



WYOMING

LEGIONNAIRE - AUXILIARE

DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING



Volume 29, No. 2

1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82003

May 2017

Commanders Corner

- *Commander Bill Frye*

Dedicated Legionnaires... Thank you for allowing me to be your Department Commander this past year. It has been a rewarding and informative year. I have always believed that The American Legion is an important organization for all Veterans and Communities. While we have been declining over the past years, our organization is still the largest and most respected advocate for Veterans. We as Legionnaires and as veterans have kept this organization and our communities alive and well for nearly 100 years.

It is our duty and obligation to continue supporting our veterans, families and communities especially in these declining years. Our country will always need The American Legion and we need to maintain it in order for all that we have accomplished to remain important. We are always looking for new and younger members to keep our organization moving forward and of course we lose members each year. But, we must not forget the members we do have and the work and support they give. If you only have 5-10 members at your post meetings and functions, that is 5-10 members who care about what we do. If you have 20-30 members on paper but who do not attend meeting or functions, that is 20-30 members who still care enough each year to renew. Not all members are involved but they are still important.

Times change and attitudes change. Sometimes there are instances where people step up to take charge; and while there are many times this is not the case, we must be ready and available when the time comes. We

need our posts with enough members to maintain their charters and we need posts who are involved in their local communities. Every time we get our name out there, at least one new person becomes aware of who we are and what we do. So many posts across our great state do so many things for their communities, families and veterans. Let the public know about these. Perhaps one time this will be the spark to get the fire started. Whether you are an officer, an active member, or a card-carrying member; all of you are important to the success and the future of our organization.

We have a long and rich history in our state and all of our posts have been chartered for specific and memorable reasons. We do not want that legacy to disappear. With the 100th Anniversary rapidly approaching, use your histories and your legacy to carry our Department forward. Each of us has joined The American Legion for one reason or another. Ask yourself if that reason is still valid. Why are you a member and convey that to others. We must keep our Legion moving forward. The more active we are and the stronger we are, the more we can accomplish. Whether we have over 2 million members or 1 million members, we are still a voice to be reckoned with. And when the time comes that The American Legion is needed – we will still be here. Let's keep our Legion strong and thriving.

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time." – Thomas A. Edison.

*Thank you
Bill Frye, Dept Commander*

Powell women recognized for initiating CPR to save man

By Tessa Baker

Powell Tribune

Charlie Lawrence doesn't remember March 23, the day his heart stopped beating.

But it's a day others will never forget.

Lawrence was helping unload food and other commodities at the Powell American Legion when he suddenly collapsed. Patty Paulsen, a fellow volunteer, walked into the small room and found Lawrence lying on the floor.

"There was no pulse, no breath," Paulsen said.

She called for Sarah Anderson, a friend and co-worker at Big Horn Enterprises.

They moved Lawrence down the hallway to a more open area and started CPR.

"This is the first time I've actually had to use it," Anderson said. "You always wonder, would you be able to remember? And you know ... it just kicked in. I was amazed."

Anderson did compressions while Paulsen delivered rescue breaths.

"We only had to do two breaths, and then he started breathing on his own," Paulsen said. "It was very labored breathing, but he was still breathing on his own."

Anderson continued with the compressions. Soon Powell Police Sgt. Chad Miner and Officer Josh Strom arrived, and used a defibrillator on Lawrence.

A Powell Valley Healthcare crew arrived on the scene soon

after, and Lawrence was later transported to a Billings hospital.

"And he's still alive today, thanks to these two ladies," said Jerry Clark, commander of the American Legion Hughes-Pittinger Post 26.

Last week, the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Powell Police Department recognized Paulsen and Anderson. The women's alert response, CPR training and willingness to get involved "greatly enhanced the chance of survival for this individual" said Police Chief Roy Eckerdt.

"In Powell, we live in a great community," Eckerdt said. "But we also live in a society that doesn't want to get involved, and these two ladies stepping up and taking action says a lot about their character."

Neither Paulsen nor Anderson hesitated.

"There wasn't a second thought ... you're trying to save a person's life," Anderson said.

As with Anderson, it was Paulsen's first time performing CPR.

"I think it's amazing that under pressure, we knew what to do," Paulsen said.

She said they usually try to pay it forward and help people.

Both women have undergone CPR training numerous times over the years for their jobs at Big Horn Enterprises.

"We work closely together all the time," Paulsen said. "So it was just another one of those things where we just synced."

See 'Patty Paulsen' page 3

WYOMING LEGIONNAIRE - AUXILIARE

label

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The American Legion
Department of Wyoming

DEPARTMENT
CONVENTION
REGISTRATION
can be found on page 3.

From the desk of the office manager

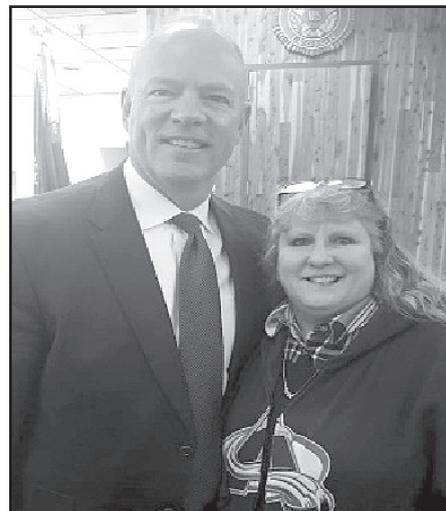
- Gina Mayhan

Yes, that is really a picture of me with Governor Matt Mead. I had the honor of attending another Korean War Medal Ceremony, and Governor Mead was an honored speaker. Being a part of the American Legion Family, I have had the great privilege of attending these types of ceremonies, and as anyone that knows me knows...I have a very hard time keeping my eyes free of tears. The atmosphere at these ceremonies is just amazing. The pride of the men and women that go up to receive this award either for themselves, or for a family member that has passed away... is contagious. I have a smile from ear to ear as each and every name is called, as though I personally know each and every one of them.

One such name called was a gentleman that I have come to know through the Legion. He is the Adjutant for Post 75, Chugwater, and he is one of the kindest men I have ever met. His family was able to attend this ceremony with him, and you could tell they were so proud of this man. Orville Cussins is his name...and I hope he doesn't mind that I am telling you this story, because although we are not related in any way...I was so proud of him when he received his award. That is his lovely wife sitting next to him and she was like me, a grin from ear to ear, and tears in her eyes.

I hope that I am able to attend more and more ceremonies honoring our great service men and women. And I hope more and more of these wonder-

ful people sign up to join the American Legion. It is an honor to belong, and I think this needs to be conveyed more and more to our younger service men and women.



"A Constitutional Speech Contest"

The Department of Wyoming, American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest was held in Douglas, Wyoming on March 5th at the Converse County Library, 300 Walnut Street. The contest was the culmination of the Wyoming levels of finding the best orator to represent Wyoming at the National Oratorical contest in Indianapolis.

The American Legion, Department of Wyoming is divided into six Districts with a combined total of 57 posts scattered throughout the 92,000 plus square miles of the Equality State. The Legion Pillar of Americanism encourages each post to make the duties and responsibilities of citizens a banner in their community. One of the programs to accomplish this goal is the American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest where high school students compete in presenting an oration on the United States Constitution for local scholarship prizes. The winners from the Post contests are invited to further their skills by competing for District level scholarships, and from there, to the Department contest.

On that warm and sunny Sunday afternoon, contestants from four Districts met and competed for Department Scholarship money and the chance to be part of the possible 54 contestants to "Speak" at the National contest.

This year's winner of the contest

and its \$500.00 scholarship is Austin Griffith of Rock Springs High School with his oration "Close Encounter with the Fourth Branch". To get to this point in the contest, Austin won the District 1 contest, with its \$200.00 scholarship award, on top of the scholarship offered at the post level by Archie Hays Post 24, his sponsor.

Other contestants were Sophia Lavallee, with her oration, "Duties and Responsibilities of Citizens," sponsored by Samuel Mares Post 8 won who second place; Jalyne Brough (JAY lin Brow), "Remembering the Constitution", sponsored by Don Stough Post 33, third place; and Benjamin Smith, "Pinnacle of Nations", sponsored by Greybull Post 32, at fourth place.

Mr. Griffith and his chaperone will travel as guests of The American Legion to the National Finals Contest in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 21-23, 2017 to compete for a part of approximately \$138,000 in scholarship money. That contest, as are all levels of the contest, is open to the public; and if you find yourself in the area, stop in and get a refresher in how the youth of today hold forth The American Legion Pillar of Americanism.

*Donald L. York, Chairman
The American Legion, Department of Wyoming
High School Oratorical Scholarship Contest Committee*

Attention Wyoming veterans!
If you are looking for a job, please contact your nearest Department of Workforce Services office. Our trained staff will assist you in all aspects of the job search.
Remember, all of our services are free.
You served our country, now let us serve you.

WYOMING
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The American Legion Department of Wyoming 2017 Membership Report

Post		2017 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
24	Rock Springs	445	390	87.64%	55
28	Green River	180	187	103.89%	0
36	Ft. Bridger	140	125	89.29%	15
40	Cokeville	18	19	105.56%	0
41	Evanston	54	51	94.44%	3
43	Jackson	127	109	85.83%	18
46	Alpine	35	27	77.14%	8
47	Pinedale	45	42	93.33%	3
49	Afton	22	16	72.73%	6
55	Kemmerer	27	34	125.93%	0
78	Big Piney	20	20	100.00%	0
88	La Barge	18	19	105.56%	0
D-1		1131	1039	91.87%	92
04/30/17 - 100%					
Post		2017 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
2	Casper	280	259	92.50%	21
16	Powder River	15	6	40.00%	9
19	Riverton	85	74	87.06%	11
31	Dubois	20	13	65.00%	7
33	Lander	163	167	102.45%	0
61	Pavillion	21	14	66.67%	7
81	Ft. Washakie	40	23	57.50%	17
D-3		624	556	89.10%	68
04/30/17 - 100%					
Post		2017 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
3	Newcastle	30	40	133.33%	0
7	Sheridan	280	226	80.71%	54
13	Buffalo	145	145	100.00%	0
25	Moorcroft	35	38	108.57%	0
42	Gillette	385	308	80.00%	77
45	Sundance	20	18	90.00%	2
80	Hulett	45	44	97.78%	1
90	Kaycee	12	10	83.33%	2
D-5		952	829	87.08%	123
04/30/17 - 100%					
Post		2017 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
1	Van Tassell	34	30	88.24%	4
4	Lusk	50	37	74.00%	13
5	Torrington	210	160	76.19%	50
8	Douglas	200	171	85.50%	29
9	Glenrock	55	55	100.00%	0
10	Wheatland	94	84	89.36%	10
15	Glendo	32	27	84.38%	5
56	Veteran	15	5	33.33%	10
63	Lingle	36	29	80.56%	7
70	La Grange	13	11	84.62%	2
75	Chugwater	13	8	61.54%	5
95	Guemsey	48	43	89.58%	5
D-2		800	660	82.50%	140
04/30/17 - 100%					
Post		2017 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
11	Lovell	17	14	82.35%	3
18	Thermopolis	25	17	68.00%	8
20	Cody	70	62	88.57%	8
26	Powell	155	152	98.06%	3
29	Basin	61	47	77.05%	14
32	Greybull	45	34	75.56%	11
44	Worland	250	193	77.20%	57
85	Meeteetse	25	22	88.00%	3
91	Heart Mountain	12	11	91.67%	1
D-4		660	552	83.64%	108
04/30/17 - 100%					
Post		2017 Goal	Actual	%	To meet Target
6	Cheyenne	1450	1190	82.07%	260
14	Laramie	420	348	82.86%	72
21	Burns	10	7	70.00%	3
54	Saratoga	120	86	71.67%	34
60	Pine Bluffs	45	38	84.44%	7
64	Medicine Bow	55	48	87.27%	7
77	Albin	12	11	91.67%	1
93	Cheyenne	10	7	70.00%	3
122	Rawlins	58	73	125.86%	0
D-6		2180	1808	82.94%	372
DISTRICT TOTALS					
17 HQ.		200	253		0
DEPARTMENT GOAL		6500	5697	87.65%	803
NATIONAL GOAL		6350	5697	89.72%	653
04/30/17 - 100%					

Current as of: 28-Apr-17

Patty Paulsen From page 1

She praised the police officers, ambulance crew and Dr. Adam Childers for their quick response.

"It was just good teamwork all the way around," Paulsen said.

As the ambulance took Lawrence away, Anderson and Paulsen worried whether he would make it.

"In this field, we see people up until the end, and he had that look," Paulsen said. "To know that he survived it, it's pretty amazing."

They described Lawrence as a nice, helpful man.

As a volunteer with Powell Valley Loaves and Fishes, Lawrence, 71, helps with the monthly commodity distribution — along with Anderson, Paulsen and other volunteers. Lawrence lives in Garland by himself, and initially wasn't planning to go to the Legion that day. Lawrence said he was thankful that he was at the Legion, where folks were nearby to help.

"To me, it was just a blessing that he was there that day," Anderson said.

"We still get emotional about it,"

Paulsen said as she recalled details of the incident.

Lawrence suffered a second heart attack, but he is recovering. He was moved to the Advanced Care Hospital of Montana for rehab. Lawrence said Tuesday that he hopes to return home soon.

In addition to being a community volunteer, Lawrence is also a Vietnam veteran.

"To find out that he was a Vietnam veteran and we helped him, it was pretty cool," Paulsen said, adding that her dad also served in Vietnam.

Anderson stressed the importance of CPR training, since you never know when you may need it.

Following the experience, Paulsen encourages people to be willing to step up to help one another.

"I wish that people would not be afraid to get involved," Paulsen said. "You could make an impact on somebody's life."

Or as in their case, save a life.

"Life is so precious," Anderson said.

THE AMERICAN LEGION and AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING
99th and 97th ANNUAL CONVENTIONS
JUNE 23 – 24th, 2017
HOSTED by FLOYD MINCH POST and UNIT #44
WORLAND WYOMING

PRE-REGISTER by June 1st to **RECEIVE PIN** and **\$2 DISCOUNT** on meals
Pre-registration **HELPS** with meal preparation

FRIDAY - JUNE 23, 2017	PRE	DOOR	TOTAL
PRE-REGISTRATION (includes Convention Pin) Deadline June 1, 2017	\$10		
REGISTRATION at Door		\$10	
CONVENTION PIN		\$7	
PAST COMMANDER & ADJUTANT BREAKFAST BUFFET - 7 AM	\$7	\$9	
PAST PRESIDENT PARLEY BUFFET - 7 AM - Brass Plum	\$12	\$12	
VA & R LUNCHEON Open to The American Legion Family	\$10	\$12	
Evening Dinner	\$10	\$12	
SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017			
PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER's BREAKFAST - 7 AM		D #4 PDC's	
PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT's BREAKFAST - 7 AM Brass Plum		Pay at the Door	
AMERICANISM LUNCHEON Open to The American Legion Family	\$10	\$12	
COMMANDER & PRESIDENT BANQUET	\$18	\$20	
Dietary Needs			
TOTAL ENCLOSED			

American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and SAL Meetings
Worland Community Center Complex - 1200 Culbertson
Past President Parley & Past Department President Breakfast - Brass Plum 1620 Big Horn Ave
WALRUS at Post 44 - Sunday am

NAME	ADDRESS
CITY	ZIP PHONE/EMAIL
POST #	OFFICE: DISTRICT DEPT
UNIT #	OFFICE: DISTRICT DEPT
SAL #	OFFICE: DETACHMENT
RIDER's POST #	OFFICE

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FLOYD MINCH POST #44 CONVENTION
MAIL TO: FLOYD MINCH POST #44
ATTN: CONVENTION COMMITTEE
130 S9TH WORLAND WY 82401

HOTEL/MOTEL INFORMATION			
Days Inn	307-347-4251	\$ 116.00	
Town House	307-347-2426	\$ 65.00	\$75 Double Beds
Comfort Inn	307-347-9898	\$120.00	

Reserve before May 23, 2017 for above rate. Tell them you are with The American Legion Convention

Help needed as Legion nears 100th birthday

World War I started in 1914. The United States entered into WWI in April of 1917. President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to declare war on Germany because they sank one of our ships. Two days later, Congress voted and passed the declaration. A total of 4.7 million young men went to fight; 116,516 did not come home. Some of those men came from Powell, Wyoming.

When a soldier was released from active duty, he got \$60, got to keep his uniform and a train ticket to the nearest station closest to his home. At the time, there were 4.5 million veterans with no benefits. Some were in jail, some had shell shock (that's what they called it back then) and some were in poor homes. A veteran could not even get his old job back.

In March 1919, while waiting for their turn to ride the transport ship back to the states, 1,000 members of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) convened in Paris for the first "American Legion" caucus. This caucus was the result of a Proposal by Lt. Col. Theodore Roosevelt Jr., father of the American Legion. March 17, 1919 is considered the birthday of the American

Legion. In May 1919, at a planned meeting called the St. Louis Caucus, "The American Legion" was adopted as the organization's official name. The honor of naming the new organization went to Maurice K. Gordon, then a major in the 36th Division and later a judge in Kentucky. The Legion's draft preamble and constitution were approved.

The American Legion was chartered by Congress on Sept. 16, 1919, as a patriotic veteran's organization, focusing on service to veterans, and communities. The Legion evolved from a group of war-weary veterans of World War I into one of the most influential nonprofit groups in the United States. Membership swiftly grew to over 1 million and local posts sprang up across the country. Today, membership stands at over 2.4 million in 14,000 posts worldwide. The posts are organized into 55 departments — one each for the 50 states, along with the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico and the Philippines.



JERRY CLARK
Guest columnist

On Nov. 10-12, 1919, the first Legion convention convened in Minneapolis. The Constitution and the preamble were adopted. Delegates voted 361-323 to locate the Legion's national headquarters in Indianapolis instead of Washington, D.C. A resolution was passed in support of Boy Scouts of America.

Wyoming has what are called "Founding Fathers" veterans from Wyoming who attend this event.

The American Legion is based on four pillars. First, is national security. Second, is veteran affairs and rehabilitation. Third, is children and youth. Fourth, is Americanism.

Everything done by the Legion falls under these four pillars.

All posts are named after a hometown hero or heroes, who never made it back to their family. Guy W. Hughes was killed in action (KIA) on Oct. 6, 1918. He was 25 years old. William Francis Pittinger was killed July 30, 1918, at the age of 23.

Both of these heroes were from Powell. On Dec. 29, 1919, Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 was chartered. We had 32

members and met upstairs in the old First National Bank building, on the corner of Bent and First streets. Back then, dues were \$12. In 1934, we built our first post home. That building now serves as the Homesteader Museum on First and Clark streets. Today, Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 is located at 143 South Clark Street. After WWII we moved into this building and had over 400 members at the time.

In 2019, our hometown American Legion post will be 100 years old. As commander of Post 26, I am putting together a 100-year history. I need your help! If any of you have any photos, stories or memorabilia about our community American Legion center, I would love a copy. You will be credited in the history for your contribution. A lot of Powell families have veterans in their history back then and to this day. Help me tell the story of the last 100 years to the next generation.

(Jerry Clark is the commander of American Legion Hughes-Pittinger Post No. 26 in Powell. If you have photos or stories to share, contact Clark by email at jerrysandy@hotmail.com or by phone at 307-272-5907.)

Taps...



Post Everlasting 2017

District 1

Post 36 Ft. Bridger

Lowham, Keith (8)

Post 41 Evanston

Martin, Dee (3)

Lewis, Don (10)

Lanning, Lloyd (43)

District 2

Post 8 Douglas

Moncure, Thomas (19)

Thompson, Henry (65)

Post 70 LaGrange

Brown, Joyce (21)

Sorricks, Donovan (10)

District 3

Post 2 Casper

Parker, Tom (12)

Post 19 Riverton

Ratliff, Jack (70)

District 4

Post 26 Powell

Bessler, Leo (21)

Post 44 Worland

Boltz, Robert (65)

District 5

Post 42 Gillette

McIntrye, Harold (56)

Squadron 42 Gillette

Martinez, Kenneth (6)

District 6

Post 6 Cheyenne

Webster, Benjamin (10)

Kithas, Pete (42)

Connell, Brian (3)

Post 64 Medicine Bow

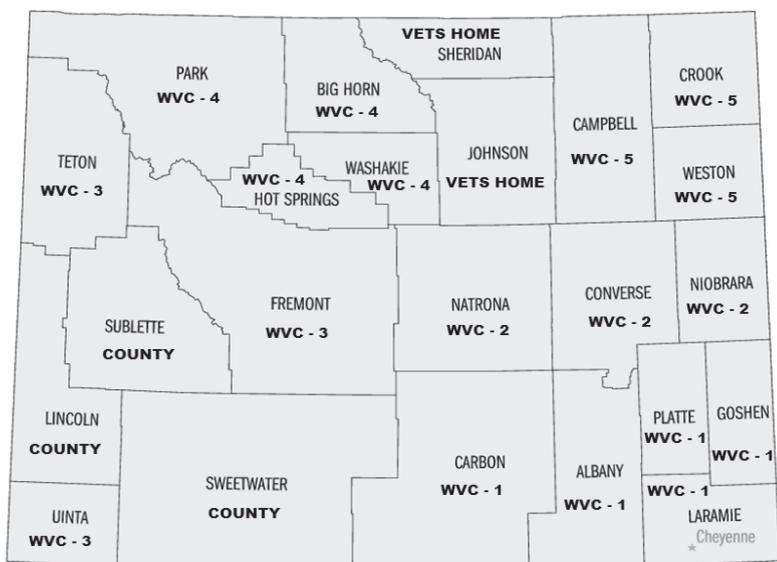
Sims, Robert (41)

Post 122 Rawlins

Yockey, Robert (15)

Please note...the number in the parenthesis denotes the continuous years of service to the American Legion.

WYOMING VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER COVERAGE
As of April 20, 2017



Organization	Code	VSO Name	Phone Number	VSO Email
Veterans Commission	WVC - 1	Ms. Vicki Osman Mr. Greg Gauntlett	307-214-2112 307-274-7747	vicki.osman@wyo.gov greg.gauntlett@wyo.gov
Veterans Commission	WVC - 2	Mr. Dave McDonell Ms. Ivette Orozco	307-234-6271, ext. 4553 307-234-6271, ext. 4551	david.mcdonell@wyo.gov ivette.orozco@wyo.gov
Veterans Commission	WVC - 3	Ms. Lori Crump	307-438-2101	lori.crump@wyo.gov
Veterans Commission	WVC - 4	Mr. Brad Cline	307-250-3890	brad.cline@wyo.gov
Veterans Commission	WVC - 5	Mr. Brian Yeager	307-687-5396	brian.yeager@wyo.gov
Veterans Home	Vets Home	Ms. Lisa Griffith	307-620-0884	lisa.griffith@wyo.gov
Sweetwater County	County	Ms. Sam Esquibel Ms. Hazel Koenig	307-922-5442 307-922-5441	esquibels@sweet.wy.us koenigh@sweet.wy.us
Lincoln County	County	Ms. Nancy Stafford	307-877-3110	staffordn@sweet.wy.us
Sublette County	County	Vacant	307-367-4877	@sweet.wy.us
American Legion	Cheyenne	Mr. Dwight Null	307-433-2751	dwight.null@va.gov
DAV	Cheyenne	Mr. Leroy Kenner	307-433-2752	leroy.kenner@va.gov
VFW	Cheyenne	Ms. Cheryl Shannon	307-778-7340	cheryl.shannon@va.gov

Service Training

I remember drill, drill, drill. When in refresher training on a ship, I remember standing a 12 hour mid watch, hitting the rack at 0800 and waking to general quarters at 0900. Spending 1-3 hours in battle and NBC gear, huddled behind some equipment bay for rack time only to be awakened at noon to be told to hit the rack! As a young sailor of 18 and 19 you think, how am I supposed to stay awake for my next watch? As a more seasoned first class you realize the necessity of being battle ready no matter what. During Refresher Training (REFTRA), this could happen two to three times a week. As a youngster we looked forward to the end of REFTRA, the drills would be over! As a seasoned Chief Petty Officer, you see the need to drill again and again and again.

I know every member of our military, every Legion comrade out there, can relate to training for service. It is vital to not only receive training, but to practice what you've trained to do. Every one of us had professional standards we had to meet, technical knowledge we had to demonstrate, speciality skills we had to maintain. These are all done through regular training. We know that. We also have to work to improve ourselves in these processes. Seaman Recruit to Master Chief, Ensign to Admiral, we should endeavor to improve ourselves regularly. All of my seminary professors encouraged reading regularly and broadly for this very purpose.

Not only did we need to regularly drill on our job skills, standards, knowledge and specialty in the military, we know the need to exercise this in our lives as well. We should endeavor to drill to serve our family in life challenges as well as expanding our service base to others. Service is at the foundation of

every pillar in TAL. We train to serve other veterans, to support the youth in our communities, to continue to learn and to support our country and understand the current security dynamics we face. We need to continue growing to properly serve the Legion.

Let me encourage you to train to serve in whatever capacity you endeavor for the Legion. You can read the wide variety of materials provided for Commanders, Vice Commanders, Adjutants and Chaplains. However, the best preparation begins within, with your spirit. God works from inside to shape our outside.

God encourages us to always train spiritually as we attend the church of our choice each week. Let me encourage you to consider that training. Train regularly in prayer. Train regularly by reading the scriptures daily. The Bible tells us to do many things for our spiritual training on a regular basis. Romans 12:12 is very instructive, "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer."

We're encouraged to practice rejoicing, praising our Lord regularly. We should practice our patience even during times of strife. Practice praying continually. In these things we rejoice regularly in our comradeships, friendships and associations that provide for our ability to serve others and our community. By practicing our patience during times of strife, we train in long suffering to endure. By praying for others, we regularly practice serving selflessly.

Take the lessons of your military service, continue to apply them to serve your family, community and nation. Practice to serve. Let God prepare your spirit for this work.

God be with you - Chaplain Senter

5th Annual Memorial Day Run

Yellowstone Riders Hughes Pittinger Post 26

27 May 2017
134 S Clark
Powell Wyoming

Kick stands up 9AM

Route:
Powell
Byron
Lovell
Greybull
Basin
Burlington
Cody
Powell

BBQ to follow \$10 to eat & 50/50 ticket
Bring a side dish

Memorial Day Ceremony with Honor Guard 10 AM at Powell Cemetery

Avenue of Flags
Crown Hill Cemetery

28 May 2017 4 PM Put out the Flag poles

29 May 2017 6 AM Stand up Flags,
Breakfast at Post 26, cooked by the DAV
6 PM Flags Down

Never Forget
And Remember the
Families who
Miss them

**Deanna Hurless
for Department Finance Officer
Husted-Pendleton Post 14**

Endorses Deanna Hurless for Department of Wyoming Finance Officer and would like your full support

Deanna joined the American Legion in 2009. She served in the U.S. Air Force as a Ground Radio Communications Specialist and was stationed at F.E. Warren AFB. She currently works for a credit union as the Real Estate Lending Manager, she has worked there for 21 years. She served as



Department Finance Officer 2016-2017. She also is a member of the Laramie Veterans Honor Guard.

Deanna has attended 4 National Conventions as a delegate for the Department of Wyoming. While attending the National Conventions she has served as a National Assistant Sergeant-of-Arms 2012, 2013 and

Post 14 2nd Vice-Commander (appointed) Dec 2010-2011 and (elected) 2011-2012, Post 14 Commander 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, Post 14 Finance Officer 2014-2015 and 2015-2016, District 6 Vice-Commander 2015-2016 and

2014 representing the Department of Wyoming. She has served on the Department Americanism Committee. She was appointed to the National Media & Communications Council 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

**The Officers and
Members of Rock Springs
Archie Hay Post 24
proudly support**



**Richard Dansereau Jr.
For 2017/2018
Department
1st Vice Commander**

Mike Sherr

Department 2nd Vice Commander Endorsement

Hittner-Engstrom-Duncan American Legion Post #122 in Rawlins, is proud to offer its support with this endorsement for Mike Sherr as the Department 2nd Vice Commander position for the upcoming year. 2017-2018.

Mike has been a Legion member for 14 years. When the Post did a revitalization in August of 2010, Mike started out as Post Adjutant. He was still learning the ropes, and running the Post from the Cheyenne VA Hospital when The Commander at that time called him and resigned due to health reasons in December 2010. Mike has been the Post Commander for 7 Years, also the SAL Commander for 4 years. He served as District 6 Vice Commander for 2 years, and District 6 Commander for the last 3 years. Has served on the DEC for 5 years. He has also served on several committees within the American Legion. Mike is still the South-East District Baseball representative for Legion baseball.

Mike has also been named the Department of Wyoming Legionnaire of the year, Post Commander of the year, and the Membership Worker of the year.

Mike is even listed as a Legendary Local of Rawlins for the work he does for the American Legion, and fellow Veteran's as well as the community.

Mike heads our Post Legion baseball, Child Welfare, and Boys State committee's as well as a driving force in membership recruitment. Mike schedules and coordinates all Military funeral honors around the County, as well as Color Guard's, Parade's and various other activities our Post participates in. Mike has made the American Legion a big part of his life as well as ours.

Mike is a Legionnaire that goes the extra mile for the Legion as well as friends, family and our community. If you know him? You know he pulls no punches, doesn't back down from a fight, and continues to gain knowledge of the American Legion. This is a person the American Legion, Department of Wyoming needs in its future.

We endorse this nomination, and ask for your support for Mike Sherr as Department 2nd

Vice Commander for the 2017-2018 membership year.

**Mike Cooke announces intent to run for
Department 2nd Vice Commander**

After much deliberation and conversations with Legion members throughout the state, I have decided to take the next step and announce my intent to run for the office of 2nd Vice Commander for The American Legion, Department of Wyoming. This was a decision I did not take lightly, and have been preparing myself for this adventure for many years. I have made it a mission of mine to learn the processes that makes The American Legion a powerful advocate for veterans around the United States and I feel that with my experiences within the Department of Wyoming and the training I have received locally at the post and District have better prepared myself to take on this office. Additionally, during my training at the National American Legion College in Indianapolis in 2016, I was provided the knowledge and resources to help the Department of Wyoming. My classmates and I were encouraged to go back to our Departments and try and make a difference and help "Carry the Legacy Forward" (Quote from National Commander Schmidt), so I am taking the next step with your support.

I have been a legion member for seventeen years, and my qualifications for The American legion are from my service in the United States Marine Corps from 1990-1995, I was medically retired after an injury sustained during NATO operations in support of Operations Deny Flight Provide Promise in

the former Yugoslavia. I have served as Post Vice Commander, Post Commander, District Vice Commander, and Department Sergeant at Arms. I am a graduate of the National American Legion College in Indianapolis in 2016, where I had the honor of being first in my class to graduate and accept my diploma from PNC David Rehbein.

My family has rich history of military service, from my Great Grandfather a WWI veteran, one Grandfather a veteran of WWII and the Korean War to another Grandfather a Doctor during WWII on Guadalcanal. My uncle and his two brothers serving during the Vietnam War, along with my two cousins serving alongside with me during the Persian Gulf War eligibility era. I was honored to be able to join the Sons of The American Legion under my Great Grandfather from WWI, who was also one of the first members of The American Legion post in Longmont Colorado. My wife Dana also comes from a long distinguished line of military service and she is a member of The American Legion Auxiliary eligible under the service of her father Ron "Gunny" Gunyan, a highly decorated member of the 101st Airborne Division from the Battle of FSB Ripcord during the Vietnam War. Our daughters Kodi, Holly and Destiny are also auxiliary members and very active in our post, they are eligible for membership under their grandfather "Gunny".

District 2 News

*Hello Legionnaires,
Greetings from District 3*

Thanks to everyone from District 3 that took the time to come to the District conference in Lander April 2nd. It is always good to see everyone from the district and share each Posts accomplishments through the year.

We are doing a great job in supporting our Veterans, community and youth programs as well as spreading the word of The American Legion.

Even though we still struggle with increasing our membership across the state, District 3 had an outstanding Post in this respect. Congratulations to Post 33 in Lander for not only meeting their goal but surpassing it. This is a team effort and Post 33 has continued to show their desire to drive forward.

We had several nominees for the annual awards and we're hopeful they will all be winners at Convention, their accomplishments were pretty impressive to review and will be good competition for the other Districts nominees.

We also held our elections and the current officers were reinstated for another year.

My thanks to Warren Hess for staying on as Vice Commander and Joe Nemick continuing as Adjutant.

I am excited to have another year as

District Commander to try and support all the Posts in District 3.

It seems to always take the first year to just learn what you should do, so I will try harder to fulfill my duties this term.



Dean Welch

The 100th Anniversary of The American Legion is creeping up on us and I would ask all District 3 Legion members to jump in and help your Post in gathering historical information whether it is documents, pictures or stories

of each Post to help express how important and involved The American Legion has been in each community throughout the District through the years. Personal stories from our long time members are important as they remember a lot of things that have transpired with each Post over the many years during their service as Legion members.

I hope to see all your smiling faces at the Department Convention and may you all have a Big Wonderful Wyoming summer with good health and happiness.

Be Proud, Be Patriotic, Be Dedicated, Be Legion but most of all Be American !!!

"My Oath Of Enlistment Has No Expiration Date"

God Bless American and The American Legion

Dean Welch D3 Co

District 5 News

- Don Sullivan

Since I returned home from Mesa I've been on the run. April 8th District 5 Spring Conference was in Buffalo. It was a great meeting and I would like to thank the Posts in my District who attended. Thank you also goes out to Department Commander Frye, 1st Vice Persson and 2nd Vice Dansereau for being a part of our Spring Conference. This is the only contact some District 5 Post members have with face to face Department Officers. Your District Leadership remains the same with Tim Wattenberg as District Vice, Nels Lofgren as District Adjutant and myself as District Commander. A special thank you to Powder River Post 13 for hosting and serving lunch.

Newcastle and Buffalo had an entry for Commander or Educator of the Year. Thank you for taking the time and making the effort to participate in these areas. Newcastle, Moorcroft and Buffalo are GOAL POSTS. Thank you.

I visited Post 42 on April 13th and they have a lot going on. They held nomination of officers. The Legion Riders are planning summer rides along with Post activities. Member-

ship is down in Post 42 so I asked them to get out and renew and recruit new members by the end of the Legion Year.

Post 7 is turning around and doing much better. They are promoting the Legion name with activities in Sheridan. With the help of Powder River Post 13, the Post is working towards starting the Legion Rider's.

Post 3 will be hosting a Motorcycle Rodeo on July 1st. Contact Don Dafoe for information.

Either in emails or by telephone I have asked all Posts to make a final push on membership. Some Posts are only one or two away from their goal and others are over 50 members away. Posts were also encouraged to send in Post news to the newspaper.

Memorial Day is around the corner and our Posts take part in their community showing respect to our departed veterans. Thank you to all Posts for your participation.

Department Convention is in Worland June 23rd and 24th. See registration and other information in other articles in this paper. I encourage you to attend some or all of the Convention.

District 6 News

Hello District 6 Legion family members.

I just want to say I'm sorry for not posting more news this year, but it has been a trying adventure to say the least. With the weird weather, being very busy, and spending two months in the VA hospital, I just couldn't seem to get stuff in to Gina in time.

Well! Membership is way down this year. Seems to be several possible reasons, even after the District revitalization in November. We did transfer 70 members out of Post 17 to local Posts. But it seems like the economy has taken its toll on a bunch of members by either not having the funds or because job relocations. We still have a solid month and a half to work on getting those numbers up. We could have six 100% Posts by getting a mere 30 members to sign up or renew.

Post 77 in Albin only needs one member, Post's 21, 60, 64 and 93 only need a few more each.

It's not crunch time yet, but Post's should be looking into the history behind the Post for the 100-year celebration of the Legion. Also for some Post's centennial anniversary.

The District just hosted the leading candidate for National Commander from Wisconsin at the D6 Convention in Laramie on the 23rd.

American Legion Baseball is get-

ting ready to kick off its season. We still have a few coaches out there that need to get background checks turned in.

I would like to congratulate District 6 Vice Commander Steve Miller for being elected District 6 Commander for the upcoming year, and District Adjutant Toni Elliott on being elected as District 6 Vice Commander, also to Chuck Ratcliffe of Post 60 for his appointment as the new District 6 Adjutant. I know they will do a good job, and wish them well in the year to come.

Working as a District officer for the last 5 years, I have gotten to meet so many great people at each of the Post's and Unit's in the District, as well as around the state. I have seen firsthand what can come of combined efforts when we all work together. As a District, we do work together well. I feel we have the closest Group of people in the state.

In ending, I would like to thank Post & Unit 60, Post & Unit 64, and all the individuals around the District and State that were part of the support system that helped me get through the hospital ordeal with my mind intact and with a positive attitude about what Legion Family can accomplish.

Thank you all for letting me serve you as a District officer these past few years.

Mike S. Sherr.

Powder River Post 13

Post 13 is at 100% for membership. Way to go Post 13.

Our members continue to step up with 2nd and 4th Sunday Breakfast and honoring veterans at funerals.

The Post hosted District 5 Spring Conference and it was well attended. Thank you to Clarence and Chuck for kitchen duty, Chaplain Clarence, Vice Commander Cecil and the Color Guard for their participation.

Quilts of Honor were presented on the 9th of April to two veterans. The Buffalo Quilters keep busy making quilts for Buffalo area Veterans.

Election of Officers was held and all officers will be retained. It would be great to get some new ideas and new officers next year.

This month will be a busy one for the Post. 2nd Vice Jim and crew will be pouring cement and setting Veteran footplates before Memorial Day. We are cooking and serving lunch three days for Habitat for Humanity on May 19th - 21st. Please call Don at 620-5698 if you can help serve for a couple hours any of those days. It will be greatly appreciated. Our Auxiliary will be making dessert.

Memorial week end will find mem-

bers placing flags at the cemetery. We are trying something new and having small flags available at the cemetery entrance for any veteran grave we might miss. The Legion and VFW Honor/Color Guard will be participating in the 9 am program.

At this time, it looks like Post 13 will have a delegate to Boys State. Sure is hard getting delegates with sports and FFA camps. Our school, parents and Junior boys don't realize what the boys take away from this week.

The Riders are planning the annual "Bug Run" July 29th. Riders from all over the state are invited to participate in the run. Thank you to the Riders for explaining and encouraging Sheridan Post 7 and Newcastle Post 3 to Charter the Legion Riders. A "Meet and Greet" is planned at Post 7 on May 20th.



George W. Vroman Post 2 Casper News

By Dean Welch District 3 Commander, P2 Commander



Hello Legionnaires, Spring has sprung in Wyoming but, as we all know that only means that the extreme cold is gone but it can snow anytime, even in the summer in this great state.

It is always great to see the state turn from white and frozen to a beautiful green across all the prairies. Trees are leafing out and baby animals are scampering all over again.

With the heavy snows comes the melt and the filling of our lakes, rivers and streams which makes for better fishing and water activities for all to enjoy. We hope that this year we will have minimal flooding in the state.

Post 2 has continued to help where ever we can to support our many Veterans and promoting Americanism through our community. It is always a pleasure to present Americanism Awards to our local 8th graders at the 5 Middle Schools in Casper. These young students will hopefully continue on to hold that Patriotism in their hearts as they continue

through school and on into their adult lives. Many of these students will attend Boys State and Girls State later in school to help enhance their love of country and learn more about how our Government works through the local, State and National levels.

Since this article will come out after Memorial Day we hope you all had a safe and wonderful weekend, and took some time to attend the local ceremonies and helped to honor our fallen comrades.

We recently had a young local Marine pass away while serving at Camp Lejuene, SC. The Patriot Guard, The Marine Corps, Combat Veterans Riders and Casper police did a great job of escorting this warrior as he traveled from Douglas to Casper. It was truly impressive to see families bring their children out in the rain to stand and hold flags on the route to honor this warrior as the procession traveled to the funeral home.

It was my honor to stand the flag line and assist as a pall bearer for this young warrior, console the family for their loss and thank them for his service to this country.

Sending our warriors off to their final duty station is always a touching moment but when a warrior dies at such a young age it is extremely heart wrenching. Along with all those that went before him, it is our duty to remember their service no matter the age.

We at George W. Vroman Post 2 wish you all a very happy Independence Day and if you partake in adult beverages don't get behind the wheel.

May you all stay healthy and happy and have a Great summer. If you travel may you have a wonderful trip and return home safely.

As always, Thank you for your service to this Great country and for all you do for the American Legion.

God Bless America and The American Legion

Glenrock Post 9 News

Glenrock Post #9 voted earlier to sponsor American Legion Baseball. That program, through the efforts of a non-veteran, Allan Jennings, a man with enormous energy and love of baseball as well as kids, aided by a couple of our members Jim Williams and Mike Colling is now underway. Practice daily and conditioning. We are excited about the season and have had good response from our membership.

*For God and Country
Bob Smith Post #9*

The Before and After

On Tuesday (04/11) and Wednesday (04/12), Black Hills Energy contracted with Wright Tree Service to cut our trees down in front of our office building. It was determined that when the wind blew, the trees were blowing into the power lines, and BHE was concerned with the number of residents and businesses that would be without power should this occur. One of our trees was looking pretty bad anyway, and we had discussed cutting it down but the cost was not within our budget (approx. \$1000.00). When we were contacted by Wright Tree Service and was told BHE covers the cost...we jumped at the chance to get the trees out of the way.

BEFORE

DURING



AFTER



I'm not going to lie, it was pretty sad to see them go, but saving the Department \$2000.00 was important. Now we can get something done with the rest of the yard.

Pine Bluffs News - Post 60

Reprinted with permission from the Pine Bluffs Post
Story and photo by Jimmie Earls

Page 12 - Pine Bluffs Post

April 6, 2017

www.pinebluffspost.com

Honoring a fallen brother



By Jimmie Earls
Post Editor
pinebluffseditor@tcoconnect.net

Members of the Louis E. Canady American Legion Post 60 from Pine Bluffs gathered at Calvary United Methodist Church in Bushnell, Neb. to pay respect to Wayne Marshall, a U.S. Army veteran who passed away on March 16.

Marshall served honorably during the Korean War from 1951-1953, driving a fuel truck while stationed

in Alaska. He and his wife Roberta moved to Bushnell in 1997 and lived there until moving to Vista Villa in Kimball, Neb. this past August.

During a 30-minute memorial service inside the church, which included a flag folding ceremony, mourners went outside where the Post 60 firing squad gave Marshall a 21-gun salute, followed by the playing of "Taps".

Jimmie Earls/Pine Bluffs Post

Top left photo: From left to right, Post 60 members Billy Lindsey, Chuck Chaires, Jo Radcliffe, Diane Wise, Dalton Fuller, Gary Fisher and Nona Kerry honor Wayne Marshall with a 21-gun salute.

Bottom left photo: The Post 60 color guard, from left to right: Jeanne Laboray, Kevin Borquez and Jenny Fuller, stands at attention while Chuck Radcliffe, right, gives instructions.

Bottom right photo: Tom Morgan, right, plays Taps on the bugle while Jack Bowman, left, holds the POW flag.



American Legion Motor Cycle Rodeo

JULY 1 Newcastle
Weston County Fair Grounds



Slow Race Barrel Push Obstacle Course Oldman's Home
Weiner Bite Jousting Potato Hunt

Admission: Donation
Registration: 11:00 a.m. \$10.00 per event
Events Begin at Noon
50/50 Drawing to be held

Don Dafoe: Commander 307-746-2603

VISION VISION



A Strong National Security
Taking Care of Veterans
Mentoring Youth
Promoting Patriotism and Honor
This is our vision for a strong America.

Come share the vision with us.



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THE AMERICAN LEGION
since 1919

Supporting you and your family
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Learn more at:
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Saddle up for our Veterans

Saddle up for our Veterans

Hello our wonderful Wyoming ladies!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Very Important Department Convention News!!!!

It has been decided that we will begin our convention on Thursday afternoon, at 1:30 pm, instead of Friday morning. As I did my agenda, it became very obvious that if I put everything we need to do down for two days, I would be doing a great injustice to a couple of very important items—our Memorial Service and our incoming Department

President's installation. I truly hope one and all will come Thursday afternoon, as we want to see everyone. Again, I apologize that this happened at the last minute. Please look for the agenda in this issue for any other updates we may have.

Speaking of convention, Worland is busy making preparations for us, so I am wanting to see as many of you as possible. Whether this is your first convention or your fiftieth, please come and have a good time. The registration form is in this issue of the Legionnaire, along with the hotels and their phone numbers. Everything is going to be under one roof, meals and all, with the exception of couple breakfasts.

So, it is, unfortunately, that time

of year again. I really cannot believe this past year has gone so quickly and it makes me sad. We all have accomplished some wonderful things this year for our veterans; that is what makes us all proud and our veterans happy.



Sonja Wright

I hope everyone has reported their hours and expenditures—remember what I told you---

Congress needs these to check up on our endeavors and they are great for our history for future generations.

All the Spring Conferences were great, and I am so sorry District 4 that the snow kept us from going over the mountain. We truly missed seeing you all. Congratulations to the newly elected District Vice Presidents and the nominated District Presidents, we will see you at convention in Worland. A big Thank You to all the Districts for letting myself and our Department Officers come and give greetings and information.

If anyone has pictures from Fall Workshop, Mid Winter, Spring Conferences or any function you may have had this year, would you please send them to Vicki Paddock? Vicki and Peg both need pictures.

Ladies we may be heading into

convention, many of us are wrapping up our Auxiliary year, but please take the time to sit down with your membership roster. Are there members that may have gotten missed, someone who your unit could pay for if they need help with their dues. As I said earlier this year, our state was hit hard economically and even though the economy is slowly starting back up, many people will take a long time to recover from

this. We still have until July 15 to have membership into Peg for processing so please don't give up yet.

I am anxious to hear the Chairmen reports on what great things our units accomplished this year, so again, please come to Convention and see what has been done this year. Thank you Wyoming for all you have given me. This has been a great experience that I will cherish forever.

Cowboy Up" for membership!!!!

Here we are winding down our year. What a whirlwind but it has been an awesome year. Membership is slowly coming in. At this time Wyoming has 82% of goal and we are sitting 34th in the Nation.

As I have traveled around the state to some of the Spring Conferences, the story about membership is the same. Older members are paying dues for a lot of family members. As the older members pass away these family members do not keep the membership up.

I am just as guilty as the rest of you. We must work on a way to keep these members interested in the Auxiliary. It is our responsibility to let them know how important this is to us. Maybe this way we can keep them as members.

New members are always a plus

for our Units. With every new veteran joining the Legion, we should be able to gain the interest of at least 2-3 members. Work with your local Legion to obtain the names of prospective members.

Remember we are the Legion family. We must work together to keep this organization intact and working for the same goal, our Veterans. Working as a family is the only way everyone can grow membership.

Remember that Department Convention is June 23-24th in Worland. I hope that I will see you there. Invite the new members to attend. This is a good way to inspire them. Until then, "Cowboy Up", for the veterans and get your membership in.

Vicki Paddock
Membership

Choice Line Imposter

VA's learned that a phone line was set up by an unknown party to potentially "mimic" the Choice line.

Choice line 1-866-606-8198 "Mimic" line 1-800-606-8198.

The "mimic" line may be intended to reach Veterans who inadvertently dial incorrectly.

- It has been reported the other number offers callers a \$100 rebate if the caller provides a credit card.
- The "mimic" number does *not* state callers have reached U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the Choice line
- **HOWEVER**, callers have reported the "mimic" number incorrectly confirms callers had reached the Choice Program *if the caller asks that question.*

VHA Office of Community Care (VHA OCC) reported the other line to VA OIG for a possible civil or criminal investigation.



Mark Your Calendar

GIRLS STATE

June 11-17, 2017
LCCC - Cheyenne

POST, UNIT, SQUADRON & RIDER DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

June 22-24, 2017
Worland

NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 18-24, 2017
Reno, Nevada



American Legion Auxiliary News



In the Clouds

IN MEMORIAM

Lorine Fitzgerald, Unit 25
 Nadine Schleich, Unit 26
 Edith Leath, Unit 13
 Betty Long, Unit 13
 Margaret Nelson, Unit 13
 Etta Jean Byrtus, Unit 13

Garnet Heckert, Unit 1
 Raelene Kelly, Unit 32
 Shirley Gillette, Unit 42
 Kari Wales, Unit 42
 Charlotte Watson, Unit 9

SYMPATHY

Robi Spear.....loss of father
 Vicki Womanloss of mother- in- law
 Linda Johnsonloss of mother
 Donette Kelleyloss of grandmother
 Arlene Goodchild.....loss of cousin
 Family of Lorine Fitzgerald
 Deloris Caldwell.....loss of mother
 Eunice Caldwellloss of mother
 Tom Connely.....loss of mother
 Ramona Jacobs.....loss of sister
 Jeffrey, Derrick & Troy Longloss of mother
 Susie Romineloss of mother
 Wayne & Donna Nelson.....loss of mother
 Mary & Larry Hansonloss of mother
 Carol Jenningsloss of husband
 Donny Heckertloss of wife
 Donna Lloydloss of mother
 Terry Davisloss of mother
 Jacqueline Herrenloss of husband
 Donna McQueenloss of brother
 Gunta Rottmanloss of husband
 Heather & Skylar Taylor.....loss of grandmother
 K'La Davisloss of grandmother
 Jeannette Fisherloss of sister-in-law
 Debra Hinkelloss of husband
 Iris Schaff.....loss of husband

GET WELL & THINKING OF YOU

Jeane Warax.....illness
 Genene Quickeye surgery
 Ruth Noblemultiple falls
 Pat Underberg.....medical issues
 Diana Steltinglung problems
 Connie Martinez.....illness
 Christine Martinezillness
 Karen Kelley.....shoulder surgery
 Becky Allredbad cold
 Arlene Goodchild.....shingles
 Leslie Ann Leeknee replacement
 Marion Blackfall
 Nick & Denise Rohan.....surgery and ankles
 Ann Sundstrom.....shoulder surgery
 Carolyn Eddyhead injury from fall
 Freda Blakelysurgery
 Bonnie Bartels.....medical tests
 Dorothy Snellknee injury

Units please make sure you send your Chaplain form to Susan Dansereau; 2110 Wyoming Dr; Green River 82935 or email: dansereau_r_f@hotmail.com

Constitution and Bylaws

The Constitution and Bylaws of a Unit are the governing documents for a Unit and for the Department, and while we don't think of them very often, they are important documents for the Department and the Unit. These documents set out the rules for how the Department and how the individual Unit will function. After the revision and approval of changes at last year's convention, the individual Units were encouraged to look at, and possibly revise their own Constitution and Bylaws.

Out of the 12 Units who submitted a final report, 9 of those Units reported that they have either reviewed their Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules and approved the changes, or that they are in the process of reviewing and revising their Constitution and Bylaws.

After reviewing their Standing Rules, one Unit discovered that, in addition to discussion about fundraisers and poppy funds, the Unit is to have a presence in a

Veteran's parade, if possible. They also discovered that they are to put a wreath at their local Veteran's cemetery each Memorial Day, an honor that their 92 year old member does faithfully each year. Kudos to you Riverton.

I am still working on the notebooks that were envisioned for each Unit. These notebooks will have places for the National Constitution and Bylaws, Department Constitution and Bylaws, the Unit Constitution and Bylaws, any standing rules and any other documents that can serve as a reference for both longstanding and newer (new) Units. It is my hope to have the notebooks available for pickup at Department Convention by Unit representatives. If you have any suggestions, please let me know at tjharris@wyoming.com. Thank you for your patience with me this year, it has been an honor to serve as your Constitution and Bylaws chair this year.

Tidbits

Department Office Tidbits

1. Efficiency Report due by May 15th.
2. Credentials for Department Convention due no later than June 3rd.
3. Officer and Chairman forms due no later than June 25th.
4. All donations should be re-

ceived by June 15th so they will clear the banks in this Fiscal Year.

5. Call to Convention is in the Auxiliare.
6. Did you present the Department Budget to your Unit so you know how to vote?
7. Members can start paying their dues July 1, 2017. New members can't be sent in until September 1. If your Unit collects early they can avoid a renewal notice!!!!

Secretary-Treasurer - Peg Sullivan

Newspaper Comments

It has been brought to my attention that several members are not receiving the Legionnaire -Auxiliare. In an effort to save money, each household receives a paper. Auxiliary addresses come from our membership list and we try to make sure no one is left out. It is very important to keep addresses current to avoid the \$0.56 returned label from the Post Office. Please contact your Unit membership chairman if you have a new address.

Also, if you would prefer TO NOT receive the newspaper, please contact the Office at deptaux@vcn or PO Box 186 or call 307-684-2903.

Secretary Report

Another year is almost behind us and it has been a good year. Special thanks go to the Unit Membership Chairman and the President or email contact member. Sending forms and correspondence via email has saved the Department money. Also, the forms may be found on the Department website: www.wyamericanlegionauxiliary.org. Forms for 2017-2018 will be posted by August 1, 2017.

Please see the "TIDBITS" section of this newspaper for information regarding deadlines. I appreciate you taking the time to read not only this article but all articles in the newspaper. The Legion side has many good articles also.

I thank you for your support and remember your questions and concerns can only be answered if you ask them.



F R E E D O M
 IS NEVER FREE



American Legion Auxiliary ~ Department of Wyoming

97th Annual Convention • June 22-24, 2017

Worland Community Center Complex—1200 Culbertson

Thursday, June 22, 2017

- 8:30 am Finance Committee Meeting – Worland Post Home
 10:30 am Department Executive meeting- Worland Post Home
 5 - 9 pm Registration at Worland Post Home
- 1:30 pm **Opening of Convention**
 Posting of Colors
 Introduction of ALA District, Department and National Officers
 District 1 - Sunny Hobbs and Gina Dusel
 District 2 – Kathy Troupe and Alise Schwab
 District 3 – Ginger Fross and Pat Persson
 District 4 – Becky Allred and Trudy Zaffarona- Anderson
 District 5 - Linda Johnson and Melba Bennett
 District 6 – Fran Payne-Rogers and Eva Moore
 Department Parliamentarian Linda Orr
 Department Historian Gina Dusel
 Department Chaplain Susan Dansereau
 Department Secretary Treasurer Peg Sullivan
 Department Vice President Vicki Paddock
 National Executive Committeewoman Linda Feezer
 Department President Sonja Wright
 Introduction of Past Department Presidents – Becky Allred
 Introduction of Northwest Division Chairmen
 Community Service – Linda Feezer
 and
 Northwest Division National Security – Peggy Miller
 Call to Order by Department President Sonja Wright
 Invocation by Chaplain Susan Dansereau
 Moment of Silence
 Pledge of Allegiance led by Americanism Chairman Gina Dusel
 Preamble to the Constitution of the ALA led by Constitution & By Laws
 Chairman Tammy Harris
 Reading of Call to Convention by Department Secretary Peg Sullivan
 Welcome by Rebecca Arron-Fowler – President Unit 44
 Response by Leila Dean – Ft Bridger Unit 36
 Introduction of Sgt. at Arms Lalani Johnson & Ass't Sgt. at Arms Melba Bennett
 Introduction of Convention Chairperson and Committee – Becky Allred
 Roll Call of Officers and Units by Secretary Peg Sullivan
 Introduction of Convention Committee Appointees:
 Credentials – Peggy Miller, Twila Palu,
 Rules and Courtsey - Susan Dansereau and Gina Dusel
 Election Judge and Tellers -Kathy Troupe, Diane Wise, Ginger Fross
 Notebook Committee -
 Reading of the Rules of Convention by Constitution & Bylaws
 Minutes of Finance Meeting
 Minutes of Pre -Convention Department Executive Committee Meeting
 Resolutions by Constitution and By Laws Chairman Tammy Harris
- 3:00 pm Committee reports
 Finance – Peggy Miller
 Past President Parley – Leila Dean
 Public Relations – Fran Payne Rogers
 Audit – Linda Orr
 Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Shareen Johnson
 History (Cavalcade)-Shannon Null and Dora Jones
 Constitution and By Laws – Tammy Harris
 Membership – Vicki Paddock
- 4:30 pm Tidbits by Peg
 4:45 pm Recess

Friday, June 23, 2016

- 7:00 am Past Presidents Parley Breakfast—Brass Plum
 8:00 am Registration — Worland Community Center Complex
 8:30 am **Reconvene American Legion Auxiliary Convention**
 Roll Call of Officers and Units by Secretary Peg Sullivan
 Reading of the Rules for Electing ALA Department Officers
 Reading of Rules for nominating Delegates/Alternates to Natl Convention
 Nomination of ALA Department Officers
 Introduction of 2017 - 2018 ALA District President Nominees
 Introduction of 2017 - 2018 ALA District Vice Presidents

- Nomination of Delegates and Alternates to Natl. Convention
 Credentials Report
 10:00 am Committee reports
 Americanism – Gina Dusel
 Education – Belle Temple
 Community Service – Susan Dansereau
 10:30 am Break and greetings to The American Legion
 10:45 am Committee Reports
 Children and Youth – Jessie Poire
 Child Welfare Foundation – Linda Johnson
 Juniors - Sunny Hobbs
 Legislative – Ginger Fross
 National Security – Becky Allred
 Tidbits by Peg
 11:50 am BREAK FOR VA/R LUNCHEON - VA & R Chairman Twila Palu
 Worland Community Center Complex
- 1:30 pm Committee reports
 Girls State - Bobbie Swanlund
 Poppy – Donna Gladson/Edie Taffner
 Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation - Twila Palu
 Cheyenne VA - Bobbie Gertsch
 Sheridan VA - Linda Orr
 Wyoming Veterans Home – Edie Taffner/Donna Gladson
- 2:30 pm District Reports
 D 1 Saddle Up with Sunny - Sunny Hobbs
 D 2 Kick Up with Kathy – Kathy Troupe
 D 3 Galloping with Ginger – Ginger Fross
 D 4 Bucking with Becky – Becky Allred
 D 5 Lasso with Linda – Linda Johnson
 D 6 – Fireside Tales with Fran – Fran Payne-Rogers
- 4:00 pm RECESS
 5:00 pm American Legion Memorial Service
 6:00 pm Social Hour and Dinner – Worland Community Center Complex
- #### Saturday, June 24, 2017
- 7:00 am ALA Past Department President Breakfast – Brass Plum
 8:00 am Registration continues at Worland Complex Civic Center
 9:00 am RECONVENE ALA Department Convention
 Call to Order
 Roll Call of Officers and Units
 Credentials report – Peggy Miller
 Election of District Officers
 Election of Department Officers
 10:00 am Break
 Natl Convention Delegates/Alternates meet with Peg for info
 10:30 am Roll Call of Officers and Units
 Credentials Report – Peggy Miller
 Voting on Resolutions-Tammy Harris
 2016 - 2017 ALA Department of Wyoming Officer Reports
 National Executive Committeewoman – Linda Feezer
 Historian – Gina Dusel
 Chaplain – Susan Dansereau
 Secretary-Treasurer - Peg Sullivan
 Vice President – Vicki Paddock
 11:50 am BREAK for ALA Americanism Lunch – Gina Dusel
 1:30 pm RECONVENE ALA Department Convention
 Call to Order
 Election of Delegates and Alternates to National Convention
 Reading of Courtesy Resolutions
 Reading of ALA National Convention Delegates and Alternates
 Acceptance Speech of 2017-2018 ALA Department President
 2016 – 2017 - ALA Department President Report
 2:15 pm American Legion Auxiliary Memorial Service
 2:45 pm Retire Colors and Close Convention
 3:00 pm Newly elected Department President Installation
 4:00 pm Post Department Executive Committee Meeting
 6:00 pm Social Hour – Worland Community Center Complex
 7:00 pm Commander's Banquet – Worland Community Center Complex

RULES OF CONVENTION

1. That all sessions of this convention shall be called to order promptly.
2. No one shall enter or leave the hall while a speaker has the floor. She must also be accompanied by a page if leaving the convention hall.
3. No smoking is permitted in convention hall. Smoking allowed in designated areas only.
4. A member desiring the floor shall rise, address the Chair and give her name and Unit.
5. If requested, all motions shall be handed to the Chair in writing.
6. All votes, except the election of officers shall be announced by the Chairman of the Delegation.
7. The maker of a motion shall be permitted to open and close debate on that motion.
8. Each person, except the maker of a motion shall speak but once on a motion. Time limit three minutes. No District shall be permitted to speak on a motion the second time unless another District as spoken on that motion.
9. Each delegate desiring the privilege of the Convention must wear her badge where it can readily be seen.
10. An alternate taking the place of a delegate at any meeting must wear the delegate's badge.
11. Only members of the Department and qualified delegates shall have the privilege of the floor.
12. Voting shall be by acclamation except when a roll call is demanded by the Chairman of at least three Districts and except in the election of Department Officers, in which case it shall be as provided in the Department Constitution and Bylaws.
13. The number of votes to which each Unit is entitled shall be the same as recorded in the final report of the Credentials Committee.
14. Members of the Department Executive Committee in attendance shall cast their votes separately, in response to roll calls, or with their delegation, in which case their votes shall be added to the number to which the respective Unit are already entitled.
15. Each delegate is entitled to one vote. The votes of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate, shall cast with the majority vote of the delegates present from her Unit.
16. That all committees of the Auxiliary refer any contemplated changes in a policy to a similar committee in the Legion.
17. One minute must elapse between the making of the last nomination for any office before nominations be closed.
18. Each Unit must be seated in its own District.
19. Each Unit represented shall be entitled to vote its entire strength, the absent vote being cast with the majority vote of said Unit. In case of a tie vote, the vote shall be equally divided between those tying.
20. No Unit shall be allowed to yield its prior position to any other Unit for the purpose of nominations.

Education Year-End Report

This year we had 14 units reporting on their education activities. There was a very diverse list of activities. Each unit had some very unique ways that they implemented their programs.

Most of the units that reported on Teacher Appreciation Week did so by supplying "goody trays" for the staff of their local schools.

Participation in the Give 10 program was addressed by several units as well. Units supplied small flags, patriotic bookmarks and pencils. They also gave \$25 gift certificates to staff of their local school. Apples were also on the list of things that were given to staff and students. Box tops and Campbell Soups Labels were collected for the schools. Two hundred fifty box tops were collected and 2172 soup labels were collected.

For Veteran's Day, several of the units had programs at the school, in which, they had invited veterans to speak. They had programs about flag etiquette, explanation of the Pledge of Allegiance, letters being written to area Veterans, and discussion of

the meaning of the POW/MIA Ceremony with their local newspaper. Some other activities were inflatable obstacle course and the construction of felt hearts in which they put a cookie and gave it to a veteran.

We had 2 units that reported on participation with the Americanism Essay Contest. One unit had 25 essays.

Halloween was an activity that had over 200 children participating. The children were given treat bags.

Unit 26 reported on collaboration with the local school Family Readiness Groups and The Dollar Store to collect school supplies for the needy students in their area. If additional supplies were collected they were given to the local schools to be handed out as needed.

Eight local scholarships were awarded from our local units, with a dollar total of \$3275 given to graduating seniors.

This year we were able to send in a National Scholarship application. This was new for me and I was very proud to submit this application to National.

OFFICIAL CALL TO CONVENTION

Worland, Wyoming
June 22, 23 and 24th of 2017

The 97th Annual Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wyoming is hereby called to be held in Worland, Wyoming on June 22, 23 and 24th of 2017.

PURPOSE

To receive reports of Department Officers and Chairmen; To elect Department Officers for the ensuing year; To receive and take action on proposed changes to the Department Constitution and Bylaws; To transact such other business as may come before the Department Convention.

PRESENTATION and REGISTRATION

Representation in the Department Convention shall be by Units. Each Unit shall be entitled to one delegate for each 15 members or major fraction thereof and one delegate-at-large, whose current dues shall have been received by the Department Secretary-Treasurer 30 (thirty) days prior to the meeting of said convention. Delegates and alternates shall be elected by a majority vote of those present at a meeting called for that purpose not later than 30 (thirty) days prior to the Department Convention. Certification of delegates should be made promptly to the Department

Secretary-Treasurer after their election.

All Past Department Presidents of Wyoming in good standing in a Unit in the Department of Wyoming shall be life delegates-at-large to the Department Convention with votes to be exercised with or aside from their Units. One delegate from each Unit will cast the entire vote of her Unit on all ballots. The voting strength of her Unit will be based upon the total membership on the books of the Department Secretary-Treasurer as of June 3, 2017. All delegates are required to register. The registration fee will be \$10.00.

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION

A meeting of the Department Executive Committee is hereby called, as provided by Article IV, Section 1, of the Department Bylaws and will be held at 10:30 am at Floyd Minch Post 44; 130 S. 9th; Worland, WY, June 22, 2017. All Executive Committee members as provided in Section 1 of Article IV are expected to attend. Failure to attend will prevent them from collecting convention expenses, as allowed.

Sonja Wright, Department President
Peg Sullivan, Department Secretary-Treasurer

THE AMERICAN LEGION and AUXILIARY
 DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING
 99th and 97th ANNUAL CONVENTIONS
 JUNE 23 - 24th, 2017
 HOSTED by FLOYD MINCH POST and UNIT #44
 WORLAND WYOMING

PRE-REGISTER by June 1st to RECEIVE PIN and \$2 DISCOUNT on meals
 Pre-registration HELPS with meal preparation

FRIDAY - JUNE 23, 2017		PRE	DOOR	TOTAL
PRE-REGISTRATION (includes Convention Pin) Deadline June 1, 2017		\$10		
REGISTRATION at Door			\$10	
CONVENTION PIN			\$7	
PAST COMMANDER & ADJUTANT BREAKFAST BUFFET - 7 AM		\$7	\$9	
PAST PRESIDENT PARLEY BUFFET - 7 AM - Brass Plum		\$12	\$12	
VA & R LUNCHEON	Open to The American Legion Family	\$10	\$12	
Evening Dinner		\$10	\$12	
SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017				
PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S BREAKFAST - 7 AM			D #4 PDC's	
PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S BREAKFAST - 7 AM Brass Plum			Pay at the Door	
AMERICANISM LUNCHEON	Open to The American Legion Family	\$10	\$12	
COMMANDER & PRESIDENT BANQUET		\$18	\$20	
Dietary Needs		TOTAL ENCLOSED		
American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and SAL Meetings Worland Community Center Complex - 1200 Culbertson Past President Parley & Past Department President Breakfast - Brass Plum 1620 Big Horn Ave WALRUS at Post 44 - Sunday am				
NAME		ADDRESS		
CITY		ZIP	PHONE/EMAIL	
POST #	OFFICE:	DISTRICT	DEPT	
UNIT #	OFFICE	DISTRICT	DEPT	
SAL #	OFFICE	DETACHMENT		
RIDER'S POST #		OFFICE		

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FLOYD MINCH POST #44 CONVENTION
 MAIL TO: FLOYD MINCH POST #44
 ATTN: CONVENTION COMMITTEE
 130 S9TH WORLAND WY 82401

HOTEL/MOTEL INFORMATION			
Days Inn	307-347-4251	\$ 116.00	
Town House	307-347-2426	\$ 65.00	\$75 Double Beds
Comfort Inn	307-347-9898	\$120.00	
Reserve before May 23, 2017 for above rate. Tell them you are with The American Legion Convention			



American Legion Auxiliary News



Audit Committee 2016-2017

Although the Audit Committee is not a mandated Unit Committee, it is "recommended" that your Unit incorporate the idea of going through the Treasurer's Records annually. Most Units use their own members to conduct a review as they cannot afford professional services. Several Units sent in year-end updates stating that they did annual reviews of

their accounts. For the rest of you, it is something that you should be considering to add to your end-of-the-year activities. The Department Secretary, Finance Chair and Audit Chair all have examples for you to use to help set up your own Unit Audit Committee.

Linda Orr, Belle Temple and Michele Lofgren, Audit Committee

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

VA & RI heard from every District except District 3 for the year-end reports, hours and etc. District 4 had 100% reporting of reports, hours and etc. I am very proud of District 4 since it is my District. I had 16 year-end reports. I had 13 units report the hours and etc. The total for the 13 units are as follows: 43,386 hours, \$46,388, in-kind - \$27,000 and assisted 9,580 veterans. I know every unit did something for the veterans but just did not report it.

Volunteers Our unit volunteers do so much. Many of them do the same things and yet there are others that are different. I will just mention a few since there are so many. It seems that every unit does something for Memorial Day whether it is putting wreaths on the Veterans' graves or putting up new flags. Many hold their flag burning ceremony at this time. Several units sponsored blood drives in May and November. Senior meals are made and delivered to local veterans five days a week. Poppy money was used to host a free breakfast in December for Veterans and their families. Coupons are clipped and sent to military commissaries throughout the year. Assembled holiday baskets of fruit and candies for the Veteran's Home in Buffalo along with toiletries. Donated to the Guardian Angel Program and the Giving tree for military children. Yellow-Ribbon events involve educating our families on what to expect before, during and after deployment. Knitting baby blankets and presenting them to new moms of the military family. Several cherry pie luncheons in February. Most units do something special for the Legion's birthday. Every unit distributes poppies and that money is used strictly for Veterans.

Sheridan Veteran Affairs Volunteer Services (VAVS) At the last annual review by Voluntary Service, the registered volunteers went from 8 to 16. These are ladies who are registered as volunteers and physically volunteer at the VA, a Sheridan Clinic or drive a VA

Bus. Unit donations received through March 15, 2017, were \$3,550. These allowed them to purchase a popcorn maker for the Nursing Home, pounds and pounds of popcorn, oils and seasonings, cookies when they were short, gifts/door prizes for special holiday celebrations, chicken lunch for the Fishing Derby held at the Veterans Home in Buffalo and an Air Hockey game for the Auditorium. Also, donated funds for Recreation to purchase crafts to allow the veterans to participate in the Creative Arts Festival and the "Brain Bag" program at the Casper Clinic.

Cheyenne Veteran Affairs Volunteer Services (VAVS) A big project is the "No Longer Homeless Veterans." Some of the items that are needed for this project are coffee makers, toasters and sheet sets. These are just examples since everything is useful to set up a household. They have ice cream socials, bowling and give out theater tickets on occasion. Volunteers assisted with the "Stand Down" serving refreshments to the homeless veterans and other homeless people around Cheyenne. Coats and other clothing was also given. Served home baked cookies, juice, and coffee to the Flu Clinic. The coffee cart is run on a daily basis. The Golden Age Challenged Veterans won lots of Medals and Ribbons at their competition in Omaha. They earn funds for popcorn, candy bars and various fund raisers. Mental Health is high on the list of priorities. The Veterans are allowed to be off campus for bowling and other activities. Every two weeks they celebrate those veterans that have completed their program with a graduation party.

Buffalo Veterans Home—see article Thank you to all the units that support programs for our Veterans. Without your help many of these things would not take place. I hope in the future that more units will take the time to report what their unit does for the Veterans as well as what each individual does. Twila Palu, VA&R Chairman

Past President's Parley 2017 Year end report

I received 10 reports out of those reports 3 Units reported having no report. I would say to them that you do have a report even if you only report how many member's are dues paying members, that would be better than no report at all.

From the reports I received there was a total of 46 members.

Unit #15 has a very active parley to name just a few of their activities are a scholarship awarded to a nursing student although this year they didn't have one to award this to. One member who is an avid quilt maker who lives in Sparks Nevada she has distributed 210 quilts to the V.A and V. A. Chemo clinic, the Veteran's guest house, 4 Nursing Homes and one Unwed Mothers home. They have several service women among their members that they assist as much as possible.

Unit # 26 reported they charge \$ 4.00 at the local level and send \$2.00 to Department for dues they also donated \$40.00 to the Department Parley's nursing Scholarship. They also send out cards to members and visit Past President's that are in Nursing homes around their area one is assisting a WW2 veteran they

help with the Unit Programs such as Distributing Poppy's making wreaths for Memorial Day and the Avenue of Flags. Assist with Veteran's Dinner and the Legion Birthday. The Parley performs the installation of officers. They lost 1 member this year.

Unit #25 has only one member but I know she is very active in the Unit, District and Department levels of our organization.

Unit #19 Has a President who has never served in this office before. Congratulation to her and we expect you to become a new Parley member. This will increase their Parley members to 3 at the end of her Presidential year.

Unit #7 reports having 7 members but they don't have an active Parley.

Unit #13 did a luncheon in the past but due to declining numbers attending they cancelled it this year. They had 6 members at the beginning of the year but was down to 5 at the time of this report. At this time I haven't received any Unit member of the year application nor Nursing Scholarship application

Respectfully submitted

Leila Dean

2016 - 2017 PPP chairman

Wyoming Girls State

-Bobbie Swanlund, Director

The 2017 Girls State Session is right around the corner. We will be at Laramie County Community College in Cheyenne June 11-17, 2017. Our numbers are low again this year with just 88 delegates registered. We have continued our community service project again this year and will be collecting non-perishable food items for the local food pantry. The Wyoming Congressional Delegation, our five elected state officials, The American Legion and American Legion Aux-

iliary Department officers, and the Adjutant General for the Wyoming National Guard have been extended invitations to be a part of our week long session. A full report will be given at Department Convention in Worland. This 2017 session is also our first of three at Laramie County Community College on our current contract. I want to send a big thank you out to the local unit chairman who have taken the time to train your delegates and ensure you paperwork is correct and submitted on time.

Americanism 2016 -2017 End Year Report

- Gina Dusel, Chairman

For the 2016-2017 year, thirteen units submitted reports for Americanism. These units were busy with their involvement in teaching flag etiquette, including proper folding and disposal of the American flag. The Pledge of Allegiance is customarily spoken before each meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary. Many units placed American flags at cemeteries during pertinent holidays to honor our fallen hero's. This year

some units became involved in helping with the primary and general elections. Assistance with color guard ceremonies and hosting Veterans walks for awareness, are other way units participated in Americanism. The Americanism chairman submitted thirteen essays, there were at least one in every class.

Thank you to all the chairman that sent me reports this year and for all your hard work helping our veteran's.





American Legion Auxiliary News



Veteran's Home of Wyoming Report

In July we sponsored our annual watermelon feed in the Gazebo and had 48 residents participate. They consumed five watermelons and appeared to have good time.

We have had such a big success with the ice cream social every Wednesday and we will continue as long as we have residents participate. It is a great way to get to know the residents and be on a first name basis. We serve cookies with the ice cream and once a month

we serve root beer floats. A lady from the community plays the piano, which is very enjoyable. The ice cream Wednesday project would not be possible without the help of Vern Short and other volunteers.

We were approached by Ray Chapin; the Activities Director of the Veteran's Home about purchasing some cots and pads for the guys when they go camping as it is very difficult getting up off the ground for some of them. He also requested two tent heaters. I purchased

three cots and three pads and two heaters. A month later the Veteran's Home Commander approached me and stated they could not have the heaters in tents, it's a State Regulation. Rather than making a trip to Cabala's, I personally wrote a check and purchased the two heaters.

For June thru Nov. we sent out 33 birthday cards. Each card contained a written birthday wish and \$3.00 cash.

The skirt around the table in the train room is still in the works as we are looking for some special material that will go with the theme of the train display. With the monetary assistance of the Cheyenne American Legion Post #6, the train room has become a worthwhile and enjoyable project for the Veterans.

We recently served pumpkin pie and whipped cream to 50 residents. Our local Winchesters Restaurant donated four of the nine pies which were greatly appreciated.

We are moving on to Christmas and I want to publicly thank Lois Henry from the Riverton Unit 19 for making over 50 bags to hold the Christmas items and Nancy Lee Beattie of Buffalo Unit 13 for her contribution of a number of bags. That was a big undertaking for both ladies and I am so thankful.

In December we filled the bags provided by Lois Henry of Riverton and Nancy Lee Beattie of Buffalo, and prepared for the annual Christmas party at the Veteran's Home. The bags contained various items including apples, oranges and pretzels and a Christmas card with \$10.00 cash which all was provided by the Department. A collection of calendars was donated by Edith Leath of Buffalo and Nancy Lee donated her late husband's collection of caps which the Veteran's liked as there was a big selection to choose from.

Members of the Buffalo Unit donated the various snacks for the party and punch was provided by the Department.

In December, the home stated they were low on shampoo and other personal items. I purchased \$147.00 worth of items for the men and \$70.00 worth for the women. Also the Home approached me asking if we could donate money to their ice cream and coffee fund as it was running quite low. I did give them a check for \$250.00 as the ice cream is mostly used for ice cream Wednesday's which we do every week.

February we provided nine cream pies for a Valentines party at the Veteran's Home.

Throughout the year, May, 2016 thru April, 2017, I sent out 79 birthday cards, each containing \$3.00 cash.

March, April was a continuation of the ice cream and cookies on Wednesday with one day a month serving root beer floats.

want to thank all the Units for their donations to help with the many costs this past year. I would also like to thank Vern Short, without her help, we would not have been so productive.

I will be resigning from the Field Service Representative position at the end of June 2017. It has been a fun ride for the past nine years but the Chairmanship needs some new blood and ideas so it is time for me to move on. Thanks for allowing me to be the Chairman these past years and I will be glad to work with the new person any way I can. This concludes our year's activities.

Donna Gladson

Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF)

Shareen Johnson Chairman

Received five Mid-Winter Reports from Rock Springs #24, Moorcroft #25, Powell #26, Basin #29, and Guernsey #95.

Received 13 End of Year Reports from – District #1 - Rock Springs #24, Green River #28, Pinedale #47

District #2 - Glendo #15

District #3 - Riverton #19

District #4 - Basin #29, Worland #44, Powell #26,

District #5 - Sheridan #7, Buffalo #13, Moorcroft #25, Gillette Unit #42,

District #6 - Pine Bluffs #60, Medicine Bow #64.

Highlights of fund raising projects – two units reported collecting money at each Unit meeting (one unit alone raised \$110), Veterans Day drawing of items donated by members, chili cook-off raising almost \$200, 50/50 drawing raising \$45, one unit reported a single donation by a member of \$18, and unit donations ranging from \$25 to \$200. Two units reported "No Report".

Many units donated funds, but did not send in a report telling how their donation(s) was raised including Casper #2, Douglas #8, Glenrock #9, Lander #33, Sundance #45, Alpine #46, Lingle

#63, LaGrange #70, Chugwater #75, Hulett #80, and Guernsey #95.

Concerning the Department fund raiser, "Drawing for a Free 2018 Senior Auxiliary Membership", six entries are received for a donation of \$5. Seven units reported sharing information about the Department drawing with unit members including one unit sending the flyer to unit members with their membership card. By Christmas, the drawing had raised \$525. The first winning ticket was drawn at the Mid-Winter Conference in Cheyenne and Department Commander Bill Frye won, so he will be able to select which Auxiliary member he wants to receive their 2018 Auxiliary membership free. By mid-April, the drawing had raised \$983 and the second drawing for a free 2018 senior Auxiliary membership will be held at Department Convention in Worland this June. The winner need not be present. In the meantime, please continue to promote the drawing.

All AEF donations need to be into National by 1 June 2017 to be eligible for a National award. The Department goal is \$1,500. At the time of this report, AEF donations by the Department of Wyoming units and members total \$1,139.54.

Department Legislative Report 2017

The reporting has improved 200 % with 13 units reporting. Way to go ladies! You have been busy giving people rides to the Primary and General elections, calling in names and addresses for absentee orders in the fall. Most units were excited about the election year and talked to many about voting and voted themselves. Members wrote letters to our Congressional Delegates as well as The American Legion National Commander. The letters stated a concern for our veterans not receiving care due to slow and partial payments. One unit gave election training for three years running and two work at the local polls. Seven members participated in US Senator, John Barasso's, teleconference calls. The one with both Senators was participated in by six members. Three members attended public events where Senator Barasso, Senator Mike Enzi, Representative Brian Boner and Representative Dan Kirkbride were in attendance. Two members attended the local County Party Caucuses and Convention. Three of the members regularly attend the Wyoming Association of Municipalities meetings, conferences and conventions. One serves on the Board of Directors and is on the JPIC committee addressing health insurance for small towns. In addition, two members attend meetings and are active participants with the Platte County Commerce, one

with Platte County Main Street and the other with Platte County Economic Development. Some members have been active with the business of their City Council. The town has been in turmoil for almost three years with the election of their Mayor. Members have been active in corresponding with the local, state and national politicians on events and actions that will affect veterans and the military. One member, who works for the local newspaper and is the Basin Area Chamber of Commerce President, helped in holding meetings for the forums for the election cycle. Senator Mike Enzi met with citizens and answered questions two different times. The members used their State Legislator to address the Girls State delegates before they went to the event. One member is very close to Senator John Barasso's Press Secretary and has developed a good relationship with the Senator. Members helped with Youth Programs, Church Programs and Community Programs to help the homeless. One member keeps an e-mail list of all members to forward information from the Department, State and National organization. The group sends e-mails to the representatives on legislation that affects veterans and the military. Two units reported no activity in the Legislative Program. Respectfully submitted, Ginger Fross, Department Legislative Chairman



American Legion Auxiliary News



NATIONAL SECURITY

- *Becky Allred, Chairman*

Serving others, not self, through maintaining and promoting strong national security is a part of our American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wyoming units' programs of work and is illustrated in this National Security Year-End Report. Thirty-one unit National Security Committee chairmen notified me of their units' happenings. Some stated that they are not doing anything, some did one activity and the rest were busy doing events and activities. WEARING RED on FRIDAY - "REMEMBERING EVERYONE DEPLOYED" was a part of 12 units' year's work.; THE YELLOW RIBBON activity was participated in by 9 of the units, including state events in Cheyenne and Gillette, as well as in the local units' events. Thirteen units had unit members involved in the advertising and day's events for Community Blood Drives. The American Legion's POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony has become a monthly part of 15 units, plus 6 units share with their Posts in the ceremony at Veteran's Day Dinners and March Birthday Dinners. Six units share and assist in the Food Commodities Programs in their communities. Thirty of the units reported on their shared participation in the annual Veteran's Day Dinner and March Birthday Dinner with their local Posts. Ten of the units are in frequent communication with local, state and national government officials, voicing concerns and needs for our veterans and active military and families. Local unit Legislative chairmen share upcoming bills, concerns and proposals that affect our military families. One unit has members who babysit for Drill and Training Camps; fourteen units distribute food and hygiene items to local, state and deployed veterans/active

military/families. At Christmas time members from 8 units draw cards from Angel or similarly named trees to brighten our military families' children (and their parents). Three District #4 units, also, participate in Operation Home Front by supplying school supplies, back packs, clothing and other items; one unit helped collect food for a food drive in conjunction with Mental Health Awareness month--CHANGING DIRECTION, for 13 military families. Some units are involved in local JROTC events and flag ceremonies. Not many local units have this available. Part of the National Security suggested activities is CPR training. In one unit, two members were able to use this skill in a March, 2017 incident. At the Powell American Legion Post, during a commodities drive, a veteran had a heart attack.

Members jumped in and saved his life and were recognized with heroism medals from Post 26, civilian service awards from the Powell Police Department and citizenship certificates from the Powell unit. Please refer to the article in the Powell newspaper written by Tessa Baker (can be found online, at Powell Tribune). Twelve units have trained CPR members and several more said they were planning future training. The EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS for flooding throughout the state has been participated in by 5 units, with members furnishing food, water to workers and filling sandbags and positioning the bags around the communities.. This is just one of our Department of Wyoming programs of work.

THANK YOU American Legion Auxiliary unit members for your love of veterans, active military/families and our communities.

Leadership

- *Peg Sullivan Chairman*

"Leadership is the basic focus on defining and demonstrating American Legion Auxiliary cultures and principles." All Units provided leadership. Most members in the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wyoming are leaders whether they recognize it or not. Leadership is found in Auxiliary, family, work, church and many other places. What would your family be without your leadership doing laundry, planning meals or driving children to school? Training Junior girls who attend Girls State, including Junior members in programs are another example of leadership.

The Department and Units focused on "Promoting a Culture of Goodwill". Do you realize that by not doing this you are tearing the organization apart? Leaders work hand in hand with members

"Promoting a Culture of Goodwill" by being positive during meetings, not putting down members, keeping their meetings on task saving visiting until after the meeting.

Units reported following Roberts Rules, parliamentary procedure and the Unit Handbook. The use of acronyms VA & R, AEF, etc. was discouraged on the Unit as well as Department level. In an organization made up of older members, being open to new members and their ideas was stressed. Units mentored members on ALA history, ALA programs and the importance of our veterans. Several units had new membership chairmen this year taking on a new leadership role. One Unit had twelve members successfully complete the ALA Leadership Course. Congratulations.

Junior Activities Report

- *Sunny Hobbs, Chairman*

The Junior members of Wyoming have been hard at work this year. We have a fair few members that live in other states, and who help spread awareness of the ALA even farther. We are also an interesting mix of individual members attached to senior Units, and organized Junior Units. This, coupled with members living out of state, has proven to be a hurdle in bringing everyone together on a consistent basis. The girls are still hard at work making a difference in their communities, but I believe that the fellowship and camaraderie that organized Units share is important. I am hoping to bridge this gap a bit using a dedicated Facebook page for our members this coming year.

Our girls work hard for their Units, doing everything we 'expect' Junior members to do - baking and packaging cookies, helping distribute poppies, making cards and tray favors, placing flags, decorating for Post dinners - and so much more. I have been humbled reading the reports that have come in this year, and would like to share a few 'not expected' projects our young women have taken on.

Moorcroft Juniors have been helping to cut and roll "plarn" balls to be knitted/crocheted into sleeping mats for Veterans. One of their girls has about 20 hours into this project.

Glendo Juniors made posters announcing and inviting local Veterans to the Veterans Day program. What a great personal touch for the Veterans (and what an amazing example for the community); no doubt about where you stand when you're looking a handmade poster in the eye.

Green River doesn't have a dedicated Junior Unit yet, but that hasn't stopped their girls from showing up and helping at major community events. Some of their girls helped in the town wide Trunk or Treat, as well as the Mayor's Tree Lighting at Christmas.

Fort Bridger has a strong program, and I am amazed at what they have accomplished this year. They raised \$100 for Wyoming Cares and for CWF, they donated \$200 to the Legion to help with the Veterans Dinner, and paid half the postage to mail cookies on their cookie month. The girls helped and had booths at the Veterans Freedom Festival, a regional Veterans program. And my favorite, the Juniors have an adopt-a-vet program, with each member having their own secret pal. Gifts are given to these pals at each holiday.

I have spoken (and emailed) with two Units this year about getting a Junior Unit up and running. There seems to be a lot of thought and planning going into these Units and I believe that by laying a strong groundwork to start we will have flourishing Units to show. I look forward to working with everyone to make these plans come to fruition. I look forward to seeing what the future hold for the amazing young women of Wyoming.

Visit us online at:

www.wyamericanlegion.org

Where you will find the latest news, up coming events, contact information and forms and publications.

POPPY REPORT - Donna Gladson

The American Legion Auxiliary Poppy program is designed to provide money to help our Veterans and their families.

Proclamations were acquired from mayors and the Governor to bring awareness to the Poppy and Poppy Day. One Unit set up a Poppy Display in their local Library. Business windows were decorated with Poppy Displays to also bring awareness. Poppy posters are made by school children and one Unit had a Northwest Division National Poppy Poster winner two years in a row.

The Units in Wyoming purchase poppies made by Veterans at the Veteran's Home of Wyoming. We were in a dilemma this year as we only had two Veterans from the Home making poppies. There was a need for almost 40,000 poppies. One Veteran in the Buffalo community and two Veterans in Moorcroft, WY stepped up to help. Also students in a Government class stepped up and helped make poppies. The two Veterans in Moorcroft donated their time which we appreciated immensely and the three other Veterans were paid \$80.00 per one thousand, which gives them extra cash for anything they might need. With all the help which worked very hard, we were able to fill all orders which amounted to almost 37,800 poppies. The amount donated for poppies amounted to a total for all Units of \$11,728.00.

The donations were achieved in many ways, such as canvassing the businesses and the banks or by setting up tables at businesses and having

them manned by members and junior members. One Unit acquired donations from businesses by having them sponsor wreaths to be put on Veteran's graves. Some Units left donation canisters at various places during Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Veteran's Day. One Unit handed out poppy wrapped U.S. Flags for donations.

The use of the beautiful poppies has been very creative. One Unit sends poppies to the Cheyenne VA Hospital and the Veterans make beautiful wreaths to put on Veterans graves on Memorial Day. Poppies are made into beautiful corsages to give to Girls State participants and officers. Center pieces are made using poppies. Poppies are attached to white crosses to put on Auxiliary members graves. Poppies are made into sprays to be placed on the graves at the State Veterans Cemetery at Evansville. One Unit sent a poppy in all the letters that went to men and women in the Military from their city. One Unit places poppies on the flags that are placed on the graves of Veterans by the Post.

The donations that are received are used in many ways such as Bingo at the Veterans Home of Wyoming and root beer floats for the Veterans at the VA Hospital in Sheridan. Some of this money has been spent on the homeless Veterans food pantry with socks and boxer shorts donated to the VA Hospital. Help was given to Veteran families at Christmas for food. Money was sent to the VA Hospitals and to the Veterans Home of Wyoming.



American Legion Department of Wyoming encourages all communities to wear a red poppy on National Poppy Day™, May 26, 2017

Wear a poppy to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice and support the future of veterans, active-duty military and their families for generations to come.

Cheyenne, WY, May 12, 2017 – With Memorial Day on the horizon, American Legion Department of Wyoming reminds the public that Congress has designated May 26, 2017, as National Poppy Day™. The American Legion encourages all patriotic Americans to wear or display a red poppy as a symbol of remembrance and hope.

"The American Legion is pleased to have brought National Poppy Day™ to the United States," said Bill Frye, Department Commander of American Legion Department of Wyoming. "Wearing a poppy the Friday before Memorial Day is done to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and as a symbol of hope for the generations to come who will answer our nation's call to military service. It is important for Americans to remember that we have an entirely new group of veterans, and supporting them and their families is absolutely essential."

The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed by those who fought and those who continue to still fight for our country following World War I. It was popularized by the publication of the wartime poem "In Flanders Fields." The poem was written by Lt. Col. John McCrae, M.D., while serving on the front line in World War I, to honor soldiers killed in battle. In 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion Family.

Each year, members of The American Legion Family, led by the American Legion Auxiliary, distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation. All donations received on National Poppy Day™ will be used by The American Legion to support the future of local veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs. This year, The Boeing Company became the first National Poppy Day™ sponsor.

For more information about National Poppy Day™ and to purchase poppy-themed items visit us online at www.legion.org/PoppyDay.

About The American Legion

The American Legion is the largest U.S. wartime veterans service organization with 2.1 million members in nearly 14,000 posts in communities worldwide. Chartered by Congress in 1919, The American Legion is committed to mentoring youth, advocating patriotism, promoting strong national security, and devotion to service members and veterans.



National Poppy Day™ Talking Points

ABOUT NATIONAL POPPY DAY:

- » This year, The American Legion asked Congress to designate May 26, 2017, as National Poppy Day™, and encourages all patriotic Americans to wear a red poppy as a symbol of remembrance and hope.
- » The poppy is a symbol of the sacrifices made in service to our country. Wearing the flower on National Poppy Day™ pays tribute to the fallen and the future of living veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families.
- » More information about National Poppy Day™ can be found online. www.legion.org/PoppyDay
- » This year, The Boeing Company became the first National Poppy Day™ sponsor.

ABOUT THE POPPY:

- » The poppy flower adorned the battlefields of Flanders Field in Belgium and France during World War I and was looked upon by those serving as a living symbol of their fallen comrades' sacrifices.
- » In 1920, after World War I, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war.
- » Poppies are never sold. Each year, members of The American Legion Family, led by the American Legion Auxiliary, distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation. The donations support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.
- » Distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion in 1924.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN LEGION:

- » Chartered by Congress in 1919, The American Legion is the largest wartime veterans service organization with more than 2.1 million members in nearly 14,000 posts around the world.
- » Focused on four distinct pillars, The American Legion is committed to advocacy for veterans, strong national defense, mentoring youth and keeping patriotism and honor alive and well.



National Poppy Day™ Quick Facts

NATIONAL POPPY DAY

- » This year, The American Legion asked Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day™, a day that encourages all Americans to wear a red poppy as a symbol to remember the fallen and support the living heroes who have worn our nation's uniform.
- » After World War I, the poppy flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed the growth to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed by those who fought and those who continue to fight for our country following the publication of the poem "In Flanders Fields." The poem was written by Lt. Col. John McCrae, M.D. while serving on the front line in World War I, to honor soldiers killed in battle.
- » The poppy became the official flower of The American Legion on Sept. 27, 1920, in Cleveland, Ohio.
- » Each year, members of The American Legion family, led by the American Legion Auxiliary, distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation. Proceeds from the sale of items such as jewelry and other themed merchandise also benefit the mission to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN LEGION

- » Chartered by Congress in 1919, The American Legion is the largest wartime veterans service organization with more than 2.1 million members in nearly 14,000 posts around the world.
- » Founded in 1919, during the first National Convention of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary has more than 8,000 units, with nearly 750,000 members. It is the world's largest women's patriotic service organization.
- » Focused on four distinct pillars of service, The American Legion is committed to advocacy for veterans, a strong national defense, mentoring youth and keeping patriotism and honor alive and well.
- » The American Legion leads efforts to advocate for veteran benefits earned as a result of service to our country. The Legion works with government officials on local, state and federal levels to ensure the issues most important to veterans are top priorities for our government leaders.
- » Membership in The American Legion allows veterans to be part of an organization that belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives. The American Legion is committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans.

More information about The American Legion and National Poppy Day™ is available online.

www.legion.org and www.legion.org/PoppyDay

THE AMERICAN LEGION



The District News



Saddle Up with Sunny - District 1

As another Auxiliary year draws to a close, I am again struck at how amazing our membership is.

District 1 has reported over 2,000 hours volunteered and over \$7,000 in direct donation to our Veterans. Whether through expected activities such as designing floats, adopting families for the holidays, Post beautification, and Veteran's Day and Memorial Day events, or unexpected ideas, the women in this district have made their collective voices heard. Events that bring together the Legion Family have been taking off this year in our district. Between Awareness Walks, cook-offs (with friendly betting on the side), regional festivals, and Post family dinners, the women and men of our organization have really been coming together. A strong bond between Auxiliary, Legion, Sons, and Riders is paramount for our success, and I am so happy to see these bonds being strengthened. Community service projects have also been important this year. I am always excited to see the different ideas coming out of the vastly different towns in our district.

Multiple Units have hosted (or helped provide for) Teacher Appreciation luncheons and activities in local schools.

A flag etiquette class was given at one Post, and attended by 25 people members of the community.

We had a Unit this year donate \$350 to an active duty serviceman to help with bills when his child received a liver transplant.

To apply for a scholarship, one Unit requires a living history to be taken from a local Veteran, and these histories are shelved and available at the local library.

One of our communities without a local hospital, pays for any Veteran to ride a shuttle bus over the mountain for medical appointments. Unit 47 Pinedale was contacted this year when, during a building cleanout, two United Spanish War Veteran Auxiliary grave markers were found. After some research the provenance of the markers was established and two current members discovered they are related to the members to whom the markers belong. These markers will be permanently installed on those graves. I am excited to see what the next year has in store for all of us and I would like to say thank you to the women in District 1 for showing me that there is no limit to what can be accomplished by a group of women giving their all.

Kick It Up with Kathy – District 2

The District 2 Spring Conference was held on April 22, hosted by Travis Snow Unit 5 in Torrington. In attendance were 30 members. Special guests were Dept. Pres. Sonja Wright and Dept. Vice-Pres. Vicki Paddock. District awards were given for program reports and Poppy Posters.

Ferdinand Brandstetter Unit 1 of Van Tassel: the unit met in April at the home of Pres. Phyllis Hahn. The unit planned to direct memorial monies to the Child Welfare Foundation, to the Poppy Fund, and send money for cookies to the Cheyenne VA. A document has been found in the President's box that stated Unit 1 was the first Auxiliary unit

organized in Wyoming. Post 1 was the first in the world to have 100% membership. Post 1 and Unit 1 hope to increase and maintain the membership of these historic organizations whose century celebration is coming in 2020.

Travis Snow Unit 5 of Torrington: The unit hosts Saturday Bingo twice a month as a fundraiser. The unit voted to repair the bring board at a cost of \$1500. The unit served the annual Veterans Day breakfast for veterans and their families. Members participated in the Veterans Day parade. The unit sent cookies to the Cheyenne VA in Nov. Unit 5 purchased the food for their Christmas Dinner, which was cooked by the SAL. Unit members delivered goody plates to elderly shut-ins, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus and other Christmas characters. The unit donated \$150.00 for bears for the children of deployed troops. Unit 5 will send two delegates to WY Girls State. Unit 5 is working on several fundraising projects to be held during the eclipse.

Samuel Mares Unit 8 of Douglas: Unit 8 has helped Post 8 throughout the year, with services and breakfasts on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The unit celebrated Patriots Day with a chili feed supper. Members helped with the AL Oratorical Contest at the local, District 2, and state levels. The unit and community sent over 250 dozen cookies to the Cheyenne VA.

Jesse Martin Unit 9 of Glenrock: Members delivered 535 dozen cookies and 30 cans of coffee to the Cheyenne VA in March. The unit furnished a luncheon for departed member Barbara Feightner, the unit Historian and longtime member. A nominating committee will meet to find nominees for election of officers in May. Poppy Day in Glenrock will be May 20. Unit 9 will send two WY Girls State candidates.

Ora Call Unit 10 of Wheatland: Unit 10 will sponsor 2 delegates to WY Girls State. A reception for the delegates and their parents will be held in May. A project is underway to place plaques with veterans' names on the flagpoles of the Avenue of Flags at the Wheatland cemetery. Unit 10 will pay for 10 plaques this year. The unit will hold Poppy Day, and will participate in the memorial ceremony at the cemetery on Memorial Day.

John Prince Unit 15 of Glendo: Unit 15 will sponsor one WY Girls State delegate. The Honor Wall Project of Unit 15 has over 30 bricks to set on the Honor Walk when weather permits. To date people have purchased 130 bricks for the project. Unit 15 will work with the city on a holiday project of a food drive and present give away. The unit will discuss being a food vendor at the Solar Eclipse event.

Reed-Gobble Unit 63 of Lingle: Unit 63 held a Veterans Day dinner. Donations were taken for Shopping Days. For American Education Week Unit 63 delivered clementines and thank you notes to all employees at the Lingle-Fort Laramie School. In January Unit 63 sent 442 dozen cookies to the Cheyenne VA. In March the unit hosted a carry-in dinner for the American Legion's birthday. Unit members are preparing to make poppy wreaths for Memorial Day. Wreaths will be displayed at local businesses for donations and will be placed on veterans' graves on Memorial Day weekend.

John McGill Unit 70 of LaGrange: Unit 70 had 23 students participate in the Poppy Poster Contest. The unit awarded the Carolyn Laycock Memorial Scholarship to Kenna Noble. The recipient was chosen based on an interview with a veteran. The \$175.00 scholarship will be used at a college of her choice. One entry to the American Essay Contest was received from Rianna Pafford. Unit 70 will deliver cookies and gluten free snacks to the Cheyenne VA in May. On Memorial Day Unit 70 will host a carry-in dinner after the Post's memorial service. A drawing will be held for a cutwork tablecloth and table runner featuring red poppies. Proceeds will go to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

McDonald/Voight Unit 75 of Chugwater has lost a devoted, long time member, Irma Baker, who was always helping the unit in every way. She will be greatly missed. Unit 75 delivered 85 dozen cookies to the Cheyenne VA in March. The unit is planning for their annual Memorial Day dinner, slated for Monday, May 29.

JJ Webb Unit 95 of Guernsey: Unit 95 delivered cookies to the Cheyenne VA in April. Unit 95 is sponsoring one WY Girls State delegate. Members brought items for a goody bag for the delegate. The unit will also provide \$50.00 toward gasoline for transportation. Poppy Day will be held May 27 in Guernsey and Hartville. On Memorial Day members of Unit 95 will raise the Avenue of Flags at the Guernsey cemetery.

Galloping with Ginger - District 3

The units were busy doing all their activities in the year. It is interesting to see what they do for veterans, military and their families.

Casper – in the early part of the year the ladies were busy making “Valentines for Veterans”. 300 of the cards were picked up by the State President of the Pony Express Riders and taken to Guernsey. Then they were transported by horseback to Hartville, WY where they were hand-cancelled with Pony Express stampings. Then a total of 837 cards were mailed to the Sheridan VA, Cheyenne VA and the Wyoming Veterans Home in Buffalo. The unit took the Promise Purses from last year and started collecting personal items to fill them. Girls were interviewed at the end of their junior year of High School for Girls State. Ten girls signed up to attend Girls State and will have training sessions in April & May in preparation for the 2017 session. Organizational meetings were held on March 14 & 21st to get their paperwork completed and mailed in.

Lander – In January the unit presented the American Youth Hero/Good Deed award to Zach Grogan, and an article about that was placed in the Auxiliare. The Mid-Winter meeting in Cheyenne was attended by three members. In March members joined with the Post and SAL members and their guests for a Legion Birthday dinner held at the Lander Senior Center. Over 90 were in attendance and over \$115 was raised for CWF by putting the “piggy banks” out on the table during dinner. One of their newer members, Annabeth Babcock, a past Girls State Delegate, is interviewing veterans along with her classmates

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The District News



From page 18

for a high school project involving the Library of Congress. The unit has collected \$265 for cookies from donations from the Legion family for the Sheridan VA. The unit gave donations as follows: \$100 to the Wyoming High School Rodeo Scholarship Fund, \$25 to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund, \$25 to the Chapel of Four Chaplains, \$240 to the local food bank, \$100 to the Sheridan VA Hospital, \$100 to the Cheyenne VA Hospital and \$50 to the Veterans Home in Buffalo. The unit lost four members to death this year: Cynthia Bryant, Sandra Collins, Mary Jensen and Cora Anderson. The unit has been working on their membership with 92 members currently paid. They have four PPP members. The unit decided to give the money raised in a bake sale to the DAV veterans of Wyoming. The unit voted to sell the Bingo Machine to the Living Water Fellowship for \$125 along with the box.

Riverton – In January the unit sent \$100 to the Sheridan VA, \$100 to the Cheyenne VA and \$50 to the Veterans Home in Buffalo. One member adopted a soldier who is a chaplain. Members agreed to bring items to send to him at the next meeting. In March the unit gave the Chapel of Four Chaplains \$40 and the Riverton Senior Center \$50 for allowing them to meet in the library. Members kept busy sewing items for veterans, military and their families. Items were also given to the Family Violence Shelter, Extension Office, Toys for Tots, Nursing Home and Assisted Living. The items included neck pillows, lap robes, “Urbie” bears, sweat shirts, ditty bags, bath mitts, gloves, scarves and Indian dolls. One member is crocheting a rug for the homeless. The unit has two girls signed up to attend Girls State. The Girls State Chairman will drive them to the event in Cheyenne this June. The unit supports the girls and pays all but the \$30 paper fee. The unit collected \$100 for CWF in the pigs and cup.

Ft. Washakie – In January the unit decided to make Valentines for Veterans. The unit purchased the supplies to make Valentine cards. The unit collected \$60 in donations to send to the Sheridan VA for cookies. The unit sent over 100 Valentines in February to the Veterans Home in Buffalo. They received a nice thank you letter for their efforts. In March the unit discussed and planned their bouquets for the Veterans graves and bought supplies. They gave \$100 to a family who lost their home and all their belongings to a fire.

Bucking with Becky – District 4

District #4 Year-End-Report: Spring blizzard in Basin to sunshine in Meeteetse in less than two hours on April 9, the day of our Spring Conference. Receiving no call from Department officers, arriving in Meeteetse via 4X, 45 mph and knowing that all units would be present, because they called to verify, District #4 held their scheduled Spring Convention. All four units were in attendance with 11 members answering to Unit Roll Call. Hosted by Unit 29's Meeteetse member, Becky Bennet, all four Presidents read their year-end report. District #4 President Becky Allred read the District Impact Report with modified reports from some

units on Sunday

1. **SERVICE FOR VETERANS:** Total volunteer hours 22,034; Dollars Spent \$7,666.54; In-Kind \$7,920.25; Total Contributions to Other Organizations/Agencies \$1,456.65; Number of veterans assisted 6,974; Number of Veterans in Classroom 48; Number of new Service to Veteran Volunteer Recruits 8; Number of poppies ordered 1,650; Donations from poppies \$13,424.08

2. **SERVICE FOR ACTIVE DUTY/RESERVE MILITARY:** Volunteer Hours 485; Dollars Spent \$1,912.50; Number of Military Families Served 268;

3. **SERVICE FOR MILITARY FAMILIES:** Volunteer Hours 548; Dollars Spent \$1,208.03; Number of Military Families Served 268;

4. **UNIT SCHOLARSHIPS:** Number Given 3; Amount \$725;

5. **SERVICE TO OUR CHILDREN/YOUTH:** Support for Programs 3 Yes 1 No; Number of Volunteer Hours to all Children 514; Dollars raised for all children including military \$497; Dollars of Direct Aid \$281; Number of Children 43; Programs of Patriotism excluding Girls State 7; Number of Volunteer Hours for Patriotic Events 206.

6. **GIRLS STATE:** Volunteer Hours on/at Girls State 533; Number of Girls Attending 16; Number of Volunteers 20; Expenditures for Girls State \$4,658.45;

7. **SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITIES:** Number of Community Service Hours 6,622; Dollars Spent \$266.00; In Kind \$580.25. The individual unit highlight involvement:

POWELL held its first Legion-Auxiliary Community Picnic since 1929 and plan to continue this; sponsored a Halloween-Chili Cook Off night with 330 children participating; delivered needed commodities to veterans/community members monthly; participated in Yellow Ribbon event; presented certificates to two unit members for their CPR life-saving of a veteran at the Legion in March and are working to train all wishing members in CPR as part of the National Security program.

GREYBULL worked throughout the year to deliver items to in home and Wyoming Retirement and Bonnie Bluejacket Nursing Home veterans and families; mailed items to overseas military.

WORLAND worked hard throughout the year to support drawings for their programs of the Unit, including Girls State, Poppy and others. Unit #44 continue working on their role of duties for Department Convention which will be held in June in Worland, District Units were asked and agreed to help where needed.

BASIN worked hard in Americanism, Poppy, Girls State and supporting local Post #29, who really help our unit in so many ways. Feel free to contact any unit in District #4 for their programs' happenings, ideas and help; they love to share with everyone their Heroes - our VETERANS. Susan Sironen was elected District Vice President and Trudy Zaffarano-Anderson was nominated for District President and will be elected at Convention.

Lasso with Linda District 5

I had the pleasure of visiting Moorcroft,

Kaycee, Hulett, and Sheridan Units as District 5 President. I loved the family like atmosphere of the units that showed the feeling of love for your country and helping your neighbors. They truly become one when they gather together as American Legion Auxiliaries. I wish to apologize for not attending the Buffalo and Sundance Units. Time and other responsibilities of life made it difficult to make it happen. I attended Department Convention in Buffalo, Fall Workshop in Green River, and Mid-Winter Conference in Cheyenne. The information received at the meetings was shared with you at my visits or by phone, email, or text to make sure you were kept informed. It was great to represent our district as a judge at the District Oratorical Contest in Gillette. The picnic with the National Commander at Devil's Towers was another great time. Unit 80 in Hulett prepared a terrific lunch. It was a great day. Our District 5's End-Of-The-Year Impact Report shows your dedication to the veterans and your community.

Great Job District 5! Thank you for being such great people. I believe you are doing a great job of caring for your community and veterans.

Fireside Tales with Fran - District 6

District 6 Spring Conference was hosted by Husted-Pendleton Unit 14. By Fran Payne-Rogers, District 6 President. Units present were Cheyenne 6, Laramie 14, Saratoga 54, Pine Bluffs 60 and Medicine Bow 64 which made a quorum. Albin 77 and Cheyenne 83 were missed. It was announced that Cheyenne 83 has sent in membership. Unit Reports were read by

Units present. It is always interesting to hear what the other Units in the District are doing and get ideas for next year.

National TAL Incoming Commander presented to the Auxiliary and the importance of the Legion Family. Denise H. Rohan from Wisconsin is the first female veteran to run for National Commander.

District Officers for next year are Dianna Gailbreth Unit 54 Vice President and Joyce Menke, PDP Unit 64 was nominated for District 6 President. They will be installed at Department Convention.

The District recognized 2016-17 deceased members during the Memorial Service. Mary Alice Sjoden, Nellie Wood and Marie Huntley all from Unit 54 Saratoga and Harriet Byrd, Bessie Stubert Dickerson, Marilyn Faircloth, Ruby Selig, Constance Homan Snyder and Yvonne Walker all from Unit 6.

The following entries were judged and placed. Scrapbook – Pine Bluffs Unit 60; Unit Reports – Medicine Bow Unit 54; Publicity – Pine Bluffs Unit 60 and Saratoga Unit 54. The District had no Americanism Essays or Poppy Posters to judge. Department President Sonja presented District President and Publicity Chairman Fran with a certificate of appreciation for submitting her mid-year report.

Department Officers present were Department President Sonja, Vice President Vicki, Secretary Treasurer Peg with Chaplain Susan and Historian Gina sending regrets.



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Sometimes fair or unfair is simply a point of view.
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