Changes Coming to Tricare Dental, Vision Coverage

In 2019, the Tricare Retiree Dental Plan (TRDP) is going away.

Those covered under that plan who wish to keep coverage will be required to sign up for the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP), which is the same program used by civil service members and retirees.

The new dental plan will offer coverage options from 10 insurers, with each providing at least two different levels of coverage: standard and high. The high level typically offers a greater range of services and lower co-pay amounts than the standard version, but comes with a higher monthly cost.

Under both the current TRDP and the upcoming FEDVIP, monthly premiums are based on location. The premiums for both TRDP and FEDVIP are similar, so users may not experience a price jump, depending on the plan they choose.

For example, someone getting family coverage in Zone E, which is made up of 27 states, pays $115 each month under the current TRDP, while the same person using FEDVIP would pay between $60 and $175 each month, depending on the insurance plan they choose.

Compared to TRDP, the new plans will offer a greater choice of dentists and more coverage options that retirees can tailor to their specific needs. (continued on page 13)
"OLD GLORY"
This famous name was coined by Captain William Driver, a shipmaster of Salem, Massachusetts, in 1831. As he was leaving on one of his many voyages aboard the brig CHARLES DOGGETT - and this one would climax with the rescue of the mutineers of the BOUNTY - some friends presented him with a beautiful flag of twenty-four stars. As the banner opened to the ocean breeze for the first time, he exclaimed "Old Glory!"
He retired to Nashville in 1837, taking his treasured flag from his sea days with him. By the time the Civil War erupted, most everyone in and around Nashville recognized Captain Driver's "Old Glory." When Tennessee seceded from the Union, Rebels were determined to destroy his flag, but repeated searches revealed no trace of the hated banner.

Then on February 25th, 1862, Union forces captured Nashville and raised the American flag over the capital. It was a rather small ensign and immediately folks began asking Captain Driver if "Old Glory" still existed. Happy to have soldiers with him this time, Captain Driver went home and began ripping at the seams of his bedcover. As the stitches holding the quilt-top to the batting unraveled, the onlookers peered inside and saw the 24-starred original "Old Glory"!

Captain Driver gently gathered up the flag and returned with the soldiers to the capitol. Though he was sixty years old, the Captain climbed up to the tower to replace the smaller banner with his beloved flag. The Sixth Ohio Regiment cheered and saluted - and later adopted the nickname "Old Glory" as their own, telling and retelling the story of Captain Driver's devotion to the flag we honor yet today. Captain Driver's grave is located in the old Nashville City Cemetery, and is one of three (3) places authorized by act of Congress where the Flag of the United States may be flown 24 hours a day.

A caption above a faded black and white picture in the book, The Stars and the Stripes, states that "Old Glory' may no longer be opened to be photographed, and no color photograph is available." Visible in the photo in the lower right corner of the canton is an appliquéd anchor, Captain Driver's very personal note. "Old Glory" is the most illustrious of a number of flags - both Northern and Confederate - reputed to have been similarly hidden, then later revealed as times changed. The flag was given to his granddaughter or niece and she later donated it to the Smithsonian.

Flag Day is only one reason that June 14th is special in America. For it is also a day that we honor those who hold special reverence for our national symbol - so much so, that these special Americans all pledged to die for that Flag if called upon.

Fittingly, June 14th also happens to be the birthday of the United States Army. Our soldiers - like all veterans of the United States Military - understand that the Flag of our country is not a mere piece of cloth but the embodiment of freedom, hope and opportunity.

World War I veteran Alvin Mansfield Owsley served as the national commander of The American Legion from 1922 to 1923. His reverence for our Flag and National Anthem resonates as well today as it did nearly a century ago.

"The band is playing the national anthem - "The Star Spangled Banner!" Commander Owsley said. "They have let loose Old Glory yonder. Stand up - and others will stand with you. This tribute to the Flag is offered to the country in appeal to all men and women of all races, colors and tongues, that they may come to understand that our Flag is the symbol of liberty, and learn to love it." -- unquote.

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First Vice Commander: Joel Forman

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And we do love our Flag. That is why we celebrate on Flag Day. It is why so many American Legion Family members wear American Flag pins.

The late journalist Tim Russert reflected on what the pin meant to him during a 2004 interview with The American Legion Magazine.

In the broadcast following the September 11th attacks, the Meet the Press host and son of a WW II veteran raised the ire of The Washington Post because he dared to wear a flag lapel pin on the air, as he mercilessly grilled a Taliban spokesman.

"Yes, I am a journalist, but first I am an American citizen," Russert later said to the magazine.

If you think about it, we are all something. We are all journalists or teachers or police officers or construction workers or office workers or practice another occupation. But first and foremost, we should consider ourselves Americans. Our flag not only symbolizes our freedom, it represents who we are. The only reason we get to choose to be journalists, teachers, police officers, office workers or anything else is because we live in a country that gives us these marvelous opportunities.

That is why The American Legion and the majority of Americans do not consider it right to desecrate Old Glory.

Some call it "free speech" but it's probably more accurate to call it a hate crime against America.

Fortunately Senator Steve Daines and Representative have introduced bills that would give Congress the constitutional authority to protect Old Glory from desecration.

Retired Army Major General Patrick H. Brady earned the Medal of Honor for his heroism in Vietnam. He once said to The American Legion, quote - "Many Americans have raised their right hand and sworn an oath to protect and defend the Constitution from all enemies, both foreign and domestic. We believe that all Americans who put their right hand over their heart and recite the Pledge of Allegiance take that same oath. Both the oath and the pledge are taken in the presence of Old Glory to emphasize that our Flag is the symbol of our Constitution. We believe that we the people must exercise our right to rule by ensuring that the Court's decision on flag-burning is not irrevocably fixed." -unquote.

And that decision - a 5-4 narrow majority in the 1989 Supreme Court case, Texas v. Johnson invalidated flag protection laws that existed in 48 states and the District of Columbia. It is up to Congress to remind the Court that the flag belongs to "We, the People" and the people want it protected.

We should always remember that it is much easier to fight for our Flag in the halls of Congress than it is in the halls of Montana and other places where Americans have actually bled for Old Glory.

One man who bled for the Flag was Sgt. William Carney of the 54th Massachusetts Colored Infantry. Immortalized in the film "Glory." Carney fought valiantly at Fort Wagner, South Carolina. When the colored sergeant went down, Sgt. Carney grabbed the Flag, let the way to the parapet and planted the colors. When the troops fell back, he again carried the Flag through fierce fire and was wounded for times. he became the first black recipient of the Medal of Honor, and it was given for his defense of the Flag.

Even though America was far from perfect, especially to a 19th century black man like Sgt. Carney, he and thousands of others knew that America and its Flag were worth fighting for.

The Flag does not represent perfection. It represents freedom, hope and opportunity. Today our troops continue to serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria, hoping to make those countries better places.

When our brave troops make the supreme sacrifice, it is only fitting that their remains be covered with the flag for which they fought when they are repatriated and given their final honors.

Last year, President Trump spoke to military members and their families stationed in Europe. He shared his thoughts about our nation's Flag. "The glorious American Flag represents the blood of patriots spilled in defense of freedom," he told the troops. "It represents the courage that burns in American hearts. It represents the unity that binds us all together as one. And it represents the freedoms bestowed on us by Almighty God. You are the warriors of freedom. You are the protectors of that great American Flag." -unquote.

Ladies and gentlemen, I submit to you, that we should all be protectors of that great American Flag. No just on Flag Day but EVERYDAY.

Long may she fly!

*Wikipedia
** The American Legion Flag Day Speech (Edited)

Joel M. Forman
1st Vice Commander
Department of Nevada (4 June 2018)
IT WAS A ROMP

The place – Bellingham, Washington; the Host – Chapter 7; The mission – Conduct a ROMP that will have folks talking about it for the next several years. Bottom Line. Chapter 7 made it happen; and trust me, it will be the talk of Rider Chapters who participated. Bellingham Riders, thank you for an outstanding ROMP. Your hospitality, comradeship, welcoming arms, and organizational skills made this one of the best ROMPs we have had here in the Western Region.

As a historian, it is essential that I provide a little history. So, with that in mind here goes. In 1993 a couple of guys in Garden City, Michigan thought it might be nice to start an association within their Post for folks who loved to ride. So, Chuck “Tramp” Dare and Bill “Polka” Kaledas, approached their Department Adjutant, Hubert Hess, about starting a rider group. He thought their idea worth pursuing and provided instructions on a way forward. They made it happen. Fast forward to today, we now have over 2,000 Chapters with over 110,000 riders.

The Legion Riders are supported by National via the two resolutions pasted at previous conventions. However, the Legion Rider groups are a Post or Department program. They uphold the principles of The American Legion and operate within the constraints of their Department and Post. The Legion Riders are an entity in their own right; however, operate as Legionnaire/SAL/Aux first. Because of the mix of their membership, they portray the Legion Family concept in anything they do. And, they do everything. Fund raising, Flag Lines, Run for the Wall, Community Parades, The Legacy Run and local memorial ceremonies only touch the surface of their involvement at community, State and National level.

The Riders are broken down into regions and Nevada belongs to the Western Region consisting of Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. The Western Region ROMP is the brainchild of John Moffett, the Past Western Region Liaison. He felt it important that the chapters within the Region get together periodically to enjoy each other’s company, share ideas, and have fun exploring the local area of the sponsoring Post. This year’s ROMP did all this and more.

Chapter 7 under the direction of Ericka Moran, Director, did an outstanding job in preparing and conducting the ROMP. Meals, music, rides, raffles, give-aways, and comradeship were all evident throughout the weekend. There were three rides scheduled daily to meet the capabilities of the riders. Each ride came with a Road Captain, Tail Gunner and Chase Vehicle. Road Guards were posted to insure safe passage through intersects and round-abouts. There were tents with merchandise available for purchase, sewing support for new patches, and benches to just sit and chat. The Post also supported the event with different family groups preparing meals for those that needed to eat. Even the weather supported with great days for riding. Riders throughout the Western Region came for a fun weekend. Chapter 7, Thank you for making it a weekend to remember. Hopefully, Chapter 60 in Laughlin will meet the challenge next year when they host the event.
Greetings Comrades,

We just returned from the Western Region ROMP. The event was great. The folks at Post 7 in Bellingham, WA really outdid themselves. Next Year’s ROMP will be held in Laughlin, NV. Stay tuned for more details!

The American Legion Legacy Run is set for August. The dates are set - August 19th – 23rd. The route is set - We will travel through the Departments of Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota – 5 Departments in 5 Days. Online registration is also now open at http://www.legion.org

This year we are encouraging any American Legion Riders and supporters who cannot attend the Legacy Run to register as a “Supporter” for $20.00. All Supporter registrants will receive a specially minted 2018-2019 Centennial Legacy Run Pin, patch set and some surprises!

If you have an activity you’d like to share, please let us know.

Ride Safe,

Trevor McCall
ALR Program Liaison, Department of Nevada
(402) 740-2794
blackjackmac68@yahoo.com

The American Legion Riders today are important part of the Legion family in support of virtually all programs of The American Legion.
Commander’s Travels  Yvette Weigold

Well my year as Commander is coming to an end... I tried to get to all of the Posts I could. This past month included the Memorial Day ceremony with Post 76 out at the Lakes in Las Vegas as well as a visit to Post 10 to install their new officers.

Next up is Boy’s State and then a trip to Girl’s State. Next week I’m also heading out to Elko to install their new officers for the upcoming year.

Soon it will be time for the Department Convention and I am looking forward to seeing all of you there.

It’s been a fantastic year, we didn’t quite make our membership goal, but we gave it a heck of a run and I appreciate the effort each of you made this year.

Yvette
American Legion
High Desert Post 56
961 Desert Court, Carson City, NV 89701-8089

For God and Country

Comrades,

The 100th Annual Department of Nevada Convention is being hosted by High Desert Post 56 in Reno, NV on July 13th thru July 15th 2018. The convention will be held at the Sands Regency Casino Hotel located at 345 North Arlington Avenue. Post 56 Legionnaires, Unit 56 Auxiliary, and Squadron 56 members are looking forward to making sure all of you enjoy your stay in Reno.

We are planning a hospitality room where you can relax and enjoy coffee and rolls in the morning before the meetings begin and again in the afternoon with refreshments and snacks before going to dinner. The hospitality room will be in the Atrium Lounge located directly behind the registration table n the second floor. Donations are gladly accepted in the hospitality room.

The Department Commander’s Banquet will be on Saturday, July 14th. There will be no-host cocktails served from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Dinner will be served promptly at 7:00 PM. You will have a choice of Filet Mignon or Roasted Salmon for $35.00 each which will include salad, rolls, dessert, and drink. Please circle your choice on the registration form.

The Past Commander’s breakfast will be on Sunday morning at 7:30 AM. The cost will be $15.00 per person. This will be a sit down breakfast.

Lodging has been secured at the Sands Regency for Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening. The rate for Thursday, including all of the taxes, will be $58.61. Friday and Saturday rates, including all of the taxes, will be $99.47. For reservations, please call 1-800-233-4939. Be sure to mention American Legion 100th when calling in for reservations. Rooms not reserved by July 1st will be released.

Each Post is required to pay their delegation fee prior to the Post’s delegation being able to vote at the convention. Each delegate is required to pay a $2.00 registration fee for attending the convention. This can easily be done on the registration form.

American Legion High Desert Post 56 is looking forward to providing you a great convention.
American Legion  
High Desert Post 56  
P.O. Box 2848  
Carson City, Nevada 89702-2848

100th ANNUAL DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA CONVENTION  
REGISTRATION FORM

Name: ___________________________  Post/Unit/Squadron: ________

Address: ______________________________________________________

City: ___________________________  State: ________  Zip Code: ________

E-Mail: __________________________

Home Phone: ________  Work Phone: ________  Cell Phone: ________

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FRIDAY, JULY 13, 2018

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SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018

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| Commanders Banquet 6:00 PM Cocktails-7:00 PM Dinner  
Filet Mignon or Roasted Salmon (circle one) | $35.00    | $40.00           |                |
| Past Commander’s Breakfast               | $15.00    | $20.00           |                |
| Legionnaire Registration Fee             | $2.00     | $2.00            |                |

SEND REGISTRATION AND FEES TO:  
HIGH DESERT POST 56  
961 DESERT COURT-CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89705-5089

REGISTRATIONS FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JULY 1ST
Convention Brochure Ad Request Form

Full Page....................................$120.00

Half Page.................................$ 75.00

Quarter Page..............................$ 30.00

Booster Page..............................$ 2.00

In Honor of Those Who Served......$ 2.00

You must have your “Camera Ready” ad and payment in no later than July 1st, 2018! No ad will be placed in the brochure until full payment is received.

Please make your checks out to High Desert Post 56 and put “Department Convention 2018” in the memo section.

Mail your check to the address listed above.

You can send your digital ad to: vrhorton@charter.net and in the subject section, put “Department Convention”.

Thank you for your support and we are looking forward to seeing you at the Department of Nevada’s 100th Convention.
Climb the membership ladder!

Well, all just another month until the Department convention. I hope to see each and every one of you there. As far as our membership goes we have finally reached 95%. Our numbers are not great but they are what they are. All I can say is we get what we put in so if you feel that each post has done their best then so be it. I do want to congratulate and thank the 13 posts and 1 district that reached their 100% goal for this year. I had the opportunity to attend the 4th district meeting this past week where the Department adjutant passed on some very important information that I wish I could share with you all. Bottom line was there is a lot that goes on in this great Department that so many need to pay attention to that ensure that your post and district are in compliance with the American Legion and Departments Constitution and by-laws. With that being said this will be my last article as the Department Membership Chairman. I want to thank you all for the support that you have provided me and this Department for the past few years. I’m moving on to do some different things in my life but the time I have spent as a post commander, district commander and a Department officer in this great state has been great and brought me many everlasting memories. I am not giving up on the American Legion it is just time to place my efforts on other aspects of the Legion family. In closing THANK YOU ALL! And I do hope to see you at the Convention next month. Mitch
And the players win again. Our lovely Administrative Assistant Glynis did the honors today. Congratulations to our 4 lucky winners.

1st Prize - $250 - #26 - Richard Eberly - Post #56 (District 4)
2nd Prize - $125 - #99 - Jim Stewart - Post 30
3rd Prize - $75 - #37 - Dave Evans - Post 12
4th Prize - $50 - #103 - Kim Neal - Post 16

Only 1 more drawing for this year's lottery. Do you have your number(s) for next year's 300 Club? Get your checks in now. August 15th will be here before you know it.

Adjutant Motta,
Lionel
The American Legion
August 2018 - July 2019
“300 Club” Lottery

FILL OUT THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT

YOUR LOTTERY NUMBER (S) FOR THE “300 CLUB”
WILL BE ISSUED IN THE ORDER THEY ARE RECEIVED

Name: _______________________________

Address: __________________________________________

City: __________________ State: _______ Zip: _______

Phone: __________________ Email: __________________ Post #: ______

Quantity of Numbers: ________ @ $50.00 Each = $__________

1st # Drawn = $250.00  3rd # Drawn = $75.00
2nd # Drawn = $125.00  4th Drawn = $50.00

Send Check or Money Order
Payable to:

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

ONLY $50.00 Per Number

OK TO COPY THIS FORM
NEW VISION INSURANCE PLAN

Even bigger news is that in 2019 most retirees and active-duty family members will be newly eligible to enroll in the FEDVIP vision insurance program.

Vision coverage is currently not part of the Tricare program. While beneficiaries now receive one free standard eye exam each year or every other year, depending on their plan and whether they are diabetic, exams for contacts are not covered, nor are glasses or contacts themselves.

But under the FEDVIP vision program, you will not only have a covered eye exam but, depending on your choice of coverage, you may be able to get glasses, contacts or both for free or a very deep discount. Tricare will continue its current eye exam coverage system for those who do not enroll in the new vision plan.

Currently, there are four different insurers available in the FEDVIP vision program. Monthly family premiums range from $19 to $43.

Like the FEDVIP dental program, you will be able to choose from a greater number of eye care providers than are currently a part of the Tricare networks, and tailor your coverage to fit your individual needs.

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

If you are currently enrolled in TRDP, you will have to enroll in a FEDVIP dental plan during open season or you will lose your dental insurance in 2019.

If you want to enroll in the FEDVIP vision plan, you must also do it during open season. This year’s open season runs from Nov. 12, 2018, through Dec. 10, 2018. You can make changes to your insurance each year during open season or when you experience a “qualifying life event” such as a job change, move or birth of a child.

While the enrollment period may seem like a long way off, if you are thinking about enrolling in either of these programs, it is probably a good idea to check them out ahead of time. The large number of plans and options can be pretty confusing.

If you plan on getting major dental work done, doing your homework can possibly save you a bunch of money. The new plan may be a lot cheaper than the current one, or vice versa.

Also, if you have kids who need braces, some insurance plans under FEDVIP require you to be enrolled for 12 months before insurance will pay for orthodontic care.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Check out the BENEFEDS/Tricare website for details on switching over or enrolling in the new plans. You can also check out the Office of Personnel Management’s Dental & Vision insurance page for plan costs and coverage.

-- Jim Absher can be reached at jim.absher@monster.com.
The mission of Nevada’s Legionnaires is to provide services to fellow veterans, their families and their communities.

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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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Legislative Dave Evans (775) 997-5874 hmcs8425@att.net
VA & R Jeanette Rae (775) 997.5874 retiredmsgt@att.net

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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
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<td>4/23/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Laughlin</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>112%</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>5/14/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Logandale</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4/10/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>136%</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>6/1/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>148</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>6/1/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,266</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,912</strong></td>
<td><strong>92%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>200</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>District #3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Winnemucca</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3/21/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Elko</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4/3/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Battle Mountain</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>140%</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1/11/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Carlin</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1/29/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Owyhee</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>10/24/17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>191</strong></td>
<td><strong>175</strong></td>
<td><strong>92%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>District #4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Carson City</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>113%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5/25/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Yerington</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>105%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3/21/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Fallon</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>111%</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5/31/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Hawthorne</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3/19/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Fernley</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>108%</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5/25/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>High Desert</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4/20/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1775</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5/25/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>892</strong></td>
<td><strong>941</strong></td>
<td><strong>105%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>82</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>District #5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elko</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4/25/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Big Smoky Valley</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5/15/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Caliente</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5/25/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Pioche</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>12/27/17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>231</strong></td>
<td><strong>141</strong></td>
<td><strong>61%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**District Totals:**
- District #1: 727
- District #2: 4,266
- District #3: 191
- District #4: 892
- District #5: 231

**Department Totals:**
- 7,350
- 6,816
- 93%
VA’S Choose Home Initiative

The voices of Veterans, Caregivers, and Families are strong Veterans who are aging, or have complex care needs, are asking to stay in the comfort of their homes, rather than moving to an unfamiliar institution. VA is answering the call through its CHOOSE HOME INITIATIVE.

VA’S CHOOSE HOME GOAL: To Create comprehensive, integrated service delivery and support, which will allow Veterans who are aging, or have complex care needs, to Choose Home and community living.

The Choose Home Initiative intends to inform, and help guide, improvements in coordinated case management and integrated care model for non-institutional care and services for Veterans, Caregivers, and Families through three key actions;

Create a Personal, Comprehensive Choose Home Plan

VA is developing a personalized Choose Home Plan to integrate clinical and non-clinical care services and benefits into a single, comprehensive, and coordinated plan. VA kicked off the Choose Home Plan effort by mobilizing four high–performing sites to provide input on the content and use of a comprehensive care plan for Veterans at risk for long-term care. Leading clinical and benefits experts are identifying gaps and novel approaches from these sites and others to inform proposals for the choose Home Plan.

Strengthen Community Collaboration and Navigation

VA is engaging five strong Caregiver-friendly and Veteran =friendly communities which includes Las Vegas Nevada, to improve the incorporation, and navigation of, community-based services in the Choose Home Plan. VA is engaging national and community-based stakeholders to: 1) help streamline community-based delivery of supplementary care, benefits, and services; and 2) improve two-way access to VA and community-based services in support of Choose Home

Establish a VA Choose Home Center of Excellence

The VA Choose Home Center of Excellence e will identify and disseminate research and novel approaches to improve access to personal, comprehensive, high-quality care, benefits and services for Veterans, Families and Caregivers who Choose Home. The Center will work with VQ’s existing Geriatric Research, Education, and Clinical Centers of Excellence as well as renowned experts from other organizations.

NEC
Ron Michalski
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA
2018-2019
LETTERS OF INTENT

**DEPARTMENT COMMANDER**
JOEL FORMAN POST 76

**DEPARTMENT 1ST VICE COMMANDER**
JIM STEWART POST 30

**DEPARTMENT 2ND VICE COMMANDER**
RICHARD EBERLY POST 56

**DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**
MICHAEL SHEPHEARD POST 76
VALERIE SCHEUERING POST 37

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PERSON (2018 – 2020)**
RON MICHALSKI POST 40
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.

The year has ended with our numbers and participation as reported by Adjutant Keiser and Commander Manor in the April and May Newsletters. Four Squadrons reached 100% and our final membership percentage was 74%. Congratulations to all members who strove to do their best in keeping their squadrons and our detachment active this year and providing a strong base for growth next year.

To maintain our base and achieve growth we need to have members submit letters of intent for all the offices, except National Executive Committeeman and alternate committeeman.

As of this newsletter there are no letters of intent for first vice commander and vice commanders for the north and south. Contact Adjutant Keiser or Commander Manor with your letter of intent. Letters of intent may also be submitted for Commander.

It is very important as we move forward to have accurate officer listings and contact information: email, phone, mailing address. Notification of changes when they occur is important for the passing of information. We still have the option of phone call conferencing should we decide to use it. I would very much like to see our Detachment at the top of the national membership goals next year. Starting renewals and signing new members at the beginning of year is important to meet the monthly target dates.

Squadron Commanders and Adjutants we need you at the convention in Reno for a quorum and to support our Department. May’s Newsletter has the registration forms and information for the convention to be held at the Sands Regency in Reno on the 13th through 15th of July. The information and forms are listed in the High Desert Post 56 article. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

I will be in contact with you in the coming weeks to exchange ideas and current information.

Ben