JOIN US for the Nevada National Security Site Tour

The NNSS is located 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas, Nevada. Each tour usually covers about 250 miles. Tour participants may bring their own food and drinks, but lunch is available at the Bistro. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Casual clothing is recommended, and sturdy shoes are required for the rugged terrain. Shorts, capris or sandals are not permitted. Visitors to the NNSS must be at least 14 years old. Pregnant women are discouraged from participating in NNSS tours due to the long bus ride and uneven terrain.

Continued on page 7
January Message

By Department Second Vice Commander Jim Stewart

I hope everyone had a great holiday season! My wife, Barbara and I were very busy during the holidays by assisting others who were spreading the Christmas cheer to those less fortunate in our community. We personally provided fifty Thanksgiving turkeys for the Darrell Dunkle Post 1’s HUDVASH families and then another fifty Christmas turkeys for the same cause. Darrell Dunkle Post 1 has been doing this project for several years and we are happy to partner with them to help out these military families each year. We also provided three 15 pound prime rib roasts for the Disabled American Veterans homeless veterans Christmas dinner. The DAV has been doing this event for several years and we have been providing them with their prime ribs roasts for their event each year. My wife and I also provided two smoked turkeys and then prepared a full Thanksgiving dinner for those individuals who did not have a family to share their Thanksgiving day. We felt it was important to let people know that they did have a family, even though we are not related by blood. My wife and I conducted a coat drive for four Title 1 schools providing several children with a proper coat for this cold winter. We also participated in providing several clothing items for a number of veterans at the Community Living Center (CLC) at the Reno VA Hospital. And finally, we worked with all eleven battalions of the Washoe County School District JROTC Brigade for their annual food drive which benefits 200 needy families in the Reno Sparks area for the Reno Elks annual Christmas basket project. These food baskets contained enough food for each family so they can have a nice Christmas dinner. Also in these food baskets we made sure that each family had some other food items for their Christmas break. Along with each Christmas basket, we provided an age appropriate present for each child in each family. We feed 743 people and provided 408 presents. We then coordinated with several volunteers for the delivery of these Christmas baskets to the families. The looks on the kids and the appreciation from the parents was priceless and worth all of the effort.

Like us on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/TALDONV/
It is interesting to know that if each Post in the Department were to go to the "Letters - HQ Transfer Invitations" section on their myLegion.com, they would find anywhere from 3 to 500+ Legionnaires currently in Post 100 or DMS that live within their postal zip codes. In fact there are 3,296 such opportunities to increase Post membership there. Certainly, now is not the best time to send out invitation letters to prospective members. On or about 2 Jan 2018, I will send the information to the District Commanders, with the amount of members in each of their Posts' areas and full instructions on how to access and print the letters, which may be edited, for each Posts' individual needs. Many of these members will have already paid their 2018 dues, those that have not will increase your paid amount for this year. Those who have already paid will pay their new Post for 2019 after 1 July.

It is also interesting to note that of the 34 Posts in our Department, 4 Posts have never signed on to myLegion.org to see how their Post stands. Only 9 have signed on in December, as of 7 Dec. and 7 have not signed on this year.

If any of the Posts would like to get a jump on these letters or have any questions as to how to get the information, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Greetings Comrades,

While many of us enjoy the holidays, it may not be happy times for all. If you’re having a rough time, please talk to someone about it. If you’re not comfortable discussing it with someone you know, there are many useful resources out there.

One such resource is veteranscrisisline.net
They offer 24/7/365 service.
Their phone # is 1-800-273-8255 press 1
Or text to 838255

A note from their site – “Responders will work with you to help you get through any personal crisis, even if that crisis does not involve thoughts of suicide.”

Ride safe,
Trevor McCall
ALR Program Liaison, Department of Nevada
(402) 740-2794
blackjackmac68@yahoo.com
The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light,
I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight.
My wife was asleep, her head on my chest,
My daughter beside me, angelic in rest.
Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white,
Transforming the yard to a winter delight.

The sparkling lights in the tree I believe,
Completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.
My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep,
Secure and surrounded by love I would sleep.
In perfect contentment, or so it would seem,
So I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream.

The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near,
But I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear.
Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know, Then the
sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow.
My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear,
And I crept to the door just to see who was near.

Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night,
A lone figure stood, his face weary and tight.
A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old,
Perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold.
Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled,
Standing watch over me, and my wife and my child.

"What are you doing?" I asked without fear,
"Come in this moment, it's freezing out here!
Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve,
You should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"
For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift,
Away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts…

To the window that danced with a warm fire's light
Then he sighed and he said, "It's really all right,
I'm out here by choice. I'm here every night.
"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line,
That separates you from the darkest of times.

Continued on page 12
Commander’s Travels

By Yvette Weigold, Department Commander

Greetings Nevada Legionaires!

Well December sure has turned out to be a very busy time for me! I was thrilled to be invited to so many Post Christmas parties. It was great finally getting to see so many Post members from the Northern half of the State. And thank you for not having any now.

Since the last newsletter I have attended the District 2 Oratorical, Been to Post 24 in Mesquite, District 2 meeting in Laughlin, Post 31 in Boulder City, Post 56 party in Carson City, District 4 meeting in Fallon, Post 1 party in Reno,

Holiday with a Hero in Carson City for breakfast and back to Carson for Post 4 party at the Governor’s mansion.

I laid several wreaths at WAA2017 at the Southern Nevada Veteran’s Memorial Cemetery and attended the Unit 8 Children’s Christmas party. Next week I head up to Lovelock to see the beginning of the new post in the prison there! We have already been contacted by Southern Command to meet with them about starting something in the prison there!

One last thing we were able to do was visit the grave of James Scrugham, Nevada’s very first Department Commander. He was also a Senator, a Congressman and the 14th Governor of Nevada! If you’ve ever been to UNR you may have seen the Scrugham Engineering and Mines Building! They even have a medal in his honor.

I hope everyone has a blessed Holiday and that the New Year brings us all happiness and good health!

Yvette
The NNSS complies with the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you believe you need assistance to access the tour, please contact Brenda Carter at Brenda.Carter@nnsa.doe.gov or Pam Handor at HandorPM@nv.doe.gov.

Points of Interest on the Tour
Mercury, NV
Frenchman Flat (Atmospheric Tests at the NTS)
Nonproliferation Test and Evaluation Complex
Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management Site
Sedan Crater
T-1 Training Area
Apple II Houses (Civil Effects Tests)

Prohibited Items
Visitors are prohibited from bringing the following items:
Cameras or tape recorders
Binoculars or telescopes
Cell phones
Privately-owned laptop computer
Firearms

We need at least 35 people to sign up for this tour.

The Nevada Nuclear National Security Site Tour is scheduled for TUESDAY 6 March 2018.
We will depart from the Department HQ's (you can leave your car there) at 0800 and will return approximately 1600 (4PM).

TRANSPORTATION PRICE is $50 per person and YOU MUST respond to me with the following information (FULL NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, CITY AND STATE PLACE OF BIRTH, HOME ADDRESS, CITIZENSHIP), return to YVETTE WEIGOLD WITH PAYMENT NO LATER THAN 15 JANUARY 2018.

Mail checks made out to me
Yvette Weigold
to my house at
2219 Fountain Valley Way
North Las Vegas, NV 89031

You do not have to be a Legionnaire to attend, but you must be OVER 14, not pregnant and A US CITIZEN.

So if your spouse/Significant other would like to come along that is fine.

Here is the link that describes the tour and lists prohibited items, etc.
http://www.nnss.gov/pa.../PublicAffairsOutreach/NNSStours.html

NO CAMERAS, NO CELL PHONES, NO RECORDING DEVICES...ETC
Lunch is on your own. You can bring food/drink or purchase at the site!

***If you live outside of the Las Vegas area but want to join us you may! You are responsible for transportation/lodging/etc to/from Vegas. ***

I need to pay for this IMMEDIATELY so I need your confirmation of attendance as soon as possible.

Thanks
Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Yvette
As we approach the end of this calendar year I have just a few comments on how I feel this past first half of the legion year has gone. Along with that I will be making a few comments on the upcoming second half.

I know for a fact the 1st Vice Commander (Joel) has offered on many occasions to assist any Post or District with it’s membership program, mainly with myLEGION.ORG. I also know that the Department Adjutant tracks every couple of weeks all posts within the Department that sign onto mylegion and from what I’m being told that number is pitiful.

Well with that being said, I highly recommend that all of the leadership learn how to navigate the MyLEGION program. As you will be seeing in the very near future the continued existence of your Post / District will require this knowledge. National will soon be sending down to each post a process on (POST ONLINE TRANSMITTAL PROCESS) be looking for it. I do hope the Commander will permit the Adjutant and myself to give some training on this subject at the next DEC in February. Along with each District Commander in attendance I would highly suggest that each Post Commander along with their Adjutant and membership chairman attend this DEC.

I will close for now, as I know once you get the infor-

mation on the new process you will have enough to read.

So I hope everyone has a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a Happy and prosperous NEW YEAR.

Thanks, Mitch
American Legion Department of Nevada 300 CLUB RAFFLE

Today we batted 50% on our drawing. Congratulations to our 2 lucky winners!

1st Prize - $250 - #292 - UNSOLD
2nd Prize - $125 - #137 - Barry Bashist - Post 76
3rd Prize - $75 - #172 - UNSOLD
4th Prize - $50 - #8 - David Cairns - Post 1

Adjutant Motta, Lionel

DEPARTMENT MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

American Legion Department of Nevada
For God and Country
Legionnaires and Sons of the American Legion

The Department Mid-Winter Conference is being held at Tonopah Station at 1137 Erie St, Tonopah, NV on Thursday, 22 February, 2018. Host for the Department Mid-Winter Conference is the Department of Nevada.

Lodging is recommended at the Tonopah Station and the rate for Wednesday evening is $79.03 (taxes included) per night. Check-in time is after 3PM and check out time is by 11 AM. For reservations, please call 1-775-482-9777. Be sure to mention you are attending The American Legion Dept. of Nevada’s meeting when calling in for reservations. Ensure room reservation is made by February 1st.

The Department Executive Committee meeting will be at 10:30 AM on Thursday, 22 February, 2018 in the main floor meeting room at the Tonopah Station. The Winter Conference will start immediately after the Department Executive Committee meeting. American Legion meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend. We look forward to seeing all of you!
The mission of Nevada’s Legionnaires is to provide services to fellow veterans, their families and their communities.

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander Yvette Weigold (702) 576.6629 cmdrnv@nevadalegion.org
1st Vice Commander Joel Forman (702) 360.5833 akan01@centurylink.net
2nd Vice Commander Jim Stewart (775) 848.6072 controller@bordertowncasinorv.com
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Adjutant Lionel Motta (702) 382.2353 taldon737@aol.com
Membership Chair Mitch Roach (702) 690.6145 mitch.roach@aol.com
Jr. Past Commander Robert Terhune (702) 382-2353 terhunes1637@sbcglobal.net

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DISTRICT COMMANDERS

1st District Lionel Motta (702) 561.4993 taldon737@gmail.com
2nd District Joe Tasby (702) 869.8637 jtasby2003@yahoo.com
3rd District Carl Lincoln (775) 738.7657 lincoln@frontiernet.net
4th District Valerie Scheuering (775) 575.1259 nvnative1959@sbcglobal.net
5th District Vance Crowder (775)-296-2423 vance_87@yahoo.com
Internal Revenue Service Impersonation Scammers

Arrested

United States Attorney Gregory J. Haanstad for the Eastern District of Wisconsin announced that pursuant to criminal complaints and arrest warrants issued by a United States Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District of Wisconsin four suspects in an Internal Revenue Service impersonation scam were arrested by local and federal law enforcement. Moin Gohil of Dunwoody, Georgia (age: 22), was arrested by local law enforcement authorities on November 24, 2017. Pratik Patel of Hoffman Estates, Illinois (age: 26), Parvez Jiwani of Tucker, Georgia (age: 39), and Nakul Chetiwal of Dunwoody, Georgia (age: 27), were arrested on November 28, 2017 by federal law enforcement authorities. All of these arrests were based on charges of violations of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1343, 1349, 2 (Wire Fraud, Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud, and Aiding and Abetting). Each of these charges carries a maximum of 20 years imprisonment and a $250,000 fine.

According to the criminal complaint, Gohil, Chetiwal, and Jiwani were “runners” who used fraudulent identification cards to pick up fraud proceeds for a scheme likely originating from India. Patel aided and abetted at least one of the runners. In this scheme, which is sometimes referred to as an “IRS impersonation scheme,” members of the scheme (likely in India) call victims and make misrepresentations (typically, that the victim owes taxes) and cause the victims to wire money through a wire service, such as MoneyGram. Other members of the conspiracy (known as “runners”), such as Gohil, Chetiwal, and Jiwani, then use fraudulent identification cards to pick up the fraud proceeds. According to the complaint, Gohil, Chetiwal, and Jiwani picked up $666,537 sent from 784 victims during the period from January 25, 2016, through August 8, 2017. The false identities used by Gohil, Chetiwal, and Jiwani are linked to an additional 6,530 fraudulent transactions totaling $2,836,745.

The case was investigated by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration Mid Atlantic Division and Southern Field Division as well as the Mount Pleasant, Wisconsin Police Department and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Office of the Inspector General. The case is being prosecuted Assistant United States Attorney Zachary J. Corey.

A criminal complaint is only a charge and not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The public should be aware that the Internal Revenue Service (or any federal government agency) will never ask you to pay money to them via MoneyGram, RIA, Western Union, or especially iTunes or Steam (online gaming) gift cards.
Historian, continued

No one had to ask or beg or implore me,
I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me.
My Gramps died at 'Pearl on a day in December,
Then he sighed, "That's a Christmas 'Gram always remembers."
My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam',
And now it is my turn and so, here I am.

I've not seen my own son in more than a while,
But my wife sends me pictures, he's sure got her smile."
Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag,
The red, white, and blue... an American flag.
"I can live through the cold and the being alone,
Away from my family, my house and my home.

I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet, 
I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat.
I can carry the weight of killing another,
Or lay down my life with my sister and brother..
Who stand at the front against any and all,
To ensure for all time that this flag will not fall."

"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright,
Your family is waiting and I'll be all right."
"But isn't there something I can do, at the least,
"Give you money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast?
It seems all too little for all that you've done,
For being away from your wife and your son."

Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret,
"Just tell us you love us, and never forget.
To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone,
To stand your own watch, no matter how long.
For when we come home, either standing or dead,
To know you remember we fought and we bled.
Is payment enough, and with that we will trust,
That we mattered to you as you mattered to us."

Don't be shy folks! Only 2 Legion family members have completed the incentive form and turned it in! NATIONAL IS KEEPING TRACK! So let's show them what we are made of! It only takes signing up 3 Legion family members to receive the pin! Ask your Commander if you don't know where to get the form.
### Department of Nevada
#### 2018 Membership Challenges

**District #1**

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<th>Name</th>
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<th>New Members</th>
<th>Last Transmittal</th>
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<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Carin</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Owyhee</td>
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<td>12/5/17</td>
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<td>Yerington</td>
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<td>68%</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
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<td>Caliente</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Pioche</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>10/31/17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**District Totals**

|                   | 6,307 | 4,606 | 73%   | 3       |

| Post #100         | 1,043 | 825   | 79%   | 12/14/17 |
Next month we will be hosting the 5\textsuperscript{th} Annual Rendezvous in Las Vegas at the Tuscany. The dates are January 20\textsuperscript{th} and 21\textsuperscript{st}. There is no reason that the Nevada Sons can’t show up in force. You need to get this information out to your membership. I can guarantee you that this is not a waste of your time. There are great presenters scheduled to help all of us become better informed and more knowledgeable about our organization. I hope to see a lot of you there.

If you plan on attending and wish to have dinner on Saturday evening at Post 8, please contact our S.A.L. Adjutant Joe Keiser no later than December 28\textsuperscript{th}.

There has been a change of date for our next DEC Meeting in Tonopah. The new date is Thursday, February 22\textsuperscript{nd}. You will be receiving your call in letter, agenda, and minutes of the last DEC Meeting after the first of the year.

I would like to wish all of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Be safe and a responsible SON over the holidays.