HAPPY 99TH AMERICAN LEGION

March 15 is the designated birthday of The American Legion. On that date in 1919, the first American Legion caucus, held by members of the American Expeditionary Force, convened in Paris. Much as the birthday of the United States is celebrated on July 4 - for the date in 1776 when patriots declared the independence of the British colonies and the spirit of America was born - March 15 is the date when The American Legion came to life.

Nevada American Legion baseball is now WWW.NEVADAALB.ORG
NAME RECOGNITION.

When you mention The American Legion to someone who is not a member, do you have to explain who we are and what we have done and what we are doing for our Veterans? Of course you do, few people outside of our Posts know who or what we are. The Department of Nevada, not the "White Hats", but the 34 Posts contained therein are not doing a very good job of getting the word out. I am not very familiar with all the Posts, but the ones in and around Clark County come to mind.

I have attended a lot of Veterans events in my career as a Legionnaire and the time that I have seen other Legion caps representing other Posts are rare. I do not understand why the officers of a Post where an event is occurring cannot send at least one representative wearing that Post's colors. I know, I hear all the time, that "no one notified me", or "I did not know that was happening here". Lame excuses. If you took an oath of office, it is up to you to find out what is going on in your area, and if you can not make an appearance there to show support from your Post, you should send a representative to be there for you. There are a few Posts who get this, and I see them at many of the places I go. You know who you are, and I congratulate you for doing your job.

Fourteen Posts are still not registered on myLegion. I have offered help to all Posts in registering. I check my cell phone every hour to see if the ringer still works as no one has called me for help. The American Legion is working towards paperless reporting, only online will be accepted in the very near future. What are you going to tell your membership when you have to renew them online and you are not prepared?

Nineteen Posts have still not registered for Online Transmittals. I know this is the slow time of year for renewals. However new members should be registered this way. This is going to be the way of the very near future. Again, this is a simple process and I am available anytime to be of assistance.

The wording on the Legion Insurance Trust sign-up page has been updated to reflect the terms of the policy. $1000.00 accidental Life insurance and $5000.00 accidental Life insurance, if on Legion business. IT IS ABSOLUTELY FREE!!! Just go to the-Lit.com and register. You will receive your policy in 7-10 days.

The Department does not have many Nevada Centennial Challenge Coins left. They are $10.00 each and will be gone before you know it. Contact me if you would like to purchase one.

Joel M. Forman
Many of you may have heard that the Boy Scouts of America will now allow girls into the program. First, girls have been involved in Scouting since 1972. The Boy Scouts of America’s mission has always been “To prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices by instilling in them the value of the Scout Oath and Scout Law”. The Boy Scouts of America’s Board of Directors in 2017 unanimously approved to welcome girls into its iconic Cub Scout program and to deliver a Scouting program for older girls that will enable them to advance and earn the highest rank of Eagle Scout. By welcoming both girls and boys into the program, more youth will have access to the character development and values-based leadership that Scouting promises, thus preparing them for future success. Families can choose to register their sons and daughters for Cub Scouts in fall 2018. Chartered partner organizations may choose to establish a new all-girl pack, establish a pack that consists of girl dens and boy dens, or remain an all-boy pack. Cub Scout dens will be single gender, all boys or all girls. Using the same curriculum as the Boy Scouts program, the organization also will deliver a new program for older girls, which will be announced in 2018 with a projected start date in 2019, to enable them to earn the Eagle Scout rank. This unique approach allows the organization to maintain the integrity of the single-gender model while also meeting the needs of today’s families. For more information on the scouting program, click on the link below: https://www.scouting.org/familyscouting/

Last November, I was at The American Legion Scouting Conference in Dallas, TX and met a great actress, Janine Turner, who is most notable for her role as Maggie O’Connell in the series, Northern Exposure. The reason Janine was at our conference was to promote her organization, Constituting America. Janine is the Founder and Co-Chair of Constituting America which is dedicated to educate young people about the United States Constitution through seminars and contests. The core mission of Constituting America is to educate Americans about the Constitution and the rights and liberties it provides and protects for all of us. They also provide a program that features Janine and her daughter, Juliette Turner, to speak in person, as well as conduct seminars via Skype and Google Hangout to classrooms around the country. If your Post is interested in this program, please visit their website: http://constitutingamerica.org

Last February, my wife and I had the distinct honor to be the personal escorts for Medal of Honor Recipient, Colonel Donald “Doc” Ballard during his visit to Reno. One of Doc’s stops was to visit the Sierra Nevada VA Hospital. He met with quite a few of the hospital staff and made a point to meet with as many patients as he could so he could listen to their concerns, good and bad. Doc knows that his voice carries weight, so when he visits the VA hospitals, he listens very carefully. However, he is a strong believer that you must help yourself. Don’t just complain and hope that someone else will do the work for you, get involved and get it done for yourself. Doc also made several other appearances throughout the Reno and Carson City areas, met with Reno, Carson City, and Sparks city officials, State officials, TV and newspaper reporters, and local notable personalities. Overall, Doc and his traveling companion, Carroll Bertram (Doc’s self proclaimed tail gunner or bag carrier, just ask him) had a great time and left with smiles on their faces. I know that I will never forget the experience and the friendship my wife and I have made.

Jim Stewart
For those in the know, the Department had its Winter Executive Board meeting in Tonopah on the 22nd of February. Sort of a first in that it was held on a Thursday. Maybe it was because of the time of the year, or just that it was early in the week; however, there seemed to be more energy in the air and folks came prepared to participate.

This year’s event started off with breakfast, compliments of the Commander. Commander Weigold offered breakfast to Post Commanders and the Adjutants who reached their 100% membership goal. There were not a lot of takers; however, there was a nice attendance. This is where the Question “Why” entered the scene. Cmdr. Weigold questioned each in attendance with the one word “Why”. She went on to explain that each member of the American Legion needed to reflect on the past and ask themselves why they entered the service, why they got out or stayed in, why they joined the Legion, why they stayed, why they became officers, why they came to meetings, and why they participated in Post, District, Department and National activities. Her bottom line: if you do not have an answer to each of these questions, you are not in a position to discuss membership with potential members. This led to members at the breakfast to tell part of their story. It, in its self, was entertaining and enlightening for all who participated.

The Financial meeting followed breakfast and immediately after that the Executive Board met. This meeting, as is normally the case, covered a lot of information. The Department has been busy and are meeting the goals established early on. The Guest Speaker at the DEC was Brett Reistad, the Legion’s Leading Candidate for National Commander. It was a two-day trip for him as he flew into Las Vegas from Virginia Wednesday evening and flew out Thursday evening. It would be interesting to listen to his “Why’’ story.

Cmdr. Weigold, along with Membership Chair, Mitch Roach, came with their construction hats and brought the group up to speed on our membership drive. Cmdr. Weigold, delivered a light-hearted commentary on the activities of each District. Hats were placed on the ladder and each District Commander received a construction vehicle for their efforts to date. Valerie Scheuering, District 4 Commander, took top honors with the District being at 97% of their goal. Great job, Valerie.

Another highlight of the meeting was a briefing by 1st Vice Commander, Joel Forman, on National’s newly installed On-Line Renewal Process. Excellent information. For those who have not moved to this process, you are missing out. It reduces time generating renewal transmittals, cuts down on paperwork, reduces Departments workload, updates the Post’s membership renewal status faster, and is a much smoother, error free process. And, you don’t need postage stamps. What more could ask for?

In closing, remember WHY we are here. If there is any doubt, re-read the Preamble. It tells it all.
Commander’s Travels  Yvette Weigold

This past month included a trip to visit Post 22 in Pahrump, Post 8 in Vegas and the DEC in Tonopah. We had leading candidate Brett Reistadt as a visitor for the meeting. NEC Michalski, PDC Evans and PNVC Evans (ALT NEC) and myself all headed for Washington DC right after the DEC. We had a busy week there visiting with the representatives and listening to the National Commander’s testimony. I for one was very moved at the experience. We had very little time to sightsee, but we did manage to squeeze in a trip to Arlington and a tour of the Capitol!

1st Vice Forman and I made the trip out to Amargosa Valley to visit with Post 26 this month. I went to the Southern Nevada VA for the suicide prevention announcement with VA Secretary Shulkin and also made it up to Carson City for District 4’s meeting. Membership chair Roach and I toured the capitol and also the Nevada State Museum. I was pleased to find a portrait of our 1st Department Commander, James Scrugham, hanging in the capitol. Some of you will recall that he was the 14th Governor of Nevada also! More visits to come! See you soon! Yvette
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 on 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.

For God and Country,

Marco Manor,
Convention Chairperson
Greetings from the 4th District.

What a month! The District has currently achieved 99% of its goal for membership. The hard work and dedication of the Post Commanders and members shows in these results. Letting current and prospective members know what the American Legion does for them locally and in Washington DC. At the recent DEC meeting, the "Why" we became members of the Military and The American Legion was addressed by Department Commander Weigold, helping show a personal aspect of membership and how it can aid in increasing our voice. The "Why" topic was brought up at the District Meeting by Commander Weigold and helped the Post Commanders understand its importance.

The Department Oratorical winner, Lea Gifford from Capital Post 4, attended the district meeting and gave her oration. She is going to be a very tough competitor.

The Nevada Veterans Coalition has services for the Missing In Nevada (MIN) veterans, forgotten on mortuary shelves in the Reno/Sparks area. These services are held on the 2nd Friday of each month. The March 9th service interned 15 veterans. The next MIN is scheduled for April 13, 2018 at 2:00 pm. The Unaccompanied services are held on the 4th Thursday of each month, the next one is scheduled for March 22, 2018 at 3:00 pm. Both services are conducted at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, NV. Please come and show your respect for these fallen comrades.

Hawthorne Post 19 continues to sponsor State Service and Department of Education/Rehabilitation Representatives on the 1st Thursday of each month from 10 am - 2 pm. As a reminder High Desert Post 56 is sponsoring the Department of Nevada 100th Convention in Reno, NV.
Hello Fellow Legionnaires,

Wanted to say thank you for a great year as Sgt. At Arms for the Department of Nevada and looking forward as being your Second Vice for the Department of Nevada this upcoming year.

Hope Everyone is doing well and look forward to seeing you all at the Department Convention in July.

Thank You
Richard Eberly
Sgt. At Arms
Department of Nevada

Greetings Comrades,

Short & quick article this month. (I’m late to the publisher, sorry Boss!)

Post 60 is hosting their monthly Bike Night on March 23rd at 5:00 p.m.

Post 149 is hosting Rock the Troops XIV on April 7th at the Leatherneck Club. More info is available at http://www.rockthetroopslv.com/

The 6th Annual Western Region ROMP (Ride On Military Pride) is coming up on May 31 – June 3 in Bellingham, WA. Registration for this year’s ALR Western ROMP is open. Details, schedule, online registration, etc. is available at http://www.bellinghamlegion.com/

Dates are set for this year’s Legacy Run are set. We will “Ride for the Kids” again on August 19th – 23rd. Online registration will be available soon on 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
Membership

By Mitch Roach Department Membership Chairman

We are quickly approaching the end of our current membership year, as of the writing of this news letter we stand at 89.2% of our goal, I have full confidence that the Department will reach the National goal of 90% by the 14th of March our next target date, Let’s take a look at a few things that may assist some Post and Districts in reaching that last 10% of our goal. Remember this is the year of family first, so!

When you approach a couple, ask both female and male if they have ever served in the military. Do not just focus the conversation on the male of the couple. There are many military couples that may join because you asked both and treated them as individuals. Respect all veterans.

As the first vice Commander has been trying for the past three months is do not leave members in DMS, on a monthly basis. Do your best to transfer DMS members into your local post.

Renew and transfer members directly from Post to National through the new, online program. Faster processing (approximately five days). Changes are faster and should cut down on National Renewal Notices and double payments.

Legion Family members should ALWAYS carry Legion, Auxiliary and SAL applications and recruit for all.

All new members in a post should be assigned a sponsor. The sponsor should have specific duties to assure that members have an easy transition into the Legion and post.

At the recent Washington Conference the National Commander also spoke about Consolidated Post Reports, The new and free basic Training Course on line through the American Legion Education Institute (ALEI) and its importance with the retention of current members.

In closing I want to thank all for their hard work and continued dedication to this great organization and department. Mitch
Once again, we imposed on our 1st Vice Commander Joel Forman to pick out 4 lucky numbers for our March drawing. Congratulations to our one winner. We will continue to look for 4 winner month. We keep trying to mix up those numbers. Good luck next time.

1st Prize - $250 - #93—Jim Stewart—Post #30
2nd Prize - $125 - #288—UNSOLD
3rd Prize - $75 - #271—UNSOLD
4th Prize - $50 - #252—UNSOLD

Adjutant Motta,
Lionel

Photos courtesy of Jim Stewart. With Medal of Honor Recipient Colonel Donald “Doc” Ballard
The mission of Nevada’s Legionnaires is to provide services to fellow veterans, their families and their communities.

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4th District Valerie Scheuering (775) 575.1259 nvnative1959@sbcglobal.net
5th District Vance Crowder (775)-296-2423 vance_87@yahoo.com
## 2018 Membership Challenges

### District #1

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<th>Post #</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Paid</th>
<th>% of Goal</th>
<th>New Members</th>
<th>Last Transmittal</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Reno</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>386</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>2/15/18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lovelock</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>107%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12/18/17</td>
<td>12/18/2017 Tied 3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Reno</td>
<td>69</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Sparks</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>519</td>
<td>Lovelock</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>3/2/18</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>727</strong></td>
<td><strong>671</strong></td>
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### District #2

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
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<td>942</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
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<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
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<td>98</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Pahrump</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Mesquite</td>
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<td>2/9/18</td>
<td>1ST-11/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Amargosa Valley</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Sandy Valley</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Boulder City</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>Henderson</td>
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<td>910</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>North Las Vegas</td>
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<td>193</td>
<td>102%</td>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Laughlin</td>
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<td>3/12/16</td>
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<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Logandale</td>
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<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>24</td>
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<th>New Members</th>
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<td>1/29/18</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ely</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2/22/18</td>
<td></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>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Carlin</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td></td>
<td>1/29/18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Owyhee</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>64%</td>
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<td>10/24/17</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>191</strong></td>
<td><strong>168</strong></td>
<td><strong>88%</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
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### District #4

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<th>New Members</th>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>3/12/18</td>
<td>3RD12/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Yerington</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/11/18</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Fallon</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>105%</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3/7/18</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Hawthorne</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3/9/18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Fernley</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>105%</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1/19/18</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>High Desert</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>3/1/18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>892</strong></td>
<td><strong>889</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>58</strong></td>
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### District #5

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Post #</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Paid</th>
<th>% of Goal</th>
<th>New Members</th>
<th>Last Transmittal</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ely</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3/7/18</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Big Smoky Valley</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>11/20/17</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Caliente</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<td>3/2/17</td>
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<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Pioche</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12/27/17</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>231</strong></td>
<td><strong>127</strong></td>
<td><strong>55%</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

| District Totals |             | **6,307** | **5,583** | **89%** |             |                  |         |
| Post #100       |             | **1,043** | **939**   | **90%** |             |                  | **3/1/18** |
| **DEPARTMENT TOTALS** |             | **7,350** | **6,522** | **89%** |             |                  | **3/1/18** |
This 1967 true story is about an experience by a young 12-year-old boy in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. It is about the vivid memory of a privately rebuilt P-51 from WWII and its famous owner/pilot.

In the morning sun, I could not believe my eyes. There, in our little airport, sat a majestic P-51. They said it had flown in during the night from some U.S. Airport, on its way to an air show. The pilot had been tired, so he just happened to choose Kingston for his stopover. It was to take to the air very soon. I marveled at the size of the plane, dwarfing the Piper and Canucks tied down by her. It was much larger than in the movies. She glistened in the sun like a bulwark of security from days gone by.

The pilot arrived by cab, paid the driver, and then stepped into the pilot’s lounge. He was an older man; his wavy hair was gray and tossed. It looked like it might have been combed, say, around the turn of the century. His flight jacket was checked, creased and worn - it smelled old and genuine. Old Glory was prominently sewn to its shoulders. He projected a quiet air of proficiency and pride devoid of arrogance.

He filed a quick flight plan to Montreal ("Expo-67 Air Show") then walked across the tarmac.

After taking several minutes to perform his walk-around check, the tall, lanky man returned to the flight lounge to ask if anyone would be available to stand by with fire extinguishers while he "flashed the old bird up, just to be safe." Though only 12 at the time I was allowed to stand by with an extinguisher after brief instruction on its use -- "If you see a fire, point, then pull this lever!", he said. (I later became a firefighter, but that's another story.)

The air around the exhaust manifolds shimmered like a mirror from fuel fumes as the huge prop started to rotate. One manifold, then another, and yet another barked -- I stepped back with the others. In moments the Packard-built Merlin engine came to life with a thunderous roar. Blue flames knifed from her manifolds with an arrogant snarl. I looked at the others' faces; there was no concern. I lowered the bell of my extinguisher. One of the guys signaled to walk back to the lounge. We did Several minutes later we could hear the pilot doing his pre-flight run-up He'd taxied to the end of runway 19, out of sight. All went quiet for several seconds. We ran to the second story deck to see if we could catch a glimpse of the P-51 as she started down the runway. We could not. There we stood, eyes fixed at a spot halfway down the runway. Then a roar ripped across the field, much louder than before. Like a furious hell spawn set loose -- something mighty this way was coming.

"Listen to that thing!" said the controller.

In seconds the Mustang burst into our line of sight. Its tail was already off the runway and it was moving faster than anything I'd ever seen. Two-thirds the way down 19 the Mustang was airborne with her gear going up. The prop tips were supersonic. We clasped our ears as the Mustang climbed hellishly fast into the circuit to be eaten up by the dog-day haze. We stood for a few moments, in stunned silence, trying to digest what we'd just seen.

The radio controller rushed by me to the radio. "Kingston tower calling Mustang?" He looked back to us as he waited for an acknowledgment.

The radio crackled, "Go ahead, Kingston."

"Roger, Mustang. Kingston tower would like to advise the circuit is clear for a low-level pass."

"Roger, Mustang. Kingston tower would like to advise the circuit is clear for a low-level pass." I stood in shock because the controller had just, more or less, asked the pilot to return for an impromptu air show!

The controller looked at us. "Well, What?" He asked. "I can't let that guy go without asking. I couldn't forgive myself!"

The radio crackled once again, "Kingston, do I have permission for a low-level pass, east to west, across the field?" "Roger, Mustang, the circuit is clear for an east to west pass." "Roger, Kingston, I'm coming out of 3,000 feet, stand by." We rushed back onto the second-story deck, eyes fixed toward the eastern haze.

The sound was subtle at first, a high-pitched whine, a muffled screech, a distant scream. Moments later the P-51 burst through the haze. Her airframe straining against positive G's and gravity. Her wing tips spilling contrails of condensed air, prop-tips again supersonic. The burnished bird blasted across the eastern margin of the field shredding and tearing the air. At about 500 mph and 150 yards from where we stood she passed with the old American pilot saluting.

Imagine. A salute! I felt like laughing; like crying; she glistened; she screamed; the building shook; my heart pounded. Then the old pilot pulled her up and rolled, and rolled, and rolled out of sight into the broken clouds and indelibly into my memory.

I've never wanted to be an American more than on that day! It was a time when many nations in the world looked to America as their big brother. A steady and even-handed beacon of security who navigated difficult political water with grace and style; not unlike the old American pilot who'd just flown into my memory. He was proud, not arrogant; humble, not a braggart; old and honest, projecting an aura of America at its best.

That America will return one day! I know he will! Until that time, I'll just send off this story. Call it a loving salute to a Country, and especially to that old American pilot: the late JIMMY STEWART (1908-1997), Actor, real WWII Hero (Commander of a US Army Air Force Bomber Wing stationed in England), and a USAF Reserves Brigadier General, who wove a wonderfully fantastic memory for a young Canadian boy that's lasted a lifetime.
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
As we celebrate the birthday of The American Legion this week I would like to thank my father who served in France during the WWII allowing me to be in this position, and all the other men and women who served our country during that time in history. More specifically I would like to thank the founding members of The American Legion and Sons of The American Legion for creating an organization that does so much for the veterans, families and community’s nation wide and around the world.

Our membership is below the goal of 80% for this week. We have half of the Detachment over the goal with several squadrons very close. Last year we were able to come from low numbers and finish at 100%. We can do that again this year with the larger squadrons getting their renewals and adding new members. One squadron is replacing officer positions that were left open and should be sending renewals and new members shortly. The other squadrons need to take up the slack. We are still out of the top ten and need to get our numbers up. We need our squadrons officers to participate in the DEC’s and our monthly conference calls. Our monthly conference call is the third Thursday of every month. This is an open call and all squadrons should join the call and offer suggestions and give feedback. We are having very low participation and this needs to improve so we can get our membership back up.

All offices for the Detachment are open except the NEC and Alternate NEC, they have one more year to serve. Submit your letters of intent to Adjutant Keiser or Commander Manor as soon as possible.

A reminder of the upcoming conventions celebrating our 100th anniversary.


Contact Commander Manor for more information. National Convention, August 24-30, 2018 in Minneapolis Minnesota.