



Winter 2011

DEPARTMENT OF UTAH

Commander's Comments

I can't believe my year is rapidly approaching half over as Commander. It just seems that there is so much that can be done and so little time to do it as Commander. I do know It's a great time of the year we're going in to as we approach the Holiday season. Without the help of all the Legion family, we wouldn't get much done. I hope that this time of the year we can be on the look out for those less fortunate than ourselves, and give them a helping hand.

The first pillar of the American Legion is veterans helping veterans, and their families. This is our cornerstone mission and it is what we do best.

In Dec. we have some great things going on. Dec. 1st we have the first of two ground breaking ceremonies for new Veterans Homes in Southern and Central Utah.

The first will be in Ivins on the 1st, the second to be in Payson the 14th. Please come and attend if you can. The 4th through the 7th at the VA Medical center will be a gift shop for hospitalized veterans. This event, sponsored by the Auxiliary will tug at your heart strings. Come join us there. "Wreaths across America" will present a Wreath for our fallen veterans at the Capital Rotunda Dec. 5th at 10:00. This corresponds with wreath presentations at all State Capitols at the same time and is another great program.

Our Winter D.E.C. will be the 10th in Spanish Fork @ the Senior Center. It would be great if your there. We will be there to answer any questions you have.

I would like to thank Glen, Bob, Greg, Virginia, and Sharon. Along with all those who helped us to make the Legion College the great success it was.

Area Cmdrs., District Commanders, the Post Commanders and all the support from Department to NEC, right to the members involved. Thank you all.

Please don't forget we can use all the help we can get with the President and Commanders project. I would be proud to have the American Legion plaque on one or more of the rooms in the Veterans home.

I am glad to see some of you using the Media like we were ask to do. It's a way to pat the Legion on the back for all it does. But it can't do it without your help.

Bill Dunlap is working hard on membership by being at all the shows and projects he can. Please don't let him do all the work. Keep the pressure on your membership chairman, and members to reach and pass your goals for the year.

Ken Parker is still hard at it with all the Veteran programs he can come up with to help our fellow Veterans, thanks Ken, Hans, Lance, Thad, and all the out reach program members.

I could go on an on thanking all the support groups of the American Legion. But instead I would like to thank you all as the part of the Legion that's makes it a family.

Welcome Mick Figueroa as the Chair of the Law Enforcement Officer of the year. Also as Chair of Firefighter of the year, Hays Stromness.

We also have a new Commander of Post 103 I would like to give a warm welcome to Dale E. Richards of Green River. Welcome and thank you.

To all our comrades, have a safe and happy holiday season

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The First Annual Governor's Distinguished Veterans Awards program took place at the Capitol Rotunda on 11/11/11 at 11 am. Those receiving the Awards all have Legion Blood in their bones. From left to right; Casey Kuni-mura, past Department Commander and member of the famous 442 Regimental Combat Team in World War II; insert; Norman Nelson, Area 1 Commander,; Bill Christofferson, our long-time (52 years) NEC-Man; Governor Herbert, Member of Post 8; and the presenter, Terry Schow, past Department Commander and Alternate NEC-Man.



These gentlemen were chosen by the Governor for their life-long service to veterans and their families in the State of Utah.

Also attending the ceremony were our distinguished United States Senator Orrin Hatch and our US Congressman Jim Matheson (a member of SAL Squadron 77.



CMDR Wayne Jackson and Aux President Sharon Gonsuage await their Parade Car in Taylorsville



Congressman Matheson drops by Post 71 for chili on Veterans Day. He also went to Post 112 and met with Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary members all over SLC

Veterans Day saw the Army sign Community Covenants with Taylorsville, Sandy and Kearns. The Parade sponsored by the City of Taylorsville was well attended and concluded with a ceremony dedicating its Veteran's Memorial. It was very well received and they continue to build upon it.

More Parade and Dedication photos on Page 9.....



Dept. Secretary-Virginia McKay

Important Administrative Announcements

If anyone is in need of Officer guides or other publications, they can be downloaded at www.legion.org or ordered in hard copy through Emblem Sales @ 888-4-LEGION. The below are internal guidelines for transmitting membership information. We all can use help and if you have questions call us at Dept. HQ.

Well I hope you had a really nice Thanksgiving. As we get ready to go into the New Year I need to remind you about some of the problems I'm having here in the office.

1. Please, please put your membership cards in alphabetical order. When you send a couple it's not to bad, but you send 15 or more membership cards and it's real time consuming.
2. DO NOT send a data form and the 3 part cards for DECEASED MEMBERS. Send one or the other.
3. DO NOT send PAID ON LINE 2 part cards. Send them their card and throw the other 2 parts away. Also DO NOT count them in your membership that you are sending to Department. I have already included them in count.
4. Please either the Commander or the Adjutant (or membership chairmen) needs to call when there are problems with membership. I get so many different people calling me about problems and in reality I shouldn't be telling them anything. Also please call me at the Legion office if you have questions on membership, etc. I can not answer questions when I'm at the Service office.
5. Remember that members that have transferred from other Posts to your Post will not be counted in your membership, unless they are paying you their dues.
6. Please, please make sure you are marking what time frame a new member served. If you don't I mark one and send to National and it could be the wrong one.
7. Please make sure the amount of money you are sending MATCHES the amount of cards you are sending, i.e. sent 6 cards, and paid for 4. I can't read your minds and I have no idea what you're doing.

Sorry everything is so negative, but we have to do things right. I really do appreciate everything you do for the Legion.

I hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your

readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find "filler" articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep

your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."

Inside Story Headline

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The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

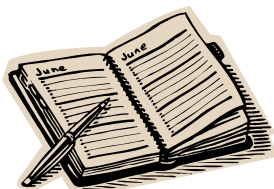
You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial.

You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

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Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

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the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.



PRESIDENT AND COMMANDER'S PROJECT

District and Post Commanders,

I and the Auxiliary President wish to coordinate the fund-raising efforts of the Districts and Posts for this year's Presidents and Commanders Project. Proceeds collected this year will be to furnish a room in the Payson Veteran's Home. Our goal is to raise \$4,000.00. It may be beneficial to ask for donations from your County Commissioner.

We are asking that each District and Post provide items or cash. Cash contributions will not be used to purchase prizes, but will be given directly to the project. Suggestions for prizes are tool baskets, car care baskets, "booze" baskets, or anything of similar value. A good idea would be to solicit items from your local merchants.

It would be helpful if you had the items procured and available for us to pick up while we are at your District Conventions in March and April.

Would you please encourage your general membership to donate to this worthy endeavor? Most of them will not attend the District meetings, so if you would, ask them to donate at your Post meeting throughout June.

Prizes will be given away at the Department Convention in Fillmore City. Members do not need to be present to win.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your consideration and help with this project.

Respectfully,
Wayne Jackson
Dept. Commander



Events to put on your Calendar's

DECEMBER 1ST, 2011	IVINS VETERANS HOME GROUND-BREAKING @ 1:00 PM
DECEMBER 4-7TH	AUXILIARY GIFT SHOP SLC VAMC BLDG. 8 *** PEARL HARBOR DAY
DECEMBER 10TH	DEC MEETING-SPANISH FORK SENIOR CENTER @ 11:00
DECEMBER 14TH	PAYSON VETERANS HOME GROUND-BREAKING
DECEMBER 24-25	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY-CLOSED
JANUARY 1, 2012	NEW YEAR'S DAY!
JANUARY 10, 11	SYSTEM WORTH SAVING TASK FORCE @ SLC VAMC AND NEPHI CLINIC
JANUARY 16TH	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY-CLOSED
JANUARY 29-FEB 1	NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE SITE VISIT FOR 2017 CNVENTION
FEBRUARY 11TH	DEPARTMENT ORATORICAL CONTEST- BLDG 9 @ SLC VAMC 12:00
FEBRUARY 14TH	WNVC MERV GUNDERSON VISIT



The Legion Family in Action



Junior Auxiliary with POW/MIA Table



Hans Michalke and Adjutant at Homeless Stand-down



SAL Member Collin Rowley preparing for Battle 3 months prior to Brain Cancer



National Commander Fang Wong, Historian Paula Stephenson, PDC Bradford and Commander Wayne Jackson have a visit in Minnesota

We took the opportunity to participate in the 'Crossroads of the West Gun Show' at the South Town Expo Center in Sandy on the 19th and 20th of November, 2011.

This was a great opportunity to let the veterans and others know just what The American Legion is all about.. Bill-



The Gun Show was a great learning experience. The following Legion members were available for booth duty Gil Lucero. Post 77; Nello Beckstead Post 71; MikeTomany Post 10; Art Blauvelt ,Post 77; Allan Setterberg Post 77;

Bill Christofferson, Post 71: Tom Blockovich, Post 132 and Dan Hurley, Post 77.

A certificate of appreciation will be issued to those that were involved
There were 5 inquires for follow up next week after Thanksgiving. There were 8 signed applications to be forwarded to post commanders. We had 2 paid applications 1 for Post 60 and 1 for Post 77

Post 60 now has 6 members registered with National. We are trying to set up a meeting of these members in December and get it revitalized with a supplemental charter. The meeting will bring up the naming of the Post and hopefully we will have some volunteer for leadership positions. .

So, the show produced twelve new members and some good prospects for follow-up. Thanks for all those who contributed their time and expertise.

Good start!

All in all it was a good weekend

Bill Dunlap VC/MC

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Howdy All

It's been an interesting year so far. The Legion College seemed to go well. Sorry I missed some of the dates due to illness. The information given out by Bob Jones is taken directly out of the NMI training that I am in the process of taking in Indianapolis. It's a three year class held each spring at the Sons NEC meeting. It's a great program and I hope everyone gets a chance to attend Utah's version.

Bob has completed the class and did a good job on the presentation. Thanks Bob for the hard work and Thank you to all involved in this endeavor.

Everyone need to dig in and get going on membership. Vernal, I understand you only need one more person to have an SAL charter. I'm sure one of you guys or gals have at least one son or grandson that you could sign up, Or even yourself eligible as a dual member. The rest of the Post that showed interested in the SAL program needs to push just a little harder. I know the holidays are coming upon us and that this is a hectic time of the year. All I ask is that you keep the SAL program in mind and maybe make some advancement in creating new Squadrons.

I hope to be able to attend the up coming events and meeting around the state in the future and I wish each and everyone of you a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest New Year.

Dave Swafford

Commander, Detachment of Utah
SAL



Dave Swafford
Commander,

Veterans

They sit in lobbies waiting, some young, some old, In their eyes their is a hint of the scarring from the stories they never told.

They invested their lives in our future. For many the future is dim. They are this nation's To forgot them, an unthinkable sin.

Now we must all rally around them. And provide them with all they need. These veterans, these neighbors, these heroes, they protected our lives with their deeds

May we never forget, Amen.



Department Chaplain
Byron Lewis, SAL Advisor