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Mark Your Calendar

GIRLS STATE
June 6 – 12, 2021

POST, UNIT, SQUADRON & RIDER
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
Cheyenne
June 17-19, 2021

Visit our Department Webpage!
www.wylegionaux.org
Hello there from District One.

While we are all navigating through these trying times, I am happy to report that the Units in District One are finding ways to continue their longstanding traditions of serving our veterans and communities.

While many activities have been cancelled due to restrictions on gatherings, Unit 24 was still able to hold its annual kids Christmas party. The event looked different from years past but they were still able to provide gifts and a visit (of sorts) with Santa to the children of the Legion Family at Post 24. They also continued their program of providing a large goodie gift basket to the first baby born on Veteran’s Day at Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County.

Unit 36 in Fort Bridger continued its “Wreaths Across the Valley” event by laying wreaths at veteran’s graves in the Bridger Valley area. They placed the wreaths on December 20 and picked them up on January 2. Unit 36 has also gathered together for crafting and sewing times. They are making crafts to sell to raise funds and have assembled some gift bags for the Sheridan VA.

Unit 47 in Pinedale set up a table outside of the local grocery store on November 9 to distribute poppies. They also sent a large box to the Sheridan VA with winter closing, puzzle books, adult coloring books model kits and other similar items. They also participated in a Veteran’s Day event attended by the Governor.

Unit 28 in Green River provided gift cards to local veterans for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. They also fulfilled the Christmas wish lists of the 6 veterans who are residents of Mission at Castle Rock, the local nursing home and made a substantial donation to the Music For Vets event held in January in Green River.

Our units continue to assist with the activities of the Legion Family and support their communities. We are looking forward to gathering for Spring Conference in April.
The District & Unit News

Unit 44 Worland
Has not had a meeting for the last few months due to Covid and the holidays. We hope to start meeting again in February. The Unit is starting to sell drawing tickets. The item is a “Metal Distressed Flag” made by Matt Lungen. The funds will go to Girls State as well as Children and Youth Welfare. The drawing will be on Memorial Day.

Debbie Fiends, Secretary

DISTRICT 5 NEWS

Greetings from the frozen North! I do believe we have Winter among us at last. I don’t like the cold any better than anyone else, but the moisture is nice. Surprisingly we have a nice bunch of reports, from most of our units.

Newcastle Unit #3
We decorated sandwich bags with American Legion Auxiliary stickers, hearts, flags, eagles and so on. We used store bought cookies this year (Covid-19).

We did enough for Newcastle and Upton Veterans with some extras for the senior citizens. Stay warm and healthy.

Unit 42 Gillette
Our Unit has decided not to do a Luau as we have in the past to raise funds for our scholarships, we give each year. This year we decided to try some different activities.

We have decided to make a cookbook and plan to have it ready to sell later this Fall. Anyone having a recipe that you would like us to include you may email them to our Auxiliary email: amlegionaux@hotmail.com. Please include your name and Unit.

Our second project is we are putting together a raffle for several different items.

The third project we are looking into is selling flower arrangements for Mother’s Day.

We want to thank everyone that attended the Mid-winter Conference and all shared information. It was fun and informative.

Sheridan Unit 7
Had a booth downtown for Halloween hosted by the Chamber of Commerce giving away toys, candy and patriotic items; was well received. Unit assisted with a Life Celebration at the Post Home for a member. Rather than assisting a family at Christmas, funds were donated to the People’s Assistance Food Bank. Members donated hygiene products to the Food Bank instead of a gift exchange.

Plans have started for hosting Spring Conference for District5 on April 10th

Member is at 92.5%

Kaycey Unit 90
We delivered 100 dozen cookies to the Sheridan VA for January. We have discussed having a flag retirement sometime this Spring.

Buffalo Unit 13
Our unit did not meet in November, but we did have Poppy Day. Our members were reluctant to canvas the business’ because of Covid. Edie Taffner decorated jars and filled them with poppies along with an explanation about Poppy Day. The jars were placed in businesses and the banks around town. She also wrote each business and the banks a Thank you card. Because of her efforts we received over $700 in donations. Thank you Edie.

In January we started our evening with a meal for the Legion and Auxiliary members. The Americanism chairman was chosen. Two applications were received for our $500 scholarship. Girls State Chairman has contacted and working with two teachers at the High School to get applicants. Unit is purchasing the US and Wyoming flags for the Boys and Girls Club of Buffalo.

Halety Unit 80

The Unit met and welcomed a new member. Thank you’s were read and bills paid. Members planned on attending Mid Winter but due to weather didn’t make it.

DISTRICT 6 NEWS

I am very excited/happy to see some of our units get creative during the Covid time. It is not an easy time with our units and their usual projects. It was wonderful to see some of District 6 units attend Fall Workshop and look forward to them and more units attend the workshop in Gillette January 15 and 16th. These workshops are so informative and the training, ideas, suggestions, are awesome. I know everyone enjoyed getting together, sharing, visiting.

Unit 77 Albin was sad to lose their treasurer after many years of service, she stepped down. Thank you for your time, service and support.

Barb McDermott was pleased and honored to celebrate Bertha Sandberg 100th birthday and still a member of the Auxiliary. Whoooooooo.

Unit 54 Saratoga continues to bake cookies, they even passed out candy for the trick or treater. What fun. Saratoga had members at the polling places for the general election, helping out in anyway they could. The history of the Star Bangled Banner was presented to all local school classes, to teach them about Veterans Day. The auxiliary hosted a dinner for Veterans and guests. Wow, ways to reach out.

Unit 60 Pine Bluffs, been busy donating money. Unit 60 was able to donate $200.00 to Firefighters of Mullen Creek Fire as well as donating $100.00 to the EMT’s. They continue to serve juice and cookies at the rest stops as well as serving juice and cookies for the Veterans at the flu clinic. The Legion National Commander was served dinner by the Auxiliary. It was very much appreciated. Veterans Day brought a Veteran program and chili feed. Unit 60 got together to make 100 Thanksgiving dinners for the homeless at the Discipleship center.

Unit 64 did not submit a report. Let me remind you Unit 64 and Unit 54 were surrounded by fires.

Unit 6 collects household items, blankets, towels, sheets, clothing, etc., for the Veterans and also now with Veteran Rock, cleaning supplies for the John Edmonds home for Veterans just moving into a home of their own. Unit 6, I am sure other units write cards and letters to the CLC nursing home. Presently Unit 6 is asking for non-perishable food item to help the homeless Vets. Unit 6 has started their poppy campaign and discussing drive by poppies. The auxiliary has been working hard to attract new members, new ideas and communication. Linda Hollingsworth unfortunately lost her mother this past month to Co-vid. Our condolences to President Linda.

Please continue your good work, remember to submit highlights of your unit, send pictures, plans of what your unit is doing.

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