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

FEBRUARY 2017 EDITION

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander                     Robert Terhune        (702) 382-2353   cmdrnv@nevadalegion.org
1st Vice Commander                    Yvette Weigold         (702) 576.6629   weigoldy63@gmail.com
2nd Vice Commander                   Joel Forman              (702) 360.5833   akan01@centurylink.net
Sergeant-At-Arms                       Jim Stewart      (775) 848.6072   controller@bordertowncasinorv.com
NEC                                              Ron Michalski            (702) 568.5322   ronan1025@aol.com
Alternate NEC                             John Warden             (775) 219.7494   johnwardencpa@sbcglobal.net
Chaplain                                       Dan DePozo               (702) 564.9499   annedan1@centurylink.net
Judge Advocate                           Dave Sarnowski         (702) 382.2353    janv@nevadalegion.org
Finance Officer                            Jack Jakubik             (702) 837.4350    jacki875@aol.com
Historian                                      Fred Doten                 (702)-298,2492   fdoten@centurylink.net
Service Officer                             Mike Mader               (775) 813.7871   jmmader@aionc.com
Adjutant                                       Lionel Motta              (702) 382.2353   taldon737@aol.com
Membership Chair          Mitch Roach               (702) 690.6145   mitch.roach@aol.com
Jr. Past Commander                   Dave Evans                 (775) 997.5823   hmcs8425@att.net

COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS CHAIRS

Americanism           Jim Stewart    (775) 848.6072   controller@bordertowncasinorv.com
Children & Youth                         Hal Sherwood        (775) 575.6219   nvncandy@sbcglobal.net
Finance                                           Yvette Weigold        (702) 576.6629   weigoldy63@gmail.com
Auxiliary Liaison                          Hal Sherwood        (775) 575.6219   nvncandy@sbcglobal.net
Detachment Commander             Stephen Silberkraus (702) 900.0988   stephen@silberkraus.com
Public Relations                            Fred Doten        (702)-298-2492  fdoten@centurylink.net
Legislative                                      John Warden          (775) 219.7494   johnwardencpa@sbcglobal.net
VA & R                                              Jeanette Rae         (775) 997.5874   retiredmsgt@att.net

DISTRICT COMMANDERS

1st District             Lionel Motta           (702) 561.4993   taldon737@gmail.com
2nd District                                     Joel Forman            (702) 360.5833   akan01@centurylink.net
3rd District                                     Carl Lincoln           (775) 738.7657   lincoln@frontiernet.net
4th District                                      Richard Eberly       (775)-434.3386   shadow_617@msn.com
5th District                                    Vance Crowder         (775)-296-2423  vance_87@yahoo.com

“Building for the Future by Veterans helping Veterans”
DEPARTMENT WINTER CONFERENCE

American Legion
Department of Nevada

For God and Country

December 15, 2016

Legionnaires & Sons of the Legion,

The Department Winter Conference is being held at the Nugget Casino Resort at 1100 Nugget Avenue, Sparks, Nevada on Friday, March 17, and Saturday, March 18, 2017. Host for the Department Winter Conference is the Department of Nevada.

Lodging is recommended at the Nugget Casino Resort and the rate for Friday and Saturday evening is $83.15 (taxes included) per night. Check in time is after 3 PM and check out time is by 11 AM. For reservations, please call 1-800-843-2427 or 1-800-648-1177. Be sure to mention the code GAL when calling in for reservations. Ensure room reservation is made by March 1, 2017. The Nugget Casino Resort has free shuttle service to and from the Reno Tahoe International Airport.

The Department Executive Committee Meeting will be at 4:30 PM on Friday, March 17, 2017 in the Southern Pacific E Room at the Nugget Casino Resort. The Department Winter Conference (10:00 AM) will be on Saturday, March 18, 2017 in the Southern Pacific E Room at the Nugget Casino Resort. Western Region National Vice Commander Paul L. Espinoza will be attending the DEC and Winter Conference sessions. American Legion meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend.

The Winter Conference Dinner will be held on at 7 PM on Friday, March 17, 2017, evening in the Poolside Terrace Room at the Nugget Casino Resort. Western Region National Vice Commander Paul L. Espinoza will be the guest speak at the dinner. The dinner will be a Buffet style dinner with a two meats and fish selection along with bread, salad, vegetables and dessert. There will be a no-host bar which opens at 6:30 PM. Cost of the dinner is $35.00 per person and payments can be sent to American Legion Department of Nevada, 737 Veterans Memorial Drive, Las Vegas, NV. 89101 and make check out to AL Department of Nevada and in the memo line place “Legion Family Dinner”.

We look forward to seeing all of you.
My, how time does fly when you having fun. They say that time really flies when you get older too. I sure don’t need to be reminded of that. It seems like I just did an article for the last newsletter. It sure doesn’t seem like it’s been a whole month yet.

Anyway, since my last article I attended the last day of the Sons of The American Legion Western Rendezvous. I found it interesting, and made some new friends. I have also done more Post Visits. I ended last month by visiting Post 60 in Laughlin. I had forgotten just how far and how long of a drive that is. I know one thing for sure, it’s way too warm in that part of the country. I had a wonderful visit, and I hope my message got across to everyone.

Since my visit to Post 60, I attended the Department Oratorical Contest in Carson City. I’m sure that by now everyone knows the outcome, but just in case I will fill you in.

1. Samantha Ross            Post 40    Henderson           Winner
2. Sawyer Barnett            Post 4     Carson City          1st Runner Up
3. Robert Flummerfelt     Post 14    Las Vegas            2nd Runner Up
4. Tessa Overholser         Post 7      Elko                     3rd Runner Up

All of the contestants are Seniors this year in their High Schools. It’s too bad that we can’t send all of them to the National Competition. They are all winners, and were all very professional.

After the Oratorical, I returned to Carson City for some Post Visits. I made 3 Visits while I was there in the area. I made a visit to Post 1 in Reno, Post 30 in Sparks, and Post 56 in Carson City. I can tell you one thing for sure, when the wind wants to blow and the rain wants to fall in the Carson City Reno area, it can really can do a good job. While I was doing my Post Visits, I was in some very good company. I was honored to be accompanied by 2 past Department Commanders John Warden, and Mitch Roach. In between Post Visits, I attended a session at the State Senate Building and listened in on the discussion and the vote of SB 7, 58, and 70. All were passed by the Senate. I also attended a meeting with the Governors’ Chief of Staff, Kat Miller with NDVS, and Jr. Past Commander Dave Evans. It was an informative meeting, and I heard a few things that I didn’t know before.

I would like to remind everyone about the upcoming Mid-Winter meeting on March 17th and 18th at the Nugget in Sparks. The meeting is open to all as well as the dinner on Friday night. The Department Convention will be in Ely in July, and information about lodging, and meals as well as the ad information will be out soon.

Before I sign off, I know that this article and newsletter won’t be coming out until after the fact, but I hope everyone remembered to get a Valentine for that Special Someone.

Until next time, be safe and God Bless America.

Still Serving
Bob
Where has the time gone? It is the middle of February and we are on the down hill to get to our Department Convention and the National Convention which will be held in Reno.

Coming up later this month we well have the "Romp to the Hill" or our National Commander's report to congress. The first time I went there, which is now going on my fifth, I was astonished how the commander and his staff responded to the questions asked by the Congress. We have brilliant individuals on the commander's staff who are all versed in their positions.

Now you say why fill out the "Consolidated Post Report". Here is where the commander has his power to tell Congress what the Legion is requesting and reporting numbers is what they listen to. The more CPR's he has the more powerful he is. The Legion has been strong in Washington but we have to continue this as our membership numbers are shrinking. We have to combat this by each post submitting their CPR and in a timely manner.

We here in Nevada did not even reach a 50% target for submitting our reports. That is a Shame as it does not take that long to fill out and it is now on My Legion which every post commander has access to.

Do your jobs Commanders!! If you need help with this please do not hesitate to contact any of the department officers. Let's make this year a 100% year for the department. Thank You,

Are you a Veteran or concerned about one? The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring VA responders. Veterans and their loved ones can anonymously:

- Call 1-800-273-8255 and press 1
- Chat online
- Send a text message to 838255
Confidential help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Ron
**Last month I mentioned community. This month I am discussing location, sharing, joint actions and social connections.**

Location refers to a place that is common to all members of the community and is associated with a physical setting in which people in a community feel comfortable and safe. Sharing has a more complex and multifaceted meaning. Sharing refers to common interests and perceptions of the people who contribute to the feeling of community. These include values, beliefs, opinions, concerns, goals, symbols, history, comfort, familiarity, togetherness, and identity. Joint actions affect togetherness and identity. Examples of joint actions include working at voting polls, volunteering at public hospitals and libraries, contributing to community food banks, and neighborhood watch programs.

Social connections are the foundation of communities. Social connections are the interpersonal relationships of people in the community. These relationships go beyond family and friends to include neighbors and others in the community. Social connections lead to a feeling of community because people want to be associated with others whom they trust, feel comfortable with in their presence, care about, often see in the community, and grow up with and attend school together. People want to live and work with others whom they feel have common interests and challenges.

These are all ideals that were mentioned in a textbook I had to read. I was at first surprised at how much it made me think about the American Legion, but we are a big family or a community. So, it should be no surprise that things like this relate to the deeds we perform for our community. By inviting our neighbors and friends to join us we are sharing our common interests and making them feel welcome is key! I hope that you will take a minute to share our Nevada Legion Facebook page with a friend or neighbor who is a Veteran. The more people we share with the more we can reach!

Now, for the business part...our Winter Conference will be happening in March up in Sparks. I hope many of you can attend as there will be important Centennial Information shared as well as plenty of training opportunities! Remember, this is not just for Department Officers. These events are open to ALL members!

If you are reading this, you may be one of the few who actually receives the newsletter and takes the time to peruse our writings. I mentioned the last two months that the Centennial is coming up and I am looking for ideas for our Nevada celebration. I would like to have a commemorative calendar we can sell to raise money for the big event in 2019! I have not heard from anyone, not a single person. So let me just put this out there: If you are reading this and are not a Department Officer, email me at weigoldy63@gmail.com and I will buy you lunch the next time I see you! I plan to hold a Centennial committee meeting at the next DEC and I hope to have as many people present as possible! All the District Commanders or Adjutants who are on the team plus any Post members who want to help out! Yvette
Today, everybody's sweetheart Glynis and I conducted the drawing. Congratulations to our 2 winners this month. Happy Valentine's to all the sweethearts out there.

1st Prize - $250.00 - # 75 - Jim Stewart - Post 30

2nd Prize - $125.00 - # 269 - Unsold

3rd Prize - $75.00 - # 9 - David Cairns - Post 1

4th Prize - $50.00 - # 243 - Unsold

Thanks to those who are participating in the 300 Club. We keep mixing up the barrel and looking for a 4 winner month. Better luck next time.
From the 2nd Vice Commander

*The unemployment rate for the youngest generation of veterans jumped to 6.3 percent in January, the fourth time in the last seven months that group’s figure has been substantially higher than the overall veteran rate.

The figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which reflect the last month of President Barack Obama’s time in office, represent about 211,000 Iraq and Afghanistan era veterans looking for work. That’s almost 46 percent of the total of all U.S. veterans filing for unemployment benefits in January.

But employment experts have cautioned that employment estimates for the subset of younger veterans can be prone to more fluctuation than other calculations by BLS analysts, because of smaller sample sizes.

In December, the Iraq and Afghanistan era veterans rate was 5.7 percent. In September, it was even lower, at 4.4 percent.

Still, the higher number of unemployed younger veterans does raise concerns of new struggles for that group, because most monthly estimates for the last two years have been at or below the national unemployment rate.

For all veterans, the January unemployment rate was 4.5 percent, up slightly from the month before but under 5 percent for the 20th consecutive month.

The national unemployment rate was 4.8 percent, up from 4.7 percent in December.

BLS officials estimate that nearly 9.8 million veterans are in the U.S. workforce today, with roughly 32 percent of them having served in the military after 2001.

*By: Leo Shane III, February 3.

WASHINGTON -
VOLUNTEER JOBS AT VA FACILITIES

Due to the large number positions in the VA Hospital, VA Outpatient Clinics, and The State Veterans Home there is a great need for volunteers. There are so many positions that volunteers can fill to assist both the VA personnel and the Veterans they are caring for. With the change in the age of the veterans that are being cared for at VA facilities younger volunteers are needed to be able to relate to these new patients. So many of the current volunteers are from 65 years of age and older, and it is getting more difficult for them to put in the hours that they use to do. We (The American Legion) have many members who are looking for something to do, but are just not aware of the value they would be to fellow veterans. The importance of having someone who has been then and done that, care enough to volunteer time to help those who need a little picking up and friendship is something that is not forgotten. The rewards that you receive are not measurable but something that you will feel in your heart. There are many things that you can do even if you don’t want direct contact with patients. If you are interested in volunteering please contact either the American Legion Representative or Deputy or the Chief of Voluntary Service at the VA facility.

TYPES OF JOBS

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE TYPES OF JOBS THAT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED • Shuttle drivers from out patient clinics to the hospital. • Parking lot Golf cart drivers • Escorts to take patients from one place to another for tests and appointments • File clerks in the records area • Deliver books to patient rooms • Visit the patients • Work in the pharmacy or lab • Assist patients with crafts • Write letters for a patient or read letters or a book • Help with office work, mailing out letters to veterans and volunteers • Work at the Information Deck • Answer Phones • Take patients on outings • Supply recreation activities Bingo, movies, board games, cards

There will be a Veterans Job Fair at the PBS Studio on 22 Feb at the PBS Studio at 3050 East Flamingo Road, 89121 from 1100 - 1400. And there will be a Veterans Job Fair at the US Vets Veterans Stand Down in Las Vegas at the Cashman Center, 850 Las Vegas Blvd on 15 March from 0800 - 1700.

Joel
The month of February is well known as the month we recognize as Black History Month. We, as a Nation, stop and recognize all those of African descent that have had an impact in our history. However, how many of you know that February is also known as Scout Month. It was on February 8th, 1910 that the Boy Scouts of America was officially founded. Nationally, The American Legion sponsors nearly 2,500 Scout units with almost 62,000 youth and nearly 25,000 adult leaders. The Department of Nevada sponsors 19 Scout units with 356 youth and 95 adult leaders. During the month of February, Scouting celebrates its anniversary with the annual Scout Sunday, which is always designated and recognized on the Sunday before February 8th. This is a day that many churches that sponsor Scouting recognize and involve Scouts in their Sunday service. After all, the last of the Twelve Scout Laws is; A Scout is Reverent. Another Scout Month event is the annual Blue & Gold Banquets Cub Scout Packs around the Nation host.

In acknowledgement of Scout Month, each year The American Legion conducts the search for the annual Eagle Scout of the Year. Nominations for this scholarship must be received by the Department headquarters no later than March 1, 2017. The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year receives a $10,000 scholarship from The American Legion and there are three runner-up scholarship winners that receive a $2,500 award each.

An Eagle Scout of the Year nominee must be a registered, active member of a Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew chartered to an American Legion Post, American Legion Auxiliary Unit or Sons of The American Legion Squadron; OR be a registered, active member of a chartered Boy Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, or Venturing Crew, and the son or grandson of a Legionnaire, Sons of The American Legion or Auxiliary member.

In addition, the nominee must be the following:
• Received the Eagle Scout Award.
• Be an active member of his religious institution and must have received the appropriate Boy Scout religious emblem.
• Have demonstrated practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting, and community.
• Have reached his 15th birthday and be enrolled in high school at the time of selection.
• Reside in the department to which he applies.

Note: Eagle Scouts still in high school who reached their 18th birthday during the nomination year remain eligible if otherwise qualified

In order to download a copy of the Eagle Scout of the Year application, please use the following hyperlink for the form: https://www.legion.org/publications/223495/eagle-scout-year-nomination-form
Let's start off this time with a few other issues that I feel some times reverts right back to membership! First off we have a upcoming so called DEC to be held 17 and 18 March 2017, We have in the past and at time's now call it spring or fall Department meetings, bottom line is these meetings are essential to the membership of this Department. Why you may ask? Well I feel there is a lot of information that is put out at these meeting that deal with all aspects of what the Department does. All of this information can be taken back to your post and districts and low and behold there are people there that may just learn something about what there Department and the American Legion does. What does this do for membership, well just maybe one of the members may talk with someone who doesn't know about the American legion and get you a new member or may just talk to a member who hasn't renewed and get them to update their membership. You will never know what it takes to get a new member or a renewal, again we go back to (JUST ASK).

On another note I've again have had the opportunity to travel with the Department Commander and one of the topics he brings up at every meeting is how and what it takes to get more females interested in the American legion. There are so many women out there that feel they are not truly veterans! This is so far from the truth, every woman that served her country is a VETERAN, and belong in the American Legion if they meet the requirements of membership again they should be ASKED to join this great organization. Just a point of interest post # 60 in Laughlin recently had an all female color guard at a function there. What a great way to get the women involved in the actions of there post and American Legion,

As of the printing of this new letter I have not seen the most recent results from National's membership team, but I feel confident that we did make our goal this month of 85% by the 8th of February, along with that I want to congratulate post # 51 and # 37 having obtained there 100% membership Great job to all. We have a few post that are sitting right on the edge of obtaining there 100% membership, if there is anything that we here at the Department can do to assist please don't hesitate to ask,

Short month short news letter, but let's not forget what we have going on, We just had a great oratorical contest 4 outstanding contestants my congratulations to all districts that provided them. Upcoming we have Boys State, and don't forget we will have the National Commanders visit during this years program again along with another veterans walk. And of course the Department is sponsoring the National Convention August 18th-24th in Reno. I am getting a pretty good feedback on volunteers, so keep up the good work it should be a fun time to be had by all. Finally thanks to all for their continued support for this great Department and the American legion keep up the good work.

RENEW YOUR LEGION MEMBERSHIP TODAY

Your annual dues help support programs in your community and across the nation. American Legion programs and services include: Troop Support, Child Welfare Foundation, Heroes to Hometowns, American Legion Baseball, Department Service Officers, Family Support Network, Flag Advocacy & Etiquette, Junior ROTC & ROTC, Operation Comfort Warriors, Scholarships, Veterans Job Fairs, and many others. Thank you for ensuring that The American Legion remains the most powerful voice in America on behalf of veterans, service members, their families, and communities across the nation. - See more at: http://www.legion.org/renew#sthash.DX0t4fN8.dpuf

Mitch
## Department of Nevada
### 2017 Membership Challenges

<table>
<thead>
<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Reno</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1/12/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lovelock</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2/3/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Reno</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2/9/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sparks</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/20/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>782</strong></td>
<td><strong>658</strong></td>
<td><strong>84%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>1,264</td>
<td>971</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>2/7/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1/9/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>108%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1/9/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Alamo</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Pahrump</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>12/21/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Mesquite</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>111%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2/9/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Amargosa Valley</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>11/30/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Sandy Valley</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>1/31/17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Boulder City</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2/3/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Henderson</td>
<td>1,171</td>
<td>994</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>2/8/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>North Las Vegas</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>101%</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2/3/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Laughlin</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1/13/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Logandale</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/22/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>112%</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2/9/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>149</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2/3/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>4,456</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,787</strong></td>
<td><strong>85%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>276</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Winnemucca</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/9/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Elko</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2/3/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Carlin</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>10/7/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Owyhee</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>9/27/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>201</strong></td>
<td><strong>168</strong></td>
<td><strong>84%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Carson City</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2/3/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Yerington</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/13/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Fallon</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1/23/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Hawthorne</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12/9/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Fernley</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>101%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2/7/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>High Desert</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/13/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>974</strong></td>
<td><strong>869</strong></td>
<td><strong>89%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>34</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ely</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>11/15/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Big Smoky Valley</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>10/27/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Caliente Valley</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>10/27/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Pioche</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>9/7/16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>251</strong></td>
<td><strong>115</strong></td>
<td><strong>46%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**District Totals** | **6,664** | **5,597** | **84%** | **2/10/17**
**DEPARTMENT TOTALS** | **7,782** | **6,577** | **85%** | **-**
On Saturday, 4 February, 2017 four High School Seniors gathered at the Western Nevada Community College in Carson City to find out who was the “Best of the Best” and who would represent the Department of Nevada at the National Oratorical finals. Samantha Ross won the honor of being first. Under the able direction of Jerry Finley all in attendance had the opportunity of listening to well delivered and thought provoking speeches. The two young ladies and two young men demonstrated their knowledge of our Constitution and should be proud of their performance. Samantha will be going to Indianapolis where she will compete against other High Schoolers from across the U.S. The standings of the four participants in this year’s Department contest are as follows.

**Winner:** Samantha Ross (Senior) Henderson, NV

**1st Runner-Up:** Sawyer Barnett (Senior) Carson City, NV

**2nd Runner-Up:** Robert Flummerfelt (Senior) Las Vegas, NV

**3rd Runner-Up:** Tessa Overholser (Senior) Elko, NV

As a bit of history, the National Oratorical Contest was established in 1937 by Resolution 535 at the 19th National Convention. The Resolution. **RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in New York, New York, September 20, 21, 22, 23, 1937, That the National Executive Committee and the National Americanism Commission are instructed to sponsor and hold a national high school oratorical contest under the supervision of the National Americanism Commission.** However, this contest had a predecessor. In 1936 the National Park Service sponsored the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of France’s donation of the Statue of Liberty. In concert with this event The American Legion sponsored an oratorical contest with the subject of “The Statue of Liberty – a Symbol of America!” This contest was conducted throughout the United States and culminated with winners in each state being awarded a set of official source records of the World War, consisting of seven volumes.

The winner in 1938 at the first National contest was John Janson, a sixteen year-old high school boy from Phoenix, AZ. He spoke on the subject of “The Need of Government Reorganization”. He competed against high school students from 11 other states. This first contest was held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK on 1 June, 1938. For winning the contest, John was a guest of The American Legion in Washington, DC for four days and shown the sights of the city.

Over the years the contest has evolved to what is today. During the first 59 years the National contest was hosted in a different state annually. However, in 1997 the contest was conducted in Indianapolis. In 2012 at...
the National Convention a resolution was passed dictating that this contest be always held in Indianapolis. The rationale behind this resolution was consistency and a greater degree of fairness in the conduct of the contest, greater administrative control and a reduction in the administrative cost of conducting the contest.

Another significant change was made in 2007 due to the downward trend in the participation of students to the program. Resolution 22 during the 2007 National Convention changed the name of the event from “The American Legion’s National High School Oratorical Contest” to The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program—“A Constitutional Speech Contest.” The rationale behind the change was to instill the concept that it was not a program to develop orators but to communicate the subject matter, namely the Constitution of the United States of America.

Today the program is going strong and students participating get more than a tour of Washington D.C. Today The American Legion dispenses $138,000 at the annual National Contest. The contest is conducted in three rounds. The first round participates each receive $1,500. The nine who make it to the second round receive another $1,500. The final round which consists of 3 participants provides the following.

First Place Winner - $18,000
Second Place Winner – $16,000
Third Place Winner – $14,000

Samantha Ross will be one of the 54 who will be competing in this year’s contest. Let’s all wish her luck and God Speed in this journey of a lifetime.