

Commander’s Corner



Russell Stafford
Commander
Dept. of Wyoming

Hello, my fellow Legionnaires. It has been a busy summer for the Commander, vice Commanders, and Adjutant. We have moved from one meeting to another for the past few weeks and it isn’t over with until October.

The Department Convention in June was a fantastic event. Those that were unable to attend, you were missed. We are asking that all mem-

bers try to attend a District and Department meeting. This allows for networking and communication distribution. Too many of our posts have started falling into a non-active state, and it’s not just a Department of Wyoming issue, but across the Nation. We remain the largest Veteran Service Organizations in the nation, but with our inaction we are hurting our members. We have a sound foundation of four pillars: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Americanism, National Security, and Children and Youth. Each of these pillars represent the main values of why we served in the military.

Our membership chairman, Vice Commander Ben Glenn, has challenged each member to “Renew One and Recruit One”. As he has stated, each one of us know a fellow veteran in the community and we are asking you to invite them to join. Use the metrics that we are sending out to promote what the Legion is doing. Let them know we aren’t just trying to collect members; we are making a difference.

The American Legion is celebrating the United States of America’s 250th

birthday. The USA 250 challenge is in full swing. The American Legion National Commander James LaCourse launched the USA 250 Challenge on 3 July, 2025. The yearlong initiative offers three categories: fitness, mental wellness, and community service. All American Legion Family members and the community leaders are encouraged to participate. Participants may engage in one, two, or three activities as an individual or as part of a team like a post, unit, or squadron or riders.

There are two primary pushes coming from National for the 2025–2026-year, communication and training. We started working on the communication piece last year at the department level and have tasked District Commanders and Post Leadership to start working on their communication as well. Training is becoming easier at the National level. They have Training Tuesdays, Basic Training, Training in a Box and numerous other ways to learn who, what, and how we work as a Veteran Service Organization. I have tasked all Department Executive Committee members to take the Basic Train-

ing. I would like to see all posts send at least 2 individuals, especially new leadership, to attend the Wyoming American Legion Training that the Department provides. This training is setup to address the main concerns for the state.

Communication with the community is also a vital aspect to the post growth and reputation. If you are not putting out communication PSAs (Public Service Announcements) I would encourage all to start doing so. If you need assistance in putting one together, please reach out to the district or department.

In conclusion I wish to thank each of you for the vote of confidence and ask that each of you remember that we are a bottom-up organization. This organization runs on the blue hats, not the white, red, or multicolored hats. Each of you are the most important aspect to The American Legion. I thank all of you for supporting this organization and for all that you do.

Sincerely,
Russell Stafford
Department Commander
The American Legion
Department of Wyoming

Adjutant’s Corner



Vanessa Stuart
Department Adjutant

I hope this finds you well. As the summer comes to a close, here at Headquarters we are getting ready for several events. The office will be closed from Aug. 20-29 for the National Convention, however I will be answering the phone as usual and will have my laptop to work from Tampa during that time. Upcoming events include Sept. 6 - revitalization/veteran’s picnic in Newcastle, Sept. 11-14 is the National Commander’s visit to Wyoming, with stops in Cheyenne 9-11, Laramie and Rawlins 9/12, Rock Springs and Green River 9/13, and Ft. Bridger 9/14. 9/14 is also a veter-

ans picnic in Moorcroft. Sept. 19-20 is the Fall Workshop in Casper. There will be training for all adjutants and anyone wanting to learn ‘mylegion’ as well as other training for all levels of membership. This is a great learning experience and a refresher for all.

Sept. 26-28 is WALLT (Wyoming American Legion Leadership Training) in Rock Springs. Applications were due by Aug. 15th. Oct. 18-19 will see 2 revitalizations in Districts 3 and 4 at Ft. Washakie and Meeteetse.

We currently have volunteers coming in to assist in cleaning, maintenance, and organizing the headquarters. If you would like to volunteer to assist, contact the Adjutant 307-634-3035.

The headquarters building will be closed Aug. 20 - Sept. 1 for National convention and Labor Day and will reopen 2 Sept. I will still be answering the phone and have my laptop so it will be business as (mostly) usual but from Tampa, FL. If I don’t answer right away, please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you all for all you do for our Veterans, communities, and the American Legion.

Vanessa Stuart,
Department Adjutant.

1st Vice Commander’s Corner



Benjamin Glenn
1st Vice Commander
Dept. of Wyoming

Words from the 1st Vice Commander

The scorching summer days are ending soon, and fall will be upon us before we know it! The Department Convention is behind us as we are preparing to depart for the National Convention in Tampa Florida. I am very humbled to have been given the opportunity to serve as the 2025-2026 Department 1st Vice Commander. It is going to be a great Legion year!

Our State Convention in Newcastle was extraordinarily successful. I want to thank everyone

who attended and everyone behind the scenes who worked so hard to make it such a success.

We attended the Membership Workshop at National Headquarters in Indianapolis 7-10 August 2025, so our membership goal is set for this year. It is a goal that we believe the Department of Wyoming can achieve. I challenge every legionnaire in Wyoming to “Renew One and Recruit One” so we can increase our department wide membership. “Strength in Numbers”

The Wyoming American Legion Leadership Training Course (WALLT) is filling up fast for this September in Rock Springs. I look forward to seeing all the participants there!

The Ways and Means Committee will conduct a raffle focused on the “250th Anniversary of America” and supporting current veterans’ initiatives. We look forward to your support at the upcoming fall workshop scheduled for 19 September 2025 in Casper.

I am counting on everyone to support all the Department of Wyoming programs and be active in both their communities and their Post.

“Service Before Self
Not Self Service”



2nd Vice Commander's Corner



Greetings Wyoming Legion members, I am going to be brief. Wow, what a quick summer it has been! Department convention has come and gone, Christmas in July was a great success at the Vet's Home in Buffalo and to top it off the 45 day DEC is also behind us. I want thank all those that helped with the Christmas in July project and also to those assisting the Vet's at the fishing tournament. At the 45 DEC meeting, committee assignments were given out and I thank everyone for accepting the assignment given. It is important to the health and continued growth of our organization that we meet the mission of these committee's. I know that with all of you on board we will be successful. Take care and stay safe, Chuck.



Chuck Guilford
2nd Vice Commander
Dept. of Wyoming

As always, stay safe,
Chuck Guilford

BE THE ONE
TO ASK VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.
TO LISTEN WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.
TO REACH OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.



WYOMING
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Editors: Legion - 1320 Hugur Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82001
Telephone: (307) 634-3035 Fax: (307) 635-7093
Auxiliary - Peg Sullivan, PO Box 186, Buffalo, WY 82834
Telephone: (307) 620-5697
Email - deptaux@wylegionaux.org

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DISTRICT AND POST NEWS
District 1



David W. Hill
District 1 Commander
Wyoming American Legion
District 1 Report for August, 2025

District 1 was well represented at the Department Convention in Newcastle, and our District Commander, Joe Tallon, was recognized as the District Commander of the Year. We extend our sincere thanks to Joe for his great leadership of the District over the past several years. For my first post visit as the new District 1 Commander, I visited Archie Hay Post 24 in Rock Springs for their Post meeting on July 12. As the largest post in our District, they are doing an excellent job, and I look forward to following their many activities in the coming months.

From September 26-28, Post 24 will be hosting the fall session of the Wyoming American Legion Leadership Training known as WALLT. I plan to visit each of the other District 1 posts this summer and fall, and get to know more about each one, and what can be done to help them to expand their membership and their involvement with their communities. Following the Department Executive Committee in Sheridan on August 2, the posts will receive their membership goals for the 2026 year. I encourage our posts to take advantage of opportunities this summer to inform the public of how much your posts are doing for the local communities, and continue to generate interest in joining your Posts, Riders, SAL Squadrons, and Auxiliary Units. A few of our District 1 posts are facing challenges to maintain sufficient members, so extra help is needed in those cases. I appreciate the advice I have already received from Joe Tallon, as well as our District Vice Commander, Steve Greenwell, and our District Adjutant, Tom Niemiec. Please feel free to call me anytime, or email or text me with any ideas or questions.



David W. Hill,
District 1 Commander
2760 S. Silver Fox Lane
Jackson, WY 83001
Tel: 202-230-4129
Email: hilldw46@gmail.com



Courtesy Photos

2nd Vice Commander Chuck Guilford, 1st Vice Commander Ben Glenn, District Commander Joe Tallon, Department Commander Russell Stafford presenting Commander Tallon District Commander of the Year.

Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business



Francis E. Self, Post #6
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Cheyenne, WY

Happy Hour Daily 10-12am 4-6pm

Open 7 Days a Week!
10-10 Su-Th
10-Midnight Fri/Sat

On Facebook and at: ALPWY6@GMAIL.COM



Bryan "Alf" Grzegorzczuk
1622 E. 19th St. Cheyenne, WY 82001
C 307-421-5714; W 307-635-3171
alfspubcheyyenne@aol.com



**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT
SERVICE OFFICER**

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday by appointment Closed all Holidays

2360 E. Pershing Blvd D107
Cheyenne, WY 82001
w 307-433-2750 Fax 307-433-2790



Post Everlasting 2025



District 1

Post 24 Rock Springs

William J Facinelli

Henry Brown

Richard H Rocky

Carl A Hafner

Post 28 Green River

Ron Carey

Henry J Smith Jr

James Shoemaker

Post 36 Ft. Bridger

Charlie Nixon

Post 47 Pinedale

Darrell J Murray

District 2

Post 10 Wheatland

John W Waitman Sr

Donald O Gudahl

Post 56 Veteran

William M Guth

District 3

Post 2 Casper

Gail D Zimmerman

Cecil M Brasiel

Lee T Shaw

Howard H Harvey

Post 33 Lander

Dwight T Sempert

District 4

Post 20 Cody

Gale Beers

Post 26 Powell

Robert N Johnstone Jr

Carl R Dorothy

District 5

Post 7 Sheridan

George L Parson

Thomas A Stout

Richard E Donahue Jr

Royce A Cornell

Post 13 Buffalo

Louis C Gasbarre

Post 42 Gillette

Richard L Davis

District 6

Post 6 Cheyenne

Aaron Bregman

Donald M Bogensberger

Jean M Brown

Otis E. Burchett

Charles C Roberson

William Apostolou

Post 14 Laramie

William T Andrews

H M Gaines

Dean C Shaw

Robert E Walker

Alan R Gates

Robert E Liebsack

Don L Stinson

Dave L Albaugh

Post 17 - Headquarters

Post

Alex Jones



Chaplain's Corner

Service to God and Country





Jim Wilkinson
Chaplain Dept. of Wyoming

NO MAN IS AN ISLAND
*No man is an island,
Entire of itself;
Every man is a piece of the continent,
A part of the main.
If a clod be washed away by the sea,
Europe is the less,
As well as if a promontory were:
As well as if a manor of thy friend's
Or of thine own were.
Any man's death diminishes me,
Because I am involved in mankind.
And therefore never send to know for
whom the bell tolls;
It tolls for thee.*
John Donne, 1572-1631

You have all heard this before. It is true but often we may think that we can do it all and don't need anyone. Fact is, the Apostle Paul talked about this in 1 Corinthians 12:12-27: "15 Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body." Is our respective posts any different? Each is made up of many members. Each member distinct and unique. If one member departs, does it not diminish the whole? We can each contribute at many different levels and each level is important. You might say that you only do buddy checks an a couple of "the guys" and nothing else? Not a big contribution? What is the life of one of our vets worth? It is HUGE and thank you! An officer at your post, thank you! Support your post by participating in different events, YES thank you even for just showing up! You might think that you are just "the little toe"? Wait till you stub it on a door frame some night. Maybe you are thinking that you are as insignificant as a single hair on your head? In Matthew 10:30, Luke 12:7, Psalm 139:14, Ecclesiastes 3:11-22 God reminds us repeatedly how important we are in His sight and that He has even every hair on your head numbered. Yes, God who created the entire universe with a word and had His son Jesus come to pay for our sins so that we could spend eternity with Him and takes time to know us each to the point then He knows every hair on our head, how much does He love you and me?

Check out today Be the One (<https://www.legion.org/advocacy/be-the-one>). If you are struggling, there is goo help there. Join and help others, if you are struggling or not, this is a fantastic resource.

If you are a post chaplain, please email me at jtw@veritek.com with your contact info. I would like to visit with you and invite you to our upcoming regular chaplain on-line calls.

If you need someone to talk to, you can always text me at 303-549-1401. YES, YOU are important and we are richer with each of you.

Jim Wilkinson Post 14 and Department of Wyoming Chaplain.

District 1 Continued

DEE FOX POST 78

BIG PINEY



On June 14th 2025 Dee Fox Post 78 Big Piney District 1 held a flag retirement ceremony. Over 100 flags were retired. Members included from Left to Right Commander Mack Rawhouser, Vice Commander Steve Greenwell, Legionnaire Ray Willoughby, Adjutant Ron Davison, Legionnaire Tim Scott, SGT at Arms Rocky Piernick retirement took place at Southwest Senior Center. We gather these Flags of our Country and of our State which have been determined to be no longer serviceable.

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Headquarters Office Hours
Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed all Holidays
1320 Hugur Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-634-3035 Fax 307-635-7093
Email: adminassist@wyolegion.org web: wyolegion.org



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Buffalo, WY 82834
307-620-5697
Email: deptaux@wylegionaux.org



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF WYOMING

Commander: Mike Hobbs
Adjutant: Jim Andersen

1320 Hugur Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001



DISTRICT AND POST NEWS

District 1 Continued



August 2025 News from Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43

Our Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43 has continued to hold our monthly meetings in-person and on Zoom, and we have continued to participate in our support of the veterans and members in Jackson and our surrounding communities. Our Post membership is currently 134 TAL members, and 32 SAL members. We have been able to reach or surpass 100% of our state goal for TAL members for the past four years. We also surpassed our goal for SAL members for 2025.

Speaker Presentations: At our May Post meeting, Mike Halpin gave a very interesting talk on his role as the new superintendent of the Aspen Hills Cemetery in Jackson. At our June Post meeting, Post member, Glenn Sturm, gave a talk about his newly published book, entitled “Warriors Hate Wars.” The book reviews a number of past wars and conflicts where the U.S. was involved and dis-

cusses whether the military leaders performed the appropriate preliminary analyses according to military doctrine before committing U.S. troops to the efforts. In July, the former Mayor of Jackson and former Teton County Commissioner, Mark Barron, spoke about his more than 47 years of living and running several different businesses in Jackson.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 43: Our efforts over the past year to recharter an Auxiliary Unit for Jackson have finally succeeded. The Unit sent an officer to the Department Convention in Newcastle and was introduced as a newly rechartered Unit. We are excited to have an active group of members who have come forward to form this unit.

Four Pillars Award - Our SAL Squadron 43 has qualified for the “Four Pillars Award” again this year.

Post Officers & Chairs: The following Officers and Chairs have been elected and ap-



Courtesy Photo

Post 43 Color Guard leading the parade Best of the West in Jackson.

pointed for the coming year: Post Commander & Chaplain-Gregg Wogan; Adjutant-Dave Hill; Finance Officer-Michele Voorhees; Vice Commander-Eric Cole; 2nd Vice Commander-Ray Pilgrim; Service Officer-Jim Hillman; Boys State Chair-Bob Fitton; Oratorical Chair-Crystal Haney; Post Historian-Joe Burke. At our June meeting, Past Commander Joe Burke was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from our Post for his tireless service as Post Commander during the last six years. Also, our Post Adjutant, Dave Hill, was installed as the new Wyoming District 1 Commander at the Department Convention in Newcastle in June.

Memorial Day, Best of the West Parade, July 4th Parade, and Color Guard Activities: Our Post was

the lead unit again in the Jackson “Best of the West” parade. We also held Memorial Day ceremonies with rifle salutes on the Jackson town square, at three Jackson area cemeteries where we had placed flags on all veteran graves, and at the Snake River Bridge. Our Color Guard team marched first in the July 4th Jackson parade with a very large contingent of ten flag bearers, an added rank of marchers, and two trucks with Post, SAL, and Auxiliary members distributing candy to the crowds. We also provided Color Guards for our Jackson Post 43 Giants Legion Baseball Team, for the graduation ceremony of the Jackson Hole High School, and for the Grand Teton Music Festival’s Annual Patriotic Concert.

DISTRICT AND POST NEWS

District 5

Submitted by Powder River Post 13 Buffalo

Post 13, along with the VFW had our Memorial Day ceremonies. We put out flags around town and at the Cemetery.

Our honor guard has performed at several Veterans funerals. We are still serving breakfast twice a month for the public. Some of our members attended Christmas in July at the Soldiers and sailors home.

4 members attended the Department meeting in Newcastle. This weekend is the Johnson County Fair and Rodeo. We will sell Beer during the Rodeo , Saturday and Sunday . We will provide a Color Guard for the parade also.

I hope everyone is having a great Summer.
Post 13 Commander Cecil Benner

DISTRICT AND POST NEWS

District 2

Submitted by Ora Call Post 10 Wheatland



A 50 year presentation was made to our Ora Call Post 10 Finance Officer Tim Weaver by Post 10 Commander Steve Anderson, District 2

VETERANS' ROCK

307-514-0035

Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business

WHO : Moorcroft Post 25 current, past and prospective members; TAL Officers

WHAT : Open House - Picnic

WHERE: Moorcroft Park

WHEN : Sunday, September 14, 2025 1 – 4 p.m.

For more information contact Commander Claude, Unit President Vicki Paddock or D 5 Vice Commander Don Sullivan (307)620-5697

2026 Legion Membership

Legion membership renewal for 2026 is open.

The American Legion is the largest veteran's organization in the US. It has been advocating for veterans and their families for over 100 years. Some of the major accomplishments are lobbying for the formation of the Veterans Administration, Flag Code, GI Bill, and pushing for the PACT Act among many others. The members in Posts around the world do the brunt of the grass roots work by providing support and service throughout their community programs with money and backbone.

Every member is valuable to the organization regardless of how active you can be. Those who have the time to be active perform programs such as funeral honors, blood drives, collecting for food banks, and providing rides to the VA. The programs performed are as varied as the communities where the Posts belong. Many members are busy with their families and careers and lack the time to be involved. We understand because we all have been there, but please know your membership alone is a huge support to the



Chip Kossow
Wyoming Membership
Coordinator

mission. When the National Commander is presenting our legislative agenda, Congress knows they are speaking for the entire organization of concerned veterans, who vote!

Now that you know how important you are to our veterans and their families, your community, and the nation, let me give you some reasons on why you should renew as soon as possible.

1. Fiscally responsible to renew

now: The Legion spends over \$1.5 million annually mailing renewal notices. The mailings are in July, October, January, March, and May. Once you renew, you are removed from the mailing list. So, the sooner you renew, the more money you save the Legion.

2. Reduce the Legion renewal effort: Each level of the Legion has members working the renewal lists until everyone has renewed. The quicker the list is exhausted, the sooner these workers can direct their energy to programs.

3. Prestige. You and your Post / District / Department will be honored for getting this done sooner. Verbal praise, dinners, certificates, and plaques are possible awards.

4. Maintain your membership privileges. Few realize that your membership becomes delinquent on 01 Jan of the new membership year if you have not yet renewed for that year. 30 days after that, your privileges are suspended. Keep your privileges, renew now.

How can you renew? Renewing yourself is the most effective. Each member has access to mylegion.org. through the legion.org web-

site. If you don't have an account yet, you can create one in minutes with your personal email. Then your account is at your fingertips for easy renewal. Second most expedient is to pay your Post directly and they, in turn, can renew you on the Post mylegion account. Otherwise, you can mail your renewal to Department or National, but these are the least efficient. Feel free to contact me for information on mylegion for yourself or the Post.

Now that you have renewed, please help us to grow the Legion. I ask each member to recruit one new member. We all have veteran friends that are not currently members. Bring them in to help us help other veterans.

I'm at your service to help you meet your goals.

God bless America and our veterans!

Respectfully,
Chip Kossow
Wyoming Membership Coordinator

Post 21, Burns
719 332-2793
greenberetveteran@gmail.com

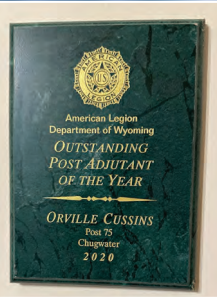


Left: Veteran and American Legion member for 72 years Orville Cussins. Above: Ruth Cussins, George Cussins, 1st Vice Ben Glenn, Orville Cussins, Dept. Adjutant Vanessa Stuart.



In the Spotlight

Penny Merryfield



Spotlight on a Veteran

Orville Cussins - Korean War Veteran joined the American Legion in July 1954. He served in the U.S Army in the 25th Infantry Regiment. Originally, Cussins had joined the National Guard in 1948, then went Army. He served in Korea and was on patrol in the Kumo Valley, and saw action on Heartbreak Ridge. He was on night patrol and stated it was so dark and black you couldn't see. "We would hollar in the caves for Korean Soldiers to come out...some would toss in grenades...and use of flame throwers. They did not want to be prisoners...artillery was shooting over us...this was the worse part of being there." Cussins stated. His best moment happened April 13, 1952, when he finally returned home from Korea!

Cussins would be honored by the Korean Government, as well the U.S. Army. During his many years in the American Legion Post 75 Chug Water, he would be named Adjutant of the Year for the Departmen of Wyoming. He also served the Boy Scouts of America for 50 years. In 2002 Cussins was awarded the Heroism Award from the Boy Scouts of America for saving the lives and the rescue of three people.

Cussins has three sons James of Douglas, George of Florida, and Steve of Kansas. Steve Cussins served in the Air National Guard and Air Force. He is the Commander of Plains Kansas Post.

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Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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1320 Hugur Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001

307-634-3035 Fax 307-635-7093
Email: adminassist@wyolegion.org web: wyolegion.org



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING

Headquarters Office Hours
Monday-Wednesday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Tuesday 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday and all Holidays
PO Box 186
Buffalo, WY 82834
307-620-5697

Email: deptaux@wylegionaux.org



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF WYOMING

Commander: Mike Hobbs
Adjutant: Jim Andersen

1320 Hugur Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Department of Wyoming 2026 Membership
as of 8/15/25

Including Encumbered HQ Transfers

WY Dist 0001 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0024	Archie Hay	Rock Springs	1	19	146	1	167	362	46.13
WY-0028	Tom Whitmore	Green River	0	21	8	1	30	194	15.46
WY-0036	Fort Bridger	Fort Bridger	1	11	50	0	62	122	50.82
WY-0040	Lavoy Thornock	Cokeville	0	0	2	0	2	10	20.00
WY-0041	Medicine Butte	Evanston	0	3	17	0	20	30	66.67
WY-0043	Jackson Hole	Jackson	0	16	69	0	85	136	62.50
WY-0046	Alpine	Alpine	0	2	11	0	13	30	43.33
WY-0047	Phillips-Edwards	Pinedale	0	4	11	0	15	26	57.69
WY-0049	Star Valley	Afton	0	1	3	0	4	12	33.33
WY-0055	Kemmerer	Kemmerer	0	1	16	0	17	32	53.13
WY-0078	Dee Fox	Big Piney	1	1	5	0	7	25	28.00
WY-0088	La Barge	La Barge	0	0	0	0	0	15	0.00
SUM:			3	79	338	2	422	994	42.45

WY Dist 0002 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0001	Ferdinand Brandstetter	Van Tassell	0	4	6	0	10	29	34.48
WY-0004	Wieten-Dupes	Lusk	0	2	10	0	12	18	66.67
WY-0005	Travis Snow	Torrington	0	18	32	0	50	110	45.45
WY-0008	Samuel Mares	Douglas	0	14	9	1	24	166	14.46
WY-0009	Jesse Martin	Glenrock	2	3	19	0	24	42	57.14
WY-0010	Ora Call	Wheatland	0	4	6	0	10	60	16.67
WY-0015	John Prince	Glendo	0	1	1	0	2	15	13.33
WY-0056	Marlyn B Anderson	Veteran	0	3	2	1	6	10	60.00
WY-0063	Reed-Gobble	Lingle	0	2	5	0	7	19	36.84
WY-0070	John A Mc Gill	Lagrange	0	0	1	0	1	11	9.09
WY-0075	Mc Donald And Voight	Chugwater	0	5	2	1	8	26	30.77
WY-0095	J J Webb	Guernsey	0	4	11	0	15	27	55.56
SUM:			2	60	104	3	169	533	31.71

WY Dist 0003 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0002	George W Vroman	Casper	0	33	96	1	130	217	59.91
WY-0016	Henry Whiteaway	Powder River	0	0	0	0	0	12	0.00
WY-0019	Riverton	Riverton	0	9	20	0	29	60	48.33
WY-0031	Philip Burlingham	Dubois	0	2	1	0	3	10	30.00
WY-0033	Don Stough	Lander	2	11	81	0	94	202	46.53
WY-0061	Washakie	Pavillion	0	2	0	0	2	10	20.00
WY-0081	Richard Pogue	Fort Washakie	0	1	4	0	5	16	31.25
WY-0096	Arapaho Warriors Cpl Bil	Riverton	0	0	0	0	0	25	0.00
SUM:			2	58	202	1	263	552	47.64

WY Dist 0004 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0011	Robert Boyd Stewart	Lovell	0	10	2	0	12	33	36.36
WY-0018	Walter Haynes	Thermopolis	0	2	6	0	8	16	50.00
WY-0020	Fred Coe	Cody	0	6	2	0	8	45	17.78
WY-0026	Hughes-Pittinger	Powell	1	14	77	1	93	156	59.62
WY-0029	Marion Tanner	Basin	0	3	0	0	3	40	7.50
WY-0032	Greybull	Greybull	0	4	19	0	23	31	74.19
WY-0044	Floyd Minch	Worland	1	18	59	0	78	171	45.61
WY-0085	James Oliver Hogg	Meeteetse	0	4	5	0	9	22	40.91
WY-0091	Heart Mountain	Heart Mountain	0	2	1	0	3	10	30.00
SUM:			2	63	171	1	237	524	45.23

BE THE ONE
TO **ASK** VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.
TO **LISTEN** WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.
TO **REACH** OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.

WY Dist 0005 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0003	Monroe-Bland	Newcastle	0	10	19	0	29	60	48.33
WY-0007	John Donald Garbutt	Sheridan	0	18	54	0	72	155	46.45
WY-0013	Powder River	Buffalo	0	26	66	2	94	145	64.83
WY-0025	Moorcroft	Moorcroft	0	2	1	0	3	15	20.00
WY-0042	Campbell County	Gillette	6	24	95	2	127	310	40.97
WY-0045	Crook County	Sundance	0	4	10	0	14	30	46.67
WY-0080	Roy Montgomery	Hulett	0	2	13	0	15	33	45.45
WY-0090	Hole-In-The-Wall	Kaycee	0	5	1	0	6	0	#DIV/0
WY-0307	Gillette College	Gillette College	0	3	4	0	7	60	11.67

WY Dist 0006 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0006	Francis E Self	Cheyenne	14	127	453	6	600	1,015	59.11
WY-0014	Husted-Pendleton	Laramie	1	45	115	1	162	306	52.94
WY-0021	Robert Hogan	Burns	0	4	14	0	18	30	60.00
WY-0054	Angus England	Saratoga	1	4	25	0	30	60	50.00
WY-0060	Donald W Eisenhower	Pine Bluffs	0	3	14	0	17	52	32.69
WY-0064	William Horne	Medicine Bow	0	8	1	0	9	25	36.00
WY-0077	Boyce-Marlatt	Albin	0	0	1	0	1	10	10.00
WY-0093	Garcia-Castaneda	Cheyenne	0	1	0	0	1	0	#DIV/0
WY-0122	Hittner-Engstrom-Duncai	Rawlins	0	5	2	0	7	44	15.91
SUM:			16	197	625	7	845	1,542	54.8

WY Dist 0099 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0017	E A Blackmore Memorial	Cheyenne	0	4	18	0	22	12	183.33
SUM:			0	4	18	0	22	12	183.33

Department of Wyoming Totals

	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Transfers	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
Sum:	31	555	1,721	18	2,325	4,965	46.83

Department of Wyoming 2026 Membership
as of 8/15/25

District Summary Including Encumbered HQ Transfers

	District	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
1	WY Dist 0001 LGN	3	79	338	2	422	994	42.45
2	WY Dist 0002 LGN	2	60	104	3	169	533	31.71
3	WY Dist 0003 LGN	2	58	202	1	263	552	47.64
4	WY Dist 0004 LGN	2	63	171	1	237	524	45.23
5	WY Dist 0005 LGN	6	94	263	4	367	808	45.42
6	WY Dist 0006 LGN	16	197	625	7	845	1,542	54.80
7	WY Dist 0099 LGN	0	4	18	0	22	12	183.33
SUM:		31	555	1,721	18	2,325	4,965	46.83

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DISTRICT AND POST NEWS

District 6

District 6 Commanders report:
A short introduction of myself, my name is Travis Jones and I was recently elected as the District 6 Commander. I am a United States Navy Veteran and have lived in Cheyenne for 14 years. I am new to the District Commander Role so will be a big learning curve for me. This will be a great year of learning how to create a successful membership year and establish a great working relationship with each of the District 6 Posts. I would like to identify Dwight Null as the Vice- Commander and Jim Lish as the District Adjutant. Our Goal will be to provide a great team at the District Level to help assist any Post with issues that arise.

This first few months as the District Commander I have, I made sure that all membership packets were distributed to all District 6 Posts, attended Post 60 in Pine Bluffs cookout and fundraiser, attended the 4th or July Independence Day fundraiser and family day at Post 6 in Cheyenn, Assisted Post 6 to prepare for the CFD parade, July 28th – July 31st, attended the American Legion State AA Baseball Tournament in Chey-



Travis Jones
District 6 Commander

enne supporting both Post 6 Sixers and Laramie Post 14 Rangers, and Aug 1st, travelled to Sheridan for the 45 Day DEC meeting.

I truly look forward to a very good year and reaching out to each Post in District 6. My goal for this year is to visit each Post at least 2 times to really start to build a good collaboration between District and each Post.

Travis Jones
District 6 Commander
307461-1151
Travisjones307wy@gmail.com

Robert Hogan Post 21 to hold Gun Raffle



Robrt Hogan Post 21 of Burns has embarked on a new fundraiser. They would like to thank Ken Persson Sr. for the idea and guidance.

Post Adjutant Penny Merryfield contacted AutoLok in Kimball, Nebraska after the approval to do a gun raffle.

This a unique AR-15 Rifle in 5.56MM/.223 cal. 5.56MM NATO cal., 16” Parkerized 4150CM M4 barrel, 1-in-8 twist

A2 flat top upper; 15” full floating M-Lok handrail

Recoil Technologies muzzle brake

CNC Machined billet aircraft aluminum lower receiver by PTI with Integrated trigger guard and enlarged flare magwell

MagPul® STR adjustable stock; MagPul® MOE+ Grip in Black

MagPul® MBUS Front and Rear Flip-Up Adjustable Sights in Black

MagPul PMag® 30 Rd. Magazine; Soft side Tactical Rifle Case

Accepts mil-spec and aftermarket AR-15 components and commercially available ambidextrous safety and bolt drops

Cerakote® Finished in Patriot Brown and Sunflower Yellow (tinted to match Wyo colors as closely as possible)

American Legion Challenge coin inserted on opposite side of lower receiver (coin provided by American Legion Post 21)

“American Legion Robert Hogan Post 21” engraved on lower receiver magwell above serial block.

Post 21 is selling a limited number of tickets (200) at \$20 a ticket. The hopes are to help bring in funds for assistance in obtaining a building for a post home.



The top web and social media hits of July



INSTAGRAM
40,031
Views of a post announcing the Boys Nation president and vice president. Not only was it the best of the month, it was more than the next three best posts combined.



EXTERNAL MEDIA
80,682,325
Potential audience size of press release announcing that an Alabama student was elected president of Boys Nation.



FACEBOOK
164,000+
Combined reach of content related to the Junior Shooting Sports championship, including the link to watch live, congratulations posts to the winners and more.



TWITTER
4,092
Impressions on a tweet from the American Legion Baseball account about the countdown to the ALWS. In fact, the ALB Twitter account had the three highest impressions during the month.



YOUTUBE
14,074
Subscribers to our YouTube channel, up nearly 1,000 from the start of the year.





NEWSLETTER
318,312
Opens of the July 14 Monday Briefing, with the subject line “Major statement’ on Russia,” fourth best of 2025 so far.



WEBSITE
13,012
Story with the most page views, “NATO must be ready for a two-front conflict with Russia and China.”



PODCAST
815
Downloads of the episode, “Top three things disruptive to your health with Jennifer Campbell,” best of the month and the second most among the previous 20 episodes.



LINKEDIN
3,794
Post with the most monthly impressions, related to the Independence Day video, which also received 1,720 views.

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In Support of Our Veterans

**TRAVIS SNOW POST #5
COUNTY FAIR STAND**



**Join us at the
Goshen County Fair!**

2025 Department Convention and Awards

Photos Courtesy of Chip Kossow and Ed Morrow





American Legion Auxiliary News

Department President's Report

Robin Ruff, Department President



Robin Ruff
President

Greetings! I don't know about you, but I am so excited to start a new year! 2024-25 was a great year due to the hard work of many dedicated leaders. Just imagine what 2025-26 will be like! By the time you read this, we will be back from National Convention in Tampa. We will be filled with enthusiasm, determination and excitement to share with you. We are starting this year with leaders of sper knowledge and experience with returning chairs, new chairs and awesome members! Let's embrace all new members and returning members!

I have kept the positive theme of Be the One with a little twist! I want us to Be the One To Be the Difference. One bite at a time. I hear you saying "one bite at a time?" I see so many people suffering with food insecurity. In other words, people are hungry! I want each of our members/units/districts to look around your community to see what a difference our American Legion Auxiliary can make to battle this problem! Is it a school? A veteran? Daycare? Food pantry? Family? Neighbor? I have an idea for a fund raising project that I will share

at Fall Workshop.
Thank you for volunteering to serve as Committee Chairs, Officers and everything you do! I hope I can attend meetings and activities and meeting with you personally. Please don't hesitate to reach out and I will do my best to come for a visit (weather permitting...per Wyoming)! Once again, thank you again for being part of our Legion Auxiliary and keep in touch! See you in Casper September 20, 2025.

Hope to see you all soon
2025-2026 Department President Robin Ruff

Department Vice President/Leadership Report



Cathey Raymer
*Vice President/
Leadership
Chairman*

LEADERSHIP
In a call to action, all members of the American Legion Auxiliary are encouraged to consider leadership roles within their Units, District, and at the Department level. Participation in these positions helps sustain the Auxiliary's mission and programs.
This year, I would like to focus on mentorship and ongoing education to help prepare members interested in leadership roles.
I was very fortunate to have a wonderful mentor who encouraged me to learn about the American Legion Auxiliary, its programs

and how they can support our veterans and our youth. This spirit of guidance and support is what leaders hope to instill across all Units.
Training and education remain priorities to encourage members to pursue leadership. Members are encouraged to take advantage of the free courses available through the ALA Academy on the National Website and attend Mission Training Sessions. These educational opportunities are designed to equip members with the necessary knowledge and skills to support Auxiliary programs.
2025-2026 Mission Training

- November 15th – Albany
- November 15th – Minneapolis
- January 31st – Las Vegas
- January 31st – Indianapolis
- February 7th – Atlanta

Registration for all Mission Training programs opens on August 27th on the National Website.
By focusing on mentorship and training, the Auxiliary aims to prepare its members for future responsibilities and continued support of its mission.

Respectfully
Cathey Raymer, Chairman

News from your Department Office



Peg Sullivan
Department Secretary

The days have flown by and I'm writing my article at the last minute. Sure hope this doesn't become a habit. Units should have received their Convention Packets either in person or in the mail. Our newest unit, Jackson poppies and packet has mysteriously disappeared.
The Department Office survived while I was on a 50th Wedding Anniversary Trip. We had an awesome vacation to England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales and

France the first of July. We connected with Clan names in Scotland and Ireland. Scotland and Ireland were green and gold from the wheat and barley fields. We were excited to see an American Legion Post in Killarney.
Fall Workshop will be held in Casper on September 20, 2025. A registration form is somewhere in this newspaper plus on the website and will be emailed to all units. Workshop promises to be fun as we learn about the Auxil-

iary Programs and meet members. Mark your calendar!
See the poppy article for details on "poppy orders". Please email your orders so we can pack poppies and send them home at Fall Workshop.
Be the One!
Legion Auxiliary.
Peg Sullivan
Department Secretary
Treasurer



Visit our Department Webpage! www.wylegionaux.org

Where you will find the latest news, upcoming events, contact information, forms and publications

See you at
Fall Workshop
September 20th



Serving Veteran's and their family's is important. I look forward to meeting a lot of new people and learning new ideas that can be shared with all of my units, so we can better serve our Veteran's and our community.



Cheryl Craig
District 1 President

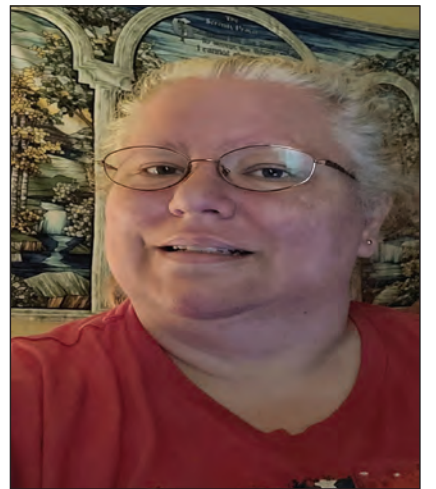
Sincerely
Cheryl Craig
Wyoming District 1 President
Unit 24, Vice President.

District 2 Report

Please allow me to introduce myself as the new District Two President. I am B-Jo Laing. I am a member of American Legion Auxiliary John A. McGill Unit 70 in LaGrange, Wyoming. I was previously the Vice-President for District 2 for the 2024-2025 year.

I am looking forward to visiting each of the various units in our district this year. I've heard from a few units already and appreciate the work you are doing for veterans. LaGrange Unit 70 hosted a luncheon on Memorial Day following the cemetery ceremony. They held a carry-in dinner to hear reports from the Girls and Boys State delegates. They also sent two members to Department Convention. Samuel Mares Unit 8, Douglas also sent two members to Convention.

Douglas is also planning ahead and has offered the following schedule for the next few months. They will be having a float in the State Fair Parade on August 16th. On September 6th, they will be holding their Third Annual Putt Fore Patriots at the Country Club in Douglas. October sees them having their Bake-a-Thon to bake cookies for the VA hospital in Cheyenne. Finally, in November, they will have a Veterans Day ceremony followed by breakfast.



B-Jo Laing
District 2 President

I would love to include more about each Unit in our District so be sure to send me info on what you have done and what you are planning to do. Also, send me photos from your meetings and events as well. I look forward to meeting so many of your members.

B-Jo Laing, District 2 President
Extra: Glenrock Unit 9 had a busy May and June. They held a luncheon for Women Veterans and presented a quilt to the lucky winner. Poppy Days brought in \$1,765.53 which included a donation from the Casper Walmart. The Unit sponsored 14 girls to Girls State.

District 4 Report



Susan Sironen
District 4 President

As District President, I conducted a workshop in Powell in July on keeping track of volunteer hours both on an individual basis and as a unit for year-end reporting. This will also be held for Basin and Worland in September.

Basin Unit 29 – Our Unit conducted the wreath laying ceremony for the Memorial Day ceremony at the local cemetery along with the Post. In June, our Unit sponsored 2 girls from Greybull, 2 from Burlington and 1 from Basin for Girls State. One of our members attended the Department Convention. We do not meet over the summer months and are looking forward to gearing up again in September.

Powell Unit 26 - We participated in many Memorial Day weekend activities including placing over 700 small grave flags at Crown Hill Cemetery and conducting a wreath

laying ceremony at our Post's Wall of Honor. Our Poppy Day event was held at local grocery and hardware stores. New Unit officers took office and new committee chairpersons were selected for a two-year term. Three Unit officers attended the Dept of WY convention in Newcastle. We raised over \$1,300 at a bake sale, with all proceeds being donated for postage for troop care packages. Four Unit members participated in the 4th of July parade in Cody and we also had an Auxiliary float in the Park County Fair parade where we handed out small flags to the community. Several Unit members attended a Volunteer Hours Workshop presented by the District 4 President. Two Unit officers attended and participated in Christmas in July in Buffalo along with the Sons of the American Legion. We managed the monthly Commodities Food Distributions, weekly food giveaways, and free Taco Tuesdays – to assist with food insecurities in our community. Our Unit, along with our Post and Sons Squadron made donations to the Legion in Kerr County, TX to assist in the flood recovery efforts. Our Unit, along with our Post and Sons Squadron made donations to a local disabled veteran who was in jeopardy of losing his home.

Upcoming: Our Post's Legion Family Picnic in the Park will be in August.

Several Unit members are on the 2026 Department of WY Convention planning committee, as the convention will be held in Powell next year.

Historian Report

The local radio station in Douglas has an ad that they have been running for as long as I can remember. It states “Doing business without advertising is like blinking in the dark. You know what you’re doing, but no one else does.” This can be applied to our reporting. You know what your Unit is doing, but no one else does, unless you report it. Think of this as the one scenario where it’s encouraged to brag about yourself. Report your activities. Report your hours. While a dedicated History report is nice to receive, however, I would rather get a copy of your other reports than nothing at all. This past spring, I received a copy of an email from one Unit that listed all of their activities by program, with a note that they were including me in the email even though there was not a History report. This email is a History



Jessica York
Historian

report, as it tells everything they did throughout the year. Don't forget to keep track of your hours and money sent for your Impact Report. This last spring, 24 Units turned in Impact Reports, encompassing 787 members. Lets try to beat that this year!



THANK YOU!

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED





Gloria Taylor
District 5 President

District 5 Report

Greetings from District 5, I am Gloria Taylor District 5 President.

I want to start by giving my Vice President Tonya Dafoe a big thank you for everything her and her team did to host the State Convention in New Castle! It was a great success and the best showing I have seen in my years of attending.

As for my Units, they have been going steady helping veterans. Whether it is serving them

at the Wyoming Veterans Home in Buffalo, calling bingo and making milkshakes at the VA in Sheridan, or helping them at home with whatever they need.

Sheridan Unit 7 says, even though the unit doesn't meet during the summer months the members have all kept busy. In June they held an ice cream social event at the local park to visit with the Girls State Delegates and their families. On July 5th, they worked on the



KARZ program at the VA.

We Congratulate Department President Robin Ruff and District 5 President Gloria Taylor. They are both from Unit 007 in Sheridan!

I am looking forward to Fall Workshop in Casper and can't wait to be able to visit all my Units.

*Until next time,
Gloria Taylor
District 5 President*

Constitution & Bylaws



Shareen Johnson
Constitution & Bylaws
Chairman

ATTENTION: There were numerous changes made to the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wyoming Standing Rules at the Department convention in June. There were no changes made to the Constitution or the Bylaws. The most current version of these documents is available for download on the Department website. If a hard copy is needed, please contact the Department office or myself.

- V. Department Chairmen – Section D – Constitution & Bylaws was updated to reflect what is currently being done on the Department level regarding the Department Constitution & Bylaws, and Standing Rules.

- I. Organization – Section C – Meetings/Gifts/Flowers was updated to reflect what is currently being done in regard to Department meetings, gifts, and flowers as well as address sending invitations to the Na-

tional Officers.

- V. Department Chairmen was updated to clarify report due dates as well as include information regarding the Unit & District Impact Reports.

- VII. Department Convention – Section N – Delegates and Alternates to National Convention will be incorporated into C – Delegates & Alternates to National Convention and all sections re-lettered. In addition, the contents of both sections were updated to clarify the duties of the National Convention delegates and alternates as well as include information about the stipend received upon completion of those duties.

- III. Department Convention – Section A – Standing Rules Governing Convention was updated to reflect what is currently being done at the Department Convention.

- VII. Department Convention – Section L – Voting: As there was no clarity as to who can vote on the Department level, Section 3 was added: All senior members of the Department of Wyoming, American Legion Auxiliary, are eligible to vote on all issues addressed on the Department Convention floor as long as they are in good standing, i.e. have paid the current year's dues and have not been expelled from their Unit or the Department.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: In addition to your Unit's governing documents, i.e. Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules, one of the best Unit resources is the American Legion Auxiliary Unit Guide Book.

This provides information, direction to desired information, and guidance to unit members about the history, mission, programs, membership eligibility, customs, and operations of an American Legion Auxiliary unit, which is the community-level organization of the Auxiliary. This was last revised in October of 2024. Please check to see that your Unit has the most recent version available for ref-

erence. It is available for download at - <https://member.legion-aux.org/member/guides/unit-guide-book>.

If I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me, either by email (shareen.lander@gmail.com) or by phone (307-349-9749). Respectfully submitted,

*Shareen Johnson,
Constitution & Bylaws
Chairman*

Thank You.....

Rick and Susan Dansereau want to congratulate all of the members of the American Legion Family at Newcastle for a job well done.

The 2025 Department Convention was great. Your hard work did not go unrecognized. Bravo!!!

WHO : Moorcroft Post 25 current, past and prospective members; TAL Officers

WHAT : Open House - Picnic

WHERE: Moorcroft Park

WHEN : Sunday, September 14, 2025 1 – 4 p.m.

For more information contact Commander Claude, Unit President Vicki Paddock or D 5 Vice Commander Don Sullivan (307)620-5697

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Cathey Raymer
Americanism
Chairman

Americanism is to inspire “Patriotic Spirit” among our Auxiliary members, our communities and our youth.

Members work with their communities to share their knowledge of history and etiquette of the American flag and the importance of patriotic holidays. By sharing this knowledge, we hope to instill a lifelong respect for our national symbols and our veterans that served our country. With this goal in mind, we need to increase participation in our Star Spangle Kids program, the Americanism Essay Contest and Wreaths Across America. We also, work to support and promote the American Legion Americanism programs which include the American Legion baseball, the Oratorical contes and the Jr. Sports Shooting program.

The results for the 2025 Department Americanism Essay Contest.

- Class I
1st place – Colby Mueller - Unit 9 - Glenrock

Americanism

- 2nd place – Cooper Hammerich - Unit 13 – Buffalo
3rd place – Carson Tremain – Unit 70 – LaGrange
Class II
1st place – Jaden Herth – Unit 13 – Buffalo
2nd place – Cort Hammerich – Unit 13 - Buffalo
Class III
1st place – Ava Lockman – Unit 13 – Buffalo
2nd place – Austin Mueller – Unit 9 – Glenrock
3rd place – Molly Bennick – Unit 13 – Buffalo
Class V
1st place – Bailey Muller – Unit 9 – Glenrock
Class VI
1st place – Andrew Bearing – Unit 13 – Buffalo

Congratulations to all the winners and participants for their outstanding achievements.

We are days away from learning the results of the National Americanism Essay contest. I will be able to share those with you at Fall Workshop. The theme for the 2026 contest will also be revealed, giving students a new opportunity to share their voices and talent.

Thank you to everyone that participated in the flag photo contest. I received 17 entries and all of them were amazing. The members that attended the Department Convention had a hard time picking their favorite. The race was close, but the outstanding winning photo was taken by Shareen Johnson.

Respectfully
Cathey Raymer, Chairman

Veteran’s Affairs & Rehabilitaion Report



Tammy Harris
Chairman

Hello and welcome to another program year for the Department of Wyoming. Veterans affairs and rehabilitation is a cornerstone program of the American Legion Auxiliary and there are so many ways that we, as members, can serve our veterans. If you live close enough to either the Cheyenne VA, the Sheridan VA or the Buffalo Home you may already be volunteering your time there. If you don’t live close, you may be sending cookies or money to help offset some of the programs offered at one or more of the facilities. But did you know that you can serve veterans in other ways?

You can serve veterans and their caregivers at home. You can offer to mow a lawn, rake leaves or give a ride to the store or doctor’s office. You can bake cookies and deliver them to your local nursing home or assisted living center; chances are that there are veterans there. You can check in with your veteran friends and family regularly. A simple phone call can make all the difference in the world. My point here is that we don’t always have to be thinking of the big gestures—sure, they make great PR opportunities and its fine to have the big showy projects, but don’t forget about the small thoughtful gestures and of-

fers to help that make a difference each and every day.

With that being said, there are things that our Units can do in the upcoming year. I encourage you to reach out to the Cheyenne or Sheridan VA or the Buffalo Home and ask them what they need (get in touch with the respective Department representative for each facility as a starting point.) Offer to help with a Creative Arts Festival—both Cheyenne and Sheridan participate. What organization is a Co-Presenter of the National Creative Arts Festival? If you guessed the American Legion Auxiliary you got it right. Even if its too late for this year’s local festival start planning now for next year—there are grants available through the ALA Foundation to help offset the costs.

Did you know that Wreaths Across America falls squarely under VA & R? Does your Unit participate? Want to learn more? Jump into the ALA Academy and look for a Webinar with that topic.

Did you know that the American Legion has partnered with Cornell University to offer free trainings to members who are interested in learning about how to have hard conversations with a veteran in crisis? Follow the National American Legion Social Channels, find a class and sign up.

There are so many ways that we can serve our veterans and the best thing is that they range from small and simple thoughtful gestures to big sponsorship opportunities. My advice is start small, start simple.

Finally, pictures tell the story of what happened and it is absolutely acceptable to set up a great photo that shows what you or your unit did. Remember to be branded and proudly show off your ALA gear and send those pictures in to tell me what you do this year.

I hope to see you all at Fall Workshop in September in Casper, and until then, keep up the great work.

Tammy Harris

Department Poppy Report

Another year has come and gone. We had a wonderful Department Convention where we shared our beautiful poppy pieces. Thank you to everyone who participated in the contest. This upcoming year, I wish to focus on poppies again and how we use and distribute them. Thank you, President Robin Ruff, for entrusting me with the Poppy Program. I so love doing it!

I just want to take a moment to remind you to get your poppy orders into Secretary Peg Sullivan ASAP, so we can distribute poppies at our Fall Workshop. If you do not need poppies, please continue to send in a form and declare zero poppies. If no form is received, your unit will be charged \$15 for 100 poppies that you will NOT receive. So, it is important to get those turned in.

Stay tuned for what we will be doing for convention this 2025-2026 year. I’ll be sharing details at Fall Workshop! Don’t forget to start planning now for your Poppy Posters. Getting in touch with teachers early on is more likely to get you more entries. Think outside the



B-Jo Laing
Poppy Chairman

box too and contact libraries or art classes/schools to participate as well. If you need ideas or help getting started, please feel free to contact me.

I am looking forward to this year and cannot wait to see all your love for veterans through your use and promotion of the Poppy.

B-Jo Laing, Poppy Chair
2025-2026



WE NEED YOU!

The ALA Department of Wyoming encourages Units to send a representative to Department Meetings.

Every meeting provides sharing ideas, information and renewing friendships





Linda Orr
Rep

Sheridan VA Healthcare Network

The KARZ Show July 5 was a busy day at the VA. Old time cars, food trucks, vendors and non-profit group booths were on the grounds and drew much of the Sheridan community up for a fun time. The Creative Arts Show entries totaled one and so there was no show. If you are a veteran and registered at the VA and are crafty or talented in singing, dancing or poetry and would like to show off your talents, please contact Bill Szatmary, CDCE Manager at 307-675-3226 before mid-September.

Thanks again to Buffalo and Sheridan members for your activities for the veterans at the hospital. Thanks are also give to all who volunteer at the hospital, clinics and help with other special activities. Your monetary donations, in-kind donations and of course your cookies are greatly appreciated.

Wish list needs continue to be large 3X-7X men’s clothing, blue jeans, tennis/ gym shoes, socks, sport boxer shorts, travel size toiletries, gas and Walmart cards. Of course with winter on the horizon, warm clothing items will be needed.

Thanks again.
Linda Orr and Melba Bennett, Reps



Melba Bennet
Rep



Chaplain’s Corner

The 2025-2026 Auxiliary year has begun. Thank you for your continued support allowing me to serve as your Chaplain, it is truly a privilege and an honor. I am more than willing to send cards out to members for significant life events. These include get well wishes, sympathy, thinking of you, congratulations/special recognition, and milestone birthdays. While I would love to recognize all members for all things, I must be fiscally responsible and limit my greetings to the confines of the C& B. Please be sure to be using the current form available on the website.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with these requests. In addition to these requests, I am asking all units to send in monthly reports letting me know what correspondence you have sent to

out members. I do not need their names, but simply a listing of how many notes, cards, or phone calls were sent. Also if your unit has had the opportunity to participate in any community ceremonies, I would love to be able to share this on the divisional and national level.

I hope to see many of you at the Fall Workshop in Casper on September 20, 2025. I will have new Chaplain forms available and look forward to meeting all of you if I have not already done so, and renewing the friendships I already have.

I am willing to receive the reports both by USPS and digitally at:chaplainwylegionaux@gmail.com

See you in Casper,
Susan Dansereau

"In the Clouds"

Sympathy
Bonnie Ehresmann - Unit 25
Death of Husband

Barb Vetter Past NWDVP
Death of Husband



Susan Dansereau
Chaplain



Vicki Paddock
Membership Chairman

See
you
at
Fall
Workshop
Sept. 20

Membership

	Unit	2026 Goals			
WY UNIT 0001	Ferdinand Brandstetter	16	WY UNIT 0026	Hughes-Pittinger	123
WY UNIT 0003	George Monroe	18	WY UNIT 0028	Tom Whitmore	114
WY UNIT 0005	Travis Snow	88	WY UNIT 0029	Marion Tanner	51
WY UNIT 0006	Francis E Self	237	WY UNIT 0033	Don Stough	71
WY UNIT 0007	John Donald Garbutt	88	WY UNIT 0036	Fort Bridger	51
WY UNIT 0008	Samuel Mares	73	WY UNIT 0040	Lavoy Thornock	27
WY UNIT 0009	Jesse Martin	49	WY UNIT 0042	Campbell County	169
WY UNIT 0010	Ora Call	40	WY UNIT 0043	Jackson Hole	29
WY UNIT 0013	Powder River	134	WY UNIT 0044	Floyd Minch	91
WY UNIT 0014	Husted-Pendleton	101	WY UNIT 0046	Alpine	27
WY UNIT 0015	John Prince	83	WY UNIT 0047	Phillips-Edwards	31
WY UNIT 0016	Henry Whiteaway	6	WY UNIT 0054	Angus England	60
WY UNIT 0017	E A Blackmore Memorial	20	WY UNIT 0060	Donald W. Eisenhower	35
WY UNIT 0019	Riverton	14	WY UNIT 0064	William Horne	26
WY UNIT 0024	Archie Hay	255	WY UNIT 0070	John A McGill	35
WY UNIT 0025	Moorcroft	78	WY UNIT 0075	Mcdonald And Voight	16
WY UNIT 0026	Hughes-Pittinger	123	WY UNIT 0077	Boyce-Marlatt	24
WY UNIT 0028	Tom Whitmore	114	WY UNIT 0078	Dee Fox	23
WY UNIT 0029	Marion Tanner	51	WY UNIT 0080	Roy Montgomery	36
WY UNIT 0033	Don Stough	71	WY UNIT 0081	Richard Pogue	17
			WY UNIT 0088	La Barge	14
			WY UNIT 0090	Hole-In-The-Wall	31
			WY UNIT 0095	J J Webb	39
				TOTAL	2440



Alyssa Hinckley
Wyoming Girls State Director

September is here and I am just barely recovered from the fast pace week we had in June. It was a huge success getting 96 of our Wyoming high school juniors (now seniors) through this spectacular program.

This year, we had some incredible firsts! It was the first year we successfully pulled off a Girls State Court of appeal. Our Girls State Supreme Court robed up, heard oral arguments, and ruled on the case marking a historical moment in Girls State History. Big shout out to our courts staff, Gayle Baugh and Tammy Harris, plus an array of guest assistants who came together to pull that off. It was an incredible educational experience for the delegates to get to see and experience something new. Further, for the first time, we had two of our Wyoming Girls Nation senators selected to return and serve as JCs. Emma Perhinger (Buffalo) and Emma Johnson (Powell), came back for a second year of fun - this time in a leadership role. Emma P even went on to win top JC of Girls Nation - we couldn't be prouder of her and all she has done to represent Wyoming. Speaking of Girls Nation,

our two senators, Marlo Ellis, and Abbilene Odell, both from Cheyenne. Returned with an insurmountable amount of knowledge, touting this experience was life changing.

Congratulations to our top elected Delegates from 2025:

Governor - Sawyer Massie, Torrington

Secretary of State - Audrey Johnson, Powell

Treasurer - Maile McCumber, Thermopolis

Auditor - Tia Frausto, Cheyenne

Superintendent of Public Instruction - Aubbri Wagner, Burlington

As we tie a bow on 2025, we reflect on all the amazing things that came from the week. I hope that all your delegates have returned and provided their report to the unit about their experience. If not - reach out and invite them to a meeting! Not all of the week was dream, plenty of frustration, missed opportunity or "oops, we should have done better" - but all in all we, as staff, can take all those lessons learned and grow into making this program even better!! After all, Delegates aren't the only ones who go to Girls State and get the chance to learn and grow!

The amazing staff we have assembled of 25 volunteers is diligently working on what is to come for 26. Compiling lessons learned and reaching out to others states to see how they do business. There is always room for improvement, and we are determined to make this program the best it can be for those high school girls. But we certainly can't do it without you! This past year the unit chairmen knocked it out of the park with recruiting - having recruited more delegates than I have seen in my 7 years volunteering. An amazing accomplishment but we must keep up the momentum! Please

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State



Courtesy Photo

Above: Girls State Delegates with Governor and Mrs. Gordon. Below: Girls and Boys Nation in Washington D.C.



continue to pitch the program and spread the word. We cannot survive as a program without you as chairmen leading the charge and recruiting delegates. Keep it up and let's see those numbers increase even more.

Thank you to all who devote their time and attention to this program, it really makes an impact on our next generation. If you ever have

questions or want to get involved Girls State in some capacity, I am always just a phone call away!

Alyssa B. Hinckley
Director
ALA Girls State
wygsdirector@gmail.com
307-630-6263

STAND DOWN

This year Standdown will be held October 4th. It will be held in the Depot Plaza in Cheyenne from 9 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. If anyone is interested in donating items ie. cup-a-soup, hot chocolate, protein bars, instant coffee packets, hot cups, stocking caps, gloves/mittens please contact Reps Vicki Paddock or Peg Sullivan. Remember if you are donating sweatshirts they need to be from XL to 5XL. Items may be brought to Fall Workshop September 20, 2025.



Unit 26 Entry in Powell Parade

DEPARTMENT OF WY CHAIRMEN 2025 - 2026				
PROGRAM		ADDRESS	PHONE #	EMAIL
Americanism				
Cathey Raymer		PO Box 1085 Lyman WY 82937	307-677-0496	catheyraymer55@gmail.com
Auxiliary Emergency Fund				
Kenzi Allen		719 Artesicin Rd # 44 Cheyenne, WY 82007	307-757-7739	kinzlee1998@gmail.com
Chaplain				
Susan Danserau		2110 Wyoming Dr Green River WY 82920	775-790-3105	chaplainwylegionaux@gmail.com
Children & Youth				
Sonja Wright		2 Peak Ct Gillette WY 82716	307-689-3247	sonja@collinscom.net
Community Service				
Jessica York		509 2nd St. Space 4 Douglas WY 82633	307-359-2077	countrygirljdy@gmail.com
Constitution & Bylaws				
Shareen Johnson		PO Box 1321 Lander WY 82520	307-349-9749	shareen.lander@gmail.com
Education				
Linda Orr		PO Box 465 Ranchester WY 82839	307-655-9839	linda54.orr@gmail.com
Finance Committee				
Vicki Paddock - expires 2026		information under membership		
Tammy Harris - expires 2027		information under VA & R		
Sonja Wright - expires 2028		2 Peak Ct Gillette WY 82716	307-689-3247	sonja@collinscom.net
Girls State				
Alyssa Hinckley, Director		6512 Kicking Horse Ct Cheyenne WY 82001	307-630-6263	wygsdirector@gmail.com
Susan Dansereau, Ass't		2110 Wyoming Dr Green River WY 82920	775-790-3105	dansereau_r_f@hotmail.com
Girls State Committee				
Anne Maria Octavio Term Expires 2026		1921 Stadium Dr Sheridan WY 82801		annemarieoctavio@gmail.com
Shareen Johnson Term Expires 2027		PO Box 1321 Lander WY 82520	307-349-9749	shareen.lander@gmail.com
Jen Yack Term Expires 2028		5236 Shadow Rock Drive Cheyenne WY 82009	307-275-2404	jen_yack@hotmail.com
Historian				
Jessica York		509 2nd St. Space 4 Douglas WY 82633	307-359-2077	countrygirljdy@gmail.com
Juniors				
Sunny Hobbs		220 Polk Rock Springs WY 82901	307-922-2712	sunnyC2hobbs@gmail.com
Leadership				
Cathey Raymer		information under Americanism		
Legislative				
Peg Sullivan		24 Langdon Rd Buffalo WY 82834	307-620-5697	deptaux@wylegionaux.org
Membership				
Vicki Paddock		PO Box 334 Rozet WY 82727	307-756-2433	vickip@vcn.com
National Security				
Trudy Zaffarano		1314 2nd St Cody WY 82414	307-272-3495	trudyzaff71@gmail.com
Poppy				
B-Jo Laing		500 3rd Ave #141 LaGrange WY 82221	801-717-6783	bjovfwaux@gmail.com
Public Relations				
Melba Bennett		132 W 14th Sheridan WY 82801	307-461-1435	melbaben44@gmail.com
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation				
Tammy Harris		PO Box 634 Green River WY 82935	307-389-2705	tjharris@wyoming.com
Veteran Facilities in Wyoming				
Cheyenne VA Federal				
Vicki Paddock		Information under Membership		
Peg Sullivan		information under Legislative		
Sheridan VA Federal				
Linda Orr		information under Education		
Melba Bennett		information under PR		
WY Veterans Home				
Edie Taffner		303 N Lobban Buffalo WY 82834	307-620-1200	e.taffnerwyo@outlook.com



SAL Christmas in July.

Photo by Ruth Ross



Unit 43 - Jackson.

Courtesy Photo



Fall Work Shop

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Wyoming
Fall Workshop
September 20, 2025
Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center-Casper, Wyoming

Finance Committee –By Zoom, Date and Time TBD

Friday, September 19, 2025
5:00 p.m. Girl State Training
7:00 p.m. Department Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday September 20, 2025
**Greetings will be taken to the Legion and SAL
***Lunch will be on your own from 12 to 1:30 pm

9:00 a.m. Opening
Invocation – Susan Dansereau
Pledge of Allegiance –
Preamble to the Constitution –
POW MIA Table – Chaplain Susan Dansereau
Welcome –
Response –
Introductions of ALA District, Department, & National Officers
Introduction of Past Department Presidents
Roll Call - Units and Officers
Audit Committee Report -
Finance Committee Report – Vicki Paddock
Department Executive Committee Report – Peg Sullivan
NEC Report – Vicki Paddock
9:40 a.m. Be the One To Be the Difference. One bite at a time.
10:00 a.m. Department of WY Programs
Americanism – Cathey Raymer
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Kenzie Allen
Chaplain – Susan Dansereau
Children and Youth – Sonja Wright
Community Service – Jessica York
Constitution & Bylaws – Shareen Johnson
Education – Linda Orr
Girls State – Alyssa Hinckley
Girls Nation – Emma Pehringer
Historian – Jessica York
Juniors – Sunny Hobbs
Legislative – Peg Sullivan
Leadership – Vice President Cathey Raymer
National Security – Trudy Zaffarano
Public Relations – Melba Bennett
Poppy – B-Jo Laing
Orders received will be distributed
VA & R – Tammy Harris
Membership – Vicki Paddock
2:30 p.m. Service Project
3:15 p.m. Peg's Tidbits/Challenges
3:40 p.m. Benediction
3:50 p.m. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

MID WINTER – January 20, 2026 - Wheatland



2025 Fall Workshop
September 19 – 20, 2025

Ramkota
800 N Poplar
Casper WY 82601



LEGION:		REGISTRATION
	Friday, September 19	AUXILIARY
	Department Finance Committee	Zoom – 9/17 @ 7 pm
	Department Executive Committee - Teton	7 p.m.
5 p.m.	Legion Finance Committee	
7 p.m.	Legion Executive Committee	
	Saturday, September 20	
	WORKSHOP	
	Auxiliary – WY Theater	9 a.m.
9 a.m.	Legion – North Ball Room	
9 a.m.	SAL – Teton Room	

Registration at the Door

	FEE	NUMBER	TOTAL
REGISTRATION	\$15.00		\$
		TOTAL	\$

LUNCH on your OWN

Auxiliary _____	Unit # _____
Legion _____	Post # _____
SAL _____	Squadron # _____

ALA Department of WY American Legion Auxiliary
PO Box 186; Buffalo WY 82834



Hotel – Ramkota (307) 266-6000

\$95.00 + tax

A block of rooms will be held until August 20, 2025
Block of Rooms: American Legion Auxiliary Block

Visit our Department Webpage!
www.wylegionaux.org
Where you will find the latest news, upcoming events, contact information, forms and publications

BE THE ONE

TO ASK VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.

TO LISTEN WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.

TO REACH OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.