



# NEVADA LEGION NEWS

## The American Legion, Department of Nevada



*Since our charter, the 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.*



### NEVADA LEGION NEWS "Veterans Strengthening America"

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## Commander's Corner Valerie Scheuering—Hubbell

Hello My Fellow Legionnaires

WOW! August was quite a month...Hot August Nights, Burning Man and the 103rd National Convention in Milwaukee, WI. August 27-Sep 1, 2022.

The Nevada contingent stayed at the Ambassador Hotel, enjoying its 1920's era look with the exception of the Starbucks in the lobby. Our hotel was notable for being where the Beatles and Liberace stayed and the young presidential hopeful John F. Kennedy spoke to the United Chemical Workers along with other interesting history. There were many places within walking distance of the Wisconsin Center where the convention was held. I had no idea cheese curds could be cooked so many different ways. We walked to a nearby Bar-B-Q place and had some really good food with interesting names.



The Wisconsin Center was a beautiful building, with three stories of meeting rooms.



Upon walking into the building you're greeted by the guard that a few people spoke to (including myself) before we realized he was wax. The Auxiliary were on each floor before everyone stepped on and off the escalators to help you get to your destination within the center. Emblem Sales is always at the convention with host city convention items and the latest clothing for purchase and special orders. It's wonderful to see old friends and meet new ones. My first day was Saturday, attending the National Security Council meeting. Quite a few resolutions were explained so we could better understand them and how they will effect National Security and Veterans. The NALCAA business meeting was also held. Sunday was the Patriotic Memorial Service.

On to the General Session, first day being Monday. Each state is positioned according to membership with a name banner for each. The banner is signed by everyone in your group and given to the Past Department Commander for the year, then on election day it is marched around the main hall along with all of the other state banners. The youth awards are given out and listening to each of them speak is inspirational, to say the least. Being the Department Oratorical Chairman for the past 5 years has made this part of the convention very special to me. That evening there was the American Legion Family Night with discounted tickets to attend the Milwaukee Brewers-Pittsburg Pirates Major League Baseball game with the National Commander throwing out the first pitch for which the Brewers won.



On Tuesday the Western Region Caucus was held. The National Commanders Banquet was that evening and an all-genre band called Front of House entertained. It was an opportunity to mingle, dress up, listen to great music and boogie down.

Being involved in the election process from the caucus to the convention floor lets you be involved in every aspect of the vote. We are members of the "Best of the Best" veterans organization in the world.



In closing, I highly recommend attending one of the National Conventions, oh wait...there just happens to be the 104th National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina Aug 25-31, 2023. I believe you'll have a great time and meet some outstanding legion members and maybe see someone you haven't seen in years as I did.

Remember to honor those who perished on 9-11, the POW/MIA on September 16th and that September is Suicide Prevention Month. Until next month, be safe and healthy.

For God and Country,

Department Commander  
Valerie Scheuering-Hubbell

The flyer features a background with a stylized American flag. At the top left is the KLINE VETERANS FUND logo, which includes a shield with a star and stripes. The main title is "Veterans Essential Items GIVEAWAY" in a mix of red and blue fonts. Below the title, the date and time "SEPTEMBER 23 AT 10 AM" are listed, followed by the location "at United Way of Southern Nevada 5830 W. Flamingo Rd." A large blue stamp with the word "FREE" is positioned to the left of a list of items: "SOCKS", "SHOES", "CLOTHING", "HOUSEHOLD ITEMS", "TOILETRY KITS", and "AND MORE". Below this list, a logo for "Heavenly Smiles" is accompanied by the text "free dental screenings by". At the bottom left, there are three bullet points: "No pre-registration required", "Must present veteran ID", and "Items available while supplies last". In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for "United Way DAY OF CARING".

**KLINE**  
VETERANS FUND

*Veterans*  
**Essential Items GIVEAWAY**

**SEPTEMBER 23 AT 10 AM**

**at United Way of Southern Nevada**  
**5830 W. Flamingo Rd.**

**FREE**

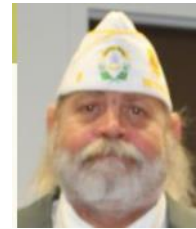
**SOCKS**  
**SHOES**  
**CLOTHING**  
**HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**  
**TOILETRY KITS**  
**AND MORE**

free dental screenings by *Heavenly Smiles*

- No pre-registration required
- Must present veteran ID
- Items available while supplies last

United Way  
DAY OF CARING

Robert Morris



# AMERICAN LEGION

## What The American Legion Does



Provides cash assistance to needy military and veteran families with children at home.



Provides volunteer hours and services at VA medical facilities at an estimated annual value of \$20 million.



Awards college scholarships to children of post-9/11 veterans who died on active duty, or have a combined VA disability rating of 50 percent or greater.



Fulfills needs and provides firsthand support for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury through a variety of therapeutic programs that are not dependent on prescription drugs.



Distributes urgent cash assistance to veterans whose homes have been badly damaged or destroyed by natural disasters.



Purchases comfort items and recreational opportunities, from loose-fitting sweat suits for burn victims to amusement park tickets for families of hospitalized military personnel recovering from wounds and illnesses.



Distributes more than \$500,000 a year in grants to organizations that provide support for children in need.



Supports and demands a full accounting and repatriation, when possible, of all U.S. military personnel listed as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action.



Provides relief, support, shelter, training and compassion for homeless veterans.



Delivers, free of charge, all U.S. flags for the graves of American military personnel laid to rest at overseas cemeteries.

## Thank You for Supporting America's Veterans

For more information about our programs and services, visit [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org).



## Brenda Horton

Greetings Legionnaires! I attended my first National American Legion Convention in Milwaukee; boy what a week!! Filled with a variety of classes for the first few days then three full days of the actual Convention itself.

The classes I attended pertained to membership. A really cool idea National is working on is a mobile app digital membership card for those who like to use their phones instead of the traditional paper membership card.

Being a NALC graduate of 2016, I attended the NALCAA meeting to elect new board members and a President. I was thrown under the bus to be a board member and my 2016 buddy cohort was thrown under the bus for the President. He nicely asked me the next day to be his secretary.

What the hay, so I said yes. Lol. Dave Wallace is the new NALCAA president for 2022-2023.

Congrats!!

The all-day Convention itself was overwhelming but in a good way with the amount of information of what other Departments have accomplished during the year. The Legacy Run itself was phenomenal in the amount of money that was raised for our youth. I believe it was \$1.3 million!!

The Indy Racing Car driver, Jimmie Johnson joined the SAL on stage then immediately he and his wife donated \$1.5 million to The American Legion!! Wow, just wow!

Meeting other Legionnaires from other Departments, reconnecting with Legionnaire friends, attending helpful workshops, and celebrating all of the accomplishments was definitely worth attending The American Legion National Convention!

Check out all of the postings on Facebook or on the National Website.

Always in service.

Brenda Horton

Department 2 nd Vice Commander



## Sergeant at Arms – Pam Walker

Hello my fellow legionnaires!! The National Convention is one for the books. I am happy to say that I left the convention energized to get back to the basics. If you haven't been to a convention, I highly encourage you to attend!! Our leadership has been busy ensuring that our benefits are getting better and that we stay on track to ensure our Veterans are being taken care of. You meet some incredible fellow legionnaires who are working hard in their communities and the exchange of ideas are endless. If we do not continue to grow our organization and encourage all veterans to join the erosion of benefits could continue to affect us all. Looking forward to a great year for Nevada. For God and Country



**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WOMAN**  
**Jeanette Evans**



Hi Everyone,

Whew - just returned from the National Convention in Milwaukee. It was the usual whirlwind. Nothing earthshaking happened but we did elect our new National Commander - Jim Troiola (pronounced "tree-o-la") from Department of New York. Be sure to plan on attending the DEC when he will be visiting Nevada.

Here are some important dates for the upcoming year:

2022 Fall Meetings	Oct 10 - 13
2023 Washington Conference	Feb 26 - Mar 1
2023 Spring Meetings	May 8 - 11
2023 Fall Meetings	October 9 - 12

Future National Conventions:

2023 Charlotte, NC	Aug 25 - 31
2024 New Orleans, LA	Aug 23 - 29
2025 Tampa Bay, FL	Aug 22 - 28
2026 Louisville, KY	Aug 28 - Sep 3
2027 Kansas City, MO	Aug 27 - Sep 2

Speaking of National Conventions - I want everyone to know that ANY Legion member can request to be a delegate at a Convention. You do NOT need a call-in. However - if you do not have a call-in - you will not be reimbursed any expenses. But, if you are able financially to attend then please consider doing so. You need only let your District Commander know you are interested. Nevada never completely fills our Delegate requirement so there is room for you if you want to go. The host Department usually has a list of sightseeing excursions to partake in and local Legion Posts to visit. It can be a really good way to get to see some great cities. Hope to see some new faces at Convention next year.

The passage of the PACT ACT was the news of the day. Over 34,000 messages were sent to elected representatives by Legionnaires urging them to pass the legislation. We DO have a strong voice when we act together. Sign up to receive legislative alerts at <http://www.legion.org/action>.

Attached is a flier outlining information on the important features of the PACT Act affecting veterans.

Still Serving,

Jeanette Rae Evans, NEC



# PACT ACT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



VIETNAM



GULF WAR



POST-9/11

**The PACT Act** is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve.

The Act **(1)** expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era, and **(2)** expands eligibility for benefits for Veterans exposed to toxic substances.

## What new or expanded presumptions will the Act create and when will they be in effect?

VETERANS AND SURVIVORS CAN FILE CLAIMS FOR ALL CONDITIONS OUTLINED IN THE PACT ACT IMMEDIATELY.

### For Gulf War and post 9-11 Veterans, that includes:

Brain cancer, Glioblastoma, Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type, Gastrointestinal cancer of any type, Head cancer of any type, Lymphoma of any type, Lymphatic cancer of any type, Neck cancer, Pancreatic cancer, Reproductive cancer of any type, Kidney cancer, Melanoma, Asthma (diagnosed after service), Chronic rhinitis, Chronic sinusitis, Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis,

Emphysema, Granulomatous disease, Interstitial lung disease (ILD), Pleuritis, Pulmonary fibrosis, Sarcoidosis, Chronic bronchitis, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

### For Vietnam Veterans and other Veterans exposed to tactical herbicides, that includes two Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS), High blood pressure (hypertension).

## How can Veterans apply for VA health care?

Apply **online** at [VA.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction](https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction).

**Call** our toll-free hotline at 877-222-8387, M-F, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET.

**Mail** a completed, signed Application for Health Benefits (VA Form 10-10EZ).

**Bring a completed, signed VA Form 10-10EZ** with you to your [nearest medical center or clinic](#) or get help through your [state's Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officer](#).

**Get help** filing your claim by working with an [accredited representative](#).

## What are the PACT Act key components?



The Act **expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic-exposures** and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era.



VA **will improve the decision-making process** for determining what medical conditions will be considered for presumptive status.



Every enrolled Veteran will **receive an initial toxic exposure screening** and a follow-up screening every five years. Veterans who are not enrolled, but who are eligible to enroll, will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.



VA health care staff and claims processors will receive **toxic exposure-related education and training**.



The Act requires **research studies** on mortality of Veterans who served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War, Post-9/11 Veteran health trends, and Veteran cancer rates.



The Act will help VA **build a stronger, more skilled workforce** to meet the growing demand for benefits and services.



The Act authorizes **31 new medical facilities** across the country, providing greater access to VA health care.

## How can a Veteran file a claim?



Veterans who would like to file a claim must complete [VA Form 21-526EZ](#) to apply for benefits and submit any supportive evidence.



To learn about standard VA disability claims, supplemental claims, secondary claims, and more visit: [VA.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/when-to-file](https://www.va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/when-to-file).

## If a Veteran was previously denied a claim, what can they do?

VA will contact Veterans when a presumption of service connection is established or changed. However, **Veterans previously denied a toxic-exposure related claim** are encouraged to file a supplemental claim. Once a supplemental claim is received, VA will review the claim under the new law.

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Learn more and sign up at [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov/PACT)  
Download the VA Health and Benefits App  
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)  
Find a VA at [VA.gov/find-locations/](https://www.va.gov/find-locations/)





## Sons of the American Legion—Detachment Commander Shawn Horton



This month will be the first of two articles because I can't fit all of our successes on one page.

Congratulations to all of the Squadrons in Nevada, we had an amazing year and our hard work not only helped the Western Region exceed targets, we also helped meet significant goals Nationally. I want to thank each and every member for their dedication in fulfilling the mission of the Sons of The American Legion. With the strong foundation that was built in 2021-2022 this new year can be even better.

The month of August started off quiet but ended with a trip to Milwaukee, WI for the National Convention that got Nevada recognized as a high performing detachment. The convention started off with some exciting news; eighteen detachments exceeding the goal of 105% membership and a total of thirty-seven detachments exceeding 100%. The Detachment of Nevada was one of those thirty-seven and a single member away from being one of nineteen. This result exceeded expectations and goes to show that every member counts.

The increase in membership is significant in another way, a large gap had to be overcome in the wake of the pandemic and a number of squadrons and detachments were just starting to re-establish normalcy. With the leadership shown at every squadron, members buckled down and got the job done. There were days where it looked impossible to even achieve 100% but when all the members were counted the final result was 101.09% nationwide. A round of applause is in order for everyone who signed someone up.

The next announcement of note was a discussion around the "Be The One" program that is being spearheaded by incoming Legion National Commander Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola. The "Be The One" aims to move from talking about the staggering number of daily veteran suicides towards action; Be The One to save One veteran and end the stigma surrounding mental health. You don't need to be a veteran to call the veterans in your life and check on them through a Buddy Check. We are the sons and grandsons of veterans, we are perfectly poised to interact with veterans and to check in on them on a periodic basis. Outgoing National Commander Fox reminded us that we should not forget to Be The One to help out our fellow Sons, we have first responders who experience trauma on a regular basis and they can be impacted in much the same way. If you have concerns about a veteran or a fellow Sons member, don't be afraid to pick up a phone and dial 988. The 988 number is a shortcut to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Veterans specific service can be accessed by pressing 1 at the prompt. Please, if you do nothing else this year, call a veteran or a fellow Son just to say hello and see how they are doing; do your Buddy Checks. <https://betheone.org>

After some speeches, discussions moved on to donations to the Child Welfare Foundation (CWF). This year, we were able to surpass \$9 million in donations since 1988, a major milestone. To cap off the donation announcements, the Detachment of Nevada was recognized on the national stage for the Excellence Award, raising the largest per-capita donation to the CWF. Every member who donated made this award possible. Nevada was also recognized for achieving over \$2/member in donations and received a certificate of achievement to go with the Excellence Award that will be hanging in our Department Headquarters in Las Vegas.

After the CWF awards came the announcements for Flying Flags for Heroes where we managed to nearly double our 1 million flags by placing over 1.8 million flags last year. Anyone on the conference calls early in the year would appreciate the significance of this number because even 500k flags was in doubt before memorial day. This project is near and dear to my heart and I want to thank everyone for making this project an undeniable success. Again, the Detachment of Nevada was again recognized for exceeding the targets we set in placing flags.

Another certificate to recognize our success.

Thank you for all that you do for our Veterans.

As always, I am available by email ([commander@nevadasal.org](mailto:commander@nevadasal.org)) or telephone (720-394-5965), leave a message and I will get back to you.



## A Brief History POW/MIA Recognition Day

By Historian Kim Eberly

POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed on the third Friday of September, to recommit to full accountability to the families of the more than 80,000 veterans captured or still missing from wars that the United States has participated in. According to accounts, during the first ceremony of POW/MIA Day at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., fighter airplanes from the military base in Virginia flew in the 'missing man formation' in their honor.

When you see the black and white flag with POW MIA displayed on it, the meaning is: "Prisoners Of War (POW) / Missing In Action (MIA)." It serves as a symbol of citizen concern about United States military personnel which have been taken as a POW or listed as MIA.

The POW/MIA flag is black and white with a silhouette bowing their head in front of a watch tower and a wreath of barbed wire to represent POW camps. The design came to Heinsley after caring for his son, Jeffrey, who had returned from the military. The POW/MIA flag represents the lives of all of those who were captured and lost during the war, paying respect to veterans and their loved ones.

### How to Observe National POW/MIA Recognition day:

- **Fly a POW/MIA Flag:** There's no better way to observe National POW/MIA Day than flying the flag below that of the United States. You can observe the day with the POW/MIA Accounting Agency's annual poster too.
- **Visit a POW/MIA-themed museum:** Try to brush up on your knowledge of the history of the United States in a POW/MIA-themed museum. Learn about the heroes, wars, and events and that was the precedence of the freedom we all enjoy.
- **Look back in time:** Share intellectually stimulating discussions about the history of the United States with colleagues, friends, and family! Commemorate the day's heroes by — in your memory.

### WHY NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY IS IMPORTANT

- **It is in memory of loved ones:** National POW/MIA Recognition Day brings back the memory of loved ones and their experience defending the freedom we now enjoy throughout the country. It serves as a solid reminder of how much we love or miss them.
- **It helps us reminisce about the history of our country:** National POW/MIA Recognition Day helps us look back on the history of our country. It serves as a day to analyze events that have become part of the fabric of the United States.
- **It helps us value freedom:** Yes! National POW/MIA Recognition Day helps us value the freedom we now enjoy more knowing that somewhere out there there are people suffering the consequence of fighting for it.



National Convention American Legion  
Milwaukee, WI

By Past Department Commander Richard Eberly and Department Historian Kim Eberly

Greetings from the Eberly's:

The 103rd National Convention took place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin - August 26 - September 1, 2022.

Our Milwaukee adventures started bright and early on Sunday, August 28 with a flight at 7 a.m. from Reno to Denver then on Milwaukee. The flight was uneventful except that I thought our pilot from Denver to Milwaukee was trying to provide us with permanent whiplash from our landing. Let us tell you planes do bounce when hitting the runway.

Of course, the first thing that was noted upon our arrival in Milwaukee that the most important piece of luggage was left at home. I guess to add to our agenda was a day of shopping because the National Commander's dinner is a dress up event - the missing luggage contained the Past Department Commander's suits and my dress. Of course, our fellow legionnaires did come to our rescue with a suit jacket and tie. The challenge was going to find a dress for me, but we did have a contingency plan of borrowing a dress and making a toga with a train - Nevada was going to create our own style sense.

It was asked that each of us that went to convention provide with some reasons as to why go to National Convention.

Below are a list of reasons and some of the things that going to a National Convention provide:

- A place where you can join with like minded people and enjoy a week of camaraderie with others.
- 
- A chance to visit a different city to check out its many fun buildings and statutes.
- 
- A change to try different food.
- 
- A chance to sign the Past Department Commander's sign.
- 
- To be part of the American Legion and the Department of Nevada's history.
- 
- It is the place where you get to see and experience the great things that the American Legion does as an organization.
- 
- A place to reconnect with fellow Legionnaires that you may have served on communities with or gone to the American Legion college.
- 
- To see how the American Legion rallies behind the election of the National Commander.
- 
- To see how the Western Region Caucus supports the American Legion. To experience how many times, you can change rooms because the room that was booked for you is too small.
- 
- To stay in some fine establishments that have its own unique history.
- 

So if you want to see what types of adventures you can have why not plan to join the Department of Nevada for the next National American Legion Convention for August of 2023 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Richard and Kim Eberly

### "US Flag Returns Home to Winnemucca

A US Flag that was carried by the US Army's 1864th Transportation Company, Nevada National Guard during Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004-2005, recently returned to Winnemucca and is on display at the Veteran's Hall at 3300 Bengechea Circle.

The flag was presented to 12 members of the 593rd Truck Company, located in Northern Nevada, by Mayor Paul Vesco during the summer of 2004, immediately prior to their deployment. The flag was carried by unit members while completing 310 missions, 1.6 million miles and 64 contacts with the enemy, providing logistics support throughout the Iraqi theater of operations.

After the deployment, the flag had been held by SSG Paul Tiensvold, and was recently donated to local veterans groups."



## MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

*Brenda Horton*

Greetings fellow Legionnaires!

Another month has come and gone. Where does the time go? Busy with Legion activities is where! Lol. The new membership goals have been set and will be put out shortly. Right now Nevada is in 9<sup>th</sup> place with 52.83% membership. The new Department goal for 2023 is 6,455 members-only 135 members added.

Last month there were four questions that were put out in my article. Here is the answer to the first question.

How do you plan to improve your current renewal rate for traditional members and department headquarters post?

- a. Will establish dates, starting January 2023, to make phone contact or email to remind and/or ask why they have not yet renewed. This would include the Headquarter Post.
- b. Send out letters to Post 100 members and expired members. Follow up with phone calls.
- c. Do the Posts have a program that will help pay for members who cannot afford to pay their dues?
- d. Offer incentives for Posts/individuals who renew early.

More about the membership convention in July.

Membership and Recruitment:

- “Outside of the box”. Think outside of the box with recruiting/retention ideas.
- “Outside of the walls”. Adapt our meetings.
- Modern technology: computers, cell phones, texting, social media as a way of communicating. Snail mail for those without cell phones or computers. Phone calls for Buddy checks. Some Posts send out newsletters and others send them by emails.

Inside the Walls.

- Rejuvenate our expired members. Send letters to the expired members. Follow up with phone calls. Find a way to get them excited about TAL and joining the Post again.
- Empower the new/rejuvenated members. Give them something to do.
- A chance to develop our future leaders. Educate them about TAL.

A common phrase: “This is the way we have always done it”. We have to evolve and adapt our way of thinking to recruit and retain our members. If we don’t, we grow stagnant and will lose members. We run the risk of doing the same thing over and over again.

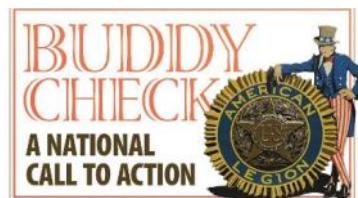
No one person, Post, or Department is bigger than The American Legion. Integrate younger members with older members to teach them about TAL.

“If we just remember”:

Our actions must be for the purpose of advancing TAL and not self-serving. For the good of the Legion.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Always in Service.

Brenda Horton, Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander/Department Membership Chair



AUG – OCT 2022

## VALife insurance coming January 2023 for veterans with service-connected disability

*Department of Veterans Affairs*

In January 2023, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will launch a new life insurance program called Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife), which provides guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance coverage to veterans age 80 and under, with any level of service-connected disability. Some veterans age 81 and older may also be eligible.

### What benefits does it offer?

Created by Public Law 116-315, the new program meets the needs of service-connected veterans who may not have previously qualified for life insurance with VA. VALife offers guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance coverage that lasts for an individual's entire life and provides the following benefits:

- All service-connected veterans age 80 and under with 0 - 100 percent VA disability ratings are eligible.
- Fully automated online enrollment with instant approvals.
- Coverage comes in increments of \$10,000, up to a maximum of \$40,000, and premiums are competitive – or better – than what's available in the private sector. There is a two-year waiting period for full face value coverage to take effect for veterans age 81 and older.
- No medical requirements for enrollment.
- Cash value that builds over the life of the policy after the first two years of enrollment.
- Rates are best the earlier you sign up. Once locked in, premiums will never increase.



### How does this impact other VA Life Insurance programs?

VALife opens life insurance coverage to more service-connected veterans than ever before. In contrast to Service-Disabled Veterans Life Insurance (S-DVI), VALife has no medical requirements and there is no two-year time limit to apply if a veteran is age 80 or under. Veterans who currently hold an S-DVI policy can either keep their current coverage or apply for VALife when the application goes live. Veterans can keep their S-DVI policy until the full coverage of VALife begins two years after enrollment as long as the application is received between Jan. 1, 2023, and Dec. 31, 2025.

### How can you apply for both?

The application for VALife will go live on Jan. 1, 2023. Once the program is open, the application will be available online at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/VALife.asp>. If you are interested in applying for S-DVI before VALife opens, or would like to learn more about the coverage, please visit the S-DVI webpage here: <https://www.va.gov/life-insurance/options-eligibility/s-dvi/>.

**DISTRICT 1**

**DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA**

District 1 Posts are starting to come to life after a very hot summer.

A Veterans Stand Down sponsored by the Veterans Administration will take place on September 23 at the Elks Lodge of Reno. Many organizations, including the American Legion District 1 Posts, will offer items to Veterans in need ranging from health/ hygiene kits to clothing, warm socks and jackets when available. This is a yearly function and allows organizations aiding Veterans to meet personally and provide for their needs, as well as an outreach to those who may be interested in the mission of the American Legion. Post 30 and Post 12 are also involved with the Stand Down as well.

Post 1 participated in an American Flag exchange with customers of Scheels Sporting Goods in July. The estimated 300 torn, soiled and otherwise unserviceable flags will be properly retired at the Northern Nevada Veterans Cemetery in Fernley on September 17, with the assistance of Fernley American Legion Post 37.

Post 1 has assisted an average of 20 to 30 Veterans a month with rides to appointments, gas for their vehicles, when needed, and, of course, Buddy Checks.

The annual Post 1 Founders Day BBQ, celebrating 103 years of service to the Reno area on October 1<sup>st</sup>. This year we will have special guests from the Wolf Pack Veterans group at UNR. We look forward to meeting these Veterans and working with them in the future.

Post 1 Service Officer Scott Wilcox and wife Kathy, are commended, for distributing backpacks filled with school supplies, purchased by Post 1 members, for children of Veterans Administration HUD Supportive Housing, (HUDVASH) recipients. Through Scott over 30 Veterans a month are assisted with referrals, some fuel assistance, or rides to VA appointments.

Posts 12 and 30 have been relatively slow through the vacation months other than to continue to be in contact with members through Buddy Checks I and other Veteran assistance as needed.

The District 1 meeting is scheduled for October 1, at Post 1 in Reno.

**Thanks to David Cairns, Post 1 Adjutant, Post 30 Commander Jim Stewart, and Lionel Motta, Post 12 Commander for input to this report.**

**Jack Edstrom, District 1 Commander**

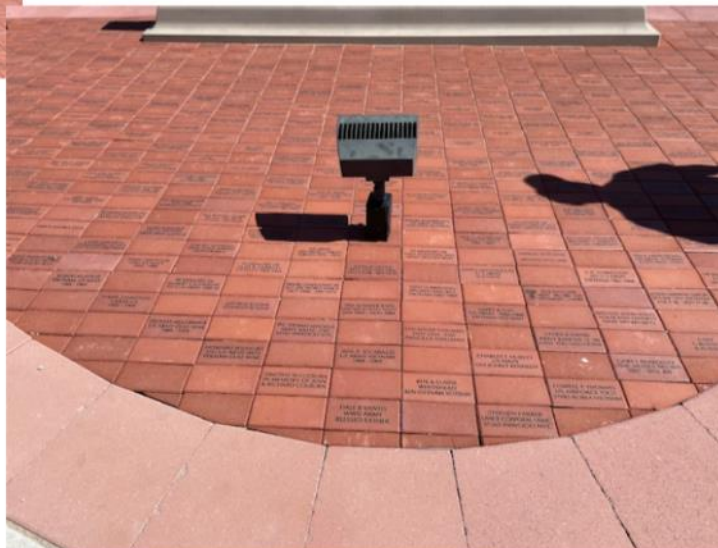
Once again it is time to highlight the activities of District 2; and we have been busy. With fall fast approaching and the weather in southern Nevada getting manageable again people are beginning to meander outside of the realm of A/C.

Last month I mentioned that down in the Laughlin area a major activity on-going was the assembling of family COVID test kit bags. This activity is still on-going. We, the District, have also been delivering the kits out to the rural posts that make up the district. Personally, I have driven over 1200 miles to deliver 250 bags. A nice side affect is I get to see post members in action making a difference in their community.

By the time you read this, we will have had our district meeting for the quarter up in Mesquite. While there I hope to visit at Senior living facility where a Legion member is now living. Just as a reminder, everyone is invited to come out and see what the District is up to.

As mentioned in last month's article, we are looking at getting the high school debating association involved with our oratorical program. That is moving in the right direction as the association has stated that they want to participate this year. We have our first planning meeting coming up so more in next month's report.

In my trip to Mesquite, I had an opportunity to visit the city's Veterans Memorial Park and see the effort that Post 24 has accomplished there. The monument at the entrance to the park is an excellent example of what a few people with a vision can accomplish. Their effort in installing brick pavers at the monument is outstanding. Buzz Rakow, Post Commander, and his members should be proud of what they are doing and they will leave a legacy eternal. Great job guys.





### District 3 Happenings

A busy couple of months for the District primarily. Please feel free to attend these events.

#### August:

18<sup>th</sup>: Safe talk for Suicide Prevention at the VFW. Legionnaires, please attend some type of class for suicide prevention in your area.

25<sup>th</sup>: Cortez-Masto at the VFW at 9 am. An informative meeting of what has been accomplished for Veterans. Questions and answers following concerning VA care.

26<sup>th</sup>-September 5<sup>th</sup>: Beer Wagon at the Fair that we do every year as a fundraiser and a great way to recruit new members. Posts 7 & 32.

26<sup>th</sup>-September 1<sup>st</sup>: National Convention. About six members from the Post attended the Convention in Milwaukee. A great time was had by all.

#### September:

9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Membership drive for Post 7 at the Rides and Rods from 12-5 at the Elko City Park. Sometimes we recruit up to three members in a weekend! A VSO will be there.

16<sup>th</sup>: Homeless Standdown at the VFW in Elko from 11-3. There will be quite a few vendors there to assist homeless veterans.

17<sup>th</sup>: Post 32 ATV Poker Run in Carlin. The first annual ATV off road Poker.

17<sup>th</sup>: Post 15 membership drive at Elquist Park at 10 am in Battle Mountain. A VSO will be there.

19<sup>th</sup>: Post 7 of Elko meeting. POW/MIA presentation. The POW/MIA will be at our Post meeting to perform the empty chair ceremony.

#### October:

8<sup>th</sup>: District 3 meeting in Ely.

15<sup>th</sup>: Post 7 Legion Riders chili feed fundraiser at the Lamoille Hotel in Lamoille. Raising money for the children in need in our community.

31<sup>st</sup>: Trunk or Treat at the Marina in Spring Creek. Post 7 participates in this event every year to support the community.

Brenda Horton  
District 3 Adjutant

## DISTRICT 4 – Commander Richard Eberly

### District 4 Upcoming Events

By District 4 Commander Richard Eberly

Greetings from District 4 – Austin, Carson City, Fallon, Fernley, Hawthorne, Big Smoky Valley, and Yerington:

Please see below for a listing of the Posts in our District and what is coming up for the posts or in towns that members may be attending.

May you all have wonderful September.

District 4 will hold it's District meeting on September 10 at 10 a.m. to be hosted by Fallon Post 16 in Fallon, NV.

District 4 Commander Richard Eberly

**Post 4 (Carson City):**

- Carson Fire Department is holding a ceremony at 6:00 p.m., at Mills Park.
- **Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month @ 7 p.m.**

**Post 16 (Fallon):**

- The City of Fallon will hold the annual 9/11 remembrance ceremony at 10 a.m. in the City Hall Courtyard.
- **Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month @ 6 p.m.**

**Post 18 (Big Smoky Valley):**

- **Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month @ 5 p.m.**

**Post 19 (Hawthorne):**

- **Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month @ 6 p.m.**

**Post 37 (Fernley):**

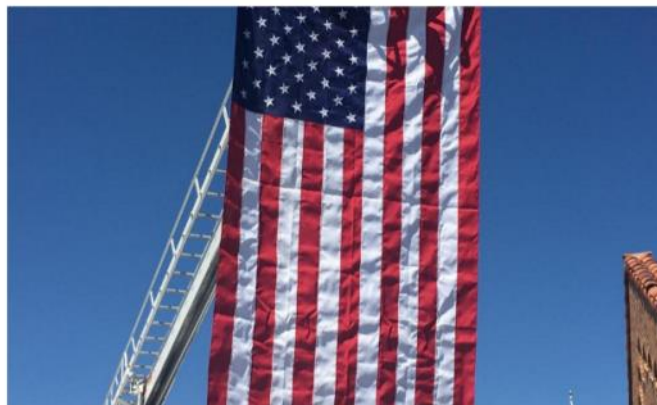
- Fernley and Nevada Veterans Coalition 9/11 Remembrance at 10 a.m. on Monday at Gazebo in Out of Town Park
- **Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month @ 7 p.m.**

**Post 45 (Austin):**

- **Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month @ 9 a.m.**

**Post 56 (Carson City):**

- September 17 & 18 set-up a booth for Dayton event for membership drive and fund-raising event.
- Mental Wellness Awareness Event and Walk 9 a.m. Saturday, September 24 from 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. McFaddent Plaza in Carson City, NV. Registration at the Suicide Prevention Network Booth. [Carson and Douglas Partnerships, Prevention Network host mental health awareness event and walk | Carson City Nevada News - Carson Now](#)
- Honor/Color Guard continue to honor our Fallen Heroes and participate in Color Guard events.
- **Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month @ 6:30 p.m.**



I want to start this article off by introducing myself as the new American Legion Riders Department Liaison. I am the Adjutant for the Sons of The American Legion Squadron 7, a member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 7 and an American Legion Rider. I am also the Sons of The American Legion Commander for the Deathment of Nevada. I want to thank Commander Scheuering-Hubbel for the appointment. My goal is to be engaged with all of the Riders Chapters in Nevada and to be a resource to get things done. I can always be reached via email ([commander@nevadasal.org](mailto:commander@nevadasal.org)) or phone (720-394-5965), just leave a message if I don't answer.



I was fortunate enough to attend the National Convention in Milwaukee last month and saw the excitement around the 2022 Legacy Run and the good that it does for the children of fallen and disabled soldiers and veterans. This year, the Legacy Run donations were over \$1.3 million a record breaking achievement. Over \$700,000 were donated during convention and over \$600 thousand dollars donated during and prior to the actual Legacy Run. The Department of Minnesota American Legion Family set the bar by donating over \$150,000 on the floor while the Department of Maryland handed over over \$140,000 during the ride.

I would like for Nevada to be recognized as one of the donors and to that end I propose that we start a 2023 Nevada Legacy Run. In order to pull this event off, we will need the support of every ALR Chapter in Nevada and a committee to organize the dates, locations, and logistics. If your chapter is interested in helping, please contact me via email or phone above.

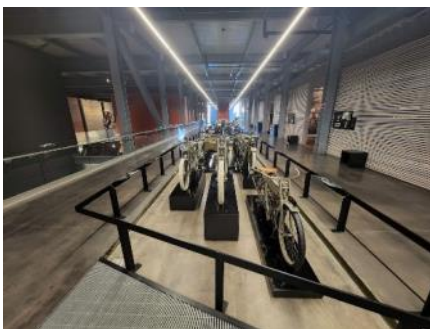
As Detachment Commander I will be at various District and Department meetings and will be traveling with my wife, Brenda, to various Posts and I hope to make it to each Post with a Riders Chapter.

Some of you might have noticed a new brand mark logo above, this logo is used for marketing communications purposes including digital and social media and email-signature lines. More information will be coming out and I will relay that to you as I get it.

Below are a couple of images from the Legacy Run, including SAL Past National Commander Fox riding with Legion Auxiliary Past President Kathy Daudistel.



No trip to Milwaukee would be complete without a visit to the Harley-Davidson Museum.



Below are some of the upcoming events that I am aware of. If you have an event to be included, please email me with the information and I will add it.

Sincerely,

Shawn Horton  
Commander, Detachment of Nevada  
American Legion Riders Department of Nevada Liaison

Post 149 (Paradise) 702-493-3028 - Vic

**Sep 10: Help for Heroes Presentation and Banquet.** The location will be at the North Las Vegas Elks Lodge ([2939 N Van Der Meer St. NLV, NV 89030](#)) beginning at **1000 hours** (setup at 0900). All members who are rating the letters are invited to attend. For others, due to the limited seating, please let us know if you would like to attend to ensure that we have enough seats available.

**Sep 11: 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.

**Sep 11: 9/11 Memorial and Lunch.** The Las Vegas chapter of the NYPD Ten-13 club is hosting 9/11 ceremony at [Police Memorial Park](#), behind LVMPD Police Academy, 9850 West Cheyenne Ave. Las Vegas 89129. Post 149 is invited to attend the ceremonies beginning at 1100 hrs. with a barbecue lunch to follow. **Leaving promptly from the Leatherneck Club immediately after the Post meeting.**

**\*\*\*DATE CHANGE\*\*\* Sep 17: District Meeting.** The meeting is being held at the Mesquite Veterans Center, [840 Hafens Ln, Mesquite, NV 89027](#) and begins at 1000, and we'll stop for lunch after the meeting. **Leaving from the Leatherneck Club at 0815.**

**\*\*\*NEW\*\*\* Sep 17: Bridging the Gap Motorcycle Ride.** If you are not going to the District Meeting, please think about going on a benefit ride for the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation of Nevada. Leaving from the Leatherneck Club at 0800.

**Sep 18: Kids Night Out with the Aviators.** Our Post paid for 25 kids from the community to attend the Las Vegas Aviators baseball game, and a few of us are also going. If you are a baseball fan, come on out and join the fun.

**Sep 20: Legion Night at the Leatherneck Club.** Join us for our monthly social, get-together on Taco Tuesday from 1700-2100.

**Sep 23-25: Prescott and Lynx Lake Getaway.** Lynx Lake is approximately seven miles east of Prescott, AZ in a beautiful ponderosa pine forest with a 55-acre lake. You can camp with us in the group campsite or stay in Prescott with some of our members. Large RVs should make individual reservations since the group campsite is small. We will be taking a scenic mountain ride to ghost town of Jerome and Copper Museum in Clarkdale, archaeological sites of Tuzigoot and Montezuma's Castle, and maybe the Red Rock Country of Sedona. Hotel accommodations in Prescott are plentiful for those who prefer to "camp" in four walls.

Post 32 (Carlin) 775-934-5002 (Ric)

**Sep 17: Breaking Down the Walls ATV/UTV/Off Road Vehicle Poker Run.** For more information call 775-934-5002 (Ric) or text 775-934-1058 (Lincoln)



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

## DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

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Jr. Past Dept. Cdr. Richard Eberly	(775) 434-3386	<a href="mailto:eberlyrichard1967@gmail.com">eberlyrichard1967@gmail.com</a>

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VA & R Jeanette Rae Evans	(775) 997-5874	<a href="mailto:retiredmsgt@att.net">retiredmsgt@att.net</a>

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3rd District Lincoln Litchfield	(775) 934-1058	<a href="mailto:lincoln.litchfield@gmail.com">lincoln.litchfield@gmail.com</a>
4th District Richard Eberly	(775) 434-3386	<a href="mailto:eberlyrichard1967@gmail.com">eberlyrichard1967@gmail.com</a>

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Office of Workers' Compensation Programs  
Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation

The **Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA)** began on July 31, 2001 with the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) implementation of Part B. Part E implementation began on October 28, 2004.

**Part B of the EEOICPA** provides lump-sum compensation of \$150,000 and medical benefits to current and former workers who have been diagnosed with cancers, beryllium disease, or chronic silicosis and whose illnesses were caused by exposure to radiation, beryllium, or silica while working directly for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), its contractors or subcontractors, a designated Atomic Weapons Employer, or a beryllium vendor. Under Part B, compensation of \$50,000 and payment of medical expenses from the date a claim is filed is available to uranium workers (or their survivors) previously awarded benefits by the Department of Justice under Section 5 of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA).

**Part E of the EEOICPA** provides federal compensation and medical benefits to DOE contractor and subcontractor employees who worked at covered facilities and developed an illness as a result of exposure to toxic substances. Under Part E, monetary compensation of up to \$250,000 per employee may be available for the employee's whole-body impairment and/or wage loss due to an accepted condition.

Under the EEOICPA, if the employee is no longer living, survivors of qualified workers may also be entitled to benefits.

### Contact a DEEOIC Resource Center

DOL established 11 Resource Centers nationwide to assist workers and their families apply for benefits under the EEOICPA. The Resource Center staff provides valuable information about the claims process to claimants and assists claimants in completing the necessary forms to file an EEOICPA claim. The Resource Center staff can provide assistance either in-person or over the telephone, and thus is able to assist individuals who are outside the immediate geographical area. You can find the complete list of Resource Centers, including regional jurisdictions, contact information, and toll-free numbers at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/owcp/energy> or call toll-free at (866) 888-3322. The DEEOIC Resource Center to contact in your area is:

**Las Vegas Resource Center**  
**Flamingo Grand Plaza Suite W-156 Las Vegas, NV 89119**  
**Las Vegas, NV 89119**  
**Phone: 702-697-0841; Toll-free: 866-697-0841**

# The American Legion

*Department of Nevada*

The American Legion  
Department of Nevada  
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Las Vegas NV 89103

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