Volume 33. No. 4

1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82003

December 2021

Commander's Corner

Promise to the Continuous The American Lagor Continuous The Americ

Jerry Clark, Commander

Since the Mission Blue Post Assistance Program went into effect following the approval of Resolution No. 36 by the National Executive Committee in October 2020, more than \$400,000 in financial grants have been provided to posts that have been negatively impacted from COVID-19.

The program provides up to \$1,000 in grants to posts that are in good standing with their respective department and meet the qualifying criteria (see below). These funds must be used exclusively to pay current or past due rent, mortgage, utilities and insurance premiums.

The Mission Blue Post Assistance Program application is online here. Eligible posts are able to apply for this one-time grant up to July 1, 2022.

Mission Blue Post Assistance grants still available

GRANT APPLICATION QUALIFICATION

To apply, posts must have:

- 1. A Consolidated Post Report on file at National Headquarters.
- 2. Filed an IRS 990 within the prescribed due date.
- 3. Filed all other required forms and reports as prescribed by the department.
- 4. Actively participated in one or more American Legion programs within the last 18 months.
 - 5. A financial need.
- 6. A certificate of insurance for all liability coverage naming The American Legion doing business as (dba) The American Legion National Headquarters and the post's department as an additional insured. (Submit declaration page showing coverage.)
- 7. Documentation indicating that the post is properly incorporated.

Note: Department commanders and/or adjutants must certify the applicant meets the criteria.

QUESTIONS-AND-ANSWERS ABOUT APPLICATION RE-QUIREMENTS

- Q: Why are posts required to have national headquarters listed as an additional insured under current insurance policies?
- A: Any organization using the tradenames of The American Legion and needing liability cover-

age (as indicated in Resolution No. 35) is required to specify that The American Legion is held harmless and named as additional insured on any and all insurance liability policies. This tradename protection is a standard business practice and not viewed as a control of the insurance purchasing organization (e.g., post).

Q: What should we do if National Headquarters has a different EIN listed than what the post, department and/or the application provides?

A: All post EINs need to be accurate within MyLegion.org, the National Headquarters database. If the EIN that National Headquarters has on file is inaccurate, then an IRS inclusion letter needs to be completed and signed so that the system records can be updated. Please reach out to the Internal Affairs Division for a copy of this form, which may be completed by the post and department.

Q: What constitutes "a financial need" as described in the Mission Blue requirements?

A: Simply having a bill due that relates to any of the approved expenses listed (e.g., mortgage, lease, utilities, insurance, etc.) indicates a financial need for a Mission Blue Post grant.

Q: Where should applications be submitted and what is necessary to accompany those applications?

A: All applications will first need to go through the respective department prior to being submitted to National Headquarters. Any post interested in pursuing a Mission Blue Post Assistance grant should start by checking with their department to see what forms and additional information is needed for the department to verify that the post does in fact meet all grant requirements. For example, most departments and national keep a record of annual CPRs on file. Therefore some departments may not require proof of a prior submission from the post.

Q: What is required by recipient posts in terms of the grant report?

A: All recipient posts are required to submit a grant report within six months of the grant/check issue date. There is a standardized grant report that is sent out with every inclusion letter to the department for the recipient posts. A fillable PDF version is also available via email request to ia@legion.org. When completing the Mission Blue grant report, a recipient post needs to only report how the grant, which is capped at \$1,000, was utilized. For example, \$250 used for insurance and \$750 used for utilities. Reported figures should not exceed the amount that was awarded.

Vice Commander's Corner

Deb French, Vice Commander

I hope you had a great Veterans Day. We owe a debt of gratitude to all our Veterans, that one day out of the year to recognize them seems

Veterans Day, Buddy Checks, and Fall Workshop

small in comparison to all their sacrifices. I look forward to hearing about your individual ceremonies. God Bless all our Veterans!

Fall workshop last month was a great success with all six districts represented. A big thank you to PDC Bill Frye for his training on personify. If you missed it you can still see training videos on the Legion site that run from 3-12 minutes in length. I recommend this for everyone who is still struggling to understand the new system.

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work, as we managed to reach our first goal of 55%. Our goal of 65% for November has come and gone by this printing, but

December 7th of 75% is attainable through visibility. You can start reaching out to those unpaid members via email, phone, text, mail, or just by knocking on their door. You also have available to you, your County Assessor's Office. Through public records they can give you name and address only of those Veterans in your county who are currently taking advantage of the property tax break as well as vehicle licensing. This is your opportunity to reach out to these vets and invite them to events at your post or to check up on them and see if there is anything you can do for them.

Our National Commander has vowed 'No Veteran Left Behind'. And here is part of his plan; if you have a member who failed to pay their dues last year regardless of the reason, National will cover 20-21 dues provided they pay this year's membership dues. The idea is we don't want members to lose their continuous years of service. In order for members to receive this gift,

they must pay their dues to the post and in turn the post must send in a member data form along with the members' dues. You cannot transmit these online as they will not receive the credit for last year's membership. This is a great incentive to get those members back.

Let's not forget Buddy Checks and Post/District Revitalizations. This can be done with just a few members from your post who are willing to sit down and make phone calls for a few hours. You can also ask members who may know those who haven't yet paid and ask them to reach out for a more positive contact. Don't forget to contact me with your revitalization dates. Be on the lookout from your District Commanders for phone scripts, tips and other ideas on how to improve your membership totals.

P.s. You have less than 40 shopping days till Christmas!

Good Luck to all of you! Deb French For God and Country

More from the Commander





Jerry Clark, Commander

Legionnaires,

I was on a Zoom call with Western Region and National staff. As Department Commander we meet on a regular basis to discuss how we are handling and what each department is doing to increase our membership. Department of Wyoming missed our 65% goal by 0.19%. That was so close. Let's not give up and continue our efforts to renew our membership and encourage other veterans to join. Below is a list of ideas that came from our meeting and I wanted to share them with

you.

- 1. At the post level, Post Commanders form a membership committee that goes out and knocks on doors doing buddy checks. Also going after post renewals. Talk with them and see if there is anything you can do for them. At our department level calls are made by myself, Adjutant, First Vice and Second Vice along with all District and Vice District Commanders.
- 2. If you have an active-duty base located nearby or a National Guard unit go and visit with them about the Legion. Most active-duty members do not know they are eligible to become a Legion member. Also visit college campuses. Most have a dedicated place for veterans to hang out. These veterans' groups meet weekly and/or monthly for lunch. Ask for opportunities to speak about the legion.
- 3. National web site has available PSA (Public Service Announcements). Take these to your local radio and/or tv stations. Put them out there on social media.
 - 4. Set up a table at local events

Membership Ideas

or at a business. Wear your legion cap and a legion shirt, have some pamphlets about the legion and our families like the Son's, Riders and Auxiliary.

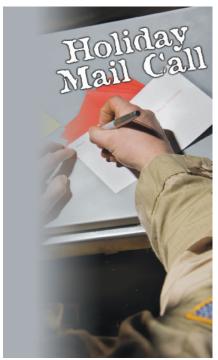
- 5. When passing a person who is wearing veteran apparel, approach him/her and thank them for their service and let them know the American Legion is there for them.
- 6. With the holiday season coming up give the gift of membership to a new member or for their renewal by paying for their membership. Times are hard around this time of the year.
- 7. Another gift idea, you can give a Legion coffee cup or a water bottle with an application in it.
- 8. When someone asks what can the Legion do for me? Tell them what the Legion has done for them since 1919.
- 9. Don't forget about our women veterans.

The Department of Wyoming has reported over 200 deaths so far this year. This includes two past Department Commanders. We need to make great efforts to continue

to think out of the box and encourage younger veterans to come be a part of our legion family. We also have posts that only exist on paper. They have no post home and some don't even hold meetings. This can be done at a member's home like it was in the beginning. I am not going to sugar coat our membership. We have to put in the time. Time for (CPR) Communication, Participation and Renewal/Retention. CPR is done to save a life. Let's do CPR on the Department of Wyoming.

So you know, we are not the only ones who have a hard time with membership. Departments are required to have a minimum of 1000 members to be a Department. Department of Philippines is having a hard time meeting that number. National is close to suspending their Department charter. Let's keeping fighting to carry on all the legion programs.

Merry Christmas to all Department Commander Jerry



For those far from home - serving

Across the nation and across the seas to foreign countries, our active duty Veterans are serving through this holiday season. For many they are stationed where they can have their families, however, for so very many they are not.

As many of us know, being away from home, family and friends is a very hard thing to do, and sometimes plays havoc with our thoughts, attitude and mood. This can be a reflection on how they act or handle situations.

Many bases around the nation have programs to assist active duty soldiers with civilians in the area. One such program is Adopt A Soldier.

Adopt a Soldier (AAS) sup-

ports the three pillars of America's Freedom: our troops, Veterans, and military families as advocates for change, support, and care in all phases of their journey. AAS was born to answer many of the issues Soldiers, Veterans and their families struggle through every day by ensuring no one walks alone. They can be contacted at: adoptasoldier. com.

Many organizations invite members of their community to adopt a soldier for the holidays, especially the meals, like Thanksgiving and Christmas. For many it is the first home cooked meal in a while, as well as being "welcomed home!"

For the thousands of active duty stationed out of the country, being

in different countries, with different Christmas traditions, it is hard for many with being homesick, or just missing that familiar face.

As we edge even closer to the Christmas/New Years holidays, please take time to reach out, send a postcard, a Christmas card, or just a quick note letting them know they are not alone.

Many schools have their students write letters to soldiers, and send them off through military contacts. Jump on board and send a note, or card to those overseas, and if possible reach out to your local base and see if there are any soldiers wanting a home cooked meal or just a note to say "Thank you for your service."



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2nd Vice Commander's Corner -





Doug Johnson, 2nd Vice Commander

The American Legion Boys State is among the most respected educational program of government instruction for high school juniors. Each participant becomes a part of his local, county and state government. Boys State has been part of The American Legion since 1935. Over the years the Wyoming Boys State program has flour-

ished with some years exceeding the expectations of the staff with over 100 juniors participating in the program. This last year we had 52 young men apply for Boys State with 49 showing up for the program.

Are we promoting this great program enough for these young men to actively participate in Boys State? We are not promoting this great program enough. We must make sure the schools are doing their part too because they are just as big a partner in this program as we are.

All American Legion Boys State participants are exposed to the rights and privileges, the duties and the responsibilities of a franchised citizen. The training is objective and practical with city, county and state governments operated by the students elected to the various offices.

Boys State

We must include all the activities that the boys do such as legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies and recreational programs. The cost of sending a junior boy to Boys State is \$350.00 per student. It's not cheap but it's not too expensive either. Now you're wondering how is this young man going to pay for this Legion program. Well after your Post selects how many Juniors from their high schools are going to attend Boys State the Post if they can afford it will pay his tuition to attend. If your Post cannot afford this one suggestion is to hold some kind of fund raiser or maybe a business from your town can help him. Now you're probably asking yourself when and where is Boys State held? Well Boys State is tentatively set for June 12 thru June 18, 2022.

The location is in Laramie, Wyoming at the University of Wyoming. We need to promote this great program so we can again exceed 100 young men and just maybe one of these young men will be a senator or congressman for Wyoming. We have several who have gone through this program and some have become the President of the United States of America. I know I will be attending 1 or 2 days in Laramie this year and I would like to encourage someone from each Post to attend the program to help educate ourselves so that we can further promote this Legion pro-

Thank You for all that You Do for the Legion.

Doug Johnson

Department 2nd Vice Commander

Chaplain's Corner



Brian Higgins, Department Chaplain

The Holy Bible teaches us, "Neither by blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." (Hebrews 9:12) This tells us that Jesus takes us out of the law of the Old Testament, where we do not need to sacrifice animals anymore. That we are now in the New Testament, and we can ask for forgiveness from Jesus our Lord. The Bible also says, "Where Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate." (Hebrews, 13:12) Our Lord's love for us is so great that He sacrificed himself for us that we can have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Man is flawed, and we need to choose to accept Jesus and ask for forgiveness for our sins to know and be with our creator. Jesus taught us the word of God and showed us how we should behave to have everlast-

Thoughts and Prayers for the Holidays

ing life in heaven. And through the atonement of Jesus, we have the opportunity to be saved. We also need grace from God because we can not do anything good on our own. We need help from the Trinity. While I work on the Master's in Divinity and work on prayers I use, I know I could not do them without the grace and help of the Holy Spirit. The Gospel has taught me to do things in the glory of God and not myself. Even with Jesus already in us, we need to accept Him and His love.

The Bible says, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." (Genesis, 1:27) At this time, all is good for God is good; after we eat from the forbidden tree, we fall from grace. After we fall, God gives us the ten commandments and sends us Jesus. To teach us and provide us with boundaries because of our sinful nature. We need to follow the guidance and teachings God has sent us to be reunited with our heavenly Father one day. Because we are the image of God, we should not sin against each other because we are sinning against a part of God. I also think we can carry the Holy Spirit in us, and it is just a matter if we listen to It. According to Nichols, "When we're honest about our blemishes, God can make something beautiful from them...yes, even our sins, flaws, and defects. It's a mark of his great grace." (Nichols, 2017, P. 23) What a wonderful Father that cares about His creation. He gives us grace and a way to ask for forgiveness for our sins, so we can be with Him if we choose. He provides us with a choice to be with Him for eternity and to know his love, or we can choose to ignore our creator, staying in sin. I pray we all would ask Jesus for forgiveness and accept our Lord into our hearts to know the Father. If we are not saved, and we do not know the word of God, and we are not in the book of life, then we will be thrown into the Lake of fire.

With us being in the holiday season, I pray you will check up on our brothers and sisters in your area. This could be a difficult time for people and with you checking on them lets them know they are not alone. We do care about them and we appreciate their sacrifices and we appreciate them.

God bless, The Reverend Seminarian

Brian Higgins

References:

King James Version Bible (2012th ed.). Barnes & Noble.

Nichols, K. (2017). Masterpiece. Liberty University Press.



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.













Post Everlasting 2021

District 1

Post 24 Rock Springs Thomas Micklich (12) William Fleming (67) Gabriel Lamorie (16) John Bakkala (14) **Howard Weston (5)** Rudy Yakovich (12)

Post 28 Green River Larry Paine (1) Danny Krause (10) Robert Wurm (5)

Post 36 Ft. Bridger **Charles Hornberger (2)** Robert Anglen (21)

Post 43 Jackson Robert Hammond (3)

District 2

Post 8 Douglas Robert Wise (77)

Post 10 Wheatland Orville Donovon (8)

District 3

Post 2 Casper Michael Crowe (7)

Post 81 Ft. Washakie Gilbert Jarvis (21)

District 4

Post 11 Lovell Billy Hudspeth (7)

Post 20 Cody Louis Kousoulos (12) Michael Bree (1)

> Post 26 Powell Paul Rankin (3)

Post 44 Worland Larry Morris (12) Tommy Shuman (39) Mike Montoya, Jr (9)

District 5

Post 3 Newcastle William Townsend (4) Jack Eslinger (8)

Post 80 Hulett Terry Miller (49)

District 6

Post 6 Cheyenne Fred Landy (11) Jack Teague (36) **Monte Martin (34)** Michael O'Neil (32) Edward Yori (10) **Lawrence Marshall III (6)** Roland Thomas (44)

Squadron 6 Cheyenne Michael O'Neil (1)

Post 14 Laramie Sherman Hardesty (21)

> Post 54 Saratoga John Huntley (13)

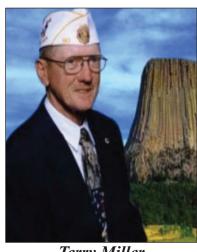
Post 60 Pine Bluffs Charles Lyons (14)

Post 77 Albin George Jacobsen (17)

Post 122 Rawlins Glenn Southards (5)

"the numbers in parenthesis designate years as a Legion Member."

Past NEC Terry Miller



Terry Miller Past NEC

Terry Eugene Miller, 73, passed away on October 19, 2021 at Campbell County Memorial Hospital after a 50-year struggle with diabetes. He was born on May 18, 1949 in Belle Fourche, South Dakota to Gene and Marie Miller. He gradu-

ated from Hulett High School in 1967. Terry excelled in sports throughout high school. Soon after graduation, Terry enlisted in the Air Force and served his country with pride from July 1968 to June of 1972 at Ellsworth Air Force Base. Terry went to work right after he left the Air Force working for the City and County of Gillette and then went to work for the local gas company, eventually retiring from the oil industry in 2014. Terry joined The American Legion Roy Montgomery Post 80 and was a member for 48 years. He was a Past Department Commander and a Past National Executive Committeeman and served many committees on the National level. He has held many offices at the District Department and National Level and was an America Legion Rider. He was very involved in the Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) and received several awards for his work there. CWF has been selected as the recipient of memorials in his name. Terry and Peggy did extensive traveling to support his numerous legion activities. Terry loved to hunt and spent many years in elk camp with his hunting buddies Ed, Corey, Bruce and Joe Hitt. Terry's other hobbies included golfing, bowling, (which he recently bowled a 297 on September 3) and playing horseshoes. He was proceeded in death by his parents Gene and Marie Miller, stepmom Etta Miller, sisters, Iola Miller and Karletta (Miller) Johnson, brothers, Randall (Randy) Miller and Lloyd Miller, grandfather, Archie Glenn Miller, grandmother

Gorgia Miller and daughters Tammy Marie Miller and Stacy (Miller) Marynik. Terry is survived by his wife Peggy Miller, step-sons Don Peterson (Diane) of Colville, Washington, Dave Peterson (Linda) of Bozeman, Montana, Darryl Peterson (Tammie) of Marysville, Washington, Darren Peterson (Donita) of Arlington, Washington; sisters Lorie (Mike) Dollison and family, Etta Jo (Randy) Brasmer and family, grandsons Dustin Peterson (Hannah Mueller), Dillon Peterson, Devin Peterson (Brienna), Tyson (Kristie) Miller, Tristan Miller, Daulton Poague, granddaughters Nicole Magill (Marcus), Katie Rochan (Gabe), Daylee Peterson, Delaney Peterson, Dani Thorson (Seth) ,Samantha McNeill (Daniel) and numerous great grandchildren.

taps' how it came to be.... The origins of "taps," the distinctive bugle play it for the men, buglers from other units be- to Butterfield's bugle call, the lights-out call

melody played at U.S. military funerals and mecame interested in the 24-note tune and it quickly was followed by three drum beats, dubbed the morials and as a lights-out signal to soldiers at night, date back to the American Civil War.

In July 1862, U.S. General Daniel Butterfield and his brigade were camped at Harrison's Landing, Virginia, recuperating after the Seven Days Battles near Richmond. Dissatisfied with the standard bugle call employed by the Army to indicate to troops it was time to go to sleep, and thinking the call should sound more melodious, Butterfield reworked an existing bugle call used to signal the end of the day. After he had his brigade bugler, Private Oliver Wilcox Norton, spread throughout the Army, and even caught on with the Confederates.

Not long after Butterfield created "taps," it was played for the first time at a military funeral, for a Union cannoneer killed in action. The man's commanding officer, Captain John Tidball, decided the bugle call would be safer than the traditional firing of three rifle volleys over the soldier's grave, a move which could have been confused by the nearby enemy as an attack.

As for the name "taps," the most likely explanation is that it comes from the fact that prior "Drum Taps," as well as "The taps" and then simply "taps." When Butterfield's call replaced the drum beats, soldiers referred to it as "taps," although this was an unofficial moniker, according to "taps" historian and bugle expert Jari Villanueva. He notes that Butterfield's bugle call was officially known as "Extinguish Lights" in American military manuals until 1891. Since that time, "taps" also has been a formally recognized part of U.S. military funerals.

Thank you from the History Channel and Eliz-

DISTRICT AND POST NEWS





District 1



The past few months have seen a lot of activity at our Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43. We have continued to hold our monthly meetings in-person and on Zoom since late in 2020, and our post has continued to participate in our support of the veterans and members in Jackson and our surrounding communities.

Return and Funeral Service for Marine Rylee McCollum: As has been reported in the news, Marine Rylee McCollum, who was from Jackson, was killed in Kabul by a suicide bomber along with 12 other Americans. Rylee's remains were returned to Jackson on Friday, September

10. The military plane was met by Rylee's family, and the Marine Corps Escort Team. The Jackson Police lead the column into Jackson, followed by a large group of motorcycle riders from various groups. Members of the public lined the roads from the airport all the way into and through the Town of Jackson, many carrying American Flags. Our Legion Post members formed up in front of our Post Building to pay our respects to this Marine and his family.

A Funeral Service and Celebration of Life was later held for Rylee on October 23 at the Jackson Hole Hereford Ranch. A large contingent from Post 43 attended the service to honor Rylee. The Marine Corps handled all the formal Honors, and a large contingent from Rylee's Marine Unit was present. The Honors included a 21-gun salute in addition to the flag presentation and Taps rendition. Our Wyoming Governor, our Wyoming Congressional members, and other dignitaries also attended. After the service, food and drinks were available, and later in the day, the Celebration of Life continued and extended for several more hours.

District 3 Dean Welch Post 2 - Casper

Casper American Legion raising money for new veterans' memorial at Patterson-Zonta Park

Dean Welch is a former post commander for the veterans' organization American Legion, but he only learned of the Sun Up Ridge Memorial Wall a few years ago.

And that, he said, is exactly the problem.

So Welch and other Legion members are raising money to build a more visible, accessible version of the memorial at Patterson-Zonta Park.

The new monument will display

the names of Wyoming service members who died in combat, from Spanish-American War to the present, Welch said.

Installed 2006, the Sun Up Ridge Memorial Wall was the work of Korean War Veteran and Marine Leo Sanchez. The former Casper educator, who died in 2013, was known for his lifelong service to his fellow veterans.

At first, the American Legion considered just moving the original memorial somewhere more visible — perhaps closer to the Tate Pumphouse. But there wasn't anywhere to put it, Welch explained.

This diorama depicts a new veteran's memorial set to be installed at Patterson-Zonta Park. The American Legion is raising money for the new monument, which will honor Wyomingites who died in the line

So they approached the Casper Parks and Recreation Department about transferring it to a different part of the city.

After discussing a few different options, they settled on Patterson-Zonta Park.

"It's highly visible, and there's a parking lot right next to it," Welch

The accessibility is a major plus, he added. Disabled people could visit the monument without having to leave their car.

The plan to move the memorial to Patterson-Zonta got the OK from Casper City Council in May.

Still, after a bit more research, the Legion discovered it'd be easier to build a whole new monument instead of relocating the original, Welch said. They got to work designing one.

Sun Up Ridge Memorial Wall

A plaque honoring veterans hangs over the Sun Up Ridge Memorial Wall on the Platte River Trail. The memorial, which honors members of the military who died in the line of duty, was installed in 2006.

What they settled on is fairly straightforward: Panels featuring the names of fallen service members will be framed under a large metal arch. The design draws inspiration from Veterans Park, he said.

Its use of negative space makes it more wind-resistant, and means it won't obstruct the view of the Platte River, he added.

But bringing the project to fruition has been anything but simple, Welch said.

"We were kind of hoping this

would move a little faster than it is," he said.

The American Legion has relied on help from several outside groups along the way, including Lower & Co Engineering, Casper College and Pacific Steel and Recycling.

Now, the challenge is raising enough money to build it, Welch

Materials aren't cheap, he said, especially not right now — the estimated cost of the project is already up to \$20,000 and could run up to

American Legion members have pitched in about \$1,000 so far, but are seeking public donations to cover the rest.

The Legion will be at upcoming community events to spread the word and raise money for the memorial. Donations can also be made online, or mailed into the group's P.O. Box. More information on how to donate can be found at the legion's Facebook page, facebook. com/casperlegion/.

To donate by phone just scan the

Casper Star Tribune ~ Mary Steurer Oct 22, 2021





The memorial wall, built into a retaining wall on the Platte River Trail in Casper, is over a decade old. Hundreds of people are honored there — from those lost in Iraq and Afghanistan all the way back to the Battle of the Platte Bridge Station in 1865.

But it's just not easy enough to get to, Welch said. If you can make the trek, it's a good five-to-10 minute walk west of the Tate Pumphouse. It's also difficult to spot unless

you're close by.

District 3 Don Stough Post 33 - Lander

News from Post #33

Membership-As of 3 November, Post 33 has reached 168 members or 65% of our target goal. A big "Thank You" to all those who made this possible. Having said this, we still have a few members who have not renewed for 2022. Please check your membership card, if it does not say "2022" you are encouraged to renew for the 2022 membership year. You may renew on line at legion.org, send a check for \$45 to Post 33, PO Box 6, Lander, or bring it with you to a meeting or Dinner. The Post membership has established an incentive for renewal. Everyone who has renewed their 2022 dues by Veterans Day, Nov 11 will be included in a drawing for \$100. Everyone who has paid their dues by the Christmas Dinner will be included in a drawing for \$75 and everyone paid up by the Legion Birthday, Mar 15th will be included in a drawing for \$50.

Fremont County Veterans Memorial Restoration: The Memorial Restoration Committee is still active. The restoration of the cannon on the lawn of the Courthouse in Lander is complete except for some concrete work. It has been sand blasted and repainted. We are still collecting names for plaques to be added to the Veterans Memorial at the Fremont County Courthouse. Plaques will be mounted on Memorial Day or Veterans Day. If you or someone you know is interested in having a name included on a plaque on the memorial, the applications can be found online at: fremontcountywy.org/wp-content/up-loads/2020/01/veterans-memorial-form.pdf or pick one up from the Adjutant. The 9/11 celebration was a huge success and thanks to all who participated.

Christmas Dinner: The Annual American Legion Post, Unit and Squadron #33 Christmas Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, December 11 beginning at 5 pm at the Lander Senior Citizens Center. There is no cost for the meal and members and their families are encouraged to attend. The menu will include roast beef, ham, salad, dessert and drinks. Please RSVP to Ken Persson Sr., at 349-2881, text to the same number or e-mail to ppersson@tcinc.net . We need a good headcount so we have enough food for everyone. The dinner will be in lieu of our regular Decem-

ber meeting. Masks are not required but everyone is encouraged to wear one if you feel better in large gatherings. We will distance to the greatest extent possible.

December 2021

Wyoming Veterans Commission: Our Adjutant, Ken Persson Sr. serves as a member of the WVC and was recently elected as the Vice Chairman. If you have items you would like to go before the Commission, contact Ken at 307-349-2881.

Avenue of Flags: Thanks again to Vice Commander Keith Trouwborst for coordinating the Avenue of Flags on Main Street. Keith and his crew have done a great job of setting out and taking down the flags on Patriotic Holidays and observances. Flags will be out on Memorial Day (last Monday in May), Flag Day (June 14), Independence Day (July 4), Patriots Day (September 11), and Veterans Day (November 11). Depending on how the holiday falls, flags may be up for several days. The next observance will be for Veterans Day. Flags will go up on Wednesday the 10th and come down on Friday the 12th. If you are interested in helping, contact Keith at 719-650-6761.

District 4 Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 - Powell

Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 of Powell has been active since our last newspaper article with many events happening and ongoing. We would like to announce the 5th grade essay contest winners for this year. Gabe Leighton of Ms. Kalberers class at Westside Elementary won our 1st place prize of \$25 and Wyatt Hill of Mr. Graham's class at Westside Elementary won Grand Prize of \$50. This contest continues to show how our youth

continue to learn about our local veterans and how proud we are of these youth.

We also wish to congratulate Northwest College's Scholarship winner Augusta Larsen, who was the recipient of both The American Legion Memorial Scholarship Endowment and The American Legion Auxiliary Memorial Scholarship Endowment. We also want to congratulate Taytum Sessions for being the recipient of the

Jim Howell Memorial Veterans Scholarship Endowment which we also sponsor at NWC.

We are excited to announce the inaugural corn hole season has started and that the tournament will take place starting in January. Thanks to Gregg Bessler and Rick Miller for setting this event up.

We also want to invite everyone down to the club to welcome our new bartender Monica.

District 6







Courtesy Photo

Above: Members of the Post 60 and Unit 60 assist with the Christmas Social dinner. Left: Commander John Wise serves the beef brisket. Center: President Diane Wise serves the rocky mountain oysters and mashed potatoes. Right: Post 60 VSO Jeff Stottlemyer runs the door prize drawing.

Donald Eisenhauer Post 60 - Pine Bluffs

Keeping strong the camaraderie with the American Legion family is one of the main focuses of Post 60. Between meetings, the Post is open on Saturdays for its weekly breakfast. This is a combined effort between the Legion Post 60 and the Auxiliary Unit 60. Their breakfast is a fund-raiser, to assist in programs throughout the year, as well as helping Veterans, when needed with gas food, lodging, etc.

Recently Post 60 and Unit 60 celebrated their 'Annual Christmas Social. Happy hour was at 5:00 p.m. and dinner which consisted of rocky mountain oysters and smoked beef brisket - with all the trimmings, as well as desserts.

Local businesses from Pine Bluffs, Cheyenne, and Kimball, Nebraska donated items for a silent auction.

The silent auction is another fund-raiser

to assist in the needs of the Post, and fellow Veterans. We wish to thank all of our members who assisted in the cooking, as well as our Auxiliary family. A special thank you to all the local businesses who donated to our silent auction.

It was a great evening, with good food and fellowship with Veterans and their families.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Campbell County Squadron #42 - Gillette





Squadron 42 held their annual Dead End Haunted House over the Halloween weekend. The Bob Wright family coordinated everything and with help from the SAL and other volunteers had a record breaking year. There were more than 950 who got their "Wazooed" scared off. We also turned in more than 100 canned goods to our local food bank.

We would like to thank all of our veterans and hope they enjoyed their Veterans Day.

We have to say our final good byes to Ron Willibanks and Jimmy Knutson who we have recently lost.

We hope all of you enjoy your holidays. Bill Kern, Adjutant

Courtesy Photo Above: Attendees at the Annual Dead End Haunted House with Squadron 42.

Christmas in July



The SAL made a decision to donate 6 new park benches to the Veterans Home in Buffalo, WY. The benches were a high-quality rubber coated park bench. They are meant to be maintenance free. A group of SAL members from Gillette, Buffalo, Lander, and Worland met in June to pour concrete bases for the benches. The goal was to set the new benches July 10 when the SAL hosted their annual Christmas in July at the Veterans

home in Buffalo.

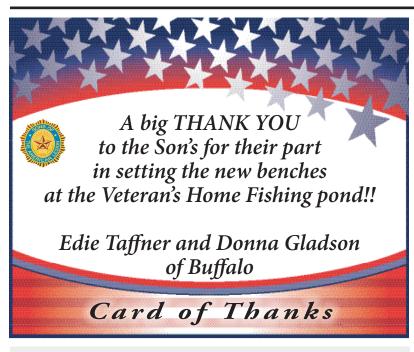
Due to supply chain issues, the benches were delayed. However, this did not deter the more than 34 SAL and Legion members who came to work that day. We had crews repairing bridges and other benches around the fishing pond. We had other crews filling dirt around the new concrete bases and cleaning the walking trails. We had another crew cleaning up debris from the old dock and benches that were tore down. The fish were really biting for the vets that participated in the fishing tournament and we had a great turnout of residents for the picnic that was served. It was a great day with Squadrons from Buffalo, Sheridan, Worland, Lander, Rocksprings, Powell, and Gillette all participating.

In August the benches finally arrived. Don Sillivan setup a work day after state convention. SAL members from Buffalo, Gillette, and Lander got together and had all six benches unpacked, assembled, installed, and everything picked up in less than 2 hours.



All this was accomplished because of great communication and team efforts. The SAL provided plaques to all the companies that donated product and specialty tools that made this task possible.

Respectfully provided by, Bill Kern, Adjutant 307-299-4029 SAL Squadron 42 P.O. Box 68 Gillette, WY 82717



The Legionnaire - Auxiliare comes out next in March of 2022. Get your articles and pictures in!





A Soldier's Christmas The Night Before Christmas

T'was the night before
Christmas, he lived all alone
in a one bedroom house,
made of plaster and stone.
I had come down the chimney with presents to give, and
to see just who in this home
did live.

I looked all about, a strange sight I did see: no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree

No stocking by the mantle, just boots filled with sand; on the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.

With medals and badges, awards of all kinds, a sober thought came through my mind.

For this house was different, it was dark and dreary. I found the home of a soldier, at once I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping; silent, alone, curled up on the floor, in this one bedroom home. Not how I pictured a US soldier.

Was this the hero of whom I'd just read, curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed? I realized the families that I saw this night, owed their lives to these soldiers who

were willing to fight.
Soon 'round the world,
the children would play and
grownups would celebrate a
bright Christmas Day.

They all enjoyed freedom, each month of the year, because of the soldiers like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone on a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.

The very thought brought a tear to my eye; I dropped to my knees and started to cry.

The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice, "Santa, don't cry. This life is my choice.

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more; my life is my God, my country, my corps." The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep; I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours, so silent and still, and we both shivered from the cold night's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark night, this guardian of honor, so willing to fight.

Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure, whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day, all is secure."

One look at my watch and I knew he was right, "Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night." Author: A peace keeping soldier stationed overseas



Wyoming American Legion Mid Winter Conference

January 14-15, 2022

Ramkota 800 N. Poplaar St, Casper, WY

Host: George W. Vroman Post 2, Casper, WY

Pre-Register by January 1st, 2022
DEC Meeting will meet in the Grand Ball Room, Friday, January 14th
Financial Committee @ 6:30pm. DEC @ 7pm

Lunch at 12 noon Terrace Area
Dinner at 6pm with cash bar Terrace Area

TAL Conference Saturday, Jan 15th to begin at 09:00 AM

Grand Ball Room

Auxiliary will meet at:

Wyoming Theater

Sons of the Legion will meet in the <u>North Ball Room</u>

Riders will meet in the Natrona Room

Lunch and Dinner Buffet in the Terrace Area

RSVP to casperlegion@juno.com or mail to Legion Mid Winter, P.O. Box 2268, Casper, WY 82602

				Registration \$10		
Name:		Address:				
City:	Zip:	Phone:		\$13.00 each		
Email:				Saturday Dinner \$22 each		
Post #:	Office:	District:	Dept.:	Flat Iron Medallions Vegetable Lasagne		
Unit #:	Office:	District:	Dept.:			
SAL #:	Office:	Detachment:		Total		
RIDER's POST	# Office:					



											The same
Post		2022 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target	Post		2022 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
24	Rock Springs	430	271	63.02%	52	1	Van Tassell	30	27	90.00%	0
28	Green River	258	134	51.94%	60	4	Lusk	31	28	90.32%	0
36	Ft. Bridger	120	87	72.50%	3	5	Torrington	151	111	73.51%	2
40	Cokeville	11	2	18.18%	6	8	Douglas	188	129	68.62%	12
41	Evanston	38	31	81.58%	0	9	Glenrock	50	39	78.00%	0
43	Jackson	110	90	81.82%	0	10	Wheatland	82	63	76.83%	0
46	Alpine	43	32	74.42%	0	15	Glendo	28	26	92.86%	0
47	Pinedale	45	26	57.78%	8	56	Veteran	10	5	50.00%	3
49	Afton	24	12	50.00%	6	63	Lingle	25	18	72.00%	1
55	Kemmerer	45	33	73.33%	1	70	La Grange	10	9	90.00%	0
78	Big Piney	17	15	88.24%	0	75	Chugwater	13	10	76.92%	-0
88	La Barge	16	11	68.75%	1	95	Guernsey	37	26	70.27%	2
D-1	·	1157	744	64.30%	124	D-1	·	655	491	74.96%	0
	75% - 12/08/2021						75% - 12/08/2021				
Post		2022 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target	Post		2022 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
2	Casper	299	176	58.86%		11	Lovell	37	29	78.38%	0
16	Powder River	10	2	20.00%	6	18	Thermopolis	25	15	60.00%	4
19	Riverton	81	52	64.20%	9	20	Cody	57	38	66.67%	5
31	Dubois	20	10	50.00%		26	Powell	180	121	67.22%	14
33	Lander	258	178	68.99%		29	Basin	55	29	52.73%	12
61	Pavillion	10	2	20.00%	6	32	Greybull	25	6	24.00%	13
81	Ft. Washakie	25	17	68.00%	2	44	Worland	200	150	75.00%	0
96	Arapaho	17	0	0.00%	13	85	Meeteetse	24	20	83.33%	0
					0	91	Heart Mountain	13	14	107.69%	0
D-3		720	437	60.69%	103	D-1		616	422	68.51%	40
	75% - 12/08/2021						75% - 12/08/2021				
Post		2022 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target	Post		2022 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
3	Newcastle	80	58	72.50%		6	Cheyenne	1171	834	71.22%	44
7	Sheridan	200	155	77.50%	0	14	Laramie	340	241	70.88%	14
13	Buffalo	164	129	78.66%	0	21	Burns	10	4	40.00%	4
25	Moorcroft	36	22	61.11%	5	54	Saratoga	91	64	70.33%	4
42	Gillette	360	258	71.67%		60	Pine Bluffs	52	34	65.38%	5
45	Sundance	24	6	25.00%	12	64	Medicine Bow	35	24	68.57%	2
80	Hulett	44	41	93.18%	0	77	Albin	10	8	80.00%	0
90	Kaycee	13	5	38.46%	5	93	Cheyenne	11	9	81.82%	0
307	Gillette College	20	2	10.00%		122	Rawlins	58	36	62.07%	8
D-1	·	941	676	71.84%	30	D-6		1778	1254	70.53%	80
	75% - 12/08/2021					DISTRICT	TOTALS	5867	4024	68.59%	376
	Current as of:	12-De	ec-21				17 HQ.	174	34	19.54%	97
						DEPARTME		6041	4058	67.17%	473
						NATIONA		6041	4058	67.17%	
							750/ 40/00/0004				

75% - 12/08/2021





"Veterans Lives Matter"

Shareen Johnson, Department President



With Veterans Day & Thanksgiving behind us and Christmas & New Year's Day on the horizon, there continue to be many opportunities to assist our Veterans, our Military, and their Families. Whether it be a care package to a service person overseas, a visit to a veterans medical facility, sending a donation to a Year-Round Christmas program, contributing to an "Angel" tree – the opportunities are limited only by one's

imagination. Remember that it is never too late nor the wrong season to reach out to someone.

On a serious note, I am going to start off by sharing another song. This one is "A Soldier's Memoir" by Joe Bachman.

"I've been home about six months now
And I still have my doubts
I'm not sure how I got here
Or how I'm gonna get out
My Mama says I look the same
As I did before I left
But if she could see inside of me
It would scare her to death
I can still taste the powder
From the barrel of my gun
I can hear my Sergeant screaming, "Run,
Soldier, run."
I can feel the backpack on my shoulders
God, it weighed a ton
I see death in every single thought

They taught me how to put that uniform on

I just can't get it off

Last Saturday they honored us In a small parade downtown When they shot off those fireworks I nearly hit the ground While they smiled and cheered for us All I could do was stare Cuz part of me is here at home And part of me's back there I can still taste the powder From the barrel of my gun I can hear my Sergeant screaming, "Run, Soldier, run." I can feel the backpack on my shoulders God, it weighed a ton I see death in every single thought They taught me how to put that uniform on

I just can't get it off

Yeah there's no end in sight
Cuz even though I'm home now
I'm still fighting for my life
I can still taste the powder
From the barrel of my gun
I can hear my Sergeant screaming,
"Run, Soldier, run."
I can feel the backpack on my shoulders
God, it weighed a ton
I see death in every single thought
They taught me how to put that uniform on
I just can't get it off."



Has your Unit found ways to increase awareness of the needs of our Veterans, our Active Military, and their families in regard to their mental health and wellbeing? There are many resources available. Please join your fellow Auxiliary members at Mid-Winter Conference in Casper on Saturday, January 15th, so you can learn more about how to accomplish this. Details concerning the conference are listed elsewhere in this paper. A drawing will be held for one of the Units represented at the meeting to win \$100 for their Unit projects. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of Dis-

For God & Country, Shareen Johnson, Department President

trict #2 for hosting Fall Workshop. It was an informative meeting and, based on the comments I received, enjoyed by all in attendance.

In closing, I want to challenge each of you to continue making "Joyous Noise" and be recognized as a driving force in your local communities as you serve our Veterans, our Active Duty Military, and their Families during the 2021 – 2022 Auxiliary year and prove to all that "Veterans Lives Matter." It is my sincere wish that all of you are able to celebrate the Christmas holiday and the coming 2022 New Year with family and friends!



Courtesy Photo

Above: Members of the Auxiliary with the new Department - Auxiliary trailer.

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wyoming receives grant for traveling information center

BUFFALO, Wyo. – A \$5,000 Mission in Action grant awarded to the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Department of Wyoming will help fund a mobile information center.

"Our goal is to be a large presence in each community we visit," said Peg Sillivan, ALA Department of Wyoming secretary.

The grant to help purchase the branded trailer was awarded from the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation. It will be used as a traveling information center to take around the state to promote programs, membership, and volunteering for the entire

American Legion Family.

"It is our goal to reach communities that may not have a unit or communities that do, but people there are unaware of what the American Legion Auxiliary is all about," Sillivan said. "We want to promote membership, ALA Girls State, Americanism, and volunteering. We can also reach veterans who may not know about their benefits if they are members, or if not, that information will be available too."

The department funded \$2,100 toward the project. The \$7,100 total for the project will be used for the purchase of the trailer, sales tax and licensing, vinyl branded signage, and building and installing cupboards in the trailer.

"It is our hope to eventually touch the 20,000-plus veterans and their family members in the state of Wyoming," Sillivan said. "We realize this will not happen overnight, but we are committed to our veterans and their fami-

lies and we will not give up this cause."

A formal dedication is scheduled for early October.

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is a community of volunteers serving veterans, military, and their families. Our members also support the mission of The American Legion in improving the quality of life for our nation's veterans. Proud sponsor of ALA Girls Nation, National Poppy Day® and recognized for advocating for veterans on Capitol Hill, the more than 600,000 ALA members across the country volunteer millions of hours annually and raise millions of dollars in service to veterans, military, and their families. Founded in 1919, the ALA is one of the oldest patriotic membership organizations in the U.S.A. To learn more and to volunteer, join, and donate, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org.

In Memoriam Mina Christenson Unit 26 Lila Taylor Unit 36 **Mary Aimone** Unit 36 **Donna Ellison** Unit 10 **Mattye Brook** Unit 6 Joan Taylor Unit 9 Jackie Graham Unit 26 **Ethel Chatfield** Unit 80 Sympathy Marlene Tesdal Loss of husband Unit 28 **Deanna Hurless** Loss of partner Unit 14 **Gina Harding Dusel** Loss of sister Unit 24 **Kay Embree Loss of Cousin** Unit 64 Andrea Policky Loss of Mother Unit 64 Cynthia Culver **Loss of Sister** Unit 64

Bonnie Culver Loss of Daughter Unit 64 Carol Lawrence Loss of Mother Unit 26 Joan Quich **Loss of Mother** Unit 26 Susan Gulbrandson Loss of Mother Unit 26 **Patty Johnson Loss of Mother** Unit 26 **Amy Sundstrom** Loss of Grandfather Unit 25 Lila Taylor family Unit 36 **Donna Ellison Family Loss of Donna** Unit 10 Family of Mattye Brook Susan Longman Death of son in law Unit 33 **Richard Taylor Death of Wife** Unit 9 **Cindy Sinclair** Death of m other Unit 26 Dana and Mike Cooke **Death of Mother** Unit 24

Rona Rand Unit 36 **Peggy Miller** Loss of Husband Unit 42 Vancine Sherr **Loss of Uncle** Unit 64 **Vancine Sherr** Loss of Aunt Unit 64 Vancine Sherr **Loss of Uncle** Unit 64 **Chervl Wales** Loss of Mother Unit 80 Get Well **Cathey Raymer** Illness Unit 28 Ray and Kathy Causton Illness Unit 9 Jeane Warax Illness **Ann Sundstrom Broken Leg Unit 25 Cheryl Stroman** Unit 6 Jessica York Illness Unit 8 Robin Ruff

Linda Orr Illness Unit 7 Gina Dusel Illness Unit 24 Jamie Davis Surgery Unit 25 **Catherine Allred** Illness Unit 80 Tana Gonzalez Surgery Unit 28 Thinking of You Pat Kelley Unit 36 Shareen Johnson Unit 33 Theresa Moltzan Unit 28 **Amy Breininger** Unit 28 **Peggy Miller** Unit 42

Congratulations Anastasia **Hartford Stone** Birth of Daughter Unit 28





From the Chaplain's Desk

of these gifts.

Judith Killion Chaplain

Merry Christmas my friends because yes, it is the Christmas Season! Happy Holiday's because there are many things to celebrate from Thanksgiving until New Years and we should be happy-joyful, full of love and energy as we take time to celebrate the good things in life. As I sit here contemplating what I am going to write to you- which of the three that I have narrowed it down to will I choose I have decided that none of these topics are right. We should talk about the topic that is most likely very high on your Top 10 list of things you are thinking about: Christmas Lists-yes lists because I know we all have several dif-

Illness

Unit 7

ferent kinds of lists. We have shopping lists, gift lists, decorating lists, planning list, some have party lists. Regardless, we all have lists. Did you know that God has a Christmas List for all of us also? I am sure we don't think about it but there is a list of things He seeks to give our lives, longs to see us have more if we are willing to make ourselves open to living in the experience

What could be on that Christmas list that God has for us? I am sure that it has some basic similarities as well as personal differences. Let's look at this list-or at least part of it.

1. Eternal Life: God gave us His best gift-His Son in the form of a baby. He sent us eternal life in the form of new life. John 3:5, John 17:3, I John 5:11 (Would you give your only child to a world that might reject him/ her)

2. God desires us to have joy. In this season of celebration I dare you to go read Ecclesiastes 9:7. Now checkout Nehemiah 8:10, Romans 14:7, Psalms 32:7, Proverbs 17:22.

3. God desires us to have love. 1 Corinthians 13:4-5, review 1 John 4:7, John 13:34, 1 John

4:18, Colossians 3:14 4. God desires us to have humility so we can trust Him (Ephesians 2:8-9) and so we can trust others, thus building community and trust and creating joy and love in our journey.

5. God desires us to have wisdom, knowledge, and understanding so we can understand His message, understand the world around us, understand the developments of science and technology so we can continue to contribute to our community. If you do not believe me read Psalms and Proverbs and then journey from there. You will lose count of how many times we are instructed in getting wisdom and knowledge and understanding. All things compliment each other.

6. God wants us to have trust. Proverbs 3:5-6, Proverbs, 16:3.

These are just a few of the many things that God desires for us. Galatians 5:22-23 gives us a few more things that God would put on His list for us and so does

What would You give the World? Psalms 23 and the Lords Prayer. These gems are listed all through scripture. Unlike most of the gifts we give to others, Gods gifts are designed to make us better individuals, better servants, better parents, better spouses, better citizens, better equipped to learn to live with the contentions of the world. Not better in a holier than thou way that exalts us but better in a quiet, humble way of being a servant in all cases regardless of what is happening around us. Nothing we can give equals anything God can give us; however, what gift can you give to the world-your world-the place where you have been called to live and serve, that will make it a better place while keeping yourself out of the limelight. How can you make a quiet Christmas gift, one determined in your heart, keep on givinggiving enough to touch a life, bring a smile, move a heart, or even change something? What gift are you giving your world this Christmas?

Peace on Earth and Merry Christmas.



Susan Dansereau District 1 President

The units in District One have been working hard to continue their commitment to our veterans and active service members. It is great to see all the ALA members of the Department of Wyoming continue to fulfill our mission.

Here is a run-down of the units that have recently sent in reports.

Unit 24 Rock Springs assisted with their Legion Family picnic, helping with the food and more importantly organizing games and activities for the children. From bubbles to face painting, and the ever-popular cakewalk, there was something for everybody to enjoy. They also had special t-shirts made to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 Attacks on America, these sold well, and gives everyone a new red shirt to wear on Fridays. The unit also hosted a Halloween party for the kiddos, an afternoon of fun was enjoyed by everyone involved. In addition to

supporting the post Veterans Day activities, the annual Baby basket given to the first baby born on Veterans Day in Sweetwater County was a big hit, with coverage being given both on-line and in the local newspaper. Sadly, Unit 24 lost an integral part of their family with the passing of long-time member, and fierce advocate Barb Gunyan, her presence will surely be missed by all.

Unit 28 Green River was the lucky winner of the \$100 attendance door prize at Fall Workshop. They have been busy making plans for the 2022 Department Convention in June and are looking forward to seeing as many units as possible. The unit contributed several gift baskets to the Riders for their annual Poker Run fundraiser. Several dresses were "rented" out for formal dances, and word of Brenda's Closet is spreading. The Annual Veterans Run/Walk was again a big hit, Runners/walkers were greeted by the High School band, and the annual walk was led by the Boy Scout Color Guard. The local Girl Scout troop also completed the 5K walk. One runner came from Michigan to complete the run.

Unit 36 Fort Bridger reported that they had a great time decorating a float for the July 4th Parade. The Girls State delegates were honored to ride on the float and throw out candy. In August they held a yard sale and helped the Legion with an ATV

District 1 News

Poker Run. There were some great prizes on a beautiful day. Unit members were able to hold 911 ceremonies at Lyman High School. Lunch was served for a craft show in October, and the ALA hosted their own Craft Fair and Santa's secondhand shop. Members are looking forward to helping with Wreaths Across Bridger Valley.

Unit 40 Cokeville had three girls attend Girls State this summer, they all reported having a wonderful time to the Unit upon their return. Unit members held a Memorial Day Program for the community at the Cokeville Cemetery. A Veterans Day luncheon was held on November 11 to honor local Veterans following a special program at Cokeville Elementary. The children made special cards; it was a great way to honor our Veterans.

Alpine #46 has been very busy supporting the Legion Family. They assisted The American Legion with Memorial Day activities. A very busy summer was spent doing all things Alpine! From working where needed for Mountain Man Days, to helping with the float for the July 4th Parade, the ALA members were ready when and where they were needed. Concessions for "Legion Bingo" are ongoing. Veterans Day was a big event, after helping prepare and serve a breakfast, it was time for Poppy distribution! An article explaining the Poppy, as well as a list of



times and places for distribution was published in the local paper which aided a great deal in the success of this activity. Two members of the unit were able to do a Flag presentation at the local elementary school. The students and teachers were very appreciative. Preparations are now underway for the Christmas Basket distribution

Unit 47 Pinedale has been doing their best to continue with the ALA mission despite the ongoing Covid concerns. They awarded a scholarship to one student last spring. Poppy funds raised over Memorial Day weekend are being used to assist with transportation costs for local veterans. These funds also help with meals for veterans at the local senior center. A banner honoring U.S.M.C LCpl Rylee McCollum was secured by the ALA unit and displayed by The American Legion at Rylee's Homecoming on September 10. Four girls attended Girls State and presented about their experiences at the Veterans Day ceremony. The ALA assisted the local VFW with a luncheon following the ceremony. While it had to be a take-out meal, it was still greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the veterans, military, and their families, I thank you for your continued dedication

Merry Christmas, Susan Dansereau Service Not Self



Photo Brady Oltmans, Bradly Boner of Jackson Hole
News&Guide, Angus M. Thuermer Jr.
Left: Pinedale American Legion Commander Michael Edison, and fellow U.S. Army Veteran Andrea Lewis hold the banner donated by Phil and Amy Belveal that the Post prominently showed in the procession honoring Rylee McCollum.





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

Every meeting provides sharing ideas, information and renewing friendships

WE NEED YOU!



District 2 News

Thank you to all of the Units that donated door prizes for Fall Workshop and thank you to District Vice President Linda for stepping in when I ended up falling ill right before Fall Workshop. Our District has been busy already this year, serving our Veteran's and communities. I would like to thank all Units for getting your memberships turned in to Peg.

Unit 1 Van Tassel has been revising their Constitution & By-Laws and will be presenting the "Missing Man" ceremony on Veteran's Day.

Unit 5 Torrington

Unit 8 Douglas hosted a Bake-a-thon to bake cookies for the Cheyenne VA, in October. Thank you to Dept. President Shareen for joining. They are getting ready to help the Post and Sons with the annual Veteran's Day Ceremony & breakfast.

Unit 9 Glenrock is getting ready for a Veteran's Day program. Thank you for the lunch and visit with District Vice President Linda, and myself. We enjoyed getting to visit with you

Unit 10 Wheatland is getting ready to serve 200 for their Veteran's Day lunch. They also are participating in their local Wreaths Across America.

Unit 15 Glendo

Unit 70 La Grange was in the La Grange November town newsletter for their events. They are getting ready for Education Week, Veteran's Day, and Christmas cards. For Veteran's Day, they are working on projects with the school.

Unit 75 Chugwater

Unit 95 Guernsey is getting ready to take cookies to Camp Guernsey for Veteran's Day, raising the Avenue of Flags, and help the VFW with their dinner. They also sponsored a blood



Jessica York District 2 President

drive.

Merry Christmas, Jessica York

District 3 News

Powder River Unit 16 no re-

Riverton Unit 19 held their annual Poppy Day on November 6, 2021. With only two people they managed to have a successful day. They posted an ad in the Riverton Ranger beforehand and one afterward to thank people for their donations.

Ft. Washakie Unit 81 cooked

stew and served it with fry bread to veterans and their guests during the dedication of the Path of Honor, Wind River Veteran's Memorial August 12, 2021.

Lander Unit 33 held their Annual Fundraiser Halloween weekend - grocery certificate drawing, poppy distribution and bake sale. The proceeds will be to help veterans. The Unit donates to Wreaths Across America and will help place the wreaths in the Veterans section of the President Ginger cemetery. Fross visited the Unit and gave a presentation regarding information presented at Fall Workshop as well as answering questions. Unit to create Christmas bags for veterans in local nursing home.

Ginger Fross



Ginger Fross District 3 President



Susan Sironen District 4 President

District 4 News

Our Units are still struggling with covid and are limited on what they can do to help our veterans and communities. These are some awesome ladies who find ways to work around these various limitations and it is encouraging to see what can be accomplished in these difficult times. Following are some highlights of their activities:

Basin (Unit 29) - President Becky Allred and her husband Sherman have moved to Casper to live with family members who can help with Sherman's declining health. Becky Fowler has taken on the President responsibilities. The Unit is well-established in their projects, and it should be smooth sailing for this transition. Thank you, Becky Fowler, for stepping into the position. The Veterans Day dinner in Basin was cancelled due to ongoing covid worries. Best wishes for a speedy recovery for Cynthia as she had knee replacement surgery on November 9.

Greybull (Unit 32) – The Greybull Unit is quite small but very mighty. Their Poppy Day was

District 4 News

held in September, treats were delivered to the veterans and residents of both local nursing homes for Halloween. For Veterans Day, the Auxiliary is paying up to \$10 for lunch for any veteran coming into the local pizza shop. The ladies purchased and delivered 12 exercise balls to each of the local nursing homes. For Christmas, the ladies have signed 100 Christmas cards and provided fleece throws, puzzles, coloring books and movies for both nursing homes. Christmas cards will also be made and sent to the Wyoming Veterans Home in Buffalo.

Powell (Unit 26) – Powell recently held their annual community Halloween party. This is a free, safe event for local children and their parents with approximately 500 children/parents enjoying the festivities with social distancing guidelines being applied. Halloween goodie bags were delivered to the local nursing home/assisted living facilities. The Veterans Day dinner is hosted by Post 26 and held on Veterans Day. The Auxiliary is

hosting a "sip and paint" event for local veterans as a creative arts project with the Auxiliary providing snacks and paying for the event for veterans.

Worland (Unit 44) – a Veterans Day breakfast was held on Veterans Day. This is also the Unit's Poppy Day, and the Post has a flag retirement ceremony for disposing of old, damaged flags. President Wendy advised that the Senior Center in Worland will be displaying signs on their lawn with names of veterans and their branch of service. The local nursing home does not let the Auxiliary drop off goodies, but they plan to provide Christmas cards for the veterans.

Membership renewals for District 4 are doing well. The membership goal by Veterans Day was 25% - District 4 is at 45%. Keep up the good work ladies and remember to send your dues payments to the Department as they are received. Our next goal deadline is 50% by Mid-Winter (Jan 15).

Susan Sironen





Robyn Ruff District 5 President

Hello to all. Well, October did not go at all like I planned! My calendar was all filled in with Fall Workshop, unit meetings and I was ready to wow the world! Big mistake -- first I was knocked down with covid and then that first big snowfall knocked out all my planned visits! November has to improve... right? I have had a bit of a problem connecting with some of the units, but I do have some news. District President Robin made her official visit (Gloria Taylor is actually your District VP not Laura). I know I have missed a lot and I apologize. I will get better and PLEASE let me know what's happening in your world as soon as possible after your meeting. momruff@hotmail.

Unit 7 Sheridan used their Father's Day Raffle to buy needed items for the Sheridan VA. Three members joined the Halloween Party downtown Sheri-They handed out treats, veteran related items and membership pamphlets. Friday night members head to the Legion for "7 of Hearts". It's a great fund raiser as well as being fun. We will provide a patriotic theme for the Post Home on Veterans Day. The unit voted to regularly meet at the Fire Water Grill at the Trail End Motel on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The unit passed their audit.

Unit 13 Buffalo our District President's October visitation was cancelled due to our early snowstorm, which dropped 24". The Unit had several things to discuss so we rescheduled for the following Tuesday. Our "food" committee revised the "funeral lunch" charges for members

District 5 News

and non-members. Eight members helped prepare and serve a funeral lunch in October. Edie reported on Fall Workshop and the Girls State Presentation. Thanks Dawn. November is a busy month. The unit held a successful "Poppy Day" last Friday. Members canvased Main, Fort Street and grocery stores. Poppies and donation cans were placed in businesses. A big thank you to the members who helped in any way. Veterans Day is celebrated with the unit's Annual Open House. A filled "Diaper Bag" will be presented to the baby born on Veterans Day or after. Congratulations to EDIE TAFFNER for being honored by the Boys and Girls Club of the Bighorns at their Annual Awards and Recognition Breakfast. Edie continues to mentor and lead Powder River Unit 13.

Unit 25 Moorcroft has been really busy! They baked 85 dozen cookies for our veterans in Sheridan and made over 200 goodie bags to celebrate Veteran's Day. They are working hard on plarn (crocheted plastic bags) mats for

Cheyenne Veteran's Rock. They support their schools by promot -ing Veteran's Day programs, poppy posters, and Americanism activities. Money was donated for the Halloween Party. In

their spare time, they volunteer

at the local secondhand store!

Unit 42 Gillette has been busy with their scholarship raffle basket. It looks awesome. They are also working on their cookbook. I'm looking forward to finding a few new recipes to try. If you are in town November 27th at 6 pm, stop in and eat. The Auxiliary sponsors the 4th Friday Dinner.

Unit 90 Kaycee took Veteran's Day treats to the schools as a special treat. They are also working on making baskets of supplies to share with the Sheridan veterans. They are looking forward to baking cookies. I enjoyed meeting with these dedicated women.

I have enjoyed meeting with these units and look forward to better weather, so I get to visit the other units.

Robin Ruff



Powder River Unit 13 Honoree Edie Taffner

Edie is a true Wyomingite born in Dayton, Wyoming and lived all but two years of her life in Wyoming. Besides educated in Sheridan and Johnson County, graduating from Johnson County High School. Edie was married and had four children, has grandchildren, great and greatgreat grandchildren.

Besides being a homemaker, she worked at the MDU office and the

Johnson County Co-op for 23 years as a bookkeeper, retiring in the spring of 1993. That lasted three weeks when she went to work parttime for First Interstate Bank over the next seven years.

District 5 at work....

Her volunteer passion started in 1965 when she joined the American Legion Auxiliary, serving as Unit and District President for several years and holding various Department Chairmanships as well as being Girls State Director for two years.

Edie got involved with the Boys & Girls Club of the Bighorns through the "Healthy Community -Health Youth" initiative and Community Resource Center as a member of the Board for many years. Her volunteer work continues today as the treasurer for the Senior Citizen Foundation Board, an office she's held since 2000.

In the midst of all this, she has found time to be an active member of the First United Methodist Church, being "Stephan's Minister" for the last 20 years.

Reprinted from Boys and Girls Club of the Big Horns





Courtesy Photo

Above: Unit 60 members - Diane Wise, President and member, Julie Butler working the Stand Down. John Wise, Commander Post 60 in the back.







Martie Harbick District 6 President

District 6 has started the year off running. So many plans, activities, oh my, I get tired just listing their wonderful ideas, support and hard work for our veterans.

Unit 6 Cheyenne is busy helping the honor guard raise money since the state stopped providing. They had dinners and fundraisers to support them. New members are joining to help the honor guard. A couple of members went to Fall workshop and learned new ideas and re-learned some of the old. The Girls State Director gave a training and ready to make it a good year for all girls. October brought in a Halloween Party with lots of

games, food, laughter, and pure enjoyment. Our volunteers wore costumes and I think the grownups had fun with the kids. Unit 6 participated in, worked hard, supported and helped with the Stand Down here in Cheyenne put on by Veterans Rock. Veterans Day, the auxiliary helped with placing and taking down of flags and participated in the Veterans Ceremony. Auxiliary members are helping the day after Thanksgiving taking calls for Christmas dinners. Plans are already in the work for the kids Christmas party.

Unit 14 Laramie like all units are frustrated with co-vid. They are bringing the Unit back; they are really on the move in the community and the schools. They are working on Girls State big time. Lots of member participation with parades, helping with the honor guard, placing flags, and picking them up. Veterans was another way they showed much support and appreciation.

Unit 54 Medicine Bow many kudos to these ladies who give so much to the vets and their community. Like all units, how

District 6 News

to keep their paid members more involved and how to increase membership. These ladies help with funerals, dinners, parades and community. They have activities to educate the children about Veterans and our Country.

Unit 60 Pine Bluffs started highway clean-up again. They provide cookies and juice at the Senior Citizen Center as well as taking the time to listen and visit with them. Unit 60 worked and supported the Stand Down (look for their picture). They provided personal hygiene bags and took time to talk with the veterans. Oh my, Halloween party for kids, I heard the Unit President had to get stern with a little boy wanting to take a container of candy and then he was picking out the candy he liked. I wish I would have been there to see and hear the president talking to the boy. Their plan for Christmas is to send a donation to Veterans Rock. Veterans pulls them together.

Unit 64 Medicine Bow, I apologize I haven't made my visit. I tried twice, the first-time weather and the second time weather and half the town had co-vid.

They are doing the best they can with the members they have to help. Let's pray for them. They are trying very hard to work with Rawlins and Hanna as well.

Unit 77 Albin, wow, busy, busy. These ladies provide clothing for women at Safehouse, donate news shoes to the elementary school in Pine Bluffs. They help picking up debris at the cemetery, placed flags and participated in Veterans Day. They make "Buddy Calls" to check up on veterans and on each other. Again, like all units, how do we get more participation, new members??

Our units try to get out there to make our veterans lives better. They try hard to show we care and love them.

Please remember to go online to either department or national websites to see the various programs, ideas and help you can receive. I hope to see members from District 6 at the workshop in January at Casper Ramkota. More information will follow. Post 6 will be taking the van If you would like a ride. Thank you for all you do in service not self.

Martie Harbick

District 6 at work....



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Pho

Above: Unit 60 members - Diane Wise, President and member, Julie Butler working the Stand Down. John Wise, Commander Post 60 in the back.

Above: Dora Jones working Unit 6 and Foster Grandparents.

Chaplain to Chaplain....

Remember that I am recording which Units send me reports - even if you had no activity you can send me a note or a report that says 'Nothing to Report' of 'No Activity'. I will be recognizing Unit participation next year at our state meeting.

Reporting forms can be found on the Department website: www. wylegionaux.org.

Please remember to includ the name and address of each person you want me to send something to.

Please include your name and the name and number of your Unit and what month or time period the report is for..

Be on the alert for the "Good Samaritan" acts in your Unit and from those who support you in the community.

Please send me a special poem, scripture, prayer, devotional or something inspirational from your Unit. I am collecting stuff.





Cathey Raymer Americanism Chairman

Hard to believe that it's already time for winter and the holiday season to begin.

I encourage all of our Units to

participate in the Americanism Essay Contest. Get the information to the schools early so that the students have plenty of time to work on them. The theme is: "How can we support families who provide care to their Veterans". Please make sure that the cover sheet is filled out and that they are eligible. The deadline is March 31st.

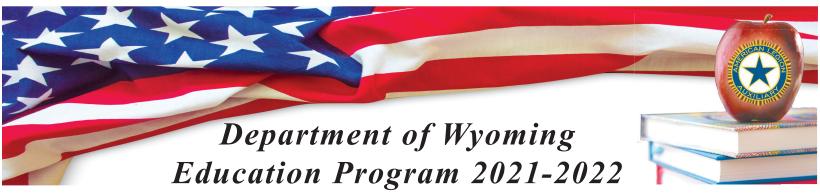
The Star Spangled Kids program is being promoted this year. This program is to educate youth on the history of the United States from the aspect of patriotism, Americanism and the US Constitution. Two Units in the Northwest Division will be

awarded a box of Americanism items to assist with promotion of Americanism in their community. The drawings will be random from the Unit entries. For a chance at the award; Units will refer to the "How to Promote Star Spangled Kids" sheet and complete/or share how they will complete four items on the list. The sheet and application can be found on the website alaforveterans.org or I can send them to you. The deadline is January 15th.

I encourage everyone to join the facebook group American Legion Auxiliary Americanism Program. All Units are asked to share their activities and pictures with Jane Benzel, the Northwest Division Chairman, jame. sdala@gmail.com; throughout the year. The chairman will post these activities on the facebook page to share with everyone. Please share these with me too.

Many of our service people and veterans are away from home during the holidays. Have you considered adopting a veteran, service member or company? Remember to incorporate a flag with any of your plans.

Thank you for all that you do. In the spirit of Patriotism Cathey Raymer, Chairman





Susan Sironen District 4 President

Happy Fall to everyone. With the Fall weather comes the beginning of the various school programs and scholarship planning. As we heard at Fall Workshop, no mid-year reports are required for the 2021-2022 year. That said, please feel free to forward photos, articles from newspapers and descriptions of your activities as they happen. Please send these to sironen2013@outlook.com. I would love to hear about your various projects and would like to post them on the National Facebook pages.

National has several pages you may be interested in following to learn more about our various programs and highlights from other Units around the county that may give you ideas for your Unit

ALA Education Program

American Legion Auxiliary Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)

American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters

American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program

American Legion Auxiliary

Americanism Program

American Legion Auxiliary Chaplains

American Legion Auxiliary Junior Members

Scholarships are available on both the State and National levels. Some are paper applications to be submitted to the Units and some are on-line only, which are routed back to the Department for review. Please watch the deadlines and criteria. Information is available on our Department of Wyoming website www. wylegionaux.org and click on the Scholarship tab. Some require membership in the ALA, but some do not. Some are for Seniors in high school, and some are for others. One to consider is the Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship. While this is a scholar-

ship awarded by National, there are 3 given out in each Division for \$5,000 each. Applicants do not need to be members and it is open to daughters, sons, grandson, granddaughters, as well as great-grandsons and greatgranddaughters of veterans who served in Armed Forces during eligibility dates. Please let your schools and members know the various scholarships are available. We have a spreadsheet available to provide information on the various scholarships and criteria at a glance. If you would like a copy, please email me at sironen2013@outlook. com. Also, please let me know if I may be of any assistance to you with your Education Program.

Sincerely, Susan Sironen, Department Chairman

Request for Photos for Department Convention

Tammy Harris with the Department Convention Committee is requesting Units send in photos showing your projects and programs for the year. When you send a picture in your year-end report to the Department Chairman; please email or send the picture to the Convention Committee. Email: tjharris@wyoming.com





Tammy Harris Vice President and Leadership

What is the leadership? Is it being on the Executive Board of the Unit? Is it holding a position at the District or Department Levels? Is it being the person in charge? The answer to each of these questions is, generally speaking, yes. But leadership is so much more than holding elected or appointed offices at any level of any organization. When we think of leadership, we often think of those people who hold the offices in our Units, Districts or at the Department level. But just because someone holds an office does not necessarily make that person a good

Building a Culture of Leadership

leader. In other words, the office does not make the leader; the leader makes the office. We all can think of at least one person in our respective units who always shows up for events, or volunteers to help out but has no desire to hold an office. That person is just as much a leader as our officers are.

Good leaders show up. Great leaders show up and encourage others by doing—leading by example—and in the process, inspiring greatness. A great leader does not lead because of the accolades or prestige of the office. A great leader sees what needs to be done and does it – start to finish. A great leader invites the input of those around him or her and encourages other to shine. Great leaders finish what they set out to do.

At the Unit, District and Department, we should be striving to build up people to become leaders both inside and outside of the organization. How do we do this? One of our key Programs, Girls State does this every year in June. The program builds leaders through hands on experience and encouragement. But we can be building up our leaders inside

our units. Invite people to share ideas. Encourage them to attend events. Invite them to help out with a project or program that interests them. Teach them about the organization and give them the tools to make your Unit or program shine.

I encourage you all to log into the national website at ALAforveterans.org and check out the ALA academy. There are several great programs available that cover subjects such as the history of the organization, creating a culture of goodwill, mission training events that focus on juniors, veterans affairs and rehabilitation, among others. You can host an event at your unit for any of these programs. If you've never been to either the National website or the Department website, please go check it out. You can find the Department of Wyoming website at: www.wyamericanlegionauxiliary.org.

As I put on the handout in your unit packets at Fall Workshop, there are three possible awards that can be given for leadership. The first is the Unit Member of the Year award. This award recognizes a Unit Member who goes above and beyond the call

of duty. I would love to have a nomination from every Unit and truly believe that every Unit has a member who goes above and beyond the call of duty and would love to be able to recognize them at Convention in Green River. The second award is for the Unit with the best leadership program. Tell me what you are doing to cultivate leaders. (I've given you a few ideas.) Finally, the last award is for the department with the best leadership program—tell me how I can help you cultivate leaders so we can create a program that builds leaders in our Units, Districts and Department. Most importantly—share what you are doing, with pictures, so we can share it to National.

I will leave you with this last thought on leaders:

"A good leader inspires people to have confidence in the leader, a great leader inspires people to have confidence in themselves." Eleanor Roosevelt

Let's all strive to be GREAT leaders.

For God and Country Tammy Harris





Peg Sillivan Poppy Chairman

Poppy Challenge: Poppy in the Window of Each Veteran



Members, senior and junior, place a poppy in the window of each Veteran in their community. This poppy will allow citizens to recognize the sacrifice of the Veteran and their family for the rights our citizens are granted today.

Engage the schools, youth organizations, churches, and Legion Family members to allow children and adults to distribute a red poppy to place in the window of a Veteran with a note provided by the Auxiliary. This note would thank the Veteran for their service and request that the poppy is placed in a window. Students using the poppy bookmark could create red poppies

Poppy

for sharing. This experience will allow Auxiliary members to share the poppy's history while interacting with the community.

The Introduction of the poppy, history and the Poppy Poster Contest to students creating the poppy will further explain honoring the Veterans service to our Country.

Units and members can donate art supplies to make poppies, poppy cards, and delivery to Veterans in nursing homes and hospitals (another avenue of extending our mission into the community).

Suggestion: The poppies before delivery could create a Poppy Wall of Honor at a school, church, Post, or community

Suggestion: Members work with area businesses to create a Poppy Wall of Honor (a poppydesigned emblem with the name) within the business to honor all Veterans employed. The honored Veterans would receive a poppy and a personal thank-you.







Gina Dusel Membership Chairman

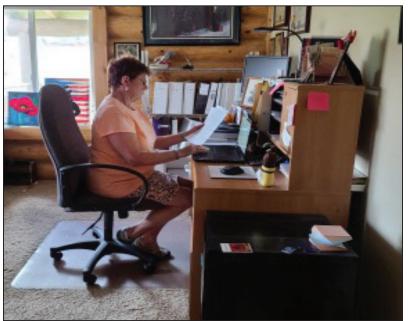
Our Mission

In the spirit of Service, Not Self, the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security.

This is what we do....we are the American Legion Auxiliary!

District 1	Goal	Total	District 4	Goal	Total
Rock Springs	244		Powell	114	
Green River	119		Basin	55	
Ft. Bridger	65		Greybull	24	
Cokeville	36		Worland	71	
Alpine	35		TOTAL D 4	264	О
Pinedale	33				
Big Piney	33		District 5		
LaBarge	19				
TOTAL D 1	584	О	Newcastle	28	
			Sheridan	89	
District 2			Buffalo	145	
VanTassel	21		Moorcroft	81	
Torrington	108		Gillette	175	
Douglas	68		Hulette	55	
Glenrock	53		Kaycee	37	
Wheatland	41		TOTAL D 5	610	О
Glendo	76				
Chugwater	17		District 6		
LaGrange	34				
Gurnsey	42		Cheyenne	263	
TOTAL D 2	460	267	Laramie	102	
			Saratoga	59	
District 3			Pine Bluffs	34	
			Medicine Boy	v 46	
Casper	34		Albin	32	
Powder River	14		TOTAL D 6	536	О
Riverton	34				
Lander	77				
Ft. Washakie	25				
TOTAL D 3	184	0	Unit 17	48	
					Date
GRAND TOTA	L 2686	267			10-Nov





Peg Sillivan
Department Secretary

THANK YOU!
HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

Thank you to the "group" at Fall Workshop for my card. It couldn't have come on a better day.

Membership Chairmen, please pat yourself on the back for the awesome job. I appreciate you. Keep up the "Great" work.

What do you think of the new "newspaper look"? A special thank you Penny Merryfield for our "NEW LOOK". Keep your articles coming so the rest of the Department knows what your

unit is up to.

For those of you who go on the Department Website – www. wylegionaux.org it is updated. Make sure you check out the gallery for pictures from around the Department. Also forms and our National President. Girls State will be updated soon. If you haven't checked the webpage, give it a try!

Mid Winter Conference will be held in Casper January 14-15th. Registration in this issue.





Department of Wyoming

ALA National Recognition

The Department of WY would like to recognize LaGrange Unit 70 for their Poppy Program. Josh Clayton Class XI Poppy Poster placed 1st in Northwest Division. We are also proud to recognize Cheryl Grandstaff for the LaGrange Poppy Program. Cheryl has been the LaGrange Unit 70's Poppy Chairman for many years. She wrote an Outstanding Poppy Program Report for 2020-2021. Her report was sent to the American Legion Auxiliary Northwest Division Poppy Chairman. The Northwest Division consists of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Each Department picks their Outstanding Poppy Program Unit Report. Cheryl's report was judged along with the other five (5) Department reports. Her report earned the Northwest Division Outstanding Poppy Program. Cheryl was presented with a plaque by Department of WY Poppy Chairman Peg Sillivan. Congratulations Cheryl.



Courtesy Photo

Above: Poppy Chairman Peg Sillivan presents NW Division Outstanding Poppy Program to LaGrange Unit 70 Chairman Cheryl Grandstaff, Cathy Stoddard watches.



Stand Down

Veteran's Rock sponsored a "STAND DOWN" in Cheyenne on October 26th. Pine Bluff Unit 60 and Cheyenne Unit 6 helped make it a success.



Courtesy Photo

Above: Bob and Sandra Dockitt from Veteran's Rock Below: Susan Barela and Gail Keeler serving breakfast to the veterans.



Serving our Veterans



Courtesy Photo

Above: Veterans Day Governor Gordon and Unit 6 Member Linda Hollingsworth.

WY Veterans Home Buffalo

Greetings from Buffalo and the Veterans Home of Wyoming. Lots of things have gone on up here over the summer. The new Skilled Nursing Home is really taking shape! You can see all three buildings now, with the first one enclosed with windows and all! Three very sturdy benches were installed at the fishing pond by the Son's! Each bench is decanted to people that have served the Veterans over the years. Really a nice tribute and they are metal set on a concrete block that should be there for years of



Courtesy Photo



In July the Veterans were treated with a watermelon party in the outside gazebo! Do you remember years ago when all of the Units contributed to

Unit #13 has been going weekly to serve ice cream and cookies with the funds the other Units provide! This week we are taking pumpkin pies. The residents love those pies!

I would invite any of you to visit the home if you are in Buffalo. I would be glad to escort you and introduce you to the hard working staff there. Just give me a call!

I can't pass up the chance to thank all the Units that contribute to the fund that makes most of this possible.

Edie Taffner, Representative

Cheyenne VA

Above: Pies baked for Veterans Home.

CHEYENNE VA ACTIVITIES

A "Drive Thru Baby Shower" was held at the Cheyenne VA and sponsored in part by Unit 6 and the Department. Veterans registered for the event with Volunteer Services. The names of those registered were placed into a drawing for 2 - \$100 gift cards purchased by Cheyenne Rep Martie, from ALA Unit donations. Unit 6 members manned different stations

including food, diapers, baby blankets and other baby items.

Sheridan VA

We want to thank you for your past financial support of the Sheridan VA. Please continue to support the new combined general fund covering both VA's and the Veterans Home as well as supporting the veterans within your community. Your generosity allowed us to purchase sets of sweat suits in a couple of colors to help keep the veterans warm and

The Sheridan VA has continued needs of new men's and women's underwear, belts, warm clothing for winter, slightly used blue jeans in all sizes, baby items and craft kits. And of course, cookies, cookies and more cookies.

comfortable this winter.

Thank you for your continued support. Linda Orr and Romona Jacobs, Sheridan VA Reps

Veterans Day Gift



Above: The Dean family-Kelsey, Melody, Jake holding baby Alliison with their Veterans Day Diaper Bag from Powder River Unit 13.

CWF Award



Courtesy Photo

Above: President Gina accepting the CWF Award

WE NEED YOU!

The ALA Department of Wyoming encourages Units to send a representative to **Department Mettings.** Every meeting provides sharing ideas, information and renewing friendships



Department of Wyoming

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wyoming receives grant for traveling information center

BUFFALO, Wyo. – A \$5,000 Mission in Action grant awarded to the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Department of Wyoming will help fund a mobile information center.

"Our goal is to be a large presence in each community we visit," said Peg Sillivan, ALA Department of Wyoming secretary.

The grant to help purchase the branded trailer was awarded from the American Legion Auxiliary Foundation. It will be used as a traveling information center to take around the state to promote programs, membership, and volunteering for the entire American Legion Family.

"It is our goal to reach communities that may not have a unit or communities that do, but people there are unaware of what the American Legion Auxiliary is all about," Sillivan said. "We want to promote membership, ALA Girls State, Americanism, and volunteering. We can also reach veterans who may not know about their benefits if they are members, or if not, that information will be available too."

The department funded \$2,100 toward the project. The \$7,100 total for the project will be used for the purchase of the trailer, sales tax and licensing, vinyl branded signage, and building and installing cupboards in the trailer.

"It is our hope to eventually touch the 20,000-plus veterans and their family members in the state of Wyoming," Sillivan said. "We realize this will not happen overnight, but we are committed to our veterans and their families and we will not give up this cause."

A formal dedication is scheduled for early October.

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is a community of volunteers serving veterans, military, and their families. Our members also support the mission of The American Legion in improving the quality of life for our nation's veterans. Proud sponsor of ALA Girls Nation, National Poppy Day® and recognized for advocating for veterans on Capitol Hill, the more than 600,000 ALA members across the country volunteer millions of hours annually and raise millions of dollars in service to veterans, military, and their families. Founded in 1919, the ALA is one of the oldest patriotic membership organizations in the U.S.A. To learn more and to volunteer, join, and donate, visit www. ALAforVeterans.org.

Cheyenne VA & R

We have been working very hard with Director Barb Soren at Voluntary Services and the community. The American Legion Auxiliary was asked to help with the first VA Baby Shower held for women veterans having

a baby this year. The Baby Shower was set up in different stations. The Veteran drove by receiving baby items for the mother-to-be and mothers-that-had. The first station was flu shots. They proceeded from station to station ending with nourishment. After all it takes a lot out of mothers-to-be and mothers that have their little ones. They need a little to eat. Many thanks to our units who donated and made baby items. The ALA donated 2-\$100 gift cards.

Cheyenne had the Stand Down put on by Veterans Rock. They were most grateful for Wyoming

Auxiliary units. Our units donated money, blankets, tents, backpacks, snacks, clothes, personal hygiene items, water, you name it, you did it. Your donations were awesome and so appreciative. They even enjoyed continental breakfast provided by you the units. The social time together was wonderful. One thing that was different this year was more women vets and vets with sizes from XL to XXX. One even asked for XXXX -XXXXX. They really appreciated the plastic bag pads they put underneath their sleeping bags. They also enjoyed the pillows made out of the plastic bags. They commented they last so much longer than store bought ones.

Thank you all so much for your generous monetary donations, cookies and whatever we ask of you. We have been able to provide T-shirts, sweatpants, personal hygiene items, razors, toothbrushes, snacks for the CLC and the RTTP. The food closet has been restocked four times.

Cookies are being served daily, two or three in a zip lock bag. They really love them. Unit 6 member, Gail Keeler, sends weekly postcards to the vets in CLC. She also sends holiday cards to them as well. Something new Gail started, a little bit at a time is sending postcards out to vets throughout Wyoming thanking them for their service.

I personally would like to ask if there is a chance your unit would adopt a Veteran at Cheyenne, Sheridan or Buffalo. It would awesome. If you would like to do this please contact your VA & R representative.

Our/your units make the veterans life better. Thank you, Martie **I (Peg) spoke with Angelo in Voluntary Services on Friday and he said, "Martie and Gail are here helping every day. They are great."



NW Division Vice President at Mid Winter, January 15th.



from the Dept. of Wyoming Auxiliary

Mid-Winter Conference

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wyoming Mid-Winter Conference Agenda

Friday, January 14, 2022

1:00 p.m. **Girls State Training Session (tentative)**

4:00 p.m. **Finance Meeting**

7:00 p.m. **Department Executive Committee Meeting**

Saturday, January 15, 2022

9:00 a.m. Opening

Invocation - Judith Killion, Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance - Cathey Raymer, American Chairman Preamble to the Constitution - Vicki Paddock, C&B Chairman

Welcome – Ginger Fross, District #3 President

Response -

Introductions of ALA District, Department, & National Officers

Introduction of Past Department Presidents Roll Call - Units and Officers - Peg Sillivan

Finance Committee Report – Vicki Paddock

Department Executive Committee Report - Peg Sillivan

National Executive Committee - Vicki Paddock

9:30 a.m. Each Chairman present will have five (5) minutes to share any important information concerning their chairmanship:

Americanism – Cathey Raymer

9:35 a.m. Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Melba Bennett

9:40 a.m. Child Welfare Foundation

9:45 a.m. Children & Youth – No Chairman

9:50 a.m. Community Service – Ginger Fross

9:55 a.m. Constitution & Bylaws – Vicki Paddock

10:00 a.m. Education - Susan Sironen

10:05 a.m. Girls State – Dawn Kenneda

10:10 a.m. Juniors – No Chairman

10:15 a.m. Legislative – Leila Dean

10:20 a.m. National Security - Susan Dansereau

10:25 a.m. Poppy – Peg Sillivan

10:30 a.m. Break

Greetings to Legion – Shareen Johnson, Department President &

DeeDee Buckley, Northwestern Division National President,

Department of Minnesota

10:40 a.m. Activity #1 – VA&R – Trudy Zaffarano;

Susan Sironen; Linda Orr; Martie Harbick; Edie Taffner

11:55 a.m. Peg's Tidbits

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. Roll Call of Officers & Units – Peg Sillivan

1:20 p.m. Introduction – Vicki Paddock,

National Executive Committeewoman

1:25 p.m. Remarks – DeeDee Buckley, Northwestern Division

National President, Department of Minnesota

2:00 p.m Girls State Training January 14 *******

2:00 p.m. Break – set up for next activity

2:10 p.m. Activity #2 – Leadership – Tammy Harris

3:20 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. Public Relations – Linda Orr

3:35 p.m. Membership – Gina Dusel

4:00 p.m. Chaplain Remarks & Benediction – Judith Killion

4:10 p.m. Peg's Tidbits

4:15 p.m. Closing Remarks





Wyoming American Legion Mid Winter Conference

January 14-15, 2022

Ramkota 800 N. Poplar St, Casper, WY

Host: George W. Vroman Post 2, Casper, WY

Pre-Register by January 1st, 2022

DEC Meeting will meet in the Grand Ball Room, Friday, January 14th

Financial Committee @ 6:30pm. DEC @ 7pm

Lunch at 12 noon Terrace Area Dinner at 6pm with cash bar Terrace Area

TAL Conference Saturday, Jan 15th to begin at 09:00 AM

Grand Ball Room

Sons of the Legion will meet in the

North Ball Room

Auxiliary will meet in:

Wyoming Theater

Riders will meet in the Natrona Room

Lunch and Dinner Buffet in the Terrace Area

RSVP to casperlegion@juno.com or mail to Legion Mid Winter, P.O. Box 2268, Casper, WY 82602

Name:		Address:		Registration \$10 Saturday Lunch Baked Potato Bar \$13.00 each
City:	Zip:	Phone:		
Email:				Saturday Dinner \$22 each Flat Iron Medallions
Post #:	Office:	District:	Dept.:	Vegetable Lasagne
Unit #:	Office:	District:	Dept.:	-
SAL#:	Office:	Detachment:		Total
RIDER'S POST #	Office:			

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wyoming Mid-Winter Conference Agenda

Friday, January 14, 2022

Girls State Training Session (tentative) 1:00 p.m.

Department Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, January 15, 2022

Opening

Invocation - Judith Killion, Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance - Cathey Raymer, American Chairman Preamble to the Constitution - Vicki Paddock, C&B Chairman

Welcome - Ginger Fross, District #3 President

Response -

Introductions of ALA District, Department, & National Officers

Introduction of Past Department Presidents Roll Call - Units and Officers – Peg Sillivan Finance Committee Report - Vicki Paddock

Department Executive Committee Report – Peg Sillivan National Executive Committee – Vicki Paddock

9:30 a.m. Each Chairman present will have five (5) minutes to share any important information concerning their

chairmanshin:

Americanism - Cathey Raymer Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Melba Bennett Child Welfare Foundation 9:35 a.m.

9:40 a.m. 9:45 a.m. Children & Youth - No Chairman

9:50 a.m. Community Service – Ginger Fross Constitution & Bylaws - Vicki Paddock 9:55 a.m.

10:00 a.m Education - Susan Sironen Girls State - Dawn Kenneda 10:05 a.m.

10:10 a.m. Juniors - No Chairman

Legislative - Leila Dean 10:15 a.m 10:20 a.m. National Security - Susan Dansereau

Poppy – Peg Sillivan

10:30 a.m.

to Legion - Shareen Johnson, Department President &

DeeDee Buckley, Northwestern Division National President, Department of Minnesota Activity #1 - VA&R - Trudy Zaffarano; Susan Sironen; Linda Orr; Martie Harbick; Edie Taffner

10:40 a.m. Peg's Tidbits 11:55 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

Roll Call of Officers & Units - Peg Sillivan 1:15 p.m.

1:20 p.m. Introduction - Vicki Paddock, National Executive Committeewoman

1:25 p.m. Remarks - DeeDee Buckley, Northwestern Division National President, Department of Minnesota

2:00 p.m. Break - set up for next activity Activity #2 – Leadership – Tammy Harris

2:10 p.m. 3:20 p.m.

3:30 p.m. Public Relations - Linda Orr

3:35 p.m. Membership - Gina Dusel 4:00 p.m. Chaplain Remarks & Benediction - Judith Killion

4:10 p.m.

4:15 p.m. Closing Remarks

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Headquarters Office Hours



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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

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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION **DETACHMENT OF WYOMING**

Commander: Jim Anderson Adjutant: William R. Wright

> 1320 Hugur Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82001



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