Volume 36. No. 4

1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82003

**DECEMBER 2025** 

# Commander's Corner



Russell Stafford Commander Dept. of Wyoming

Welcome to the Holiday season. I pray that everyone has a blessed and wonderful season.

The Department has been very active this year. We have been visited by the National Commander, Dan Wiley, September 10 - 14. We had many post members visit with him during that time in the district 1 area and he was pleasantly sur-

prised by all the activity happening in those posts. We were then visited by Ken George, the National Judge Advocate representative at our Wyoming American Legion Leadership training September 26 - 28 in Rock Springs. Our training was praised by the NJA representative and by the training cadre at National American Legion. And just recently we were visited by the Ben Headen, National Vice Commander for the Western Region of The American Legion and Michele Steinmetz, the National Member Engagement Coordinator. This visit was during the district 3 revitalization in Fort Washakie October 18

Why do we continue to mention these visits and why do we focus so much on membership? The first part is easier to answer than the second. The reason we mention these visits, as well as conduct these visits, is to show how important our membership is and that these visits are our way of showing off to others how proud we are of them. It also allows for the membership to interact with national to pass on concerns and questions that they may have.

The second part of our question is this; our organization is helping veterans. To do this, the American Legion needs to be able to strong in membership to have power. The power needed to get legislature changed is by having a large membership. When the GI Bill of Rights was drafted and sent to congress, there were 3.3 million members in The American Legion. Past National Commander Denise Rohan made the following statement at a previous Washington D.C. conference, "When the Legion's membership dips, so does its effectiveness. A shrinking membership base affects everything – fewer members, less activity, less new leadership, less new ideas...(and) less clout here in Washington D.C. It is time to help eligible veterans understand that for us to continue to help current and future veterans, we need members to pay it forward. The best way to do that is to become a member of

an organization, a family, that has almost 100 years of continued service." Those statements are at the heart of what our organization is about, effective ability to take care of veterans.

Rohan also stated," We need to be open to new ideas. We need to serve as mentors to others. We need to build posts in every community where one is needed. We need to continue to remind ourselves that a veteran is a veteran." This doesn't mean that we discount our older members, but that we open our minds to the reality that our younger veterans need different things. We need to remember our history and how we were either included or discounted because of who we were, where we served, or when we served. None of that matters. we all signed on the bottom line to put our lives on the line to defend this country. We need to remember that membership is important, but so are the members. A veteran is a veteran.

#### **Adjutant's Corner**



Vanessa Stuart Department Adjutant

Greetings to all! The flags are now up at headquarters which is awesome! Our upcoming events for the next few months include Mid-Winter -The DEC meeting will be Jan 16, Mid-Winter Convention Jan 17th. Please find the registration form in this edition of the newspaper. The headquarters building will be closed 27-28 November for Thanksgiving, 24-26 December for Christmas and 1 January.

At least twice a week I receive phone calls asking why a member is still receiving a renewal notice after they paid their dues. I thought I'd answer that here. National sets cutoff days every year so that if your renewal is received by that date, you should not get a renewal notice after that. Please keep in mind that you may renew a few days before the cutoff but if the post has to mail the renewal to Department to be input in the system, it may not make the cutoff date so you may still receive one more notice. I have listed the remaining cutoff dates for both Legion and Sons below. They are also in the directory on the Department website. Legion cutoff days are: 10 Dec 25, 11 February 26, and 8 April 26. SAL cutoff dates are 11 February and 8 April 26. As always, if you have questions please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your service and support. My wish is that you have a wonderful holiday season. Vanessa

Vanessa Stuart, Department Adjutant.

#### 1st Vice Commander's Corner



Benjamin Glenn 1st Vice Commander Dept. of Wyoming

#### Words from the 1st Vice Commander

Department of Wyoming American Legion Posts have been highly active this fall all over our great

The impact on veterans made by our Legion, Sons of the American Legion, and Auxiliary members daily is Extraordinary! These actions by our Legion family members often go unnoticed outside their area but are critical to the needs of their local population. I have learned a great deal from what I personally believe are my privileged opportunities as your

1st Vice Commander to get to visit and learn from my Comrades across the State. I am amazed every time I visit a Post to see the challenging work, the community impact, and the Love exhibited toward our veterans and their families. If no one else has ever told you then let me be the first to say, "Thank you!" I am so proud to be a member of the Department of Wyoming American Legion. Remember, this is an extremely sensitive time of the year so Be the One, conduct Buddy Checks, and I want to personally challenge our officers across the Department to invite a veteran to dinner during the upcoming Holiday Season. No Veteran or deployed Servicemembers spouse in Wyoming should have to eat their Holiday meal alone. That is not who we are!

The 250th anniversary of America is upon us, so I encourage all posts to get involved. Ways and means still have raffle tickets available for the 250th Anniversarv Prizes and we are looking forward to the design submissions for the Department of Wyoming 250th anniversary challenge coin. I Look forward to seeing everyone at the Mid-winter conference in Wheatland January 2026. May the almighty continue to protect our servicemembers in harm's way and our veterans and families here at home. Happy Holidays!

> "Service Before Self Not Self Service"

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# In Memoriam Sons of the American Legion

Wyoming Squadron 6 - Jim W. Grandpre Rex Wilde Steve M Dunmire Wyoming Squadron 24 Joseph N. Beauchamp Larry A. Turcato Wyoming Squadron 28 Dale E. Johnson





#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

**Detachment Of Wyoming News Letter** 



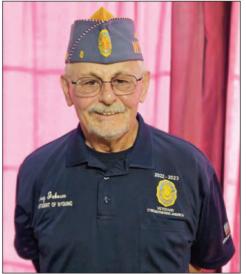
Keith Trouwborst Commander - Sons

Greetings from the Sons of The American Legion. We have had a great start of the year with the Sons convention in Newcastle electing a new Commander, Adjutant and National Executive Committeeman and ANEC. Our new Commander is Keith Trouwborst from Squadron 33 in Lander, Adjutant Doug Johnson from Squadron 8 in Douglas, Nation Executive Committeeman Charlie Keith from Squadron 33 in Lander, Alternate National Executive Committeeman Gary Temple from Squadron 42 in Gillette. Our Senior Vice Commander is Derek



Derek Mancinho Sr. Vice Commander

Mancinho from Squadron 14 in Laramie, and our Junior Vice Commander is Don Sillivan from Squadron 13 in Buffalo. On July 11th and 12th we were in Buffalo celebrating Christmas in July for the residents at the soldiers' home with a fishing derby and lunch. Every year the detachment does a project with some improvement at the fishing pond. It has evolved into a number of projects from setting a flagpole to a fishing platform to cement pads and this year's project of a bridge so the veterans can get to the other side of the pond. I would like to thank the



Doug Johnson Adjutant

following Squadrons for all the help on this years project. Squadron 8 had 1 participant, Squadron 13 had 2, Squadron 14 had 1, Squadron 26 had 2, Squadron 33 had 5, Squadron 42 had 7, Squadron 44 had 1, Squadron 54 had 2 for a total of 8 Squadrons and 1 Veterans Home staff had 1 participant for a total of 22 people helping build the bridge and cleaning the area up of rubbish and dead tree branches. We then headed up to the veterans home gazebo and the staff had a wonderful lunch and where we presented the prizes for the biggest fish, smallest fish, most



Don Sillivan Jr. Vice Commander

fish and who caught a sucker. The Veteran that caught the biggest fish went to Rod Eisenhower the smallest fish went to Duane Hockett, the most fish caught went to Sam Ross and the Veteran that caught a sucker went to Sam Ross. All the Vets had a great time fishing and a great lunch. The Detachment also gives each resident a \$10.00 bill. I invite all who wants to come to Buffalo and help out on all the actives at the Veterans Home. Thank You.

Doug Johnson, Detachment Adjutant.



Kyle A. Orbinati Commander - Sq. 2 Casper

#### Sons Squadron 2 Casper

I am a dual member, as a US Marine Corps Veteran and qualifying as a Son through my paternal grandparents and maternal grandfather. They served in the Army Air Corps and later U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, and U.S. Navy.

I took over our Squadron in August 2023 shortly after the death of the Commander at the time. The Squadron was barely holding together with several members that were past due by years, and most of the Active membership was paid by the post officers that were the qualifying parent. The Squadron executive committee was nonexistent.

I had two main problems, membership and fundraising. My first term, I proceeded to push all existing members to renew, and received several awards as we exceeded our membership goal. My second term we barely managed to hit our membership goal, however welcomed a Squadron Chaplain, Bob Meloy. This year, we are off to a good start welcoming two new members who stepped up to become officers, now Vice Commander Dave Graves & his son, now Sergeant At Arms Trevin

Graves.

In September 2023, a project called the "Buy A Brick" program was given to our post from the Natrona County United Veterans Council and given to the Squadron. Since then as been our main fundraising push.

I have worked with the Post to increase the presents in the community, joining the post when able with Posting the flags throughout the community during holidays and color guards. When able I accompany the Post Officers during the spring presenting the American Legion awards to JROTC students at both Casper High Schools and CY Middle School.

Recently, I took over as the SAL District 3 Coordinator from NEC Charlie Keith. I am looking forward to working with the Legion District Leadership on expanding the District for the SAL.

For God & Country

Kyle A. Orbinati, District 3 Coordinator Detachment of Wyoming Squadron Commander Sons of the American Legion Squadron 2 Casper, Wyoming

# \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# THANK YOU!

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED





# **American Legion Auxiliary News**

# **Department President's Report**





Robin Ruff President

Can you believe it is already December? Do you know what that means? Yep, our year is half over! So much has happened in the past few months! We are way past National Convention, enjoyed a cool sprinkley Stand Down in Cheyenne and got our Unit/District activities going. I've been to several activities, meetings, and lots of miles traveled. Every one bringing new energy and enthusiasm! Know what is keeping me going? Our four pillars! VA@R... Knowing I am striving to support our Veteran's with the benefits/healthcare they earned the hard way! providing the resources needed for our disabled, homeless, and injured veterans.

NATIONAL SECURITY...advocating for a well-funded military, advocating and supporting their families, addressing the issue of POW/MIAs and homeland security. AMERICANISM... promoting patriotism, civic responsibility and American values. CHILDREN AND

YOUTH...let's focus on the well-being and healthy development of America's youth. Let's provide opportunities for young people to succeed. These pillars need each and every Legion Auxiliary member to make it happen. My project hopes to address these through supporting local food pantries/school meal programs/Veteran's food pantries. So keep making those donations locally and submitting your receipts. Some lucky member will receive a gift at Convention and one unit will receive a membership! As Tabitha Adams asks... Each One Reach one! Build your membership and I will see you at Midwinter in Wheatland!

BE THE ONE BE THE DIFFERENCE ONE BITE AT A TIME Hope to see you all soon 2025-2026 Department President Robin Ruff



Cathey Raymer Vice President/ Americanism Chairman

# Department Vice President/Americanism Report

BREAKING NEWS: Americanism Essay Contest Cover Sheet Gets an Upgrade.

The Americanism Essay Contest has had a makeover for a new look. If you have the version that was handed out at Fall Workshop or sent to you by the District Presidents, it has officially been replace – don't use it for the contest.

But there is more, the new cover sheet comes with the contest rules, and here's the big thing! National has a way to check for AI generated essays. Every submission will be checked for AI use. If the essay is found to be 30% or more written by AI, it will be instantly disqualified.

We want to see the creativity of our students, not what a computer can write.

When handing out the cover sheets, be sure to include the new contest rules. That way there is no confusion with the new rules for the contest. The rules also show the scoring for the essays. The two that we need to check are word count and the COVER SHEET. Is the cover sheet legible and completely filled out.

If you did not receive the essay rules and cover sheet from your unit

or district, it can be found on the website alaforveterans.org or contact me and I would be happy to send you a copy. Remember the deadline to submit the essays to me is March 31, 2026.

Next year we are celebrating America's 250th birthday. What is your unit and post doing to celebrate? Please reach out to let me know what you are planning. I would love to hear all your ideas and plans.

Cathey Raymer Americanism Chair



Peg Sillivan Department Secretary

# News from your Department Office

The Unit Membership Chairmen are keeping me busy. That's great. We haveeight (8) Units who enter their membership via ALA MIS. I say "THANK YOU" toall Unit Membership Chairmen for doing a great job with your Transmittals.

Something new is the Department Calendar. If you are looking for the fullyear calendar, please go to our website: wylegionaux.org. You will find it under the Calendar tab. The webpage is up-to-date so make sure you checkand have the right forms ie. Americanism, Education and

Poppy.

Thank you, Units, for filing your 990 e-postcard.

Hopefully by the time the paper comes out I will have checks mailed out toUnits with PUFL's and on-line payments. I also plan on mailing poppies to the Units requesting mailing.

Email Addresses that have changed:

District 1 Cheryl is now WYOD-1President@outlook.com and District 6 Fran is frantic.p@yahoo.com

Mark your calendar for Mid Win-

ter, January 17, 2026 in Wheatland.

I would like to share that on our trip in July, we saw "poppy displays" ingardens, with Veteran monuments and signs on the walls in Scotland andIreland. Remember when we called it "Remembrance Day" in the US. It remains "Remembrance Day" in Canada, Scotland and Ireland.

THANK YOU ALL for helping our VETERANS throughout Wyoming.

Legion Auxiliary. Peg Sillivan Department Secretary Treasurer

# **Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business**

**State Farm**®

Lynda Lenz CLU® ChFC® CASL® Agent

1309 9th Street. PO Box 458 Wheatland, WY 82201 Bus 307 322 3244 FAX 307-322-3249 lynda@lyndalenz.com



FLOYD MINCH AMERICAN LEGION POST 44

Serving Veterans in the Southern Big Horn Basin since 1920 Club 44 Hours 4 p.m. - 12 a.m. Monday through Saturday

Legion Family members welcome

Private Floyd Minch

Killed in Action 10-8-1918

129 South 7th Street, Worland, Wyomina







Linda Orr Rep

#### **Sheridan VA Healthcare Network**

The Hospital and Clinics are functioning close to normal. You may find some delays and cancellations, but not regularly.

The Holidays are right around the corner. If your Unit would like to sponsor a function or have things to get to the Hospital, please coordinate with Bill at 307-675-3226.

Warm winter clothing is also needed in all sizes especially extra-large ones. Other items requested are sports boxer shorts, black socks, blue jeans again in sizes 3X-7X, tennis shoes, travel hygiene products, disposable razors, gas cards and gift cards for Walmart.

At the Sheridan Hospital there are a couple of pantries set up to help those who don't have enough food. If you are going up for appointments, please bring some nonperishable items, snacks, protein bars, etc., along to share. Travel size hygiene products are also needed.

You folks are fantastic. What you do for our veterans is unbelievable. Have a wonderful Holiday Season and an even better New Year.

Thanks again. Linda Orr and Melba Bennett, Reps



Melba Bennet Rep

#### Chaplain's Corner

Hello to all,

I hope this article finds you all recovered from October and gearing up for the holidays.

Above all else, please take care of yourselves. This is help others.

Thanks to all who have been sending in their monthly reports, it is nice to know what others are doing. If you are unsure what I am talking about, the Chaplain form is available on the De-

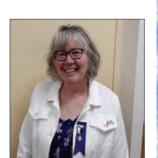
partment website, I can receive these either via USPS, or electronically.

Also reach out to me even if you do not have a form. I just really want to be able to do right by our memthe only way we can bers, and let them know that the Department of Wyoming is there for them.

So please let me be the first to wish you a Blessed Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

Please remember our veterans over

DISTRICT 1



Susan Dansereau Chaplain

these times, reach out to those you do not hear from or see, sometimes being there can make all the difference!

In Service to our Veterans

Susan Dansereau







Vicki Paddock Membership Chairman



וטוזוטום					DIOTINIC	7		1	
UNIT#	CITY	GOAL	PAID	Percent	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
24	ROCK SPRINGS	255			26	POWELL	123		
28	GREEN RIVER	114	29	25%	29	BASIN	51	31	61%
36	FT. BRIDGER	51	37	73%	44	WORLAND	91	45	49%
40	COKEVILLE	27	14	52%		TOTAL	265	131	49%
43	JACKSON	29	2	7%	DISTRIC	<b>Γ</b> 5			
46	ALPINE	27	13	48%	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
47	PINEDALE	31	21	68%	3	NEW CASTLE	18		
78	BIG PINEY	23	9	39%	7	SHERIDAN	88	38	43%
88	LaBARGE	14	0	0%	13	BUFFALO	134	65	49%
	TOTAL	571	229	40%	25	MOORCROFT	78	50	64%
DISTRICT	2				42	GILLETTE	162	104	64%
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT	80	HULETT	36	10	28%
1	VAN TASSEL	16	8	50%	90	KAYCEE	31	6	19%
5	TORRINGTON	88	5	6%		TOTAL	547	288	53%
8	DOUGLAS	73	32	44%	DISTRIC	Г 6			
9	GLENROCK	49	29	59%	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
10	WHEATLAND	40	1	3%	6	CHEYENNE	237	69	29%
15	GLENDO	83	40	48%	14	LARAMIE	101	60	59%
70	LaGRANGE	35	25	71%	54	SARATOGA	60	7	12%
75	CHUGWATER	15	2	13%	60	PINE BLUFFS	35	1	3%
95	GUERNSEY	16	14	88%	64	MEDICINE BOY	26	14	54%
	TOTAL	415	156	38%	77	ALBIN	24	8	33%
DISTRICT	\$					TOTAL	483	159	33%
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT					
16	POWDER RIVER	6	4	67%					
19	RIVERTON	14	6		17	HEADQUARTE	20	11	55%
33	LANDER	71	48	68%					
81	FT. WASHAKIE	17	8	47%		DEPARTMENT	2440	1040	42.62%
	TOTAL	108	66	61%					
						10/30/2025			



#### Cheryl Craig District 1 President

I have visited three (3) Units so far. Unit 47, Pinedale

The Unit has been very busy. They helped at the Food Bank for July, August, Sept, and Oct.;

made grave markers for the cemetery. Members are asked to support SHIPS, the American

Act and Service Dogs assisting Veterans Act. The Unit supplied the schools with 90 copies of the Declara-

# **District 1 Report**

tion of Independence / Constitution Booklets and will provide a scholar-

Membership is in Unit 47. They have fun with members attending the USMC Ball in Rock Springs. Plans are being made for Veterans

Unit 46, Alpine

The Unit recognized April as the Month of the Military Child. Donations in the amount of \$250 were made to the Library and River of Life Star Vally for movie night. ROLSV presents Valiant in honor of Military children.

Thirty )30) information sheets were presented to approximately 30 students about Poppies, Americanism, and other veterans' programs.

Unit 36, Ft. Bridger

They were getting ready for their big yard sale and programs for Veterans Day.

**DISTRICT 1** Cheryl Craig, President WyoD1President@outlook.com



Above: Rock Springs picnic - District 1 Vice President Sandy, District 1 President Cheryl, President Donna, Department Vice Cathey and Department President Robin.

# B-Jo Laing

District 1 President

# **District 2 Report**

So far this year I have been honored to attend an activity with one unit. Samuel Mares Unit 8 in Douglas had a very successful Bake-a-Thon day baking cookies for the VA. They invited Department President Robin Ruff and me to participate with them. I, in turn, invited our District 2 Vice President Jane Simpson as well. That day we had 12 people helping to bake 156 dozen cookies. Those were added to cookies baked by Unit members to total 425 dozen cookies for the VA! It was a great day filled with laughter, and we managed to even get a junior signed up for another Auxiliary Unit.

J.J. Webb Unit 95 in Guernsey is planning to take cookies to Camp Guernsey, but are waiting on dates when they will be working at the Camp. They have desserts on the calendar to assist the VFW with their Veterans Day dinner. They are also anticipating a Girls State recap report B-Jo Laing President

from their Girls State delegates.

John McGill Unit 70 raised money for their unit with a Five Guns in Five Days raffle over the summer. They sold 50 tickets for \$100 each. They used part of the proceeds to purchase the firearms, and the remainder went into their coffers to help pay for various activities and donations for the unit. It was a great success! Since then, they are planning on their annual Veteran's Day Luncheon and placing some wreaths for Wreaths Across America.

I am looking forward to visiting with the other units in District 2. If you have an event coming up, or a meeting, please let me know, so I can attend and visit your unit. I would also like to hear from you. I am hoping to reach out to you and make some plans for visits.

District 2

Susan Sironen District 4

# **District 4 Report**

Worland (Unit 44) Auxiliary will be participating in the Trunk or Treat in downtown Worland. Two of our members took on the task to get businesses and organizations to participate in this venture.

Powell (Unit 26) On September 8th, hosted a dinner to celebrate our Girls State participants and hear about their experiences in the program. Unit 26 will host our annual Community Halloween Party on October 31st. In December, we will participate in the annual Legion Christmas Party, providing gifts for children to wrap for their family members. Both community service events are free to attend and open to the public. We are honored to be a Sponsorship Group with Wreaths Across America, representing our local cemetery, where 700+ veterans are laid to rest. Mark your calendars for Wreaths Across America Day on December 13th. We will hold a ceremo-

ny at our Wall of Honor at 11:30 am, followed by placing sponsored wreaths on veterans' graves. We hope to have enough sponsors that every veteran will receive a wreath

Basin (Unit 29) Our Unit is trying something different for Veterans Day this year. Rather than a dinner, we have arranged with the local restaurant to provide a breakfast or lunch to local veterans paid for by our Auxiliary. This will be on November 11. Our members will be attending the Veterans Day program at the local school, providing cookies and cards to our veterans in the local nursing home and holding our Poppy Day. We will also hold our Veteran Suicide Awareness Rally on November 22, weather permitting. A busy month!

DISTRICT 4

Susan Sironen, President

Thank You.....

Your support has been invaluable in making the Veterans Memorial Service in the VA a memorable meaningful and truly special, we're honored to have the American Legion Auxiliary support and generosity. Your support and enthusiam contributed to teh success of the event, and we deeply appreciate your contribution. Thank you for your time, your dedication, and your heart. Together we can honor the memory of OUR VETERANs and honor their legacy. We appreciate you and thank you for your participation and support.

Chaplain Service





# **District 5 Report**







Courtesy Photo

District 5 Juniors - Nora, Gracie, Ruby and SAL Hudson made Birthday Kits which were taken to Dayton, Buffalo, and Gillette.



Linda Orr Education Chairman

Now is the time to let your schools know that there are scholarships available through the American Legion Auxiliary. They are: Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship – 15 @ \$5000 each, Spirit of Youth Scholarships – 5 @ \$5000 and up to 42 @ \$1,000, Non-Traditional Student Scholarships – 5 @ \$2,000 each, and Member Loyalty Scholarships – 10 @ \$2,500 each.

You are wondering what each scholarship is. You can access them in several ways. Use the Department Web Site at wylegionaux.org/scholarships or the National Web Site at

# **Education**

www.alaforvetereans.org/scholarships. There is also a tutorial on the scholarships on the National Web Site in the Academy.

Applicants must apply using the National Web Site. Closing date is March 1, 2026 at 11.59p with no exceptions

There is a new form "Give 10 to Education" which you will find on the Department Web Site if you didn't pick one up at Fall Workshop. It is a tool that you can use to track donations to your schools.

Have you taken an opportunity to have a program in local schools on flag etiquette? How about having some veterans interact with students. Not only do the students learn about what a veteran is and what they did, there could be friendships started.

Your schools may have pantries available for student needs. Please open your hearts and donate nonperishable foods, cereals, peanut butter, snack items, noodles, protein bars, etc. Personal hygiene products also may be needed. Comfortable children make better students.

Thanks again for all you do. Linda Orr, Chair

# Department Poppy Report



B-Jo Laing Poppy Chairman

I hope everyone had an opportunity to support their veterans on Veterans Day. Did you use poppies? Make sure you send me a report with any pictures.

Are you ramping up your unit for poppy posters and National Poppy Day? Do you need help? Do you need ideas? Please use me as a resource. You can email me at bjovfwaux@gmail.com or you can call at 801-717-6783. I am happy to be a sounding board or even brainstorm ideas.

Remember we will have a poppy display contest during the Department Convention in June. Make a piece that demonstrates your love for veterans, what they mean to you, and how a poppy helps you remember them. Please use at least one of our veteran made poppies in your display.

If you have never had poppy posters, may I suggest you contact art teachers in your local schools ASAP. They are the ones to help you. You could also hold your own event. Invite a variety of school age kids to come. Explain about the poppy, or even read The Poppy Lady by Moina Belle Michael, as well as the poem, In Flanders Fields by Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. Then have them draft or sketch out their drawing. Remember to tell them it needs to contain certain words as part of the poster. Other poster requirements can be found at www.legion-aux. org/national-poppy-poster-contest. Most importantly, be sure to include a completed cover sheet that has a parent's or teacher's signature. It can also be found on the previously listed website.

POPPIES B-Jo Laing Chairman

#### Standdown 10/4/2025

This year's standdown was held in Cheyenne at the Depot despite the on and off rain. Robin Ruff, Kenzie Allen, Cynthia Ivaniszek and Vicki Paddock distributed food and clothing to 20 Veterans and their families. These items were donations from the units across the state and were collected during mid-winter. I would guess that we had \$1000-1500 worth of items to give out. We ended up going home with nothing.

Hooray!!!! The event was well attended with booths from Salvation Army, Dental Group, VFW, Red Cross, and ours from the American Legion Auxiliary. Halrcuts, free, donuts and coffee for breakfast and sandwiches and gaterade for lunch were given for free. Thank you to all that donated.

It made our event successful.

# VAVS - Cheyenne

The Quarterly Memorial Service was held October 19th. Water and snacks were donated for 100 people. The Homeless Department of the CDCE asked for sim cards and minutes for the phones they already had. As of this date I have sent 14 of each. Birthday parties will the 3rd Sunday of the month. We are always looking for volunteers to serve.

# Wyoming Veterans Home

Greetings, from Buffalo, where your Wyoming Veterans Home and Wyoming Veterans Skilled Nursing Home is located.

Your funds will afford the residents a wonderful Christmas Party in December.

My new plan for the Skilled Nursing Facility is working! I am pleased to have four new volunteers to go for activities there. Brittney, the activities director, wanted us to get away from bringing in sweets and just spend time interacting with the residents. We play Bingo twice and cards one day. Our organization has a presence there three times a month. The Veterans Home has a visit four or five times in a month! I feel our mission is being well carried out!

As always, thank you, thank you for your hard-earned funds sent to Peggy for our Veterans activities!



Edie Taffner Veterans Home of Wyoming Rep.

Respectively submitted Edie Taffner, Dep. Veterans Home Rep.



# District 4 One Bite at a Time



Courtesy Photo
District 4 came to Fall Workshop bearing gifts to meet the request of Department President Ruff to fill food pantries. Unloading into the Auxiliary trailer is Cynthia Pfeiffer, Jerilyn Hall and Trudy Zaffareno.

# **Auxiliary - Department of Wyoming at National Convention**



 ${\it Courtesy \ Photo} \\ {\it At \ NNational \ Convention: \ Sandy, \ Donna, \ Robin, \ Shareen, \ Ginger, \ Chantelle, \ Cheryl, \ Peg, \ Vicki \ and \ Leila}$ 











Courtesy Photo

Unit 64 Medicine Bow spends the day with youngest teaching them about the American Flag, use, and folding of the Flag.



November 2025	
01	NEWSPAPER ARTICLES DUE – 8 a.m.
10	American Legion Auxiliary 106th Birthday 60% Membership Goal – Department Marine Corps birthday
11	VETERANS DAY ALAF Veterans Day of Giving
15	Mission Training & Junior Meeting – Albany, NY
Week of 15th	Newspaper Mailed
16	Cheyenne Living Center Birthday Party
17 – 21	American Education Week
19	Birthday Party at WY Veterans Home -3 p.m.
27	THANKSGIVING
December 2025	
02	#Giving Tuesday
07	National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
13	National Wreaths Across America Day U.S, National Guard birthday
17	Christmas Party at WY Veterans Home – 3 p.m.
20	U.S. Space Force birthday
25	MERRY CHRISTMAS
31	New Year's Eve
January 2026	
01	NEW YEARS
12	Birthday Party at Cheyenne Living Center – 2 p.m.
14	7 pm Finance Committee Zoom
16	7 pm Department Executive Meeting – Wheatland
17	9 am Mid-Winter Meeting – Wheatland
18	Cheyenne Living Center Birthday Party
19	MLK Jr. Day
21	Birthday Party at WY Veterans Home -3 p.m.
31	100% Membership Unit Goal Mission Training & Junior Meeting – Las Vegas, NV Mission Training & Junior Meeting – Indianapolis, IN



Mid-Winter Conference
January 16 – 17, 2026
Fire Training Center
759 East Cole Street
Wheatland, Wyoming



Name and Post #	Registration fee \$20.00	Number Attending	Total
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

Make Checks Payable to:
Ora Call Post #10
P.O. Box 85
Wheatland, WY 82201

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Best Western Torchlite

1809 N 16th ST, Wheatland, WY 82201

(307) 322-4070

\$79.99 + tax/night

Ask for The American Legion Block

Must reserve by 1 January 2026

Department of Wyoming 2026 Membership as of 11/25/25

as OI 11/23/23
Including Encumbered HQ Tra

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0024	Archie Hay	Rock Springs	10	19	203	2	234	362	84.64
WY-0028	Tom Whitmore	Green River	7	21	100	1	129	194	86.49
WY-0036	Fort Bridger	Fort Bridger	4	11	72	2	89	122	72.95
WY-0040	Lavoy Thornock	Cokeville	4	0	0	0	10	10	100.00
WY-0041	Medicine Butte	Evanston	1	4	18	4	24	30	80.08
WY-0043	Jackson Hole	Jackson	2	16	100	1	125	136	91.9
WY-0046	Alpine	Alpine	Д	2	13	0	15	30	50.00
WY-0047	Phillips-Edwards	Pinedale	0	4	16	0	20	26	76.93
WY-0049	Star Valley	Afton	0	1.	4	0	5	12	41.67
WY-0055	Kemmerer	Kemmerer	0	1	19	0	20	32	62.5
WY-0078	Dee Fox	Big Piney	2	- 1	17	1	21	25	84.0
WY-0088	La Barge	La Barge	0	0	10	0	10	15	66.6
		erm.	20	190	594	0	702	004	70.0

WY Dist 0004 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0001	Ferdinand Brandstetter	Van Tassell	2	4	17	0	23	29	79.31
WY-0004	Wieten-Dupes	Lusk	n	2	12	0	14	18	77.78
WY-0005	Travis Snow	Tomington	0	18	45	0	63	110	57.27
WY-0008	Samuel Mares	Douglas	1	14	88	2	105	100	03.25
WY-0009	Jesse Martin	Glenrock	3	3	23	-1	30	42	71.43
WY-0010	Ora Call	Wheatland	1	4	40	0	45	60	75.00
WY-0015	John Prince	Glendo	0	1	7	0	8	15	53.33
WY-0056	Marlyn B Anderson	Veteran	0	3	2	1	6	10	60.00
WY-0063	Reed-Gobble	Lingle	a	2	14	0	16	19	84.21
WY-0070	John A Mc Gill	Lagrange	1	0	7	0	8	11	72.73
WY-0075	Mc Donald And Voight	Chugwater	4	5	8	- 1	16	26	81.54
WY-0095	J J Webb	Guemsey	п	4	13	0	17	27	82.98
		SUM:	12	60	274	5	351	533	65.85

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0002	George W Vroman	Casper	5	33	119	2	159	217	73.27
WY-0016	Henry Whiteaway	Powder River	.0	0	0	0	0	12	0.00
WY-0019	Riverton	Riverton	1	9	26	1	37	60	61.67
WY-0031	Philip Burlingham	Dubois	0	2	3	0	5	10	50.00
WY-0033	Don Stough	Lander	8	11	143	2	164	202	81.19
WY-0061	Washakie	Pavillion	0	2	0	0	2	10	20.00
WY-0081	Richard Pogue	Fort Washakie	2	1	16	0	19	16	118.75
WY-0096	Arapaho Warriors Cpl Bil	Riverton	2	0	23	0	25	25	100.00
		SUM:	18	58	330	5	411	552	74.46

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0011	Robert Boyd Stewart	Lovell	0	10	17	0	27	33	81.80
WY-0018	Walter Haynes	Thermopolis	0	2	8	0	10	16	62.50
WY-0020	Fred Coe	Cody	3	6	24	-1	34	45	75.56
WY-0026	Hughes-Pittinger	Powell	5	14	100	5	124	156	79.4
WY-0029	Marion Tanner	Basin	0	3	22	0	25	40	62.50
WY-0032	Greybull	Greybull	2	4	28	0	34	-31	109,68
WY-0044	Floyd Minch	Worland	3	18	73	1	95	171	55.56
WY-0085	James Oliver Hogg	Meeteetse	0	4	11	0	15	22	68.18
WY-0091	Heart Mountain	Heart Mountain	0	2	6	1	9	10	90.00
		SUM:	13	63	289	8	373	524	71.18

t	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
-0003	Monroe-Bland	Newcastle	1	10	30	0	41	60	68,33
-0007	John Donald Garbutt	Shendan	2	18	83	2	105	155	67.74
-0013	Powder River	Buffalo	1	26	85	2	114	145	78.62
-0025	Moorcroft	Moorcroft	3	2	9	1	15	15	100.00
-0042	Campbell County	Gillette	12	25	170	3	210	310	67.74
-0045	Crook County	Sundance	3	4	18	0	25	30	83.33
-0080	Roy Montgomery	Hulett	1	2	28	0	31	33	93.94
-0307	Gillette College	Gillette College	0	3	5	0	8	80	13.33
		SUM:	23	90	428	8	549	808	67.95

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goni	% of Goal
WY-0006	Francis E Self	Cheyenne	32	127	564	10	733	1,005	72 94
WY-0014	Husted-Pendleton	Laramie	10	45	164	2	221	306	72,22
WY-0021	Robert Hogan	Burns.	1	4	25	0	30	30	100.00
WY-0054	Angus England	Saratoga	3	4	35	0	42	60	70.00
WY-0060	Canady Filkins	Pine Bloffs	3	3	23	0	29	52	55.77
WY-0064	William Home	Medicine Bow	0	9	2	1	12	25	46.00
WY-0077	Boyce-Marlatt	Albin	0	0	6	0	6	10	60.00
WY-0093	Garcia-Castaneda	Cheyenne	-0	1	8	0	9	10	90.0
WY-0122	Hittner-Engstrom-Duncai	Rawlins	1	5	27	0	33	44	75.00
		SUM:	50	198	854	13	1,115	1,542	72,3

-		

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

Y Dist 0005 LGN

Post .	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HO Tran	Totals	Gost	% of Goal
WY-0090	Hole-In-The-Wall	Kaycee	0	5	1	.0.	8	0	#DIV/0
		SUM:	0	5	1	0	6	0	#DIV/0

	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Transfers	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
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#### FALL GREETING WYOMING LEGIONNAIRES!

During the National Convention in Tampa I attended National Security Counsel meetings. One of the meetings focused on natural disasters and the local response. The speakers were from communities impacted by hurricanes and other disasters. What I found interesting were the stories of the communities looking to veterans and the local American Legion post for assistance with search teams, logistics, coordination of human resources and anything else that came along. The speakers noted that the communities recognized the skill set that most veterans have from time spent in the military, i.e., patience, perseverance, strength, both physical and emotional when needed and an overall winning attitude.

The speakers talked about communication and the inability to send or receive messages in the community. They were telling about cell towers being down and no commercial electric power due to downed power lines, roads and bridges washed out.

National Security is one of the four pillars of the American Legion. National Security, filters down to state, county, local communities and to your home. Living in Wyoming we know weather can have an impact our daily lives. The unexpected storm moving through your town with high winds, inches of rain or feet of snow. Is your Post, especially those with a Post home ready

#### 2nd Vice Commander's Corner

to assist veterans in need and your community? Do you have a rally point for those Posts without a Post home identified? Can you communicate without cell phones? I'm sure there are ham radio operators in many of the Posts in Wyoming that are ready and able to get communication up and running if possible. Another tool is GMRS, (general mobile radio service). The GMRS is a licensed radio service that uses channels around 462 MHz and 467 MHz. The most common use of GMRS channels is for short distance, two way voice communications using hand held radios, mobile radios and repeater systems. These radios are easy to use and not that expensive.

As the saying goes, when disaster strikes are you ready?



Chuck Guilford 2nd Vice Commander Dept. of Wyoming

As always, stay safe, Chuck Guilford

# 2026 Legion Membership Message

The Christmas spirit should last all year!

I pray everyone will have a joyous and peaceful Christmas break with their family and friends. \* May the Christmas spirit also fill you with kindness, compassion and hope in preparation for the New Year. Use this spirit as a guide to set your fu-

ture goals. Besides the usual vowing to eat right and exercise, maybe work on being a kinder and more compassionate person. While being hungry and sore from the first two is supposedly good for you, being a better person is less uncomfortable and good for you and those you serve. I can't define your "Better Person" ideal,

EGION

but the Legion can help you with some ideas to help.

There are many American Legion programs that can give you that warm feeling inside while benefitting your community. Reach out to fellow Legionnaires to see how they are doing. Provide support and/or volunteer at a foodbank. Sponsor a kid for Oratorical or Boys State. Hold a Flag Etiquette class. Donate blood or even host a blood drive. Cut the grass or shovel the walk for those that need a hand. Adopt a road or park to make your area more presentable. Check with the school or library to read to kids. Go to a retirement center for a visit or a game of cards. If your Post is unable to lead these programs, partner with groups already doing the job such as a church or other civic organizations. Just be an active part of your community and make it

There are many that will say "But, I don't have the time!" because of family, work or a myriad of other requirements. Rest assured that your Legion membership alone is doing God's work. For the last 106 years, the Legion has been lobbying hard for high quality healthcare, fair disability benefits, and compassion for their family and care givers for those who served this great nation. The American Legion's values on National defense and troop support have endured this entire time. We are also strong on Americanism and assuring families have the basic needs for their children's health and welfare. Our National Commander is afforded an audience with a joint session of Congress annually to brief them on



Chip Kossow Wyoming Membership **Coordinator** 

the Legion's legislative priorities in hopes they champion them through to action. These priorities come from the members through their Departments. The congressional audience is granted because the Legion is the largest and most influential wartime veteran service organization. We are strong together!

Be proud of your service to this great nation. Know that your continued service in The American Legion is our most valuable asset. Thank you for renewing your membership. Please bring in a new member to make us stronger.

God Bless America!

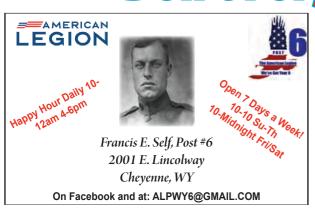
Chip Kossow - Wyoming Membership Coordinator - Burns Post 21

719 332-2793 - greenberetveteran@ gmail.com

\*Note: If you are struggling this Christmas season (or ever), please reach out to anyone!

#### EGION WYOMING Legionnaire - Auxiliare **Department of Wyoming** Official Publication of The American Legion, Dept of Wyoming Editors: Legion - 1320 Hugur Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82001 Telephone: (307) 634-3035 Fax: (307) 635-7093 Auxiliary - Peg Sillivan, PO Box 186, Buffalo, WY 82834 Telephone: (307) 620-5697 Email - deptaux@wylegionaux.org WYOMING LEGIONNAIRE - AUXILIARE (USPS 574-210) is published the months of September, December, March, June by the American Legion, Dept. of Wyoming 1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001 and printed by Wyoming Tribune Eagle, 702 W. Lincolnway, Cheyenne, WY 82001. Periodical postage paid at Cheyenne, WY and additional offices. Subscription for members (\$2.50) is included in the annual membership dues. Non-members subscription price is \$5 per year. Postmaster: Send address changes to The American Legion, Dept. of Wyoming PO Box 20172, Cheyenne, WY 82003

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Post 9 Jesse Martin Erwin L. Keim Jr. Post 10 Ora Call William E. Britz Jr. Post 15 John Prince William K. Neuharth Post 63 Reed-Gobble Clifford M. Paules Eugene A. Jonart Post 70 John McGill David O. Hansen District 3 Post 2 Casper

# Post Everlasting 2025

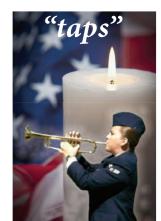
Russell R. Runyon John M. Quealy Post 19 Riverton Richard Emond Post 33 Don Stough Norman W. Halbert Post 61 Washakie M J Larsen Post 81 Richard Pogue Lyle W. Oldman John E. Wadda District 4 Post 26 Powell

C. Duane Tracy Post 29 Marian Tanner Jay McQuilliam Post 44 Floyd Minch William S. Bain District 5 Post 13 Buffalo Vince A. Burgess Post 25 Moorcroft Dennis R. Ehresmann District 6 Post 6 Chevenne Forest W. Bixler

Rex Wilde Theodore N. McCoy Carl W. Huffman Thomas G Kelly Post 54 Angus England Roy H. Schroeder

Richard Pullum Post 64 - Medicine Bow Rex Rudd Post 122 Hittner Engstrom-Duncan

Gaylord T. Larson



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# Chaplain's Corner Service to God and Country



Jim Wilkinson Chaplain Dept. of Wyoming

#### IT IS THE HOLIDAY SEASON AGAIN

It is hard to believe we are in November already. This time of year, is such an exciting time of family get togethers, celebrations including that of Jesus' birth – Christmas. For Jewish faith, the festival of lights commemorating the rededication of the second Temple in Jerusalem. For many it is a time of Santa Clause, shopping, and gift ex-

Unfortunately, there is also the flip side. Those men and women struggling with PTSD and other unresolved trauma in their lives that creates anxiety and increased depression. This can be a big, dark hole that unless you've been there, there is no way you can understand or relate. For me, I found my way out through the Bible, and I wish to share some of that with you with embrace the thanksgiving, peace of God, and joy that I have found.

For me, there was a time in my life that I was in that big, dark hole. I was not suicidal, but I had no desire to be with others, talk to others, and frankly didn't care what happened. What I really needed was to get out of my shell, I needed others. I remember sitting by the phone and just staring at it as it rang. Not a chance I would answer the call. Answer the door? Not a chance! By the way, I called Jesus as my Lord and Master already. What I was missing was the personal relationship with Him which eventually brought me out of that deep state a funk.

It sounds simple but really, it is

NOT. Peace is more than the absence of conflict; it is a state of wholeness, harmony, and blessing that comes from God Himself. Philippians 4:6-7 says "not to be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." This peace is described as surpassing human comprehension and is a direct result of trusting God and bringing concerns to Him in prayer. That might sound good to you, too good to be true? Where do we start?

Scripture consistently links peace and thanksgiving, showing that gratitude is both a cause and a fruit of God's peace. Philippians 4:6-7 explicitly connects prayer, thanksgiving, and the peace of God, indicating that a thankful heart is essential for experiencing God's peace. Thanksgiving shifts focus from personal problems to God's sovereignty, fostering trust and peace in the midst of trials.

The fact is it is no magic pill. My walk with Jesus is a journey. Sometimes I take the wrong fork in the road and go off course. God's peace and thanksgiving is found in His character, His redemptive work through Christ, and the transformative effect of gratitude and faith. Peace and thanksgiving are not merely human emotions but spiritual realities that flow from a relationship with God and are cultivated through prayer, trust, and gratitude.

I ask you during this holiday seathe hope and prayer that you can son, keep an eye on our comrades in arms. Watch for those signs of maybe drifting away or just not as sociable as they normally are. It might be time for a buddy check.

If you are a post chaplain, we are going to be starting some chaplain training after the first of the year. Please email me at itw@veritek. com. Maybe we can organize a gettogether at the spring conference.

If what I wrote above strikes a chord and you'd like to talk. Please email me at the above address. More references for you: Psalm 100; Psalm 107:1; Colossians 3:15-17; Psalm 118:1; Ephesians 5:20.

Jim Wilkinson Department of Wyoming Chaplain.

#### His last note..

Former educator ends his decades playing bugle with the Honor Guard

Mark Davis Powell Tribune Sr. Reporter

With the flags lowered to half staff and the audience silenced by the Honor Guard's three-volley salute with M1 Garands to commemorate Veteran's Day, Tom Bibbey broke the silence with the first crisp notes of taps: C, G and E.

Once you hear those three notes, your mind instantly recalls the rest of the song — as well as poignant moments from the past. The song originally signaled "lights out" for the night before being played in one form or another at military funerals and for patriotic memorial ceremonies; Sadly "lights out" for those being hon-

Taps may be one of the most recognizable songs of this country's nearly 250 years of history. Yet, Bibbey, who has played the song thousands of times in the Big Horn Basin, likes the song to be the star, not himself.

But on this Veterans Day, Bibbey played for the last time with the American Legion Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 Veterans Honor Guard.

The Honor Guard is made up of volunteers from all branches of the military service, as well as the Sons of the American Legion. They are on call to travel to all veteran's funerals in the basin and special occasions, such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day, said Powell Honor Guard Commander Steve Burtoft.

"The funerals are usually on a weekday in the afternoon, so it takes a special person to be able to travel that much," he said, adding that it's a perfect volunteer opportunity for re-

However, there is constant turnover in the organization, as the volunteers eventually need to retire from the special service. Bibbey will be tough to replace, Burtoft said.

"It's gonna be hard to fill his position, because, you know, none of us here are too musical," he said. "We could depend on Tom, and if you heard him play, he plays very well, and we really appreciated. He's been here a lot longer than most of us."

Bibbey gave 27 years to the organization and rarely missed a beat. He began playing the bugle well before he served in the Air Force from 1959 to 1965 as an intelligence officer, serving overseas during much of his years of active duty.

He said he was forced to take a break while in the military due to his duties



Tom Bibbey plays taps for the final time with the Powell Honor Guard. Bibbey has volunteered to be the group's bugler for the past 27 years.

in a highly secretive linguistics unit. His service is still classified.

"We couldn't talk about the job we were doing," Bibbey said while waiting for a Memorial Day service to begin. "We couldn't even tell our parents where we were.

During his military training, he was taught to be able to separate himself from his service. It was important then, and those lessons have helped him through the years. Taps is one of those songs that can pull a tear from the most-hardened warrior — often on those first three notes.

For Bibbey, he has had to disassociate his memories of lost family and friends to be able to give each note the respect it deserves, he said after a 2024 performance.

His post-military career was spent performing and teaching music, including to high school students in Alliance, Nebraska and Newcastle before ascending to Northwest College as an administrator. When Bibbey retired from NWC, he immediately joined the Honor Guard.

Tuesday's performance

At the end of Tuesday's particularly inspiring Veterans Day Ceremony at Powell High School, Principal Tim Wormald mentioned Bibbey's retirement to the crowd. Unfortunately Bibbey and the rest of the volunteers had already left the auditorium to prepare for their duties.

"I just want to say thank you Mr. Bibbey for playing taps for [the school] for many years and for providing that in our community for many, many years," Wormald said.

Bibbey was touched by the sentiment. He heard Wormald say his name just before exiting the building and stopped to hear him speak. There was little time to gloat as the Honor Guard needed to be standing at attention as the large crowd gathered near the flags, lowered to half staff to honor former Vice President Dick Cheney after he passed away last week.
See Bibbey Page 4

#### **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS**

#### District 1

News from Wyoming American Legion District 1

Greetings to all District 1 Posts and all members of the eleven American Legion Posts and four Sons of the American Legion Squadrons in our District 1. Our District has been very busy over the last several months with membership renewal and recruiting efforts, Legion WALLT training, visits from the new American Legion Commander, and local Post activities.

I am pleased to report that our District 1 exceeded the target of 65% by the October 15 deadline for TAL renewals, and we are well on our way to the 75% target date of November 13. Our Posts deserve credit for stepping up their processing of renewals. recruiting new members, and processing transfers from Post 17 and elsewhere. I encourage all Posts and SAL Squadrons to

#### ==AMERICAN EGION

continue contacting members by phone, text, or email to remind them to renew, and to recruit new members. Congratulations to Cokeville Post 40, which now has a new Post Commander, a new Post Adjutant, and 10 members who have renewed or joined for 2026. Their new Commander is Luke Awtrey, a Marine veteran, and their new Adjutant is Rose Arndt, an Air Force Veteran. Our Rock Springs Post 24 very successfully hosted both the Department WALLT training and a visit from the National Legion Commander in September. Green River Post 28 and Fort Bridger Post 36 also hosted very successful National Commander visits. Evanston Post 41 identified nine Legion members in Post 17 AD, Chevenne who have Evanston addresses. They are contacting all of them and have

arranged transfers of several already. Alpine Post 46 also identified three Legion members in Post 17 AD with addresses near Alpine, and are working on arranging transfers.

Jackson Post 43 provided Honor Guards for 3 recent funerals and Color Guards for two other recent association events in Jackson. Two were Korean War Era member deaths - one 72 years as Legion member, and one with 69 years of membership. Post 43 provided a booth at the major annual Jackson fundraising event (Old Bills), and attracted several new Post, SAL and Auxiliary members. A Veterans Day food collection effort is planned again. Jackson Hole High School will host a Veterans Lunch Program again this year. The Jackson Elks Club hosts a free Veterans Dinner on Veterans Day. The annual Jackson Veterans Day ceremony will be Nov. 11 on the Jackson Town Square.

Big Piney Post 78 held a very well-attended information meet-



David W. Hill District 1 Commander

ing in September for the community and Post members by Legal Aid of Wyoming Inc. to discuss what free legal aid is available to Veterans and also non-veteran citizens. The Department Midwinter Convention is set for January 16-18, 2026 in Wheatland. All Post members are encouraged to attend.

Dave Hill, Commander, Wyoming American Legion District 1.



November 2025 News from Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43

Our Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43 has had several busy months since our last report in Augiust. Our Post membership is currently 134 TAL members, and 32 SAL members. Our renewals for 2026 are moving well, with 118 members who have renewed or joined so far. This is 86.76% of our state goal of 136 members. We are already ahead of our next target of 75% by December. We have also reach 23 SAL members who have renewed for 2026, for a percentage of 71.19% of our 32 member state goal.

Speaker Presentation: At our June Post meeting, our guest speaker was Post member Jim Hillman. Jim described his own background and experiences growing up and how he became a cadet at West Point. He showed numerous photos of his progression through the academy, and his subsequent Army assignments. He also discussed his transition to civilian life and his work in industry, and he explained his role as the Post Service

Honor Guard and Color Guard Activities: Our Post provided a Color Guard on September 17 for the opening ceremony of the Council of State Governments Annual Meeting in Jackson. An Honor Guard service was held on September 19 for the funeral of our long-time member, Harry Baxter in Victor, Idaho. Harry was a Korean War veteran who was a member of the American Legion for 69 years. On October 4, we provided a Color Guard for the opening ceremony of the Western Wyoming Alzheimer's Association Annual Meeting.

Veterans Day Activities: The Jackson Hole High School held a Veterans Recognition Lunch and Event on Thursday, November 6. Our Post's Jackson Hole Veterans Day Ceremony was held on Tuesday, November 11 on Jackson Town Square. Our Post also supported a food collection for Jackson Community on November 11. A Veterans Day Dinner was held at the Jackson Hole Elks Club on Tuesday, November 11, and all veterans were welcomed at no charge. Also, the Jackson Hole Community School hosted a Veterans lunch on Wednesday, November 12. A Veterans Ball and Marine Corps Birthday Celebration took place on November 15 honoring 250 Years of the United States Marine Corps and all who have served.

Wyoming Service Commission support: For the past several months, Ellen Rejda, the Wyoming Service Commission representative for Teton Post 43 Color Guard Eric Cole, Pete Muldoon, Dave Hill, Dave Hoster, County, has been holding her monthly appointments with veterans at our Ron Kaminski

Post Building in Jackson. Veterans who wish to meet with Ellen to discuss any benefit or claim issues should call her at 307-438-2101 to schedule and appointment.

Jackson Hole Auxiliary Unit 43: Our Auxiliary Unit 43 held a very successful Veteran Fundraising Dinner Dance at Elks Club on September 26. As a result, the Unit hopes to sponsor two girls to attend Girls State in 2026.

Donation to for Kerrville, Texas: Post 43 made a donation to be included in the Wyoming Legion Department contribution to assist the Kerrville, Texas community in recovering from disastrous flooding there.

Dave Hill, Adjutant, Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43



Courtesy Photo

Bibbey continued from Page 10

Bibbev seemed to be comfortable in his role, but looks can be deceiving. He was forced to switch his weight from one leg to the next during the ceremony due to severe back pain, he said afterwards.

As he looked for a place to sit down for a moment, several people came to him to say thanks. He was gracious, as always, but in terrible pain. As the crowd thinned, his wife Marianne grabbed his arm and helped him to a seat.

His flawless performance was his way of saying goodbye to 27 years with the Honor Guard, he said.

To volunteer or for more information, contact American Legion Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 at (307) 754-3411.

# **Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business**



#### THE AMERICAN LEGION **DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING**

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



#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING

Headauarters Office Hours Monday-Wednesday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday and all Holidays PO Box 186

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

# **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS** District 1 Continued

**ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING ARCHIE HAY POST #24** 







Courtesy of Post 24 Rock Springs

Left: American Legion National Commander Dan K. Wiley receives a gift of a Wyoming Jackalope, with Wyoming First Vice Commander Ben Glenn. Above: Front: Jim James, Russell Stafford and Kai, Kirk Will, Deanna Hurless, Danielle Remfer, Cathy Raymer, Josh Lester, and Maddie. Vanessa Stuart in front.

Post 24 has been very active since the National Convention. We were honored to host the National Commander, who joined us for some camaraderie and received a few special items during our annual Post BBQ.

The BBQ was a great success — fun and games for the kids, horseshoe tournament and especially the dunk tank, where Post commander Simms got the title of "Most Dunked Legionnaire". All proceeds from the dunk tank and card games by the auxiliary were used to help fund our columbarium project, which was over a \$75,000 endeavor.

In September, Post 24 hosted the 2nd Annual WALLT Training and proudly provided three outstanding students: Joe Humphries, Josh Lester, and Jim James. Congratulations to all of you!

Looking ahead, our Post Commander, Ray Simms, was selected to attend National American Legion College in November. Good luck, Commander — we know you'll represent us well!

On October 11th, our Legion Riders provided a final ride for a dearly loved member of our community, Kathy Barden, who passed away unexpectedly. Riders from several groups joined in to honor Kathy and her many contributions to our community. She will be deeply missed.

Post 24 currently has raffle tickets for sale for our Kel-Tec 4-Gun Raffle, with proceeds going toward the new columbarium. The drawing will be held on December 7th, 2025.



# In the Spotlight



Jim & Penny Merryfield

Above left: Veteran and American Legion member Warren Wittstruck with First Vice Commander Ben Glenn. Above: LCFD No. 5 Fire Chief Derek Walls, Post 60 member Chris Parshall, Post 60 Commander Wm. "Buzz" Canady, Post 60 member Rich Benson, Awardee - Fire Fighter Warren Wittstruck, Post 60 member Glen Romig, Unit 60 Auxiliary member Kathy Canady, Post 60 member Dave Parshall, Assistant Fire Chief Cole Lambert. Below: Post 60 book, Warren Wittstruck - Post Historian and being "Sparky".







Spotlight on a Veteran

Serving has always been in Warren Wittstruck's heart..from the lessons and loyalty going back to his dad Warren E. Wittstruck a Marine in WWII, who was on Iwo Jima, shot in the leg, to his uncle Roy - U.S. Army Air Corp and Albert - U.S. Army, to serving himself in the U.S. Air Force. His tour of duty was from 1967 - 1972 and he worked in the HVR - Heating/Air/Oxygen/Liquid Oxygen. During his career he would spend time at Chanute AFB, Illinois, and finally coming to back to Wyoming, where he was born in 1948. Going from military to civilian life, Wittstruck landed a job with the railroad. He went from clerk to dispatch, Yard supervisor and then into computers as a problem solver. He went to college and received a degree in computer programming.

Wittstruck joined the American Legion in 1997 in Cheyenne, WY Post 6. After being in a serious motorcycle accident, he moved to Pine Bluffs and transferred to Post 60. His love to serving, spread out even more and he became a member of the Laramie County Fire District No. 5, and No. 6, where he does a lot of the PR work, and occasionally he represents the fire departments as "Sparky".

One of his passions is photography and writing. He has put together books for

Post 60 and the fire departments.
"We build lifelong friendship in the military, even when PTSD sends us in a bad direction, Like the military, the fire department is built with brother/sisterhood friends. I am proud to have served both." stated Wittstruck.

# 250th Birthday COIN

DESIGNS NEED TO REPRESENT WYOMING AND THE 250<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF DESIGNS SHOULD BE FOR EITHER OR BOTH SIDES AND ONE SIDE MUST INCLUDE THE LEGION EMBLEM OR LOGO AND LEAVE A SPACE FOR COIN NUMBER

SUBMIT DESIGNS TO ADJUTANT@WYOLEGION.ORG OR BY MAIL TO 1320 HUGUR AVE, CHEYENNE, WY 82007 BE SURE TO INCLUDE NAME ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER IF NOT A LEGION FAMILY MEMBEF

Mid-Winter Convention

PRIZE \$150 Winner will be announced on January 17, 2026

**Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business** 



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

Commander: Keith Trouwborst Adjutant: Doug Johnson

> 1320 Hugur Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82001





# District 3

#### COMMANDERS CORNER:

Hello everyone,

For the past couple of years, we've fallen short of our membership goals. Membership is what keeps our Post strong and active, and I know we can turn this around if we work together.
I'd really like to hear from you—

what ideas do you have to bring in new members or keep our current ones more engaged? No idea is too small, and your input could make a big difference.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to

me directly.

Thank you for all you do to support our Post and each other.

For God and Country,

Mark Keiser, Commander, Post 33 307-360-3228

American Legion Christmas Dinner: Our annual Post 33 Christmas Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 13th at the Army National Guard Armory in Lander, beginning at 5pm. Setup will begin at 1pm and should not take long. Any help is greatly appreciated. There is no cost for the meal and members and their families are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to 2nd VC Ella Riggs at 307-922-1193, text to the same number or e-mail to WYLegionPost33@gmail. com. We need a good headcount so we have enough food for everyone. This will be a traditional Holiday meal. The dinner will be in place of our regular December meeting. If you know a veteran that is not a member of the Legion, ALA or Sons, please consider inviting them as our guest.

Veterans Day: The High School students are once again planning their annual Veterans Day program at LVHS Gym to honor all veterans in the community. The program will begin at 1p.m., Tuesday, November 11th. A short ceremony will follow in the lobby to dedicate the new Wall of

Opportunity Day; We are planning 2 visits to the High School, one before Christmas and one after.

If you are able to help talk about Boys & Girls State, scholarships, Oratory, Scouts, etc, let Ken Jr know.

Veterans Recognition; We are proud to announce that Loriann Crump has been selected as our Veterans Day Veterans Recognition recipient for 2025. Lori is recognized not only for her Military service in the US Army but her community service, service as a State Service Officer for the Wyoming Veterans Commission but her continuing service to all veterans in our community.

Membership: Post 33 been pushing early this year to meet our 2026 goal of 202 members, and so far we have met all our monthly goals! For those members who have not renewed for the year 2026, you will be receiving notices in the mail around Veterans Day and should expect phone calls and knocks on your doors shortly after. You may renew online at legion. org, send a check for \$50 to Post 33, PO

#### **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS**

#### LANDER, WYOMING DON STOUGH POST - UNIT - SQUADRON #33

Box 6, Lander, or bring it with you to our next monthly American Legion meeting. We will continue to encourage early renewals by drawing \$100, \$75 and \$50 winners from our list of renewed members! The first drawing will be held on Veterans Day (\$100), the second at our Christmas Dinner (\$75), and the final drawing at our Legion Birthday Dinner (\$50). So, renew early for your chance to win some money! Your membership committee will be working to identify and contact veterans in our community who have not joined the American Legion. If you know of anyone; co-worker, friend, neighbor, etc., who fits in this category, please talk to them about joining or forward their names to Keith Trouwborst, 1st Vice. Remember, membership recruiting is every Post member's responsibility!

Avenue of Flags: Flag display on Main Street occurs 5 times a year and is facilitated by the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 33. The last event this year will be Veterans Day. Expect flags to go up on 10 Nov and down on 12 Nov. We have been fortunate to receive help from both our Scout Troop and the Legion baseball team in putting up and taking down the 80 flags during these periods but for Veterans Day, the kids are in school during the weekdays and we can't count on them. Any and all help from the membership will be appreciated. Specific times and dates for Memorial Day weekend, Flag Day and Independence Day 2026 will be determined in the springtime. If you have questions, contact our SAL Squadron 33 Commander Keith Trouwborst, 719-

Chaplain's Corner: Post 33 Chaplain and Service Officer Lori Crump is available for prayer and comradeship. Please call 307-330-3310.

Let us always remember "The reason for the season!"

"She will give birth to a Son and you will name Him Jesus because He will save His people from their sins." This all happened so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet would be fulfilled. "Look! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and they will call Him Emmanuel," which means "God with us." Matthew 1:21-23 NET

Veterans Memorial: The Fremont County Veteran Memorial of Honor located in the park in front of the Courthouse honors all Veterans that lived in or moved to Fremont County. Our Post facilitates adding names to these monument walls in the form of brass plaques. If you or any Veteran you know of from Fremont County are not already recognized here, please contact our Post or the Fremont County Courthouse for more information. A plaque will be ordered once we have at least 30 names. Plaques will be mounted to the Memorial either on Memorial Day or Veterans Day. We request a donation of \$30 for each name to help defray the costs of the plaque.

#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Squadron 33 is healthy and well ahead of the power curve for membership so far this year. We are always looking for new members and welcome any male Legion members whose father/mother/grandfather/ grandmother served in the U.S. military and were eligible for American Legion membership to join up. We would also love to sign up those sons of current Legion members into our Squadron. As the Squadron grows and becomes more active in our community, younger blood will help in our endeavors. One effort we have volunteered to take is helping other District 3 Posts to start up their own SAL squadrons. This will entail mentoring their Sons eligible personnel and helping them establish the organization needed to Charter their own Squadron. The Sons meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6pm before the regular American Legion monthly meeting. Come see what the Sons are up to!

Keith Trouwborst, Squadron 33 Commander

#### **AUXILLARY - LETTER FROM** UNIT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

The 2026 membership drive is in full swing. Please mail your dues to P O Box 97, Lander, WY 82520 with Senior dues being \$40 and Junior dues have been paid by the Unit for the 2026 year. Kathy will have membership cards at the Lander Community Center during our bake sale. Please consider renewing your membership then. The bake sale is Friday, November 7th from 5 pm until 8 pm and Saturday, Novem-

ber 8th from 9 am until 3 pm.
Reminder: If you are the spouse of a female Legionnaire, you are eligible to join the Auxiliary. Also, if you are a female veteran and wish to join the Auxiliary, there is no cost to you for your first year's membership as the Unit will pay your dues.

If you are not yet a member, please consider joining us. HONOR YOUR VETERAN or your own service by joining our organization and working to help all veterans, our active-duty military, and their families.

For God & Country, Kathy Ebert, Unit 33 Membership Chairman MESSAGE FROM THE PRESI-

DENT:

The next Unit meeting will be on Tuesday, November 18th, at 7 p.m. to be held in the VFW Hall on Tweed Lane. Please plan on attending the meeting as your input and participa-tion is important for the future of our organization.

In these troubled times, if you are able to reach out to anyone who might need help due to food insecurity, please do what you can. Every little bit helps, whether it is direct assistance to someone in need or a donation to the local food bank. The Unit recently made a \$250 donation to the Lander Care and Share Food Bank.

Although our active membership is small, we continue to promote and support the Auxiliary programs as well as those of The American Legion Family. Please join us as we work for our Veterans, our Active-Duty Military, and their families.

For God & Country, Shareen Johnson, Unit 33 President **UP COMING EVENTS:** 

Veteran Day Celebration: November 11th-1 p.m. LVHS

American Legion Christmas Dinner- Lander Armory, 5 pm, Saturday December 13th

Department Mid-Winter Convention-January 16-18, Wheatland, WY.



# Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business







# DISTRICT AND POST NEWS BIG HORN BASIN

#### District 4







Courtesv Photo

Left: WWII Veteran John Gibler observes as Referee explains the coin toss procedure. Above right: Members of the Patriot Guard riders and Big Horn Rider members stand the Flag Line.

#### **DISTRICT 4 – BIG HORN BASIN**

At the Basin High School Military Appreciation football game, WWII veteran John Gibler conducted the coin toss, with special ceremonies honoring military service. The Riverside Rebels team entered the field carrying American and military branch flags, a POW/MIA chair was placed midfield, and Marian Tanner Post 29 provided the color guard. Mr. Gibler was driven to midfield and used an American Legion coin for the toss, which was later presented to him.

Family members and friends gathered Saturday, Nov. 1, in Basin to cel-

ebrate the life of Anthony Eibert, who died on Oct 15, 2025, while serving on active duty at Fort Carson, Colorado.

Patriot Guard riders from Colorado and Wyoming escorted his casket all the way home.

District 4 members joined the Patriot Guard Riders to provide a motor-cycle escort from Worland to Basin, where services were held. Bighorn Basin Rider members Ryan and Kate Decker from Floyd Minch Post 44 Worland, along with Roger Hall and Bobby Werner from Post 32 Greybull, also stood in the flag line.





Courtesy of Ed Morrow

Above left: Roena Halbur presents Danielle Rempfer a quilt. Above right: Receiving a quilt is John Fraser. Below: Quilt recipients Earnest (Bud) Schrichling, Danielle Rempfer, and Steve Olson.



#### Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business



BUG, Inc.
Ranching Company

PO Box 72, Elk Mountain, WY 82324-0072

307-348-7003

Samuel Mares American Legion Post 8 600 Oak Street Douglas, WY 82633 307-358-9981

vyopost08@gmail.com



In Support of Our Veterans



#### **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS**

#### District 5

#### **POWDER RIVER POST #13, BUFFALO, WY**





Greetings,

Post 13 has been busy. We had a float in the Johnson County Fair parade. We sold beer during the Fair Rodeo, Saturday and Sunday. We did real well. We are continuing serving breakfast to the public twice a month.

We held Veterans Day Activities and participated in the Veterans program at the high school on November

10th.

We will be serving Christmas dinner, Christmas Day again. We'll help deliver meals on wheels also that day. We had several members attend the Fall Workshop.

I hope everyone had a great Summer and Fall.

Cecil Benner Post 13 Commander





#### Iesse & Arden Miller

Address: 315 1st Street Chugwater, WY 82210 Phone: (307) 422-3454

Email: jessmiller@tricountymercantile.com ardenmiller@tricountymercantile.com Website: tricountymercantile.com



# TAKE ACTION Dial 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 to talk to

- Start a confidential online chat session at www VeteransCrisisLine.net/chat
- Send a text message to 838255 to connect to a
- Take a self-check quiz at www. VeteransCrisisLine.net/guiz
- If you or a Veteran you know is in crisis, find a facility near you
- Visit www.MilitaryCrisisLine.net il you are Active Duty, Reserve, or Guard
- Connect through that, text, or TTY if you are deaf or hard of hearing



#### **VTTV Announces Veterans Day Service Scholarship: Honoring Service Through Coaching**

Jackson, WY — In honor of Veterans Day, Veterans Talking to Veterans (VTTV) and Mentor Agility are proud to announce the VTTV Veterans Day Service Scholarship, an opportunity for one U.S. veteran or their spouse to receive full tuition for Mentor Agility's Trauma-Informed Health & Wellness Coach Training Program, a nationally accredited pathway recognized by both the National Board for Health & Wellness Coaching (NBHWC) and the International Coaching Federation (ICF).

The scholarship honors military service by creating a new path of leadership through coaching. The selected veteran will complete Mentor Agility's accredited training and go on to lead a Veterans Talking to Veterans community coaching group, where veterans meet to strengthen connection, resilience, and post-traumatic growth.

"This scholarship honors the service and sacrifice of our veterans by providing them with tools to continue making an impact," said Dr.

Julie Elledge, Founder and CEO of Mentor Agility and Veterans Talking to Veterans. "Through coaching, veterans can transform their experiences into hope, leadership, and community strength."

Nominations and applications opened November 1, 2025, and close December 5, 2025, with the scholarship recipient announced in mid-December 2025.

About Veterans Talking to Veterans (VTTV) and Mentor Agility

Veterans Talking to Veterans is an initiative of Mentor Agility that empowers veterans to become certified coaches, lead community groups, and foster resilience and growth among fellow veterans. Mentor Agility is an NBHWC- and ICF-accredited training organization that provides advanced coaching education rooted in storytelling and trauma-informed practices.

Contact: Leigh-Ann Webster

Veterans Talking to Veterans (VTTV) 858-395-5808 www.veteranstalkingtoveterans.com

# Buddies in

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING **BUDDY ADS OPPORTUNITY** 

Do you want to reach out to approximately 5,000 veterans and their

Do you have a veteran friendly business?

Are you ready for the opportunity to advertise at a bargain rate?

If so, then here is your opportu-

The American Legion Department of Wyoming has a quarterly publication that goes out to its' 5,000 members and their families. These members are across the state of Wyoming. There are also many who reside in other states that would be sharing your information nationwide. That is 4 times a year that your organization will be spread around.

The American Legion is the leading veterans' organization in the United States and with the advertising that you do in the Legionnaire, you will be taping into this resource.

Here's the offer:

For \$80 we will put your advertisement in all 4 issues - IN COLOR!!

For \$70 we will put your advertisement in all 4 issues in black and

For \$35 we will put your advertisement in 1 issue in color.

For \$25 we will put your advertisement in 1 issue in black and white.

Now we know that this is quite a deal, but wait there's an even better offer:

For \$150 we will put your advertisement across the entire page, for 4 issues – IN COLOR!!

For \$100 we will put your advertisement across the entire page for 4 issues in black and white.

Each ad will be placed at the bottom of a page in the newspaper. The standard size is a business card size and will be placed with two other advertisements. The whole page size will be only your advertisement at the bottom of the page. If there is a certain page you wish to be associated with, the Commanders' page, the Sons of the American Legion page, the Auxiliary page, or any other than let us know this as well and we will do our best to accommodate.

# LEGION

# **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS District 6 Commander's Report**

Greetings fellow legionnaires. District 6 is doing great. Congratulations to all the posts in the district for helping us lead the way in membership so far this year. Our numbers are looking pretty good, keep those transmittals coming in. Please reach out to your expired members and do your "Buddy Checks" as some of them might be affected by the Government shutdown as the reason for not renewing yet. This is also a great opportunity to discuss upcoming events at your post and lend support if needed.

Let's talk briefly on programs. Oratorical: Last year we as a department didn't have a department candidate

to send to the national competition. I would sure like that to change this year and District 6 to have a full range of posts and district competitions. Please get out to the schools and recruit. Talk about the scholarship opportunities for those who participate and advance. We will put out the dates for the post and district competitions by email. Please send me your competition date and times.

Boys State seems far away but it's never to soon to get out to the schools and start recruiting those Junior boys. Work with the councilors to get an opportunity to speak to them about Wonderful Wyoming Boys State.

I hope everyone has a great and

prosperous Veterans Day and you are able to be in your local communities partaking of some events and sharing camaraderie with other veterans. This is the perfect opportunity to tell them about the Legion and who we are and what we do. I look forward to stopping in to some of your meetings and events and seeing you at mid winter. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and thank you for entrusting me to be your District Commander.

For God and Country. Travis Jones District 6 Commander 307461-1151 Travisjones307wy@gmail.com



Travis Jones
District 6 Commander

#### Garcia-Castaceda American Legion Post #93 Cheyenne, WY

Garcia-Castaceda American Legion Post 93 Announces Exciting Revamp to Better Serve Veterans and the Community

Cheyenne, WY — 09/29/2025—Garcia-Castaceda American Legion Post 93 is proud to announce a revitalization effort aimed at strengthening its mission of service to veterans, their families, and the community. The Post's leadership has initiated a comprehensive revamp that includes a renewed focus on outreach.

"Our Post has a proud history of honoring service and supporting our nation's heroes," said Aubrion Bloodworth, Commander of Post 93. "This revamp ensures we continue to meet the evolving needs of today's veterans while remaining a cornerstone of community life."

Highlights of the Post 93 revamp include:

Expanded Veteran Services — Programs focused on mentorship, employment resources, and helping veterans obtain VA assistance.

Community Engagement — Relationships with other local veteran organizations to promote patriotism.

Garcia-Castaceda American Le-



Aubrion Bloodworth Post 93 Commander

gion Post 93 has served as a vital hub for camaraderie, advocacy, and service since its founding. The revamp represents a commitment to honoring the legacy of past generations while preparing to serve future ones.

Post Commander - Aubrion Bloodworth; Post Vice Commander - Scott Mayo; Post Adjutant -Raymond Brown





#### SERVING VETERANS. STRENGTHENING CHEYENNE. LEADING WITH HONOR.

Garcia-Castaneda American Legion Post 93 proudly continues its mission of serving veterans, supporting military families, and strengthening our local community through meaningful action and unwavering dedication. This Veterans Day, Post 93 stood at the forefront of service, ensuring our local veterans were honored not only in words, but through support and fellowship.

With the leadership and coordination of our Post members and volunteers, Garcia-Castaneda Post 93 successfully provided over 200 meals to veterans across the Cheyenne community. This effort reflects the heart of our Post, a commitment to never forgetting those who served and to always answering the call to care for our nation.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our community partners who stood beside Post 93 in fulfilling this mission:

Forum 619; Redwood Saloon; 40/8;

F.E. Warren 90th Missile Wing; Walmart; King Soopers; Murdoch's

Their support empowered Garcia-Castaneda Post 93 to expand our reach and impact, reinforcing our role as a cornerstone for veterans in Cheyenne. Through collaboration and shared purpose, we continue to build a Post that is active, visible, and deeply rooted in honor, service, and community engagement.

Garcia-Castaneda American Legion Post 93 remains committed to advocating for veterans and their families, creating opportunities for fellowship and support, preserving the legacy of those who served, and inspiring the next generation of Legionnaires

This Veterans Day was not just an event, it was a testament to the strength, leadership, and unity of Post 93 and the community that believes in our mission.

From every member of Garcia-Castaneda American Legion Post 93, thank you to our supporters, partners, and the veterans we are honored to serve.





# In Memoriam Sons of the American Legion

Wyoming Squadron 6 - Jim W. Grandpre Rex Wilde Steve M Dunmire Wyoming Squadron 24

Joseph N. Beauchamp Larry A. Turcato Wyoming Squadron 28 Dale E. Johnson





#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

**Detachment Of Wyoming News Letter** 



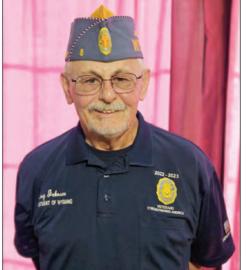
Keith Trouwborst Commander - Sons

Greetings from the Sons of The American Legion. We have had a great start of the year with the Sons convention in Newcastle electing a new Commander, Adjutant and National Executive Committeeman and ANEC. Our new Commander is Keith Trouwborst from Squadron 33 in Lander, Adjutant Doug Johnson from Squadron 8 in Douglas, Nation Executive Committeeman Charlie Keith from Squadron 33 in Lander, Alternate National Executive Committeeman Gary Temple from Squadron 42 in Gillette. Our Senior Vice Commander is Derek



Derek Mancinho Sr. Vice Commander

Mancinho from Squadron 14 in Laramie, and our Junior Vice Commander is Don Sillivan from Squadron 13 in Buffalo. On July 11th and 12th we were in Buffalo celebrating Christmas in July for the residents at the soldiers' home with a fishing derby and lunch. Every year the detachment does a project with some improvement at the fishing pond. It has evolved into a number of projects from setting a flagpole to a fishing platform to cement pads and this year's project of a bridge so the veterans can get to the other side of the pond. I would like to thank the



Doug Johnson Adjutant

following Squadrons for all the help on this years project. Squadron 8 had 1 participant, Squadron 13 had 2, Squadron 14 had 1, Squadron 26 had 2, Squadron 33 had 5, Squadron 42 had 7, Squadron 44 had 1, Squadron 54 had 2 for a total of 8 Squadrons and 1 Veterans Home staff had 1 participant for a total of 22 people helping build the bridge and cleaning the area up of rubbish and dead tree branches. We then headed up to the veterans home gazebo and the staff had a wonderful lunch and where we presented the prizes for the biggest fish, smallest fish, most



Don Sillivan Jr. Vice Commander

fish and who caught a sucker. The Veteran that caught the biggest fish went to Rod Eisenhower the smallest fish went to Duane Hockett, the most fish caught went to Sam Ross and the Veteran that caught a sucker went to Sam Ross. All the Vets had a great time fishing and a great lunch. The Detachment also gives each resident a \$10.00 bill. I invite all who wants to come to Buffalo and help out on all the actives at the Veterans Home. Thank You.

Doug Johnson, Detachment Adjutant.



Kyle A. Orbinati Commander - Sq. 2 Casper

#### Sons Squadron 2 Casper

I am a dual member, as a US Marine Corps Veteran and qualifying as a Son through my paternal grandparents and maternal grandfather. They served in the Army Air Corps and later U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, and U.S. Navy.

I took over our Squadron in August 2023 shortly after the death of the Commander at the time. The Squadron was barely holding together with several members that were past due by years, and most of the Active membership was paid by the post officers that were the qualifying parent. The Squadron executive committee was nonexistent.

I had two main problems, membership and fundraising. My first term, I proceeded to push all existing members to renew, and received several awards as we exceeded our membership goal. My second term we barely managed to hit our membership goal, however welcomed a Squadron Chaplain, Bob Meloy. This year, we are off to a good start welcoming two new members who stepped up to become officers, now Vice Commander Dave Graves & his son, now Sergeant At Arms Trevin

Graves.

In September 2023, a project called the "Buy A Brick" program was given to our post from the Natrona County United Veterans Council and given to the Squadron. Since then as been our main fundraising push.

I have worked with the Post to increase the presents in the community, joining the post when able with Posting the flags throughout the community during holidays and color guards. When able I accompany the Post Officers during the spring presenting the American Legion awards to JROTC students at both Casper High Schools and CY Middle School.

Recently, I took over as the SAL District 3 Coordinator from NEC Charlie Keith. I am looking forward to working with the Legion District Leadership on expanding the District for the SAL.

For God & Country

Kyle A. Orbinati, District 3 Coordinator Detachment of Wyoming Squadron Commander Sons of the American Legion Squadron 2 Casper, Wyoming

# \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# THANK YOU!

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED





# **American Legion Auxiliary News**

# **Department President's Report**

Robin Ruff, Department President



Robin Ruff President

Can you believe it is already December? Do you know what that means? Yep, our year is half over! So much has happened in the past few months! We are way past National Convention, enjoyed a cool sprinkley Stand Down in Cheyenne and got our Unit/District activities going. I've been to several activities, meetings, and lots of miles traveled. Every one bringing new energy and enthusiasm! Know what is keeping me going? Our four pillars! VA@R... Knowing I am striving to support our Veteran's with the benefits/healthcare they earned the hard way! providing the resources needed for our disabled, homeless, and injured veterans.

NATIONAL SECURITY...advocating for a well-funded military, advocating and supporting their families, addressing the issue of POW/MIAs and homeland security. AMERICANISM... promoting patriotism, civic responsibility and American values. CHILDREN AND

YOUTH...let's focus on the well-being and healthy development of America's youth. Let's provide opportunities for young people to succeed. These pillars need each and every Legion Auxiliary member to make it happen. My project hopes to address these through supporting local food pantries/school meal programs/Veteran's food pantries. So keep making those donations locally and submitting your receipts. Some lucky member will receive a gift at Convention and one unit will receive a membership! As Tabitha Adams asks... Each One Reach one! Build your membership and I will see you at Midwinter in Wheatland!

BE THE ONE BE THE DIFFERENCE ONE BITE AT A TIME Hope to see you all soon 2025-2026 Department President Robin Ruff



Cathey Raymer Vice President/ Americanism Chairman

# Department Vice President/Americanism Report

BREAKING NEWS: Americanism Essay Contest Cover Sheet Gets an Upgrade.

The Americanism Essay Contest has had a makeover for a new look. If you have the version that was handed out at Fall Workshop or sent to you by the District Presidents, it has officially been replace – don't use it for the contest.

But there is more, the new cover sheet comes with the contest rules, and here's the big thing! National has a way to check for AI generated essays. Every submission will be checked for AI use. If the essay is found to be 30% or more written by AI, it will be instantly disqualified.

We want to see the creativity of our students, not what a computer can write.

When handing out the cover sheets, be sure to include the new contest rules. That way there is no confusion with the new rules for the contest. The rules also show the scoring for the essays. The two that we need to check are word count and the COVER SHEET. Is the cover sheet legible and completely filled out.

If you did not receive the essay rules and cover sheet from your unit

or district, it can be found on the website alaforveterans.org or contact me and I would be happy to send you a copy. Remember the deadline to submit the essays to me is March 31, 2026.

Next year we are celebrating America's 250th birthday. What is your unit and post doing to celebrate? Please reach out to let me know what you are planning. I would love to hear all your ideas and plans.

Cathey Raymer Americanism Chair



Peg Sillivan Department Secretary

# News from your Department Office

The Unit Membership Chairmen are keeping me busy. That's great. We haveeight (8) Units who enter their membership via ALA MIS. I say "THANK YOU" toall Unit Membership Chairmen for doing a great job with your Transmittals.

Something new is the Department Calendar. If you are looking for the fullyear calendar, please go to our website: wylegionaux.org. You will find it under the Calendar tab. The webpage is up-to-date so make sure you checkand have the right forms ie. Americanism, Education and

Poppy.

Thank you, Units, for filing your 990 e-postcard.

Hopefully by the time the paper comes out I will have checks mailed out toUnits with PUFL's and on-line payments. I also plan on mailing poppies to the Units requesting mailing.

Email Addresses that have changed:

District 1 Cheryl is now WYOD-1President@outlook.com and District 6 Fran is frantic.p@yahoo.com

Mark your calendar for Mid Win-

ter, January 17, 2026 in Wheatland.

I would like to share that on our trip in July, we saw "poppy displays" ingardens, with Veteran monuments and signs on the walls in Scotland andIreland. Remember when we called it "Remembrance Day" in the US. It remains "Remembrance Day" in Canada, Scotland and Ireland.

THANK YOU ALL for helping our VETERANS throughout Wyoming.

Legion Auxiliary. Peg Sillivan Department Secretary Treasurer

# Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business

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FLOYD MINCH AMERICAN LEGION POST 44

Serving Veterans in the Southern Big Horn Basin since 1920 Club 44 Hours 4 p.m. - 12 a.m. Monday through Saturday

Legion Family members welcome

Private Floyd Minch
Killed in Action 10-8-1918

129 South 7th Street, Worland, Wyoming

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Unlimited Voice Calling
Unlimited Text and Multimedia Messaging
Unlimited Data
Unlimited Poarning across the US and Canada
Unlimited Long Distance within the voice roaming area





Linda Orr Rep

#### **Sheridan VA Healthcare Network**

The Hospital and Clinics are functioning close to normal. You may find some delays and cancellations, but not regularly.

The Holidays are right around the corner. If your Unit would like to sponsor a function or have things to get to the Hospital, please coordinate with Bill at 307-675-3226.

Warm winter clothing is also needed in all sizes especially extra-large ones. Other items requested are sports boxer shorts, black socks, blue jeans again in sizes 3X-7X, tennis shoes, travel hygiene products, disposable razors, gas cards and gift cards for Walmart.

At the Sheridan Hospital there are a couple of pantries set up to help those who don't have enough food. If you are going up for appointments, please bring some nonperishable items, snacks, protein bars, etc., along to share. Travel size hygiene products are also needed.

You folks are fantastic. What you do for our veterans is unbelievable. Have a wonderful Holiday Season and an even better New Year.

Thanks again. Linda Orr and Melba Bennett, Reps



Melba Bennet Rep

#### Chaplain's Corner

Hello to all,

I hope this article finds you all recovered from October and gearing up for the holidays.

Above all else, please take care of yourselves. This is help others.

Thanks to all who have been sending in their monthly reports, it is nice to know what others are doing. If you are unsure what I am talking about, the Chaplain form is available on the De-

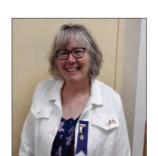
partment website, I can receive these either via USPS, or electronically.

Also reach out to me even if you do not have a form. I just really want to be able to do right by our memthe only way we can bers, and let them know that the Department of Wyoming is there for them.

So please let me be the first to wish you a Blessed Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

Please remember our veterans over

DISTRICT 1



Susan Dansereau Chaplain

these times, reach out to those vou do not hear from or see, sometimes being there can make all the difference!

In Service to our **Veterans** 

Susan Dansereau







Vicki Paddock Membership Chairman



ו או פוע	I					JOINICI	4			
UNIT#	CITY	GOAL	PAID	Percent	U	JNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
24	ROCK SPRINGS	255	104	41%		26	POWELL	123	55	45%
28	GREEN RIVER	114	29	25%		29	BASIN	51	31	61%
36	FT. BRIDGER	51	37	73%		44	WORLAND	91	45	49%
40	COKEVILLE	27	14	52%			TOTAL	265	131	49%
43	JACKSON	29	2	7%	D	DISTRICT	5			
46	ALPINE	27	13	48%	U	JNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
47	PINEDALE	31	21	68%		3	NEW CASTLE	18	15	83%
78	BIG PINEY	23	9	39%		7	SHERIDAN	88	38	43%
88	LaBARGE	14	0	0%		13	BUFFALO	134	65	49%
	TOTAL	571	229	40%		25	MOORCROFT	78	50	64%
DISTRICT	2					42	GILLETTE	162	104	64%
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT		80	HULETT	36	10	28%
1	VAN TASSEL	16	8	50%		90	KAYCEE	31	6	19%
5	TORRINGTON	88	5	6%			TOTAL	547	288	53%
8	DOUGLAS	73	32	44%	D	DISTRICT	6			
9	GLENROCK	49	29	59%	U	JNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
10	WHEATLAND	40	1	3%		6	CHEYENNE	237	69	29%
15	GLENDO	83	40	48%		14	LARAMIE	101	60	59%
70	LaGRANGE	35	25	71%		54	SARATOGA	60	7	12%
75	CHUGWATER	15	2	13%		60	PINE BLUFFS	35	1	3%
95	GUERNSEY	16	14	88%		64	MEDICINE BO	26	14	
	TOTAL	415	156	38%		77	ALBIN	24	8	33%
ISTRICT	3						TOTAL	483	159	33%
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT						
16	POWDER RIVER	6	4							
19	RIVERTON	14	6			17	HEADQUARTE	20	11	55%
33	LANDER	71	48							
81	FT. WASHAKIE	17	8	47%			DEPARTMENT	2440	1040	42.62%
	TOTAL	108	66	61%						
							10/30/2025			

Support Our

Veterans



#### Cheryl Craig District 1 President

I have visited three (3) Units so far. Unit 47, Pinedale

The Unit has been very busy. They helped at the Food Bank for July, August, Sept, and Oct.;

made grave markers for the cemetery. Members are asked to support SHIPS, the American

Act and Service Dogs assisting Veterans Act. The Unit supplied the schools with 90 copies of the Declara-

# **District 1 Report**

tion of Independence / Constitution Booklets and will provide a scholar-

Membership is in Unit 47. They have fun with members attending the USMC Ball in Rock Springs. Plans are being made for Veterans

Unit 46, Alpine

The Unit recognized April as the Month of the Military Child. Donations in the amount of \$250 were made to the Library and River of Life Star Vally for movie night. ROLSV presents Valiant in honor of Military children.

Thirty )30) information sheets were presented to approximately 30 students about Poppies, Americanism, and other veterans' programs.

Unit 36, Ft. Bridger

They were getting ready for their big yard sale and programs for Veterans Day.

**DISTRICT 1** Cheryl Craig, President WyoD1President@outlook.com



Above: Rock Springs picnic - District 1 Vice President Sandy, District 1 President Cheryl, President Donna, Department Vice Cathey and Department President Robin.

# B-Jo Laing

District 1 President

# **District 2 Report**

So far this year I have been honored to attend an activity with one unit. Samuel Mares Unit 8 in Douglas had a very successful Bake-a-Thon day baking cookies for the VA. They invited Department President Robin Ruff and me to participate with them. I, in turn, invited our District 2 Vice President Jane Simpson as well. That day we had 12 people helping to bake 156 dozen cookies. Those were added to cookies baked by Unit members to total 425 dozen cookies for the VA! It was a great day filled with laughter, and we managed to even get a junior signed up for another Auxiliary Unit.

J.J. Webb Unit 95 in Guernsey is planning to take cookies to Camp Guernsey, but are waiting on dates when they will be working at the Camp. They have desserts on the calendar to assist the VFW with their Veterans Day dinner. They are also anticipating a Girls State recap report B-Jo Laing President

from their Girls State delegates.

John McGill Unit 70 raised money for their unit with a Five Guns in Five Days raffle over the summer. They sold 50 tickets for \$100 each. They used part of the proceeds to purchase the firearms, and the remainder went into their coffers to help pay for various activities and donations for the unit. It was a great success! Since then, they are planning on their annual Veteran's Day Luncheon and placing some wreaths for Wreaths Across America.

I am looking forward to visiting with the other units in District 2. If you have an event coming up, or a meeting, please let me know, so I can attend and visit your unit. I would also like to hear from you. I am hoping to reach out to you and make some plans for visits.

District 2

#### **District 4 Report** Worland (Unit 44) Auxiliary will be participating in the Trunk or Treat in downtown Worland. Two of our members took on the task to get businesses and organizations to participate in this venture. Powell (Unit 26) On September 8th, hosted a dinner to

celebrate our Girls State participants and hear about their experiences in the program. Unit 26 will host our annual Community Halloween Party on October 31st. In December, we will participate in the annual Legion Christmas Party, providing gifts for children to wrap for their family members. Both community service events are free to attend and open to the public. We are honored to be a Sponsorship Group with Wreaths Across America, representing our local cemetery, where 700+ veterans are laid to rest. Mark your calendars for Wreaths Across America Day on December 13th. We will hold a ceremo-

ny at our Wall of Honor at 11:30 am, followed by placing sponsored wreaths on veterans' graves. We hope to have enough sponsors that every veteran will receive a wreath

Basin (Unit 29) Our Unit is trying something different for Veterans Day this year. Rather than a dinner, we have arranged with the local restaurant to provide a breakfast or lunch to local veterans paid for by our Auxiliary. This will be on November 11. Our members will be attending the Veterans Day program at the local school, providing cookies and cards to our veterans in the local nursing home and holding our Poppy Day. We will also hold our Veteran Suicide Awareness Rally on November 22, weather permitting. A busy month!

DISTRICT 4

Susan Sironen, President



Susan Sironen District 4

Thank You.....

Your support has been invaluable in making the Veterans Memorial Service in the VA a memorable meaningful and truly special, we're honored to have the American Legion Auxiliary support and generosity. Your support and enthusiam contributed to teh success of the event, and we deeply appreciate your contribution. Thank you for your time, your dedication, and your heart. Together we can honor the memory of OUR VETERANs and honor their legacy. We appreciate you and thank you for your participation and support.

Chaplain Service





# **District 5 Report**







Courtesy Photo

District **51** niors -N ora, G racie, R uby and SAL Hudson made Birthday Kits which were taken to Dayton, B uffalo, and Gillette.



Linda Orr Education Chairman

Now is the time to let your schools know that there are scholarships available through the American Legion Auxiliary. They are: Children of Warriors National President's Scholarship – 15 @ \$5000 each, Spirit of Youth Scholarships – 5 @ \$5000 and up to 42 @ \$1,000, Non-Traditional Student Scholarships – 5 @ \$2,000 each, and Member Loyalty Scholarships – 10 @ \$2,500 each.

You are wondering what each scholarship is. You can access them in several ways. Use the Department Web Site at wylegionaux.org/scholarships or the National Web Site at

# **Education**

www.alaforvetereans.org/scholarships. There is also a tutorial on the scholarships on the National Web Site in the Academy.

Applicants must apply using the National Web Site. Closing date is March 1, 2026 at 11.59p with no exceptions

There is a new form "Give 10 to Education" which you will find on the Department Web Site if you didn't pick one up at Fall Workshop. It is a tool that you can use to track donations to your schools.

Have you taken an opportunity to have a program in local schools on flag etiquette? How about having some veterans interact with students. Not only do the students learn about what a veteran is and what they did, there could be friendships started.

Your schools may have pantries available for student needs. Please open your hearts and donate nonperishable foods, cereals, peanut butter, snack items, noodles, protein bars, etc. Personal hygiene products also may be needed. Comfortable children make better students.

Thanks again for all you do. Linda Orr, Chair

# **Department Poppy Report**



ber them. Please use at least one of

our veteran made poppies in your display.



B-Jo Laing Poppy Chairman

I hope everyone had an opportunity to support their veterans on Veterans Day. Did you use poppies? Make sure you send me a report with any pictures.

Are you ramping up your unit for poppy posters and National Poppy Day? Do you need help? Do you need ideas? Please use me as a resource. You can email me at bjovfwaux@gmail.com or you can call at 801-717-6783. I am happy to be a sounding board or even brainstorm ideas.

If you have never had poppy posters, may I suggest you contact art teachers in your local schools ASAP. They are the ones to help you. You could also hold your own event. Invite a variety of school age kids to come. Explain about the poppy, or even read The Poppy Lady by Moina Belle Michael, as well as the poem, In Flanders Fields by Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. Then have them draft or sketch out their drawing. Remember to tell them it needs to contain certain words as part of the poster. Other poster requirements can be found at www.legion-aux. org/national-poppy-poster-contest. Most importantly, be sure to include a completed cover sheet that has a parent's or teacher's signature. It can also be found on the previously listed website.

POPPIES B-Jo Laing Chairman

# Standdown 10/4/2025

This year's standdown was held in Cheyenne at the Depot despite the on and off rain. Robin Ruff, Kenzie Allen, Cynthia Ivaniszek and Vicki Paddock distributed food and clothing to 20 Veterans and their families. These items were donations from the units across the state and were collected during mid-winter. I would guess that we had \$1000-1500 worth of items to give out. We ended up going home with nothing.

Hooray!!!! The event was well attended with booths from Salvation Army, Dental Group, VFW, Red Cross, and ours from the American Legion Auxiliary. Halrcuts, free, donuts and coffee for breakfast and sandwiches and gaterade for lunch were given for free. Thank you to all that donated.

It made our event successful.

# VAVS - Cheyenne

The Quarterly Memorial Service was held October 19th. Water and snacks were donated for 100 people. The Homeless Department of the CDCE asked for sim cards and minutes for the phones they already had. As of this date I have sent 14 of each. Birthday parties will the 3rd Sunday of the month. We are always looking for volunteers to serve.

# Wyoming Veterans Home

Greetings, from Buffalo, where your Wyoming Veterans Home and Wyoming Veterans Skilled Nursing Home is located.

Your funds will afford the residents a wonderful Christmas Party in December.

My new plan for the Skilled Nursing Facility is working! I am pleased to have four new volunteers to go for activities there. Brittney, the activities director, wanted us to get away from bringing in sweets and just spend time interacting with the residents. We play Bingo twice and cards one day. Our organization has a presence there three times a month. The Veterans Home has a visit four or five times in a month! I feel our mission is being well carried out!

As always, thank you, thank you for your hard-earned funds sent to Peggy for our Veterans activities!



Edie Taffner Veterans Home of Wyoming Rep.

Respectively submitted Edie Taffner, Dep. Veterans Home Rep.



# District 4 One Bite at a Time



Courtesy Photo
District 4 came to Fall Workshop bearing gifts to meet the request of Department President Ruff to fill food pantries. Unloading into the Auxiliary trailer is Cynthia Pfeiffer, Jerilyn Hall and Trudy Zaffareno.

# **Auxiliary - Department of Wyoming at National Convention**



 ${\it Courtesy \ Photo} \\ {\it At \ NNational \ Convention: \ Sandy, \ Donna, \ Robin, \ Shareen, \ Ginger, \ Chantelle, \ Cheryl, \ Peg, \ Vicki \ and \ Leila}$ 











Courtesy Photo

Unit **6**M edicine Bow spends the day with youngest teaching them about the American Flag,u se,an d folding of the Flag.



November 2025	Military Family Month
01	NEWSPAPER ARTICLES DUE – 8 a.m.
10	American Legion Auxiliary 106th Birthday 60% Membership Goal – Department Marine Corps birthday
11	VETERANS DAY ALAF Veterans Day of Giving
15	Mission Training & Junior Meeting – Albany, NY
Week of 15th	Newspaper Mailed
16	Cheyenne Living Center Birthday Party
17 - 21	American Education Week
19	Birthday Party at WY Veterans Home -3 p.m.
27	THANKSGIVING
December 2025	
02	#Giving Tuesday
07	National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
13	National Wreaths Across America Day U.S, National Guard birthday
17	Christmas Party at WY Veterans Home – 3 p.m.
20	U.S. Space Force birthday
25	MERRY CHRISTMAS
31	New Year's Eve
January 2026	
01	NEW YEARS
12	Birthday Party at Cheyenne Living Center – 2 p.m.
14	7 pm Finance Committee Zoom
16	7 pm Department Executive Meeting – Wheatland
17	9 am Mid-Winter Meeting – Wheatland
18	Cheyenne Living Center Birthday Party
19	MLK Jr. Day
21	Birthday Party at WY Veterans Home -3 p.m.
31	100% Membership Unit Goal Mission Training & Junior Meeting – Las Vegas, NV Mission Training & Junior Meeting – Indianapolis, IN



Mid-Winter Conference
January 16 – 17, 2026
Fire Training Center
759 East Cole Street
Wheatland, Wyoming



Name and Post #	Registration fee \$20.00	Number Attending	Total
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$

Make Checks Payable to:
Ora Call Post #10
P.O. Box 85
Wheatland, WY 82201

Hotel Information:

Best Western Torchlite

1809 N 16th ST, Wheatland, WY 82201

(307) 322-4070

\$79.99 + tax/night

Ask for The American Legion Block

WY Dist 0006 LGN

Must reserve by 1 January 2026

Department of Wyoming 2026 Membership as of 11/25/25

aS OI 11/23/23
Including Encumbered HQ Tra

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0024	Archie Hay	Rock Springs	10	19	203	2	234	362	64.64
WY-0028	Tom Whitmore	Green River	7	21	100	1	129	194	86.49
WY-0036	Fort Bridger	Fort Bridger	4	11	72	2	89	122	72.95
WY-0040	Lavoy Thornock	Cokeville	4	0	0	0	10	10	100.00
WY-0041	Medicine Butte	Evanston	1	4	18	4	24	30	80,08
WY-0043	Jackson Hole	Jackson	2	16	100	1	125	136	91.91
WY-0046	Alpine	Alpine	а	2	13	0	15	30	50.00
WY-0047	Phillips-Edwards	Pinedale	0	4	16	0	20	26	76.92
WY-0049	Star Valley	Afton	0	1	4	0	5	12	41.67
WY-0055	Kemmerer	Kemmerer	0	1	19	0	20	32	62.50
WY-0078	Dee Fox	Big Piney	-2	- 1	17	1	21	25	84.00
WY-0088	La Barge	La Barge	0	0	10	0	10	15	86.67
		SUM-	30	80	584	8	702	994	70.6

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0001	Ferdinand Brandstetter	Van Tassell	2	4	17	0	23	29	79.31
WY-0004	Wieten-Dupes	Lusk	а	2	12	0	14	18	77.78
WY-0005	Travis Snow	Torrington	0	18	45	0	63	110	57.27
WY-0008	Samuel Mares	Douglas	1	14	88	2	105	100	03.25
WY-0009	Jesse Martin	Glenrock	3	3	23	- 1	30	42	71.43
WY-0010	Ora Call	Wheatland	1	4	40	0	45	60	75.00
WY-0015	John Prince	Glendo	О	1	7	0	8	15	53.33
WY-0056	Marlyn B Anderson	Veteran	0	3	2	1	6	10	60.00
WY-0083	Reed-Gobble	Lingle	a	2	14	0	16	19	84.21
WY-0070	John A Mc Gill	Lagrange	1	0	7	0	8	11	72.73
WY-0075	Mc Donald And Voight	Chugwater	4	5	ō.	- 1	16	26	81.54
WY-0095	J J Webb	Guemsey	n	4	13	0	17	27	82.98
		SUM:	12	60	274	5	351	533	65.85

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0002	George W Vroman	Casper	5	33	119	2	159	217	73.27
WY-0016	Henry Whiteaway	Powder River	.0	0	0	0	0	12	0.00
WY-0019	Riverton	Riverton	1	9	26	1	37	60	61.67
WY-0031	Philip Burlingham	Dubois	0	2	3	0	5	10	50.00
WY-0033	Don Stough	Lander	8	11	143	2	164	202	81.19
WY-0061	Washakie	Pavillion	0	2	0	0	2	10	20.00
WY-0081	Richard Pogue	Fort Washakie	2	1	16	0	19	16	118.75
WY-0096	Arapaho Warriors Cpl Bil	Riverton	2	0	23	0	25	25	100.00
		CIIM-	10	03	220		311	552	74.45

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0011	Robert Boyd Stewart	Lovell	0	10	17	0	27	33	81.8
WY-0018	Walter Haynes	Thermopolis	0	2	8	0	10	16	62.5
WY-0020	Fred Coe	Cody	3	6	24	-1	34	45	75.5
WY-0026	Hughes-Pittinger	Powell	5	14	100	5	124	156	79.4
WY-0029	Marion Tanner	Basin	0	3	22	0	25	40	62.5
WY-0032	Greybull	Greybull	2	4	28	0	34	-31	109.6
WY-0044	Floyd Minch	Worland	3	18	73	1	95	171	55.5
WY-0085	James Oliver Hogg	Meeteetse	0	4	11	0	15	22	68.1
WY-0091	Heart Mountain	Heart Mountain	0	2	6	1	9	10	90.0
			10				-		2.0

WY Dist 0004 LGN

t	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
-0003	Monroe-Bland	Newcastle	1	10	30	0	41	60	68,33
-0007	John Donald Garbutt	Shendan	2	18	83	2	105	155	67.74
-0013	Powder River	Buffalo	1	26	85	2	114	145	78.62
-0025	Moorcroft	Moorcroft	3	2	9	1	15	15	100.00
-0042	Campbell County	Gillette	12	25	170	3	210	310	67.74
-0045	Crook County	Sundance	3	4	18	0	25	30	83.33
-0080	Roy Montgomery	Hulett	1	2	28	0	31	33	93.94
-0307	Gillette College	Gillette College	0	3	5	0	8	80	13.33
		SUM:	23	90	428	8	549	808	67.95

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0006	Francis E Self	Cheyenne	32	127	564	10	733	1,005	72 9
WY-0014	Husted-Pendleton	Laramie	10	45	164	2	221	306	72,22
WY-0021	Robert Hogan	Burns	1	4	25	0	30	30	100.00
WY-0054	Angus England	Saratoga	3	4	35	0	42	60	70.00
WY-0060	Canady Filkins	Pine Bloffs	3	3	23	0	29	52	55.77
WY-0064	William Home	Medicine Bow	0	9	2	1	12	25	46.00
WY-0077	Boyce-Marlatt	Albin	0	0	6	0	6	10	60.00
WY-0093	Garcia-Castaneda	Cheyenne	0	1	8	0	9	10	90.00
WY-0122	Hittner-Engstrom-Duncai	Rawlins	1	5	27	0	33	44	75.00
		SUM:	50	198	854	13	1,115	1,542	72,31

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

Y Dist 0005 LGN

Post	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	Tran	Totals	Soal	Goal
WY-0090	Hole-In-The-Wall	Kaycee	0	5	1	o.	8	0	#DIV/
		SUM:	0	5	1	0	6	0	#DIV/

nre 0 4 27 0 31 12 258,33 SUM: 0 4 27 0 31 12 258,33

epartme	ent of Wyo	ning Totals	5				
	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Transfers	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
Sum	146	558	2,787	47	3,538	4,965	71.2

#### FALL GREETING WYOMING LEGIONNAIRES!

During the National Convention in Tampa I attended National Security Counsel meetings. One of the meetings focused on natural disasters and the local response. The speakers were from communities impacted by hurricanes and other disasters. What I found interesting were the stories of the communities looking to veterans and the local American Legion post for assistance with search teams, logistics, coordination of human resources and anything else that came along. The speakers noted that the communities recognized the skill set that most veterans have from time spent in the military, i.e., patience, perseverance, strength, both physical and emotional when needed and an overall winning attitude.

The speakers talked about communication and the inability to send or receive messages in the community. They were telling about cell towers being down and no commercial electric power due to downed power lines, roads and bridges washed out.

National Security is one of the four pillars of the American Legion. National Security, filters down to state, county, local communities and to your home. Living in Wyoming we know weather can have an impact our daily lives. The unexpected storm moving through your town with high winds, inches of rain or feet of snow. Is your Post, especially those with a Post home ready

#### 2nd Vice Commander's Corner

to assist veterans in need and your community? Do you have a rally point for those Posts without a Post home identified? Can you communicate without cell phones? I'm sure there are ham radio operators in many of the Posts in Wyoming that are ready and able to get communication up and running if possible. Another tool is GMRS, (general mobile radio service). The GMRS is a licensed radio service that uses channels around 462 MHz and 467 MHz. The most common use of GMRS channels is for short distance, two way voice communications using hand held radios, mobile radios and repeater systems. These radios are easy to use and not that expensive.

As the saying goes, when disaster strikes are you ready?



Chuck Guilford 2nd Vice Commander Dept. of Wyoming

As always, stay safe, *Chuck Guilford* 

# 2026 Legion Membership Message

The Christmas spirit should last all year!

I pray everyone will have a joyous and peaceful Christmas break with their family and friends. \* May the Christmas spirit also fill you with kindness, compassion and hope in preparation for the New Year. Use this spirit as a guide to set your fu-

EGION

ture goals. Besides the usual vowing to eat right and exercise, maybe work on being a kinder and more compassionate person. While being hungry and sore from the first two is supposedly good for you, being a better person is less uncomfortable and good for you and those you serve. I can't define your "Better Person" ideal,

EGION

but the Legion can help you with some ideas to help.

There are many American Legion programs that can give you that warm feeling inside while benefitting your community. Reach out to fellow Legionnaires to see how they are doing. Provide support and/or volunteer at a foodbank. Sponsor a kid for Oratorical or Boys State. Hold a Flag Etiquette class. Donate blood or even host a blood drive. Cut the grass or shovel the walk for those that need a hand. Adopt a road or park to make your area more presentable. Check with the school or library to read to kids. Go to a retirement center for a visit or a game of cards. If your Post is unable to lead these programs, partner with groups already doing the job such as a church or other civic organizations. Just be an active part of your community and make it

There are many that will say "But, I don't have the time!" because of family, work or a myriad of other requirements. Rest assured that your Legion membership alone is doing God's work. For the last 106 years, the Legion has been lobbying hard for high quality healthcare, fair disability benefits, and compassion for their family and care givers for those who served this great nation. The American Legion's values on National defense and troop support have endured this entire time. We are also strong on Americanism and assuring families have the basic needs for their children's health and welfare. Our National Commander is afforded an audience with a joint session of Congress annually to brief them on



Chip Kossow Wyoming Membership Coordinator

the Legion's legislative priorities in hopes they champion them through to action. These priorities come from the members through their Departments. The congressional audience is granted because the Legion is the largest and most influential wartime veteran service organization. We are strong together!

Be proud of your service to this great nation. Know that your continued service in The American Legion is our most valuable asset. Thank you for renewing your membership. Please bring in a new member to make us stronger.

God Bless America!

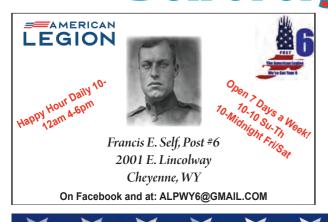
Chip Kossow - Wyoming Membership Coordinator - Burns Post 21

719 332-2793 - greenberetveteran@gmail.com

\*Note: If you are struggling this Christmas season (or ever), please reach out to anyone!

#### WYOMING Legionnaire - Auxiliare **Department of Wyoming** Official Publication of The American Legion, Dept of Wyoming Editors: Legion - 1320 Hugur Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82001 Telephone: (307) 634-3035 Fax: (307) 635-7093 Auxiliary - Peg Sillivan, PO Box 186, Buffalo, WY 82834 Telephone: (307) 620-5697 Email - deptaux@wylegionaux.org WYOMING LEGIONNAIRE - AUXILIARE (USPS 574-210) is published the months of September, December, March, June by the American Legion, Dept. of Wyoming 1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001 and printed by Wyoming Tribune Eagle, 702 W. Lincolnway, Cheyenne, WY 82001. Periodical postage paid at Cheyenne, WY and additional offices. Subscription for members (\$2.50) is included in the annual membership dues. Non-members subscription price is \$5 per year. Postmaster: Send address changes to The American Legion, Dept. of Wyoming PO Box 20172, Cheyenne, WY 82003

# Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business





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== AMERICAN

# Chaplain's Corner Service to God and Country



Jim Wilkinson Chaplain Dept. of Wyoming

#### IT IS THE HOLIDAY SEASON AGAIN

It is hard to believe we are in November already. This time of year, is such an exciting time of family get togethers, celebrations including that of Jesus' birth – Christmas. For Jewish faith, the festival of lights commemorating the rededication of the second Temple in Jerusalem. For many it is a time of Santa Clause, shopping, and gift ex-

Unfortunately, there is also the flip side. Those men and women struggling with PTSD and other unresolved trauma in their lives that creates anxiety and increased depression. This can be a big, dark hole that unless you've been there, there is no way you can understand or relate. For me, I found my way out through the Bible, and I wish to share some of that with you with the hope and prayer that you can son, keep an eye on our comrades in embrace the thanksgiving, peace of God, and joy that I have found.

For me, there was a time in my life that I was in that big, dark hole. I was not suicidal, but I had no desire to be with others, talk to others, and frankly didn't care what happened. What I really needed was to get out of my shell, I needed others. I remember sitting by the phone and just staring at it as it rang. Not a chance I would answer the call. Answer the door? Not a chance! By the way, I called Jesus as my Lord and Master already. What I was missing was the personal relationship with Him which eventually brought me out of that deep state a funk.

It sounds simple but really, it is

NOT. Peace is more than the absence of conflict; it is a state of wholeness, harmony, and blessing that comes from God Himself. Philippians 4:6-7 says "not to be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." This peace is described as surpassing human comprehension and is a direct result of trusting God and bringing concerns to Him in prayer. That might sound good to you, too good to be true? Where do we start?

Scripture consistently links peace and thanksgiving, showing that gratitude is both a cause and a fruit of God's peace. Philippians 4:6-7 explicitly connects prayer, thanksgiving, and the peace of God, indicating that a thankful heart is essential for experiencing God's peace. Thanksgiving shifts focus from personal problems to God's sovereignty, fostering trust and peace in the midst of trials.

The fact is it is no magic pill. My walk with Jesus is a journey. Sometimes I take the wrong fork in the road and go off course. God's peace and thanksgiving is found in His character, His redemptive work through Christ, and the transformative effect of gratitude and faith. Peace and thanksgiving are not merely human emotions but spiritual realities that flow from a relationship with God and are cultivated through prayer, trust, and gratitude.

I ask you during this holiday seaarms. Watch for those signs of maybe drifting away or just not as sociable as they normally are. It might be time for a buddy check.

If you are a post chaplain, we are going to be starting some chaplain training after the first of the year. Please email me at itw@veritek. com. Maybe we can organize a gettogether at the spring conference.

If what I wrote above strikes a chord and you'd like to talk. Please email me at the above address. More references for you: Psalm 100; Psalm 107:1; Colossians 3:15-17; Psalm 118:1; Ephesians 5:20.

Jim Wilkinson Department of Wyoming Chaplain.

#### His last note..

Former educator ends his decades playing bugle with the Honor Guard

Mark Davis Powell Tribune Sr. Reporter

With the flags lowered to half staff and the audience silenced by the Honor Guard's three-volley salute with M1 Garands to commemorate Veteran's Day, Tom Bibbey broke the silence with the first crisp notes of taps: C, G and E.

Once you hear those three notes, your mind instantly recalls the rest of the song — as well as poignant moments from the past. The song originally signaled "lights out" for the night before being played in one form or another at military funerals and for patriotic memorial ceremonies; Sadly "lights out" for those being hon-

Taps may be one of the most recognizable songs of this country's nearly 250 years of history. Yet, Bibbey, who has played the song thousands of times in the Big Horn Basin, likes the song to be the star, not himself.

But on this Veterans Day, Bibbey played for the last time with the American Legion Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 Veterans Honor Guard.

The Honor Guard is made up of volunteers from all branches of the military service, as well as the Sons of the American Legion. They are on call to travel to all veteran's funerals in the basin and special occasions, such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day, said Powell Honor Guard Commander Steve Burtoft.

"The funerals are usually on a weekday in the afternoon, so it takes a special person to be able to travel that much," he said, adding that it's a perfect volunteer opportunity for re-

However, there is constant turnover in the organization, as the volunteers eventually need to retire from the special service. Bibbey will be tough to replace, Burtoft said.

"It's gonna be hard to fill his position, because, you know, none of us here are too musical," he said. "We could depend on Tom, and if you heard him play, he plays very well, and we really appreciated. He's been here a lot longer than most of us."

Bibbey gave 27 years to the organization and rarely missed a beat. He began playing the bugle well before he served in the Air Force from 1959 to 1965 as an intelligence officer, serving overseas during much of his years of active duty.

He said he was forced to take a break while in the military due to his duties



Tom Bibbey plays taps for the final time with the Powell Honor Guard. Bibbey has volunteered to be the group's bugler for the past 27 years.

in a highly secretive linguistics unit. His service is still classified.

"We couldn't talk about the job we were doing," Bibbey said while waiting for a Memorial Day service to begin. "We couldn't even tell our parents where we were.

During his military training, he was taught to be able to separate himself from his service. It was important then, and those lessons have helped him through the years. Taps is one of those songs that can pull a tear from the most-hardened warrior — often on those first three notes.

For Bibbey, he has had to disassociate his memories of lost family and friends to be able to give each note the respect it deserves, he said after a 2024 performance.

His post-military career was spent performing and teaching music, including to high school students in Alliance, Nebraska and Newcastle before ascending to Northwest College as an administrator. When Bibbey retired from NWC, he immediately joined the Honor Guard.

Tuesday's performance

At the end of Tuesday's particularly inspiring Veterans Day Ceremony at Powell High School, Principal Tim Wormald mentioned Bibbey's retirement to the crowd. Unfortunately Bibbey and the rest of the volunteers had already left the auditorium to prepare for their duties.

"I just want to say thank you Mr. Bibbey for playing taps for [the school] for many years and for providing that in our community for many, many years," Wormald said.

Bibbey was touched by the sentiment. He heard Wormald say his name just before exiting the building and stopped to hear him speak. There was little time to gloat as the Honor Guard needed to be standing at attention as the large crowd gathered near the flags, lowered to half staff to honor former Vice President Dick Cheney after he passed away last week.
See Bibbey Page 4

#### **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS**

# District 1

News from Wyoming American Legion District 1

Greetings to all District 1 Posts and all members of the eleven American Legion Posts and four Sons of the American Legion Squadrons in our District 1. Our District has been very busy over the last several months with membership renewal and recruiting efforts, Legion WALLT training, visits from the new American Legion Commander, and local Post activities.

I am pleased to report that our District 1 exceeded the target of 65% by the October 15 deadline for TAL renewals, and we are well on our way to the 75% target date of November 13. Our Posts deserve credit for stepping up their processing of renewals. recruiting new members, and processing transfers from Post 17 and elsewhere. I encourage all Posts and SAL Squadrons to

#### ==AMERICAN EGION

continue contacting members by phone, text, or email to remind them to renew, and to recruit new members. Congratulations to Cokeville Post 40, which now has a new Post Commander, a new Post Adjutant, and 10 members who have renewed or joined for 2026. Their new Commander is Luke Awtrey, a Marine veteran, and their new Adjutant is Rose Arndt, an Air Force Veteran. Our Rock Springs Post 24 very successfully hosted both the Department WALLT training and a visit from the National Legion Commander in September. Green River Post 28 and Fort Bridger Post 36 also hosted very successful National Commander visits. Evanston Post 41 identified nine Legion members in Post 17 AD, Chevenne who have Evanston addresses. They are contacting all of them and have

arranged transfers of several already. Alpine Post 46 also identified three Legion members in Post 17 AD with addresses near Alpine, and are working on arranging transfers.

Jackson Post 43 provided Honor Guards for 3 recent funerals and Color Guards for two other recent association events in Jackson. Two were Korean War Era member deaths - one 72 years as Legion member, and one with 69 years of membership. Post 43 provided a booth at the major annual Jackson fundraising event (Old Bills), and attracted several new Post, SAL and Auxiliary members. A Veterans Day food collection effort is planned again. Jackson Hole High School will host a Veterans Lunch Program again this year. The Jackson Elks Club hosts a free Veterans Dinner on Veterans Day. The annual Jackson Veterans Day ceremony will be Nov. 11 on the Jackson Town Square.

Big Piney Post 78 held a very well-attended information meet-



David W. Hill District 1 Commander

ing in September for the community and Post members by Legal Aid of Wyoming Inc. to discuss what free legal aid is available to Veterans and also non-veteran citizens. The Department Midwinter Convention is set for January 16-18, 2026 in Wheatland. All Post members are encouraged to attend.

Dave Hill, Commander, Wyoming American Legion District 1.



November 2025 News from Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43

Our Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43 has had several busy months since our last report in Augiust. Our Post membership is currently 134 TAL members, and 32 SAL members. Our renewals for 2026 are moving well, with 118 members who have renewed or joined so far. This is 86.76% of our state goal of 136 members. We are already ahead of our next target of 75% by December. We have also reach 23 SAL members who have renewed for 2026, for a percentage of 71.19% of our 32 member state goal.

Speaker Presentation: At our June Post meeting, our guest speaker was Post member Jim Hillman. Jim described his own background and experiences growing up and how he became a cadet at West Point. He showed numerous photos of his progression through the academy, and his subsequent Army assignments. He also discussed his transition to civilian life and his work in industry, and he explained his role as the Post Service

Honor Guard and Color Guard Activities: Our Post provided a Color Guard on September 17 for the opening ceremony of the Council of State Governments Annual Meeting in Jackson. An Honor Guard service was held on September 19 for the funeral of our long-time member, Harry Baxter in Victor, Idaho. Harry was a Korean War veteran who was a member of the American Legion for 69 years. On October 4, we provided a Color Guard for the opening ceremony of the Western Wyoming Alzheimer's Association Annual Meeting.

Veterans Day Activities: The Jackson Hole High School held a Veterans Recognition Lunch and Event on Thursday, November 6. Our Post's Jackson Hole Veterans Day Ceremony was held on Tuesday, November 11 on Jackson Town Square. Our Post also supported a food collection for Jackson Community on November 11. A Veterans Day Dinner was held at the Jackson Hole Elks Club on Tuesday, November 11, and all veterans were welcomed at no charge. Also, the Jackson Hole Community School hosted a Veterans lunch on Wednesday, November 12. A Veterans Ball and Marine Corps Birthday Celebration took place on November 15 honoring 250 Years of the United States Marine Corps and all who have served.

Wyoming Service Commission support: For the past several months, Ellen Rejda, the Wyoming Service Commission representative for Teton Post 43 Color Guard Eric Cole, Pete Muldoon, Dave Hill, Dave Hoster, County, has been holding her monthly appointments with veterans at our Ron Kaminski

Post Building in Jackson. Veterans who wish to meet with Ellen to discuss any benefit or claim issues should call her at 307-438-2101 to schedule and appointment.

Jackson Hole Auxiliary Unit 43: Our Auxiliary Unit 43 held a very successful Veteran Fundraising Dinner Dance at Elks Club on September 26. As a result, the Unit hopes to sponsor two girls to attend Girls State in 2026.

Donation to for Kerrville, Texas: Post 43 made a donation to be included in the Wyoming Legion Department contribution to assist the Kerrville, Texas community in recovering from disastrous flooding there.

Dave Hill, Adjutant, Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43



Courtesy Photo

Bibbev seemed to be comfortable in his role, but looks can be deceiving. He was forced to switch his weight from one leg to the next during the ceremony due to severe back pain, he said afterwards.

Bibbey continued from Page 10

As he looked for a place to sit down for a moment, several people came to him to say thanks. He was gracious, as always, but in terrible pain. As the crowd thinned, his wife Marianne grabbed his arm and helped him to a seat.

His flawless performance was his way of saying goodbye to 27 years with the Honor Guard, he said.

To volunteer or for more information, contact American Legion Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 at (307) 754-3411.

# **Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business**



#### THE AMERICAN LEGION **DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING**

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



#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING

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

# DISTRICT AND POST NEWS District 1C ontinued

**ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING ARCHIE HAY POST #24** 







Courtesy of Post 24 Rock Springs

Left: American Legion National Commander Dan K. Wiley receives a gift of a Wyoming Jackalope, with Wyoming First Vice Commander Ben Glenn. Above: Front: Jim James, Russell Stafford and Kai, Kirk Will, Deanna Hurless, Danielle Remfer, Cathy Raymer, Josh Lester, and Maddie. Vanessa Stuart in front.

Post 24 has been very active since the National Convention. We were honored to host the National Commander, who joined us for some camaraderie and received a few special items during our annual Post BBQ.

The BBQ was a great success — fun and games for the kids, horseshoe tournament and especially the dunk tank, where Post commander Simms got the title of "Most Dunked Legionnaire". All proceeds from the dunk tank and card games by the auxiliary were used to help fund our columbarium project, which was over a \$75,000 endeavor.

In September, Post 24 hosted the 2nd Annual WALLT Training and proudly provided three outstanding students: Joe Humphries, Josh Lester, and Jim James. Congratulations to all of you!

Looking ahead, our Post Commander, Ray Simms, was selected to attend National American Legion College in November. Good luck, Commander — we know you'll represent us well!

On October 11th, our Legion Riders provided a final ride for a dearly loved member of our community, Kathy Barden, who passed away unexpectedly. Riders from several groups joined in to honor Kathy and her many contributions to our community. She will be deeply missed.

Post 24 currently has raffle tickets for sale for our Kel-Tec 4-Gun Raffle, with proceeds going toward the new columbarium. The drawing will be held on December 7th, 2025.

# In the Spotlight

Jim & Penny Merryfield

Above left: Veteran and American Legion member Warren Wittstruck with First Vice Commander Ben Glenn. Above: LCFD No. 5 Fire Chief Derek Walls, Post 60 member Chris Parshall, Post 60 Commander Wm. "Buzz" Canady, Post 60 member Rich Benson, Awardee - Fire Fighter Warren Wittstruck, Post 60 member Glen Romig, Unit 60 Auxiliary member Kathy Canady, Post 60 member Dave Parshall, Assistant Fire Chief Cole Lambert. Below: Post 60 book, Warren Wittstruck - Post Historian and being "Sparky".







Spotlight on a Veteran

Serving has always been in Warren Wittstruck's heart..from the lessons and loyalty going back to his dad Warren E. Wittstruck a Marine in WWII, who was on Iwo Jima, shot in the leg, to his uncle Roy - U.S. Army Air Corp and Albert - U.S. Army, to serving himself in the U.S. Air Force. His tour of duty was from 1967 - 1972 and he worked in the HVR - Heating/Air/Oxygen/Liquid Oxygen. During his career he would spend time at Chanute AFB, Illinois, and finally coming to back to Wyoming, where he was born in 1948. Going from military to civilian life, Wittstruck landed a job with the railroad. He went from clerk to dispatch, Yard supervisor and then into computers as a problem solver. He went to college and received a degree in computer programming.

Wittstruck joined the American Legion in 1997 in Cheyenne, WY Post 6. After being in a serious motorcycle accident, he moved to Pine Bluffs and transferred to Post 60. His love to serving, spread out even more and he became a member of the Laramie County Fire District No. 5, and No. 6, where he does a lot of the PR work, and occasionally he represents the fire departments as "Sparky".

One of his passions is photography and writing. He has put together books for Post 60 and the fire departments.
"We build lifelong friendship in the military, even when PTSD sends us in a bad direc-

tion, Like the military, the fire department is built with brother/sisterhood friends. I am proud to have served both." stated Wittstruck.

# 250th Birthday COIN

DESIGNS NEED TO REPRESENT WYOMING AND THE 250<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF DESIGNS SHOULD BE FOR EITHER OR BOTH SIDES AND ONE SIDE MUST INCLUDE THE LEGION EMBLEM OR LOGO AND LEAVE A SPACE FOR COIN NUMBER

SUBMIT DESIGNS TO ADJUTANT@WYOLEGION.ORG OR BY MAIL TO 1320 HUGUR AVE, CHEYENNE, WY 82007 BE SURE TO INCLUDE NAME ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER IF NOT A LEGION FAMILY MEMBEF

Mid-Winter Convention

PRIZE \$150



#### **Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business**



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

Commander: Keith Trouwborst Adjutant: Doug Johnson

> 1320 Hugur Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82001





# District 3

COMMANDERS CORNER:

Hello everyone,

For the past couple of years, we've fallen short of our membership goals. Membership is what keeps our Post strong and active, and I know we can turn this around if we work together. I'd really like to hear from you—

I'd really like to hear from you—what ideas do you have to bring in new members or keep our current ones more engaged? No idea is too small, and your input could make a big difference.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to

me directly.

Thank you for all you do to support our Post and each other.

For God and Country,

Mark Keiser, Commander, Post 33 307-360-3228

American Legion Christmas Dinner: Our annual Post 33 Christmas Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 13th at the Army National Guard Armory in Lander, beginning at 5pm. Setup will begin at 1pm and should not take long. Any help is greatly appreciated. There is no cost for the meal and members and their families are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to 2nd VC Ella Riggs at 307-922-1193, text to the same number or e-mail to WYLegionPost33@gmail. com . We need a good headcount so we have enough food for everyone. This will be a traditional Holiday meal. The dinner will be in place of our regular December meeting. If you know a veteran that is not a member of the Legion, ALA or Sons, please consider inviting them as our guest.

Veterans Day: The High School students are once again planning their annual Veterans Day program at LVHS Gym to honor all veterans in the community. The program will begin at 1p.m., Tuesday, November 11th. A short ceremony will follow in the lobby to dedicate the new Wall of

Honor.

Opportunity Day; We are planning 2 visits to the High School, one before Christmas and one after.

If you are able to help talk about Boys & Girls State, scholarships, Oratory, Scouts, etc, let Ken Jr know.

Veterans Recognition; We are proud to announce that Loriann Crump has been selected as our Veterans Day Veterans Recognition recipient for 2025. Lori is recognized not only for her Military service in the US Army but her community service, service as a State Service Officer for the Wyoming Veterans Commission but her continuing service to all veterans in our community.

Membership: Post 33 been pushing early this year to meet our 2026 goal of 202 members, and so far we have met all our monthly goals! For those members who have not renewed for the year 2026, you will be receiving notices in the mail around Veterans Day and should expect phone calls and knocks on your doors shortly after. You may renew online at legion. org, send a check for \$50 to Post 33, PO

#### **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS**

#### LANDER, WYOMING DON STOUGH POST - UNIT - SQUADRON #33

Box 6, Lander, or bring it with you to our next monthly American Legion meeting. We will continue to encourage early renewals by drawing \$100, \$75 and \$50 winners from our list of renewed members! The first drawing will be held on Veterans Day (\$100), the second at our Christmas Dinner (\$75), and the final drawing at our Legion Birthday Dinner (\$50). So, renew early for your chance to win some money! Your membership committee will be working to identify and contact veterans in our community who have not joined the American Legion. If you know of anyone; co-worker, friend, neighbor, etc., who fits in this category, please talk to them about joining or forward their names to Keith Trouwborst, 1st Vice. Remember, membership recruiting is every Post member's responsibility!

Avenue of Flags: Flag display on Main Street occurs 5 times a year and is facilitated by the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 33. The last event this year will be Veterans Day. Expect flags to go up on 10 Nov and down on 12 Nov. We have been fortunate to receive help from both our Scout Troop and the Legion baseball team in putting up and taking down the 80 flags during these periods but for Veterans Day, the kids are in school during the weekdays and we can't count on them. Any and all help from the membership will be appreciated. Specific times and dates for Memorial Day weekend, Flag Day and Independence Day 2026 will be determined in the springtime. If you have questions, contact our SAL Squadron 33 Commander Keith Trouwborst, 719-650-6761

Chaplain's Corner: Post 33 Chaplain and Service Officer Lori Crump is available for prayer and comradeship. Please call 307-330-3310.

Let us always remember "The reason for the season!"

"She will give birth to a Son and you will name Him Jesus because He will save His people from their sins." This all happened so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet would be fulfilled. "Look! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and they will call Him Emmanuel," which means "God with us." Matthew 1:21-23 NET

Veterans Memorial: The Fremont County Veteran Memorial of Honor located in the park in front of the Courthouse honors all Veterans that lived in or moved to Fremont County. Our Post facilitates adding names to these monument walls in the form of brass plaques. If you or any Veteran you know of from Fremont County are not already recognized here, please contact our Post or the Fremont County Courthouse for more information. A plaque will be ordered once we have at least 30 names. Plaques will be mounted to the Memorial either on Memorial Day or Veterans Day. We request a donation of \$30 for each name to help defray the costs of the plaque.

#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Squadron 33 is healthy and well ahead of the power curve for membership so far this year. We are always looking for new members and welcome any male Legion members whose father/mother/grandfather/ grandmother served in the U.S. military and were eligible for American Legion membership to join up. We would also love to sign up those sons of current Legion members into our Squadron. As the Squadron grows and becomes more active in our community, younger blood will help in our endeavors. One effort we have volunteered to take is helping other District 3 Posts to start up their own SAL squadrons. This will entail mentoring their Sons eligible personnel and helping them establish the organization needed to Charter their own Squadron. The Sons meet every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6pm before the regular American Legion monthly meeting. Come see what the Sons are up to!

Keith Trouwborst, Squadron 33 Commander

AUXILLARY - LETTER FROM UNIT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

The 2026 membership drive is in full swing. Please mail your dues to P O Box 97, Lander, WY 82520 with Senior dues being \$40 and Junior dues have been paid by the Unit for the 2026 year. Kathy will have membership cards at the Lander Community Center during our bake sale. Please consider renewing your membership then. The bake sale is Friday, November 7th from 5 pm until 8 pm and Saturday, November 8th from 9 am until 3 pm.

ber 8th from 9 am until 3 pm.

Reminder: If you are the spouse of a female Legionnaire, you are eligible to join the Auxiliary. Also, if you are a female veteran and wish to join the

Auxiliary, there is no cost to you for your first year's membership as the Unit will pay your dues.

If you are not yet a member, please consider joining us. HONOR YOUR VETERAN or your own service by joining our organization and working to help all veterans, our active-duty military, and their families.

For God & Country, Kathy Ebert, Unit 33 Membership Chairman MESSAGE FROM THE PRESI-

DENT:

The next Unit meeting will be on Tuesday, November 18th, at 7 p.m. to be held in the VFW Hall on Tweed Lane. Please plan on attending the meeting as your input and participation is important for the future of our organization.

In these troubled times, if you are able to reach out to anyone who might need help due to food insecurity, please do what you can. Every little bit helps, whether it is direct assistance to someone in need or a donation to the local food bank. The Unit recently made a \$250 donation to the Lander Care and Share Food Bank.

Although our active membership is small, we continue to promote and support the Auxiliary programs as well as those of The American Legion Family. Please join us as we work for our Veterans, our Active-Duty Military, and their families.

For God & Country, Shareen Johnson, Unit 33 President UP COMING EVENTS:

Veteran Day Celebration: November 11th- 1 p.m. LVHS

American Legion Christmas Dinner-Lander Armory, 5 pm, Saturday December 13th

Department Mid-Winter Convention- January 16-18, Wheatland, WY.



# **Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business**







# **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS**

#### District 4









Courtesv Photo

Left: WWII Veteran John Gibler observes as Referee explains the coin toss procedure. Above right: Members of the Patriot Guard riders and Big Horn Rider members stand the Flag Line.

#### **DISTRICT 4 – BIG HORN BASIN**

At the Basin High School Military Appreciation football game, WWII veteran John Gibler conducted the coin toss, with special ceremonies honoring military service. The Riverside Rebels team entered the field carrying American and military branch flags, a POW/MIA chair was placed midfield, and Marian Tanner Post 29 provided the color guard. Mr. Gibler was driven to midfield and used an American Legion coin for the toss, which was later presented to him.

Family members and friends gathered Saturday, Nov. 1, in Basin to cel-

ebrate the life of Anthony Eibert, who died on Oct 15, 2025, while serving on active duty at Fort Carson, Colorado.

Patriot Guard riders from Colorado and Wyoming escorted his casket all the way home.

District 4 members joined the Patriot Guard Riders to provide a motorcycle escort from Worland to Basin, where services were held. Bighorn Basin Rider members Ryan and Kate Decker from Floyd Minch Post 44 Worland, along with Roger Hall and Bobby Werner from Post 32 Greybull, also stood in the flag line.





Courtesy of Ed Morrow

Above left: Roena Halbur presents Danielle Rempfer a quilt. Above right: Receiving a guilt is John Fraser, Below: Quilt recipients Earnest (Bud) Schrichling, Danielle Rempfer, and Steve Olson.



#### **Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business**



BUG, Inc.
Ranching Company

PO Box 72, Elk Mountain, WY 82324-0072

307-348-7003

Samuel Mares American Legion Post 8 600 Oak Street Douglas, WY 82633 307-358-9981



In Support of Our Veterans



#### **DISTRICT AND POST NEWS**

#### District 5

#### **POWDER RIVER POST #13, BUFFALO, WY**





Greetings,

Post 13 has been busy. We had a float in the Johnson County Fair parade. We sold beer during the Fair Rodeo, Saturday and Sunday. We did real well. We are continuing serving breakfast to the public twice a month.

We held Veterans Day Activities and participated in the Veterans program at the high school on November

10th.

We will be serving Christmas dinner, Christmas Day again. We'll help deliver meals on wheels also that day. We had several members attend the Fall Workshop.

I hope everyone had a great Summer and Fall.

Cecil Benner Post 13 Commander







#### Iesse & Arden Miller

Address: 315 1st Street Chugwater, WY 82210 Phone: (307) 422-3454

Email: jessmiller@tricountymercantile.com ardenmiller@tricountymercantile.com Website: tricountymercantile.com



# TAKE ACTION

- Dial 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 to talk to
- Start a confidential online chat session at www VeteransCrisisLine.net/chat
- Send a text message to 838255 to connect to a
- Take a self-check quiz at www. VeteransCrisisLine.net/guiz
- If you or a Veteran you know is in crisis, find a facility near you
- Visit www.MilitaryCrisisLine.net il you are Active Duty, Reserve, or Guard
- Connect through that, text, or TTY if you are deaf or hard of hearing



#### **VTTV Announces Veterans Day Service Scholarship: Honoring Service Through Coaching**

Jackson, WY — In honor of Veterans Day, Veterans Talking to Veterans (VTTV) and Mentor Agility are proud to announce the VTTV Veterans Day Service Scholarship, an opportunity for one U.S. veteran or their spouse to receive full tuition for Mentor Agility's Trauma-Informed Health & Wellness Coach Training Program, a nationally accredited pathway recognized by both the National Board for Health & Wellness Coaching (NBHWC) and the International Coaching Federation (ICF).

The scholarship honors military service by creating a new path of leadership through coaching. The selected veteran will complete Mentor Agility's accredited training and go on to lead a Veterans Talking to Veterans community coaching group, where veterans meet to strengthen connection, resilience, and post-traumatic growth.

"This scholarship honors the service and sacrifice of our veterans by providing them with tools to continue making an impact," said Dr.

Julie Elledge, Founder and CEO of Mentor Agility and Veterans Talking to Veterans. "Through coaching, veterans can transform their experiences into hope, leadership, and community strength."

Nominations and applications opened November 1, 2025, and close December 5, 2025, with the scholarship recipient announced in mid-December 2025.

About Veterans Talking to Veterans (VTTV) and Mentor Agility

Veterans Talking to Veterans is an initiative of Mentor Agility that empowers veterans to become certified coaches, lead community groups, and foster resilience and growth among fellow veterans. Mentor Agility is an NBHWC- and ICF-accredited training organization that provides advanced coaching education rooted in storytelling and trauma-informed practices.

Contact: Leigh-Ann Webster

Veterans Talking to Veterans (VTTV) 858-395-5808 www.veteranstalkingtoveterans.com

# Buddies in

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING **BUDDY ADS OPPORTUNITY** 

Do you want to reach out to approximately 5,000 veterans and their

Do you have a veteran friendly business?

Are you ready for the opportunity to advertise at a bargain rate?

If so, then here is your opportu-

The American Legion Department of Wyoming has a quarterly publication that goes out to its' 5,000 members and their families. These members are across the state of Wyoming. There are also many who reside in other states that would be sharing your information nationwide. That is 4 times a year that your organization will be spread around.

The American Legion is the leading veterans' organization in the United States and with the advertising that you do in the Legionnaire, you will be taping into this resource.

Here's the offer:

For \$80 we will put your advertisement in all 4 issues - IN COLOR!!

For \$70 we will put your advertisement in all 4 issues in black and

For \$35 we will put your advertisement in 1 issue in color.

For \$25 we will put your advertisement in 1 issue in black and white.

Now we know that this is quite a deal, but wait there's an even better offer:

For \$150 we will put your advertisement across the entire page, for 4 issues – IN COLOR!!

For \$100 we will put your advertisement across the entire page for 4 issues in black and white.

Each ad will be placed at the bottom of a page in the newspaper. The standard size is a business card size and will be placed with two other advertisements. The whole page size will be only your advertisement at the bottom of the page. If there is a certain page you wish to be associated with, the Commanders' page, the Sons of the American Legion page, the Auxiliary page, or any other than let us know this as well and we will do our best to accommodate.

# LEGION

# DISTRICT AND POST NEWS District & ommander's Report

Greetings fellow legionnaires. District 6 is doing great. Congratulations to all the posts in the district for helping us lead the way in membership so far this year. Our numbers are looking pretty good, keep those transmittals coming in. Please reach out to your expired members and do your "Buddy Checks" as some of them might be affected by the Government shutdown as the reason for not renewing yet. This is also a great opportunity to discuss upcoming events at your post and lend support if needed.

Let's talk briefly on programs. Oratorical: Last year we as a department didn't have a department candidate

to send to the national competition. I would sure like that to change this year and District 6 to have a full range of posts and district competitions. Please get out to the schools and recruit. Talk about the scholarship opportunities for those who participate and advance. We will put out the dates for the post and district competitions by email. Please send me your competition date and times.

Boys State seems far away but it's never to soon to get out to the schools and start recruiting those Junior boys. Work with the councilors to get an opportunity to speak to them about Wonderful Wyoming Boys State.

I hope everyone has a great and

prosperous Veterans Day and you are able to be in your local communities partaking of some events and sharing camaraderie with other veterans. This is the perfect opportunity to tell them about the Legion and who we are and what we do. I look forward to stopping in to some of your meetings and events and seeing you at mid winter. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and thank you for entrusting me to be your District Commander.

For God and Country. Travis Jones District 6 Commander 307461-1151 Travisjones307wy@gmail.com



Travis Jones
District 6 Commander

#### Garcia-Castaceda American Legion Post #93 Cheyenne, WY

Garcia-Castaceda American Legion Post 93 Announces Exciting Revamp to Better Serve Veterans and the Community

Cheyenne, WY — 09/29/2025—Garcia-Castaceda American Legion Post 93 is proud to announce a revitalization effort aimed at strengthening its mission of service to veterans, their families, and the community. The Post's leadership has initiated a comprehensive revamp that includes a renewed focus on outreach.

"Our Post has a proud history of honoring service and supporting our nation's heroes," said Aubrion Bloodworth, Commander of Post 93. "This revamp ensures we continue to meet the evolving needs of today's veterans while remaining a cornerstone of community life."

Highlights of the Post 93 revamp include:

Expanded Veteran Services — Programs focused on mentorship, employment resources, and helping veterans obtain VA assistance.

Community Engagement — Relationships with other local veteran organizations to promote patriotism.

Garcia-Castaceda American Le-



Aubrion Bloodworth Post 93 Commander

gion Post 93 has served as a vital hub for camaraderie, advocacy, and service since its founding. The revamp represents a commitment to honoring the legacy of past generations while preparing to serve future ones.

Post Commander - Aubrion Bloodworth; Post Vice Commander - Scott Mayo; Post Adjutant -Raymond Brown





#### SERVING VETERANS. STRENGTHENING CHEYENNE. LEADING WITH HONOR.

Garcia-Castaneda American Legion Post 93 proudly continues its mission of serving veterans, supporting military families, and strengthening our local community through meaningful action and unwavering dedication. This Veterans Day, Post 93 stood at the forefront of service, ensuring our local veterans were honored not only in words, but through support and fellowship.

With the leadership and coordination of our Post members and volunteers, Garcia-Castaneda Post 93 successfully provided over 200 meals to veterans across the Cheyenne community. This effort reflects the heart of our Post, a commitment to never forgetting those who served and to always answering the call to care for our nation.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our community partners who stood beside Post 93 in fulfilling this mission:

Forum 619; Redwood Saloon; 40/8;

F.E. Warren 90th Missile Wing; Walmart; King Soopers; Murdoch's

Their support empowered Garcia-Castaneda Post 93 to expand our reach and impact, reinforcing our role as a cornerstone for veterans in Cheyenne. Through collaboration and shared purpose, we continue to build a Post that is active, visible, and deeply rooted in honor, service, and community engagement.

Garcia-Castaneda American Legion Post 93 remains committed to advocating for veterans and their families, creating opportunities for fellowship and support, preserving the legacy of those who served, and inspiring the next generation of Legionnaires

This Veterans Day was not just an event, it was a testament to the strength, leadership, and unity of Post 93 and the community that believes in our mission.

From every member of Garcia-Castaneda American Legion Post 93, thank you to our supporters, partners, and the veterans we are honored to serve.

