

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ♦ Contest Winner March
- ♦ Watch Out for Scams
- ♦ Direct TV Package Deal
- ♦ 300 Club
- ♦ GVR benefit
- Letters of Intent

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## **NEVADA LEGION NEWS**

"Veterans Strengthening America"

VOLUME5, ISSUE 6

15 MARCH 2022

March Contest Winner—Post ?

NO ENTRIES!

# 103rd HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE AMERICAN LEGION



## COMM&NDER'S CORNER

Richard Eberly

Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

During February, I had the opportunity to visited some southern
Nevada posts. It was a pleasure to see and meet a lot of the members. Also,
while I was out seeing and talking with many of you, I was asking each post to think about having
anyone that is interested to considered running for Sergeant-of- Arms for the Department of Nevada. Just remember that together we are stronger. Let's remember that we all have our ways of doing things but we can learn from another; we can help support everyone both in our posts and other
posts within our District. As things are continuing to get back to normal, we also need to get back out
in our communities to help those in need and to create new partnerships in our communities. I believe that our organization is in a position to do what our fore fathers did and that is build this organization up and let everyone know what we do and stand for.

I want to again thank our southern posts that did allow for me to visit. The Winter DEC was a great success. We had some laughs, some embarrassing moments and over all a great time. Since the Department Convention will in Las Vegas this June, I am hoping to see an overwhelming number of members from the South to come out and join us. The Department convention will be June 26 and 27, and everyone is welcome. Again, if you have any events coming during the next few months, please let me know so we can share that information to let everyone know what is happening.



DEC Feb 19 Leading Candidate 2022 - 2023 NY Jim Troiola





## **1st Vice Commander Valerie Scheuering**

Hello My Fellow Legionnaires

I find the history of The American Legion fascinating. The information I'm writing on is from Legion.org.



May 2005 - The American Legion lobbied successfully to remove from VA funding legislation administration-proposed increases in VA prescription co-payments and institution of user fee for Priority Group 8 veterans using VA health facilities. Efforts focus on legislation to provide mandatory, vice discretionary, funding of VA health care.

**Oct. 2007** - The American Legion National Executive Committee passes Resolution 35 and adopts The American Legion. Riders as a national program of The American Legion.

**June 2008** - President George W. Bush signs into las the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act, a next-generation GI Bill strongly supported by the Legion. The vill renews the federal government's commitment to veterans by providing them with substantially better education benefits. The Post-9/11 GI Bill took effect Aug 2009, and sent an unprecedented number of veterans to college.

**Oct. 2009** - President Obama signs the Veterans Health Care Budget Reform Act of 2009, guaranteeing "advance funding" for VA appropriations, a formula that The American Legion has strongly supported for many years. The new law sets funding for VA one year in advance.

**Feb. 2010** - The entire Legion family bands together and wins \$250,000 for Operation Comfort Warriors (OWC) in PepsiCo's Refresh Everything Project, submitting the most votes in an online contest and beating out hundreds of other groups and charities to take first place in the contest's first month. A big part of getting the word out was the American Legion Online Update enewsletter. This is an early example of the still growing poser of online and social media to augment everything the Legion does.

**Oct. 2010** - Continuing a long-standing tradition of advocating for timely and adequate medical care for veterans, the Legion forms a PTS-TBI Ad Hoc Committee to both examine currents methods by VA and the Department of Defense off treating the two conditions, and investigate potential alternatives.

**Dec. 2010** - The Legion officially begins a relationship with United Services Automobile Association (USAA), making the veteran-founded insurance company "The American Legion's preferred provider of financial services." The purchase of USAA products gains money for Legion programs. USAA representatives ofter give members helpful financial information and tips through Legion media.

**Aug. 2011** - The American Legion Baseball World Series is held for the first time in the tournament's new permanent home, Shelby, N.C. Prior to this, the tournament had rotated to different cities. Total paid attendance at the Shelby contests soars to an all-time high of 86,000 total.

Until next month... ... as always stay safe and healthy. God Bless this Great Nation and The American Legion.



## 2nd Vice Commander, Robert Morris





If you receive a suspicious email from the Department of Veterans Affairs, **DO NOT** open the email or click on any attachments or links. VA does not send emails asking for personal information, threatening emails, or emails claiming to take adverse actions on claimants or beneficiaries (jail or lawsuits). If you receive any of these emails or are in doubt about any communications appearing to be from VA, please contact VA directly

at 1 (800) 827-1000.

Phishing is a type of cyber-attack where the attacker sends a message designed to deceive a person and convince them to reveal sensitive information to the attacker. It is the most common means attackers use to gain unauthorized access to a device to obtain sensitive information.

Phishing emails can come from an unfamiliar sender or familiar looking sender with an email address that is off by a few letters. Additionally, phishing emails can include large or "too good to be true" offers or attachments.

VA takes the security of Veterans seriously.

For more information, please see this <u>YouTube video</u> of VA's Office of Financial Management, Chief Financial Officer Charles Tapp II, on the proactive measures VA has taken to protect and prevent fraudulent activity and how you can protect your finances and personal data from fraud.

<u>VA blogs</u> also have information to help you stay vigilant at work and in your personal life and provide <u>additional information</u> on how phishing attacks are getting even more sophisticated.

You can find more information to help keep you cybersafe at <u>Cybercrime Support</u> <u>Network</u> and the <u>Scam Spotter organization</u>.

OKAY FOLKS! It's time to spruce up this newsletter! We are sorely lacking in photos and stories or info from the various Posts, Units and Squadrons around the State. I know the Commander tries to highlight events but you all have to share that information first!

I'm soliciting photos and stories to go with them! Share with us what your Districts, Posts, Squadrons, Detachments and Units are doing! This is a family newsletter, so everybody join in!

I need 12 really awesome photos and stories! One for each month. I'm starting with January, so get to work looking for stories to share, upcoming events, past events, highlights of interesting people in your post...whatever you can come up with and be sure to submit some awesome photos too!

Each month's winner will receive a prize and have their story published on the front page of this newsletter as well as be featured on our Department Facebook page.

All entries must fit onto this one page. Each story needs at least one photo. Please identify those in the pictures and have their permission to publish. If there is more than one entry per month I will be the sole judge to determine what goes in and who is the winner (LOL)!

If your entry is not selected for a month it will roll into the next month's submissions.

\*Please email your entry to WEIGOLDY63@GMAIL.COM by the 10th of each month for consideration in this contest. (Yes, I will accept them any day of the month, just can only be considered for the current month if received by the 10th).

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* ENTRY\*\*\*\*\* SUBJECT LINE MUST READ: AL PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks for playing! Newsletter Editor, Yvette



On March 4, 2022, The American Legion Reed-Gregory Post 7 of Elko, presented its yearly donation to Elko F.I.S.H for \$500. Thank you, F.I.S.H, for providing these services for the community.

Here is the breakdown of the 2021 statistics for this organization provided by Sherry Smith, Executive Director:

- 1,328 new clients signed up for services with our agency.
- 3,612 lunches were served to those in need in our community.
- 77 Veterans came to Elko F.I.S.H. for services.
- 1,471 bed nights were provided at the Samaritan House Emergency Shelter that Elko F.I.S.H. facilitates. This shelter is open 365 days a year from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. and provides dinner/breakfast, a warm bed and a hot shower for those seeking shelter from the outdoors. The shelter is located at 487 S 5th Street, Elko. Contact: (775)738-3038.
- 412 vouchers were provided to those in need from our thrift store. That could have been clothing, outdoor items, furniture and other items.

\*Elko F.I.S.H. provides four different food programs throughout the month. All services are drive-thru or walk-up only. Located at 821 Water Street, Elko. Contact: (775)738-3038.

The American Legion Post 7 meets every third Monday of the month. For more information, please call Ron Petroski at 775-385-8164.



Photo from left to right: Shawn Horton, Squadron 7 Adjutant, Brenda Horton, Post 7 Adjutant, Ron Petroski, Post 7 Commander, and Sherry Smith, F.I.S.H. Executive Director

## **POST 7 HAPPENINGS**







TICKET<sup>†</sup> **ASK HOW!** 







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## DIRECTV OFFER FOR THE AMERICAN LEGION POSTS.

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**ENTERTAINMENT™ PACK** 99 **OVER 100 CHANNELS** EWS ESPIRED ESPIRE F51

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Local Channels^

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 Music Choice Premium for just \$29,99/mo.— 25% Off the Retail Price!

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Offers end 3/31/22. New commercial customers only. Regional Sports Network Fee of \$2.99/mo applies to BUSINESS XTRA PACK.

For more information, please contact: **MARKK GONZALES** COMMERCIAL SATELLITE SALES

800-910-0626 | markk.gonzales@cssdtv.com



^Local channels eligibility based on service address. Not all networks available in all markets.

\*Local chammels eligibility based on survice address. Not all networks available in all markets.

Other eads 3/31/122. BUSINESS SELECT PACK DFEER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SELECT PACK (regularly \$74.99/mm.) required. Upon DIRECTV system activation, DIRECTV will bill the new customer's account the discounted rate of 15% off the national retail rate, equaling \$56.37m/mm. TV Access fee of \$57mm. apply for each receiver. Following the Minimum Commitment Period, the fees may change in accordance with DIRECTV's then prevailing retail rates. A BUSINESS SELECT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of 24 consecutive months of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT PACK OFFER, Purchase of BUSINESS SCHERIFIAMMENT P

## CHANNEL LINEUP EFFECTIVE AS OF 7.18.21



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## THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA

## 2022-2023

## LETTERS OF INTENT

## **DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**

VALERIE SCHEUERING POST 37

**DEPARTMENT 1ST VICE COMMANDER** 

ROBERT MORRIS POST 8

**DEPARTMENT 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE COMMANDER** 

BRENDA HORTON POST 7

**DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS** 

JERRY BOOTZIN POST 14

PAMELA WALKER POST 60

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PERSON (2022 – 2024)

JEANETTE EVANS POST 7

**ALTERNATE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PERSON (2022-2023)** 

JIM STEWART POST 30

JOEL FORMAN POST 76



## THE AMERICAN LEGION LEGISLATIVE PRIORITES

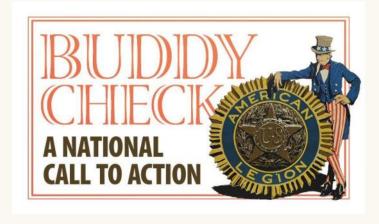
Our Washington Conference was held the first week of March. Unfortunately, virtually again as we are still not allowed to visit our Legislators in person on Capitol Hill.

Every Legionnaire is an advocate for our legislative priorities. We especially need folks in the southern part of our state to match up with Representatives and the 2 Senators and speak to them about our priorities.

To find tools to help you talk with our Legislators go to this link on the Legion website:

https://www.legion.org/publications/226187/legislative-agenda-117th-congress-2nd-session

Attached is a copy of the current Legislative Priorities. You can download both a color and B&W copy from the Legion website at the link above. (See page 20).





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As a member of The American Legion, you have access to discounted contract pricing wherever business takes you. Your discount never expires and can be used for personal, school or business purchases such as ink, toner, paper, cleaning and classroom supplies! Find all the essential items you need to keep running as efficiently as possible.

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1

Text 'TALSPC' to 833-344-0228 to

download a Store Purchasing Card to your phone.

2

Receive 10% off a qualifying purchase of \$10 or more with code: 93563230. Offer only valid online through 9/17/2021.

\*Orders must be placed 1 hour before store closing time. Visit business officedepot.com/pickup for details. \*\*Free Delivery: Minimum purchase required after discounts and before taxes. Orders outside our local delivery area and most furniture, oversized, bulk items, cases of bottled water and other beverages and special order items do not qualify. Non-qualifying orders incur a delivery charge (minimum charge of \$9.99). Many orders can be delivered next business of MAN and 5:00 PM or via fax by 3:00 PM, local time (in most locations). Coupon valid only at business officedepot com or by phone at 888.263 3423 or fax at 888.813.7272. Offer not valid for government contract accounts. Not combinable with Store Purchasing or Procurement Cards. Use the coupon code for phone or fax orders or enter the coupon code to cart online at checkout. Not valid for purchases: 1) of gift or prepaid cards; 2) of all case paper; 3) of technology or consumer electronic products and accessories or software products; 4) of furniture & seating; 5) of performance protection plans; 6) of postage or mailing/shipping services; 7) of ink or toner; 8) of electronic labelers and labeling accessories; 9) of appliances; 10) of Highmark, Clorox, Lysol, Purell or simplehuman products; 11) of Charmin and Bounty item nos. 723927, 8010333, 7801709, 7435137, 7187313, 8010601, 7226070; 12) of medical, safety or related products & supplies; 13) of subscription services; 14) of the following services: off-site shredding, tech, furniture, marketing, administrative, or third party services; 15) of items by the pallet; or 16) of premiums/free gifts with purchase. Coupon cannot be used as an account payment. Coupon is good for one-time use only, is not transferable, is not for resale or auction and cannot be combined with other offers or promotions. No cash back. Void where prohibited. We reserve the right to limit quantities sold to each customer. Limit 1 coupon per customer/business.

## Membership Jerry Bootzin

It has been 30 days since our last newsletter and instead of increasing our membership statistics against other departments, we are falling further to the 44<sup>th</sup> position. The actual numbers between Departments at that level is very tight. We have two Posts that have reached 100% renewals in 2022. They are Post 27 in Sandy Valley and Post 32 in Carlin.

The question becomes what actions must be taken for any further improvement to occur? It is time to do a Post self-evaluation. Many of our Posts have recruited a total of 188 new members in the Department so far this year but that does not replace the hundreds of members that have **NOT renewed** their 2021, 2020 and 2019 memberships. Posts have done well, to a point, in contacting those members that have not-renewed. They have used snail-mail, email, texting, and telephone.

Where does your Post stand on continuing to use all methods of contacting your non renewing members. What works the best for you? Are you also using do Buddy-Checks and knocking on doors? Have you formed membership renewal committees with the sole purpose of contacting every non-renewed member? Do you document your efforts and responses received? However, have you asked yourselves, if you really have done enough? Is it possible to do more with the active members you have to draw on. Have you asked your District Commanders for Assistance?

I can provide you with an abundance of ideas and materials aimed at helping you with Membership but I cannot implement them for you.



https://www.legion.org/100miles/videos/PLHMR9MmnivfOuD-pHkwZ3LcOXgpFKazc-/4gNh0RHUqug

## 2021–2022 NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES

EARLY BIRD/NEF KICKOFF	SEPTEMBER 9, 2021	50%
FALL MEETINGS	OCTOBER 14, 2021	55%
VETERANS DAY	NOVEMBER 10, 2021	65%
PEARL HARBOR DAY	DECEMBER 8, 2021	75%
MID-WINTER	JANUARY 20, 2022	80%
PRESIDENTS DAY	FEBRUARY 9, 2022	85%
AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY	MARCH 9, 2022	90%
CHILDREN & YOUTH	APRIL 13, 2022	95%
ARMED FORCES DAY	MAY 11, 2022	100%
DELEGATE STRENGTH	30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION	

Target dates are the second Wednesday of the month unless a holiday falls on that day or at the beginning of that week.

Since Labor Day and Columbus Day fall on a Monday, the September and October target dates will be on a Thursday.

To maximize the December renewal notice, **the January target date** will be the third Wednesday of the month due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

## The American Legion August 2021 - July 2022 "300 Club" Lottery

## FILL OUT THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT

YOUR LOTTERY NUMBER (S) FOR THE "360 CLUB" WILL BE ISSUED IN THE ORDER THEY ARE RECEIVED

Name:			<u> </u>
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:		Post #
Quantity of Numbers : _	@ S	50.00 Each	= S
1st # Drawn 2nd # Draw			3rd # Drawn = \$75.00 4th Drawn = \$50.00



The American Legion
737 Veterans Memorial Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Attn: 300 Club



Open To All Legion & S.A.L. Members Only
Support The American Legion Department of Nevada
Buy Your Lottery Numbers Today
Only 300 Are To Be Sold

48 CHANCES TO WIN

4 Numbers are Drawn on the 15th of each Month S50.00 Per Number

OK TO COPY THIS FORM

## Upcoming events:

\*\*\*NFW\*\*\*

March 12: Nation of Patriots Poker Run. Registration from 0800-1000 at Las Vegas Harley-Davidson. Leaving from the Leatherneck Club at 0800.

Mar 13: General Membership Meetings. Join us for our monthly breakfast meetings at the Leatherneck Club (4360 Spring Mountain Rd). Doors open at 0830 for a light breakfast and the meeting begins at 0930ish. SAL meeting begins at 0830.

Mar 15: Legion Night at the Leatherneck. Join us for our monthly get-together on Taco Tuesday. It's a great way to meet other members, not to mention that they have some great food besides tacos.

March 17-20: Cottonwood Cove Campout. Join us on the shores for Lake Mohave for a weekend getaway. If you don't like camping, room are available at the Cottonwood Cove Resort.

Mar 19: Short branch Saloon Poker Run Fundraiser. If you haven't heard, the Short branch Saloon in Crystal burned down recently, and due to financial issued due to the pandemic, the owner had no insurance. If you're not going camping at Cottonwood Cove, consider going on the poker run. Registration from 0800-1000 at the Stateline Saloon, 4415 NV Route 373 in Amargosa. Biscuits and gravy will be served for breakfast

Mar 26: Rock the Troops XVII. We'll need all hands on deck to make this a successful fundraiser.

Apr 2: Red Riderz Texas Hold 'em Poker Run: Always a fun little run. Registration from 1400-1500 at the Rum Runner (6658 Boulder Hwy).

Apr 7-10: 40&8 Great Western Prominade. Not sure what the 40&8 is, join us as a guest in Tombstone AZ for the weekend, and join the fun. To register, CLICK HERE. For info on the local 40&8, go to http://v306.org/



The mission of Nevada's Legionnaires is to provide services to fellow veterans, their families and their communities.

## **DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**

Commander Richard Eberly	(775) 434-3386	eberlyrichard1967@gmail.com
1st Vice Cdr Valerie Scheuering	(775) 722-6516	nvnative1959@sbcglobal.net
2nd Vice Cdr Robert Morris	(702) 358-3565	robertmorris@hotmail.com
Sergeant-At-Arms Brenda Horton	(720) 394-5969	bannhorton3@aol.com
NEC Jeanette Rae Evans	(775) 997-5874	retiredmsgt@att.net
Alternate NEC Jack Ford	(702) 493-2252	acchief@aol.com
Chaplain Dan DePozo	(702) 564-9499	annedan1@centurylink.net
Judge Advocate James Beecher	(702) 382-2353	janv@nevadalegion.org
Finance Officer Jim Stewart	(775) 848-6072	controller@bordertowncasinorv.com
Historian Kim Eberly	(775) 434-3386	eberlykimberly.21@yahoo.com
Service Officer Mike Mader	(775) 813-7871	jmmader@aiinc.com
Adjutant Lionel Motta	(702) 382-2353	taldon737@aol.com
Membership Chair Jerry Bootzin	(303) 589-6314	jbootzin72@gmail.com
Jr. Past Dept. Cdr. Jim Stewart	(775) 848-6072	controller@bordertowncasinorv.com

## **COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS CHAIRS**

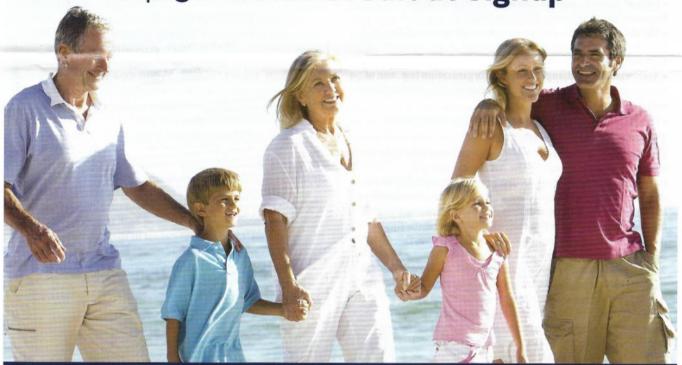
Americanism Jim Stewart	(775) 848-6072	controller@bordertowncasinorv.com
Children & Youth		
Finance Jim Stewart	(775) 848-6072	controller@bordertowncasinorv.com
Auxiliary Liaison		
Det. Commander Shawn Horton	(720) 394-5965	shawn.horton@chezhorton.com
<b>Public Relations</b>		
Legislative Dave Evans	(775) 997-5874	hmcs8425@att.net
VA & R Jeanette Rae Evans	(775) 997-5874	retiredmsgt@att.net
	DISTRICT COMM	MANDERS
1st District Jack Edstrom	(775) 544-5689	renojack0919@gmail.com
2nd District Jerry Bootzin	(303) 589-6314	jbootzin72@gmail.com
3rd District Lincoln Litchfield	(775) 934-1058	lincoln.litchfield@gmail.com
4th District Al Camp	(775) 885-0380	alcamp@nvbell.net





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## **SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

## **Detachment Commander, Shawn Horton**



The Detachment came very close to the 75% target for membership, as of February 16 the Detachment of Nevada is

41<sup>st</sup> in the nation with 73.35% membership which is 2.2% below target. We have another target of 80%, or 268 members on March 9, 2022. We have 245 members and need 23 more to meet this goal. The table below has the Squadrons and their current membership versus target. As you can see, 7 Squadrons are at or above 100%, congratulations to Squadrons 4, 7, 16, 19, 30, 37, and 149 for your achievement. We need some help from Squadrons 8, 40, and 60; these Squadrons are our big hitters, we need membership renewals from them to hit targets.

## Successes:

Donation of \$80K to fund Detachment operations for years to come; Met the 60% membership renewal prior to deadline of January 21, 2022, and Less than 3% below the 75% deadline for February.

## Goals for 2022:

Commander Horton to meet with each District at a district meeting;

Fill 2 leadership positions, and

Overall Goal for 2022 is to achieve 110% membership rate before 100% deadline.

## Opportunities:

Communication remains an opportunity to be pursued. We have an amazing group of people and need to be in touch with each other for mutual helpfulness;

Squadrons need to engage their members to find leaders, just having a Commander and Adjutant is not enough;

The SAL has an opportunity to meet as a group for training, planning, and strategy. A meeting in Tonopah, Ely, or somewhere central would be beneficial;

Place 6,500+ flags on Veteran's graves. Planned events: February 20 at Boulder City Veterans Cemetery, May 28 in Fernley, May 30 in Carlin, and June 12-18 at UNR;

Check out our Facebook page (<a href="https://facebook.com/nevadasons">https://facebook.com/nevadasons</a>) where we can add event information for any Squadron just send me the details and I will add the information. We are also looking for content ideas for our Detachment

website, please email me with ideas.

I am looking for a Vice-Commander for the Southern region, please contact me if you are interested.

As always, I am available by email (commander@nevadasal.org) or telephone (720-394-5965). I don't always answer numbers I don't recognize but leave a message and I will get back to you.

	Maria I								
Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
NV-0001	Darrell Dunkle	Reno	0	0	27	0	27	28	96.43%
NV-0004	Capitol	Carson City	0	0	1	0	1	- 1	100.00%
NV-0007	Reed-Gregory	Eko	7	0	17	0	24	20	120.00%
NV-0008	Las Vegas	Las Vegas	6	0	10	0	16	48	33.33%
NV-0016	Fred W Anderson	Fallon	-1	0	25	0	26	26	100.00%
NV-0019	Mineral County	Hawthorne	2	0	11	0	13	11	118,18%
NV-0030	Duby Reid	Sparks	0	0	20	0	20	20	100.00%
NV-0037	Gerald C Daniel	Fernley	1	0	10	0	11	6	183.33%
NV-0040	Basic Magnesium	Henderson	5	0	39	0	44	60	73.33%
NV-0051	Lance Corporal Budd M	N Las Vegas	0	0	2	0	2	8	25.00%
NV-0058	High Desert	Carson City	0	0	0	0	0	10	0.00%
NV-0060	Richard Springston	Laughlin	2	0	28	0	30	66	45.45%
NV-0149	Paradise	Las Vegas	4	0	27	0	31	30	103.33%
NV-9999	Sal Holding Sqdn	Las Vegas	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		SUM:	28	0	217	0	245	334	73.35%



## Citizenship for Honorable Service

Many veteran immigrants say they have been deported after discharge because they failed to acquire U.S. citizenship while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The American Legion supports measures to ensure the process of naturalization through military service is completed prior to discharge, to include reinstitution of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Naturalization at Basic Training Initiative, training for military recruiters and commands about the naturalization process, and the reopening all USCIS field offices abroad to serve servicemembers stationed overseas. The Legion also supports providing expedited citizenship applications and the resources to complete the applications to deported honorably discharged veterans.

Naturalization at Training Sites Act of 2022 H.R.1182/S. 3212 - Veteran Deportation Prevention and Reform Act

### Address the Forever Wars & Restore Congressional War Powers

After decades of protracted military conflicts overseas with little congressional input, Congress needs to reclaim its rightful role in matters of war and peace. Too often, the use of military force, as opposed to diplomacy, is considered the primary instrument of national power. The American Legion urges the renewal of a proper constitutional balance to U.S. foreign policy decision-making by urging Congress to renew its war-making oversight role beginning with repealing outdated Authorizations for the Use of Military Force (AUMFs), reforming the 1973 War Powers Resolution, and properly resourcing civilian tools of diplomacy.

S.J.Res.10 - Repeal the 1991 & 2002 Iraq AUMFs, S.2391 - National Security Powers Act of 2021

### Pay the Coast Guard

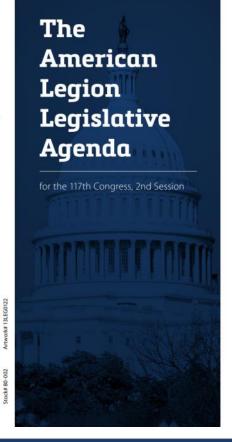
U.S. Coast Guard personnel carry out missions vital to our national security, but they serve in the only military branch working without pay during government shutdowns, due to their status under the Department of Homeland Security. The repeated and common threat of government shutdowns brings severe and unnecessary hardship on these men, women and families. The American Legion urges Congress to reintroduce and pass the Unwavering Support for our Coast Guard Act, which would guarantee that Coast Guard personnel are paid without delay, even in the case of a government shutdown.

5.1845 - Unwavering Support for our Coast Guard Act (USCG) Act

### **Protect the American Flag**

The American Legion urges Congress to approve an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would allow Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the U.S. flag. Additionally, The American Legion urges Congress to pass the Flag Code Modernization Act of 2021 to amend the U.S. Flag Code to codify multiple common patriotic customs and practices as described in American Legion Resolution No. 19: Flag Code Amendment.

H.J.Res. 51/S.J.Res. 20/H.R. 4212



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LEGION

The American Legion Legislative Agenda FOR THE 117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS, 2<sup>ND</sup> SESSION

The American Legion is the voice of nearly 2 million U.S. military veterans and servicemembers. A resolutions-based organization, The American Legion's positions represent the views of its members.

## **VA Health-care Modernization**

The future of VA health care is as a hybrid system consisting of VHA-provided inpatient and outpatient care, telehealth and community care. Ensuring VA is equipped to meet the unique needs of an increasingly diverse veteran population requires that VA fully leverage all health-care modalities and ensure a seamless transition between them. Modernizing electronic health records, veterancentric access standards and a transparent online scheduling system for both VHA-provided care and community care is essential to ensuring our veterans receive the care they deserve. The means by which VA delivers care may change, but one thing will not: VA should continue to deliver the best care anywhere to our nation's veterans.

## **Suicide Prevention & Peer Support**

Several studies have shown that peer support is beneficial for people who are experiencing mental health issues or are making the transition back to civilian life. The American Legion has its own peer-support program known as the "Buddy Check" which encourages outreach and veteran peer-to-peer engagement. The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation requiring VA to establish a national Buddy Check Week to encourage veterans to reach out to those with whom they served. The American Legion also encourages legislation to establish a peer-support program that would offer grants to place peer-support specialists in local posts of veterans service organizations.

S.544 - "Buddy Check Week" Act

## Address Toxic Exposure & Burn Pits

A disturbingly high percentage of veterans has been exposed to airborne toxic contaminates, often the result of proximity to local environmental hazards during military service. For decades, The American Legion has fought for service-connected disability benefits for adverse health conditions linked to exposures from a variety of toxic substances. The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation that (1) creates a list of presumptive illnesses based on scientific evidence; (2) requires VA to presume exposure for veterans deployed to areas with known environmental hazards; and (3) mandates VA toxic exposure studies.

H.R.3967 - Honoring Our Promise To Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act Of 2021

Toxics (PACT) Act Of 2021 S.3003 - Competensive and Overdue Support for Troops (COST)

## Improve Health Care for Women Veterans

VA has an obligation to develop and expand health-care services for women, the fastest-growing demographic in the veteran community. A high percentage of women veterans who are not enrolled in VA health care say lack of gender-specific services and awareness about VA benefits are primary reasons. The American Legion urges Congress to diligently oversee implementation of recently passed VA pilot programs, research initiatives, and policy revisions to address this issue. Additionally, The American Legion encourages expansion of child and newborn care services at VA.

S.2533/H.R.4794 - the Making Advances in Mammography and Medical Options (MAMMO) for Veterans Act H.R. 344 - Women Veterans TRUST Act

## **Concurrent Receipt**

Currently, 42,000 military retirees with combat-related injuries qualify for retirement pay for their service from DoD, and compensation for service-connected disabilities from VA. However, for retired veterans with disability ratings less than 50%, their VA compensation is deducted from their DoD retirement pay. The American Legion strongly supports ending this unfair policy of forcing

many military retirees to forfeit their retired pay to receive equal amounts of disability compensation. The Major Richard Star Act would repeal this draconian offset, allowing disabled veterans to concurrently receive both their retirement pay and their disability compensation.

5.344 - Major Richard Star Act

## **Guard & Reserve GI Bill Parity**

National Guard and Reserve servicemembers are being deprived of education benefits that active-duty servicemembers enjoy, despite completing the same duties. According to the law, as it is currently written, National Guard and Reserve servicemembers only accrue GI Bill entitlement when called to active duty under federal orders. When National Guard and Reserve servicemembers are activated under state orders, they do not accrue eligibility for Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits like their active-duty counterparts do. The American Legion believes that every day in uniform counts, and urges Congress to recognize the service of National Guard and Reserve servicemembers as eligible for the GI Bill.

H.R. 1836 - Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2021

## GI Bill for Honorable Service

To receive most VA benefits, a veteran's character of discharge or service must be "under honorable conditions." However,education assistance benefits within the GI Bill have a requirement that servicemembers receive an "honorable discharge." If the character of service is "general under honorable conditions," the Post-9/11 GI Bill remains out of reach for these veterans. The American Legion urges Congress to correct this statutory incongruity by amending U.S. Code to allow access to VA educational assistance to veterans with "general under honorable conditions" discharges.

## US J

## **Department Homeless Representative**

## **Brenda Horton**



Greetings fellow Legionnaires!

The focus this month is on homeless programs in our communities. I have called each District Commander to reach out to their Posts once again to see what programs there are in their communities.

Many Post members attend church, so I am asking each of you to ask your church officials if there any programs/ministries for the homeless; not Veterans specifically but where there are homeless people, there will be homeless Veterans.

Jerry Bootzin, District 2 Commander, is having a District meeting on March 12th and homeless/suicide prevention will be on his agenda.

His report so far: Homelessness for Veterans is handled by a wide variety of organizations in the Las Vegas greater area. Agencies like US Vets, Shadetree and the Nevada Homeless Alliance of United Way provide actual housing on the condition that the homeless person is free of drug and alcohol use. Agencies like HUD-VASH program (VA Supportive Housing) partnership provides vouchers to keep veterans off the street. The Kline fund also provides payment for security deposits or works with Landlords once the veteran has received an eviction notice.

When it comes to Suicide Prevention, the best resource is the Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention. Publication of the Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 is widespread. Training in identification of suicide ideation is available through a variety of resources to include The American Legion Tango Lima Alpha Pod cast's 4 part series on the subject. Other resources are the Southern NV Health District and Clark County Social Services. The concept of "Reach Vets" is used in all VA healthcare related clinics and hospitals.

Mostly what I found was information on identifying suicide ideations and make proper referrals through the crises line.

Lincoln Litchfield, District 3 Commander, has received feedback from a number of Posts.

Post 5: Commander Burke There does not appear to be any specific activity conducted by churches in Winnemucca that are focused on veterans. The request did start a good conversation with at least one church that is considering activities they might undertake.

Here is some information on a group of local churches that have banded together to help homeless people. The operation is extensive for a town Winnemuca's size. I have volunteered at the soup kitchen before and we were feeding 25-30 individuals a couple of years ago. https://foodbankwinnemucca.com/

Post 7: Brenda Horton, Department Homeless Representative: The Elko area has a few programs. One is the Underdog Street Ministries through Calvary Baptist Church run by Kim and Mike Clements. They receive donations from Albertsons three times a week. "Underdog has been serving the chronically homeless in Elko for over a decade. Our mission statement is to provide life sustaining needs for

those experiencing homelessness.

Here in Elko, that changes with the seasons. In the winter months, we provide heat, food, clothing, blankets, etc. In the summer months, we provide food, water, sunscreen, bug spray, etc.

Our long-term vision and goal is to assist those who are homeless move from the situation that they are in to a more permanent and safe environment. This may include needing rehab, assistance with social security, i.d., birth certificates, housing, etc. Underdog Street Ministries serves a hot meal once a week at the "train park" during which time needed supplies are provided. Through fellowship and relationships, the needs of those who are experiencing homelessness is better established. Once a week, Underdog is also at the camp. Throughout the week we are a mobile unit. Through the years, we have moved from just providing assistance for our homeless population to also helping low-income families and those who are disabled or elderly. We do our best to not turn away folks who are in need of help."

Another program is Friends In Service Helping (F.I.S.H.). Post 7 donates a yearly check to this organization for \$500. Elko F.I.S.H. provides four different food programs throughout the month. All services are drive-thru or walk-up only. Located at 821 Water Street, Elko. Contact: (775)738-3038. The statistics are provided in an article that I submitted.

Post 32: Lincoln Litchfield, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Carlin is like Winnemucca, the churches do not have anything but want to get with me about what can be done.

Thank you everyone who has taken the time to reach out to your community. I hope we can get involved as Posts to help either financially or volunteer our time.



## The American Legion Department of Nevada

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The mission of Nevada's Legionnaires is to provide services to fellow Veterans, their Families and their communities. Since our charter, our American
Legion Department of Nevada has been
welcoming VETERANS from all branches
of our Armed Forces. Today, we continue
to welcome all military personnel serving
our country. Joining a Post in our State
enables you to continue serving your God,
Country and Community. Our mission is
to implement the goals, aspirations,
dreams, peace and blessings for our country, friends and families embodied in our
preamble.

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