National Commander Oxford’s visit to Nevada
November is a very special month for all veterans of our great country. It is a time when we need to reflect on our service and our accomplishments. While we are recognized this month with the observance of Veterans Day, we should also take the time to recognize others who have served our nation. Shake the hand of every veteran and first responder you meet and thank them for their service. If someone is thoughtful enough to thank you for your service, respond to them by thanking them for caring. However, Veteran’s Day did not start out as a salute to all veterans. It was first known as Armistice Day, a day to commemorate and remember the end of the First World War on the eleventh day of the eleventh month at 11 a.m. in 1918. While the following years were observed as Armistice Day on November 11th, the United States Congress did not pass the congressional act to make Armistice Day a legal holiday until 1938. With the conclusion of World War II and the Korean War, there was a push to recognize all service men and women that had served. So in 1954, Congress passed a bill replacing “Armistice” with the term “Veterans” to honor all veterans that have served all of our armed services.

October was very busy as I traveled back to Indianapolis to attend the Sons of The American Legion NEC meeting along with our Detachment Commander, David Sousa, who attended the Detachment Commander’s Conference.

Immediately following the Sons’ meetings, I attended the Department Commanders Conference while others attended Commission meetings, the NEC meetings, and other conferences.

Also in October, I was asked to attend the Nevada Area Council’s ScoutReach District Recognition Dinner to receive the Charter Organization Certificate for sponsoring nine ScoutReach Cub Scout Packs. (continued on page 4)
1st Vice Commander Richard Eberly

Developing your “Why”

As the State of Nevada continues to push through with membership and trying to reach their Posts goals of 100%, what have or what are you doing that is different to drive and reach your new Post membership goals. Membership is what continues to drive the Legion and as indicated by the National Commander during his visit to Nevada this month, he would like to see a 90% increase.

Recently with my wife’s attendance to the National American Legion College, our conversations have been directed back to “what is your why”. Her class had to develop what is called the 30 second elevator speech, which is essentially in 30 seconds you had to be able to answer any one of five questions directed around “why” or “what” is the Legion.

Yes, the Legion has brochures that are published to help with the recruiting during membership, but could you in 30 seconds grab the attention of a potential member to get them to say yes to the Legion. Remember when trying to recruit that member sometimes the best approach is to keep it simple with the hopes that your conversation will lead to more questions.

When developing your 30 second elevator speech remember you need to know how to engage your audience. “Tailor your conversation to their needs. Not your needs, not your experiences, but their needs.” Remember that engaging your audience is important. Not everyone wants to hear about your experiences but they do care about what we do to support Veterans.

Simply put most of the students in her class answered that they joined because of service before self, for God and country as stated in The American Legion’s Preamble, and to take care of veterans and their families. At the end of the day it does go back to Veterans helping veterans, families and communities. As we have heard multiply times in the past year, it does all go back to selling your “why” to those potential members.

So, as we continue to push on with membership and trying to get new memberships to join, I encourage us all to step back and develop our “WHY”. 

POW*MIA YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COMMUNITY STATE & NATION WWW.LEGION.ORG
On October 24th, I attended, along with Detachment Commander David Sousa, the 95th birthday party for Sheldon Beigel, a World War II veteran who flew 32 missions over Europe as a B-17 Bomber, earning him the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters for his heroism.

On October 26th, my wife Barbara and I were invited by District Commander Fred Doten to attend the Laughlin Community Achievement Awards at the Aquarius Casino & Resort. What an event! Richard Springston Post 60 was a primary sponsor for the event and it was quite evident that The American Legion is well respected in the Laughlin community. In fact, Post 60 received the coveted Spirit of Nevada Award and Post Commander Pam Walker accepted it on behalf of the Post. Additionally, Auxiliary Unit 60 President, Kathleen Hoss, won the Humanitarian of the Year Award. The whole evening was wonderful and it was great to see the community so involved.
Our National Commander Bill Oxford made his official visit to our Department on October 31st to November 4th. On Friday of his visit, we toured the Sierra Nevada VA Hospital, the Veterans Guest House, and attended the funeral services for Jim Shaw, a World War II veteran, at the Northern Nevada Veteran’s Cemetery in Fernley, Nevada. On Saturday, the National Commander attended the Department Executive Committee meeting that was held at Duby Reid Post 30 in Sparks. Afterwards, Post 30 hosted a great dinner and two of our local World War II veterans were in attendance.

On Sunday, the National Commander, the Department Auxiliary President Courtenay Burns, and the Sons of The American Legion National Vice Commander Ned Fox toured the brand new Northern Nevada Veterans Home, the new Gold Star Memorial, and the Veteran Memorials on the State Capitol grounds in Carson City.

With the holiday season now upon us, I wish each and every one of you happy and safe holidays. Until next time, remember, “Our Legion Youth is Our Legion’s Future!”

Always in Service,
Jim Stewart
Commander
Hello all.

Recently The American Legion Commander Bill Oxford called on the Department of Veterans Affairs to open its health care system to WWII veterans that are not already enrolled.

"Mr. Secretary, The American Legion has confidence that you will not fail or forsake the heroes who literally saved the World three quarters of a century ago. Please act now to open the VA’s great system to all of our nations WWII veterans," Commander Oxford said in a letter to VA Secretary Robert Wilkie Jr. sent out October 31. Commander Oxford pointed out that the Veterans Health Care Act of 1996 exempted all Spanish American War and WWI veterans from the means test required to enter the VA health care system. "It’s time to do the same for our WWII veterans," he said.

For more information about this and a complete text of Commanders Oxfor ds letter to VA Secretary Robert Wilkie, go to Legion.org, subtitle health services.

Until next time, be healthy, happy, safe and warm.

For God and Country
Look for us on thelit.com to get your special member pricing on healthy at home products.

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  Easily stand from your car without falling.

- **EZ Reacher Deluxe**
  Strong sensitive fingers for extra wide grasp. Lift objects up to 5 lbs and up to 4.5" wide, yet as small as a dime.

- **Signature Life Sure Stand Pole**
  Provides the support you need to stand safely without changing the look and feel of your home.

- **Handi Products People Tread for Tile**
  Slip solution for slippery tile. These traction enhancing strips work well with bare feet, socks, slippers, shoes and paws.

- **Contour Freedom Back**
  This full-length back support features 10 zones for proper alignment & superior comfort in any chair or car seat.

- **Contour CPAPMax Pillow**
  Improves comfort throughout the night while sleeping with a CPAP Mask.

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Less than 300 Legion anniversary three coin sets remain

BY: The American Legion  Sep 5, 2019

When The American Legion's 100th Anniversary Commemorative Coin series went on sale March 14 by the U.S. Mint, 7,500 of the three coin proof set were available. As of now, less than 300 sets remain.

The three coin proof set includes all three coins – $5 gold coin, silver dollar and clad half dollar.

U.S. Mint Director David Ryder addressed delegates at the Legion's 101st National Convention in Indianapolis Aug. 27 about the coin series.

“The Mint is proud to have been a part of the Legion’s commemorative coin program that celebrates such an important milestone. You can be sure that veterans were involved in every step of the way with the development of this important program,” said Ryder, who said that the U.S. Mint has nearly 1,700 employees and veterans make up 35 percent of that workforce.

After Dec. 31, the U.S. Mint will no longer sell the Legion's commemorative coin series.

To make a purchase or for more information about the centennial coins, go to www.legion.org/coin or call 800-872-6468.
Department Historian
Fred Doten

IT WAS A DOUBLEHEADER

Annually Nevada gets a visit from the National Commander and annually the Department has two Department Executive Board (DEC) meetings. This year the Department had a doubleheader in that the National Commander visited the Department at the same time as the Fall DEC. And it made for a very busy four days.

The National Commander arrived Thursday afternoon and was provided accommodations at the Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, NV. On Friday the day began with a tour of the VA Hospital. The tour started with a proclamation Signing in the Main Hallway. From there it was a walk through the various departments, short interchanges with Members of the Staff and patients. All in all, an excellent opportunity to see how our Veterans are served. In this case, I believe the VA is doing an excellent job.

The next stop was at the Veterans Guest House across the street from the hospital. What a tremendous asset for our Veterans. This house has a total of 21 beds that are available for Veterans and their families who are undergoing treatment at the VA. What is astonishing is the facility gets no funding from the Government. All comes from donations from organizations and members of the Community. They also have a volunteer staff that handle the day to day operations of the facility. The donor list is quite impressive and include many Posts and Legion Members. If you have never visited there it would be worth your time to stop in and get acquainted.

The final stop for the day was a visit to the Fernley State Veterans Cemetery. We arrived for the internment of a Veteran and was witness to an outstanding performance by the Honor Guard participating in the service. It should be noted that the cemetery is well maintained. From comments from Commander Jim, the American Legion plays a major role in keeping the standards high. The wall that is the backdrop for the cemetery is something all should see. As an excellent resting place for your loved ones.

Saturday was the DEC and for the first time since I have been attending, I saw a change. Commander Jim made an effort to make the meeting more interesting. Power Point presentations, Videos, guest speakers, updates, breakout sessions – it was all there. The only downside was the lack of Legionnaires in the audience. Hopefully, as time goes on more folks will want to participate. From a personal point, The DEC is for the exchange of information. The Department passes info to the District Commanders and the District Commanders pass info gathered from the Post to the Department. It is the same two-way communications when the Districts have their meeting with the Posts These meeting should not be the regurgitation of numbers, but new ideas on how to improve, generate excitement for change, and what will be happening over the next several months. If you have a better mouse trap, share.

Sunday, the last day consisted of a visit to the new Veterans Home and a stroll around the capital in Carson City.

The Veterans home is now fully functional having passed all the required inspections. And the tour was outstanding. For those who will be staying there, they will have a beautiful home. The resources available are very impressive. State-of-the-Art equipment along with a dedicate staff will make this home the crown jewel of Nevada. In touring the facility, we saw innovative food distribution options for its residences, safety and security measures of the highest order, rooms well laid out with amenities not seen at any other facility, and nursing stations that bring a personal touch to the care of residents. The facility will house 96 residents. Bottom line, if you get an opportunity to visit, I would recommend it.

As with every event, there is always an end. In conclusion, the future looks bright for our Veterans in the Reno area. The legion is making headway, so the future looks bright. Our next 100 years will mirror the past one hundred years because the foundation is there; and we have legionnaires that will carry the mission forward. Hope you can make it to the DEC in Las Vegas. It should be fun.
Greetings Comrades,

Two big dates in November that are special to me, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. “Veterans Day” should be every day, but on November 11th we celebrate the service of all our veterans. I’m often thanked for my service, but I feel more thankful for having been able to serve. Thanksgiving, for me, has always been a time of fellowship and to be grateful for what we have... even when we didn’t have much.

I hope each of you had a great Veterans Day and enjoy the camaraderie of Thanksgiving.

If you have an event 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.*
National Executive Committeeman Ron Michalski

The fall meetings of the NEC started off with a sad note with the passing of our National Treasurer George Buskirk and the passing of one of our Alternate NEC’s from Kentucky Phillip Davis.

All 55 departments were represented along with many of our Past National commanders. 20 resolutions were presented to the NEC’s and 19 were accepted and one sent back for a re-write.

For the first time in our History our Preamble was changed by resolution 1. The words “association in the Great Wars” was changed to read “association in All Wars”. Make sure you change all of your paperwork and banners to read same.

Resolution 2 changed the amounts of the scholarships for the oratorical contest for 2020 and then again for 2021 changing the amounts respectively from $138,000 to $183,000 and then to $203,000.

Resolution 9 changed to eligibility of the Samsung scholarship due to the Passing of “The Legion Act”

There were 16 more resolutions that were passed and you can find them on the Legion website, Legion.org/Resolutions.

Sean Long was appointed and elected as national Treasurer. Sean was a Director under past national Treasurer Buskirk.

Membership will always be a topic of discussion as it is 94% of the budget. Last year we had 62,000 new members and this year’s goal is 100,000. Retention last year was at 86% with a goal of 90% for this year. Remember the Buddy check! This should be accomplished at least twice a year but to obtain membership it should be done every month. Even thou you are not asking an individual to retain their membership; it would be nice just to talk to them to let them know what is going on with the Legion and how are they doing. How many know that there is a training newsletter? Well there is and just go to Legion.org/training and subscribe. You should also take the basic training more than once just to keep you up to date.

There is a magazine that can be purchased called “Century of Service”. This was composed by the 100th anniversary committee and it is worth while reading. You can purchase this from Emblem sales. By the way the 100th anniversary committee has now been dissolved. Past National Commander David Rehbein did a fantastic job with the program.

Remember that we, and that would mean all of us, should be proud and tell the world on What We Do as the American Legion. There are a lot of folks out there that don’t know what The American Legion is or what it does.

On baseball the World Series in Shelby this year had 127,000 in attendance and when it was first started in 2011 the attendance was only 34,000. Idaho won their first ever World Series and that is a big congratulations.

Nicole Clapp, from Iowa, was elected to the high position of National President of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Clint Bolt from Virginia was elected SAL Commander for 2019-2020

Robert Liebenow, from Oregon, is our Western Region National Vice Commander who will be visiting us during the next DEC which will be February 8, 2020 at the Masonic Lodge in Henderson..

The Leading candidate for the High Position of The National Commander of the American Legion 2020-2021, Mr. Paul Dillard from Texas, will also make his Nevada visit during the start of the Boys state program from the 14th thru the 16th of June.

The candidate next in line for 2021-2022 is Mr. Randall Fisher from Kentucky. One other item is that the National Legion Auxiliary will be celebrating their 100th anniversary next year.
Happy Veterans Day to all of you! I trust all of you participated in the festivities with your Posts. If you were unable to attend the DEC in Sparks, you missed a great meeting! National Commander Oxford was in attendance and gave a very inspiring speech. He was right about the District/Sr. Vice Commanders having a tough job. They are the motivation, inspiration, and cheerleaders for their District Posts. Often we see Officers/Post members that have lost the fire that once burned so passionately for The American Legion has burnt out. Sometimes it is difficult to relight that fire. You as District/Sr. Vice Commanders are the ones they turn to and rely on.

The deadline for the next target date is rapidly approaching on November 14th with a target of 65%. I gave a Power Point presentation at the DEC on membership. Paying special kudos to the Posts that achieve 65% and higher!!! According to National, the Department is at 60.788%. We are 334 members short of our goal. On a Positive note, we are 96 members ahead of where we were last year! These are the figures from my report last week. I'm sure the numbers are much higher now!

Kudos to:

- District 1 achieved 51.58%
- Post 6 achieved 71.43%
- District 2 achieved 63.29%
- Post 10 achieved 132.81%
- Post 14 achieved 77.27%
- Post 24 achieved 109.57%
- Post 51 achieved 65.45%
- Post 60 achieved 87.25%
- Post 76 achieved 111.70%
- District 3 achieved 64.04%
- Post 5 achieved 86.54%
- Post 7 achieved 88.51%
- District 4 achieved 74.67%
- Post 4 achieved 85.06%
- Post 9 achieved 72.41%
- Post 16 achieved 77.06%
- Post 37 achieved 88.29%
- District 5 achieved 50.96%
- Post 45 achieved 93.10%

"Battle Born, Battle Tested, Battle for Membership"
Congratulations to our latest Legion College graduate!

Kim Eberly, Post 56
The American Legion National Headquarters

National Legislative Division

Our Mission: To provide staff support to the Legislative Commission and its Convention Committee; serve as the principal advocate of servicemembers, veterans, and their families on Capitol Hill; provide Members of Congress and their professional staff valuable information that furthers their and our goals along with our standing as an institutional authority in the veteran community; to facilitate the completion of goals set by our members through Resolution; to enhance strategic collaboration and partnerships ensuring benefits and services are available to servicemembers and veterans for generations to come.

Who We Serve: The Legislative Division of The American Legion serves as, “The Voice of the Veteran,” to the United States Congress. The Legislative Division’s primary responsibility is to our 2 million members; serving Legionnaires, the National Commander, the National Executive Commission (NEC), the National Legislative Commission, its convention committee, the National Legislative Council, The American Legion Family, and national staff (i.e. National Adjutant, National Treasurer, National Judge Advocate and the Executive Director).

The Legislative Division also serves Departments and Posts of The American Legion across the country in order to provide guidance and expertise on strategic lobbying and federal engagement efforts.

The Legislative Division also serves Members of Congress as an institutional authority on all matters relating to the veteran community. The Legislative Division serves as a resource for Members of Congress, congressional committees, and their professional staff when they need information, opinions, or anecdotal evidence of prospective changes to legislation, regulations or professional testimony.

The Legislative Division also serves as a liaison to Capitol Hill for all divisions and programs of The American Legion, to ensure all information being exchanged with Congress is clear, concise, and in concurrence with our Resolution.

Our Services: The Legislative Division accomplishes the mission of The American Legion by providing the following services:

- Lobbying all Members of Congress and their professional staff to accomplish the goals of The American Legion’s Legislative Agenda;
- Management, constant communication and education, and active engagement of the Legislative Council of The American Legion;
- Liaising with the Chairman of the Legislative Commission, and its Convention Committee;
- Liaising with the other divisions and commissions of The American Legion;
- Partnerships with the Marketing, Media, and Communications Commission and Division to ensure broad dissemination of The American Legion Legislative Agenda;
- Program education and training development opportunities;
- Supplying and disseminating program information, materials, and resources; and
- Advocacy for The American Legion and its programs at local, department, and national levels to include Legislative training at Department events as required.

**Our Staff:** Our team of six is standing by to support with any of the aforementioned needs you may have.

- **Legislative Director:** Ms. Melissa Bryant, 202-263-2981
- **Senior Legislative Associate:** Mr. Jeff Steele, 202-263-2993
- **Legislative Associate, Grassroots Coordinator:** Mr. Ernest Robinson, 202-263-2990
- **Legislative Associate:** Mr. Lawrence Montreuil, 202-735-2207
- **Legislative Associate:** Mr. John Medin, 202-263-5756
- **Administrative Assistant:** Ms. Diamond Brown, 202-263-5752
The mission of Nevada’s Legionnaires is to provide services to fellow veterans, their families and their communities.

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Dear Member of the American Legion Family,

This month, I want to recognize Kathleen Hoss, President of Richard Springston Unit 60 who was honored for her contributions to her community by the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce at the 22nd Annual Community Achievement Awards last month. Alexis Swain McKay, an alumna of Nevada Girls State was also honored at this event, receiving a Youth Citizen of the Year award. Congratulations to both of these outstanding women and the Department thanks them for their dedication to their community, state, and nation!

Additionally, it is with great sadness that I have to report the passing of Pat Salmen, Past Department President for the Department of Nevada and Past Western Division National Vice President. She moved to California a few years ago to be close to her sister but she kept her membership in Unit 18 in Nevada as she had worked very hard to make sure that Unit was healthy and active. She was a tremendous woman to work with and she will be missed. There will be a celebration of her life on Saturday, November 16th at 1pm at Daneri Mortuary, 415 Broadway, Jackson, CA 95642.

As always, thank you all for your continued dedication.

Best,

Courtenay

Courtenay Burns, Ph.D.
President
ALA Department of Nevada
Emergency Assistance Plus (EA+)

Get the 24-hour emergency protection you and your loved ones deserve.

If you fall ill or become injured while traveling on the road or abroad, we understand that you’ll want help right away. Emergency Assistance Plus gives you and your family the medical and emergency assistance you need when a crisis strikes. Here are some of the important services and features this protection has to offer Legionnaires:

**Medical Evacuation**

*Emergency Medical Monitoring* by an EA+ medical expert to make sure you get the best care in a medical emergency.

*Air Ambulance or Emergency Medical Evacuation* if deemed medically necessary to get you to a more appropriate medical facility quickly if your current facility can’t properly treat your medical condition.

*Medical Specialist* sent to you if your condition can’t be evaluated by phone and you cannot be moved and local treatment is unavailable.

*Continuous Updates* to a designated family member and/or a physician to keep them informed during your medical emergency.

**Medical Assistance**

*Transfer of Insurance Information to Medical Providers* to assist with admission and to ensure your medical care is not delayed or denied.

*Cash Advance for Medical Payments* paid directly to the hospital or physician against your valid credit card to keep your medical care going.

*Prescription Replacement Assistance* if your medications are lost or stolen.

*24-Hour Doctor/ER/Dentist/Attorney Locator Assistance* to help you quickly find a professional no matter where you are in the world.

**Assistance For Companions**

*One Round-Trip Economy-Class Airline Ticket* to bring a loved one to your bedside if you’re traveling alone and become hospitalized.

*Airfare Home for Dependent Children or Grandchildren* who are left unattended if you’re unable to care for them due to your hospitalization.

*Emergency Message Forwarding Assistance* if you are unable to reach a family member or traveling companion during an emergency.

*Pet Care and Return Home Assistance* if you’re traveling with a pet and cannot care for them due to an accident or illness.

*Ticket Home for a Traveling Companion* if you are evacuated, transported home or pass away while away from home.

*country and require translation assistance for medical emergencies.*

*Assistance Making Flight Arrangements*, securing visas, and with other logistics if you decide to leave a threatening situation.
Transportation Home

Transportation Home after hospitalization via a one-way airline ticket, coordinated and provided by EA+.

Nurse Escort provided if deemed medically necessary to help ensure you get proper medical care during your trip home.

Return of Deceased Remains service to bring your body home if you pass away while traveling.

Vehicle Return if you can’t drive your vehicle back home because your medical condition prohibits it AND your companion can’t drive it either.

Other Vital Travel Assistance Available to EA+ Members Includes:

Destination Intelligence regarding weather, travel, health, inoculations, travel restrictions, and special events.

Real-time Security Intelligence in the event you feel threatened by political unrest, social instability, weather conditions, or health hazards.

No-Limit Emergency Cash Transfer Assistance (against your valid credit card) if cash, credit cards, or traveler’s checks are lost or stolen.

Lost Luggage Assistance helps you track down any lost luggage, personal items or documents.

Document Replacement Assistance if important documents like your passport, driver’s license, or birth certificate are lost or stolen during your trip.

Language Interpretation Assistance to connect you with an interpreter over the phone if you’re traveling in a foreign

**This is only an outline of the plan’s features. Please read your EA+ Member Guide carefully to understand all the services available to you, as well as any rules and regulations. Washington state residents must be traveling more than 100 miles away from home to be eligible for EA+ services.

District 3 Upcoming Events:

October 26th: Honor Guard Training at 10 am at the Elko National Guard Armory sponsored by Post 7. RSVP if you are going to attend.

October 21st: Post 7 monthly meeting at 5 Licht Parkway in Spring Creek
October 23: Post 32 monthly meeting in Carlin
October 31st: Post 7 Trunk or Treat at the Spring Creek High School at 4 pm.

November 9th: Post 7 Veterans Day Dinner at Stockmans in Elko at 6 pm
November 11th: Post 7 Veterans Day Parade at 11 am at the Crystal Theater in Elko.
November 11th: Post 5 Veterans Day Parade at 11 am in Winnemucca.
November 11th: Post 5 Veterans Day Luncheon at 12 noon at the Humboldt General Hospital. RSVP if you are attending.

November 11th: Post 32 Veterans Day Dinner at Pacini Hall in Carlin at 6:30 pm
November 17th: District 3 Meeting at Post 5 at 2 pm. Officer training
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Sons of the American Legion
Detachment Commander David Sousa

I want to thank Shawn Horton, Squadron 7 Commander for matching the donations at the Elko Veterans Day Dinner. The funds are going to the Child Welfare Fund a great cause.

Keep up the great work!
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 mission of Nevada's Legionnaires is to provide services to fellow Veterans, their Families and their communities.

RED Friday Started in 2005. Beginning in 2005, military supporters across America started wearing red on Fridays to show support for the service members who protect our freedoms and way of life around the world. More specifically, it is for service members deployed as RED stands for "Remember Everyone Deployed".