

Alaska



Legionnaire

The American Legion ~
Today's Voice for Today's Veterans
& Military

VOL. 2019 No. 6

Alaska Department of the American Legion

Nov/Dec 2019

The Alaska delegation stands in front of the American Legion National Headquarters while attending the 101st National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana



The American Legion
Department of Alaska
1550 Charter Circle
Anchorage, Ak 99508

ADJUTANT'S UPDATE

By Sharon Cherrette

ADJUTANT UPDATE

We have now entered Autumn and are heading towards Winter. Snow has fallen in some areas and the mountain tops glisten with white. This is the time the calendar fills quickly with events happening not only in the local area, but the state and nationally too.

Baseball has come and gone with the World Series completed. The National Hockey League and National Basketball Association are now running full steam. The National Football League is a little more than half way done.

The Alaska Fall Conference was held 19-20 October 2019 (Saturday-Sunday) and was sponsored by the Legion Family from Post 35 in Wasilla; awesome job once again from Legion Family 35. Our National Vice Commander Western Region, Rob Liebneow (Oregon) attended the Conference. Training was provided over a wide range of topics.

As schools are now back in session, please remember to promote our school programs to include (J)ROTC, Oratorical, Boys State, and Girls State. Also remember the private schools and home/charter school students. (Boys State - Sunday, 14 June-Saturday, 20 June 2020; Girls State - Saturday, 6 June-Friday, 12 June 2020.)

The LEGION ACT opened membership eligibility to more veterans. For more information/ assistance with membership, please contact our Membership Chairman, Hunter Davis (Department 1st Vice Commander), or visit www.legion.org/membership.

The Women Veteran Recognition Ceremony "To Celebrate Women Veterans in Alaska" will be held on **Thursday, 7 November 2019** from 5-7 PM in Anchorage at the VA Muldoon Clinic, Room 2, 101-111. (This event is usually held the Thursday prior to Veterans' Day).

The US Marine Corps' 244th birthday is on **10 November** along with the American Legion Auxiliary celebrating their 100th birthday.

Veterans' Day this year is **Monday, 11 November 2019**. What we now call 'Veterans Day' began as 'Armistice Day.' It is historically significant that this day continue to be observed on the month, day and hour that the guns fell silent in World War I at 11a.m., 11 November 1918. Today, thousands of Americans are serving in uniform. They sacrifice in the war on terror and in hundreds of locations around the world so we may remain free. They, too, are veterans. appreciation ceremony planned.

.....cont. on page 2 Adjutant

COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Art Bell



Well ready or not we are into fall and winter is right around the corner. Some our family members in the north have already seen their first snowfall and the rest of us are not too far behind. While some of us may not be too happy about this annual change, it brings with it a lot of amazing things as well. This is the time of year when Posts across the state are hosting their Early Bird events bringing together members, friends and family to celebrate their Posts and the mission of the American Legion. There are also a couple of holidays.....DUH..... with Thanksgiving and Christmas around the corner lots of gatherings will have us enjoying company and way too much food. There are many Posts that open their doors to all Veterans making sure that they are not forgotten and that a fine meal and comradery are available to them. Membership is always on my mind and I hope on the minds of Legionnaires across this great state. I would ask everyone to remember that it is not just a number that we are striving for to make National happy. It is the life blood of all that we do to support America's Veterans. When we bring on an active member to our Post, we bring on a wealth skills, talents and passion that can build our organizations ability to be successful in the support of the four pillars and keep the American Legion Family as the premier Veterans Service organization. Passion, I believe, is a key component of what we do and how successful we are at conducting our mission. I recently received a book that gave some insightful thoughts on passion. To list the entire writing would take way more space than I have but I would love to give the information to anyone who would like it. It all came down to four "switches" as the author puts it, that we all can switch on or off. I will give a very brief description of each in the hope that it will touch a few and increase their ability to put a fire in their own life and the vitality of their Post.

The first thing I would say is that one of the most important factors in a successful Post is that you have to love it. The Post should not be just a place for a cheap meal or drink. Your passion is something you already have, and you won't find it under the couch cushion. You just have to turn it on.

The first switch is being passionate about what you do. While some may say that is their switch, remember that 95% of the hard work that needs done stinks and that the 5% is what feels freaking awesome.

The second switch is being passionate about *why* you do it. Mark Twain once said, "The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why". Finding your why, can make getting through the 95% with grace and passion too.

...Cont. to page 3 Commander



From The American Legion, Department of Alaska

Legionnaire Insurance Trust

DEPARTMENT SPONSORED INSURANCE PROGRAMS

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust has been The Department of Alaska's sponsored member benefits program since 1988 and continues to fulfill our members needs while being the only such program to benefit our Department for 26 years.

For more information on the products and services provided by the Legionnaire Insurance Trust,

Call: 1-800-235-6943 Or visit our web site at: www.theLIT.com

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2019-2020

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Executive Committeeman....Kent Winship.....POB 257 Dillingham, AK 99576
Executive Committeeman....Tom Sears.....P.O. Box 1472 Seward, AK 99664

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- NEC.....Steve Huisman.....4700 Rivers St. North Pole, AK 99705
Alt. NEC.....Jim Van Horn.....3217 Timberline Ct. Ketchikan, AK 99901

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER AIDES

- Jack Henry Post 1.....Tim Campbell.....1112 Chugach Way, Anchorage, AK 99503
Joe Craig Post 3Scott Kline.....444 Schoenbar Rd., Ketchikan, AK 99901
Geo. H. Plumley Memorial Post 20.....Alvin Diaz.....1112 Walnut Ave., Kenai, AK 99611
Susitna Valley Post 35.....Matt Larson.....P.O. Box 643 Willow, AK 99688
CR Huber Post 57.....Chris Bedel.....13 Blanche Ave., Fairbanks, AK 99701

.....cont. Adjutant Update

Please check with your Post and local community on events happening in the area on this day. Some schools may be in session this day and have a special veterans appreciation ceremony planned.

American Education Week is 18-22 November followed up by National Family Week 24-30 November. Thanksgiving is the 4th Thursday in November which this year falls on 28 November.

December continues the hectic schedule with Pearl Harbor Day on 7 December, and onto Hanukkah and Christmas events throughout the communities. December is also Holiday Blood Donor Drive month. If you are eligible, please donate at your community Blood Bank.

Please remember the folks who may need a little extra through the Holiday season – a shoulder to lean on, someone to listen, a prayer, or a bit of food. November and December seem to whizz by so quickly, we just need to take a few minutes and breathe.

Have a great Thanksgiving and Christmas/Hanukkah Holiday. It will be interesting to see what the New Year rings in.

Just a little reminder: Squadron 57 is selling 1000 calendar raffle tickets at \$50 each. The raffle runs all year starting on 1 January 2020. Each day a ticket is drawn with different prize levels. The ticket drawn goes back in the pile; a name can be drawn more than once. Past National Commander Jimmie Foster and Past National SAL Commander Kevin Collier had the calendar raffle as part of their fundraiser. The proceeds of this fundraiser go to the American Legion Auxiliary Alaska (ALASKA) Leadership Development Fund.

THE ALASKA LEGIONNAIRE (USPS 012-100) OFFICIAL Bi-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF

The American Legion, Department of Alaska 1550 Charter Circle, Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Member of The National American Legion Press Association Sharon Cherrette Managing Editor

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES ~ PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

Members of The American Legion, Department of Alaska subscription included in payment of annual dues.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Alaska Legionnaire, 1550 Charter Circle, Anchorage, Alaska 99508.



Introducing the American Legion National Commander, Bill Oxford from Post 29 Lenoir, North Carolina.

The American Legion National SAL Commander, Clint D. Bolt from John D. Sudduth Squadron 72

American Legion Auxiliary National President, Nicole Clapp from Iowa Ehrig-McTurk Unit 127



Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (Form 4470) for the Alaska Legionnaire, Nov/Dec 2019 issue.

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News from Dept. 1st Vice, Hunter Davis



Well, we are into the 2020 membership year. After our terrific year for 2019, this year should be a doddle. And yet...we are in the basement of the National standings

The National Membership workshop was held in Indianapolis in early August. The presenters did a marvelous job of showing department and post success stories. Explanations of methods and systems came down to what we all know... success takes sweat.

None of the presenters had a magic wand. None of the National Membership staff had a lodestone to show us the way. Over and over, the way to a successful recruitment program came down to contacts with the potential new member. Retention, one of National Commander Bill Oxford's goals, is just as affected by personal contact. Send out a post update letter to your current membership; make a Buddy Check to see how the member is doing. The workshop attendees were instructed several times to not make a Buddy Check a plea for renewal. Often, the fact of making the check was enough to get a renewal.

I do not have a firm feeling of how many Department of Alaska posts are using the MyLegion application. It has a wealth of data to help the Post membership chair and E-Board make decisions. One of the easiest membership actions is transferring a Post 77 member into a local post. A simple zip code search will give a membership chair a list of Legion members that are local and not in a local Post. We call it Post 77, but there are many other titles across the Departments, all referencing the Headquarters post, or, more to our discussion, pool of potential Post members. As a reminder, the Post that transfers the most Post 77 members into your Post will receive the Joseph T Craig Award. Joe was out in front of the wave in recognizing the availability of members with no local Post home.

...Cont. on page 6



News from Dept. 2nd Vice

Mike Downs

Alaska Americansim



"To foster and perpetuate a 100 percent Americanism." That is one of many lines in the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion. Sounds like we are all in on Americanism, so we should probably define that, this definition comes directly from the American Legion Americanism Manual – "Americanism is love of America; loyalty to her institutions as the best yet devised by man to secure life, liberty, individual dignity, and happiness; and the willingness to defend our country and Flag against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

"It is a vital, active, living force. Americanism means peace, strength, the will and the courage to live as free men in a free land. It means a friendly hand to people everywhere who respects our institutions and our thinking. It is not a word; it is a cause, a way of life – the best way of life ever known – a challenge and a hope in this world."

My goal with this article is to find out what we are currently doing state wide to foster and perpetuate a 100 percent Americanism. Please read the descriptions below and then send me an email or text on what your post does to alaskapost1@gmail.com or 253-906-9983. I will then share them in my next article, I'm hoping that we can learn from and celebrate our success. I will go first, Post 1 recently helped Holy Rosary Academy purchase two complete sets of flags, so they could have proper flags in each one of their buildings.

Americanism is broken into eight main categories 1) Community Service and Safety Activities 2) Service to God and Country 3) Education Activities 4) Flag Education 5) Immigration and Naturalization Activities 6) Youth Activities 7) Patriotic Holiday Programs 8) Counter Subversive Activities.

This is not a complete list, but here are some examples of Americanism:

This is not a complete list, but here are some examples of Americanism:

- Get Out the Vote Program
- The religious education of our children.
- Any education program with local schools or Veterans in the classroom
- Patriotic Observances
- Protecting the Flag from Physical Desecration
- Junior Shooting Sports
- National High School Oratorical Contest
- Flag Day Ceremonies
- Memorial Day Activities
- Veterans Day Activities
- Be a vigilant citizen against terrorism
- Memorials
- Gun Safety
- Student Awards
- Flag Education
- American Legion Baseball
- Gun Safety and Marksmanship
- Boys and Girls State
- Boy Scouts of America
- Independence Day Activities
- Flag or Cross placement on veteran graves
- School Safety Patrols

My personal thoughts on Americanism is, what am I doing to improve my community, state, and nation through my own daily actions

.....Cont. from Commander Bell

The Third switch is being passionate about how you do it. This switch appears around us in those who go above and beyond what is necessary to do the task. Some may mistake this as OCD when a person makes sure everything is just right and then goes a little bit farther to make it the best they can.

The fourth switch is being passionate about who you do it for. This has the obvious answer of for the Veterans, for God and Country, but you will see it those who will do almost anything for their parents, brother, sister or a cause such as cancer.

There will be some that say this is all a bunch of hooy, but I would say if you take a little time and think of what you do each day and which switch you are turning on you may find a way to make the 95% that feels unappreciated or not worth the effort will be easier and your 5% will be absolutely amazing.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and the happiest of New Years.

For God and Country



REMEMBER DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 3RD, 2019 SET THOSE CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR!!

The American Legion Family
 Sons of The American Legion
 C. Russell Huber, Squadron 57
 Presents

2020 Calendar - Daily Winner Raffle
 With a Total Raffle Giveaway of **\$20,000.00**

Only \$50 each

Only 1000 Calendars SOLD

CHECK DAILY IN 2020 AT: <https://www.facebook.com/SAIsquad57/>

Winning Tickets will be returned to the drawing pool for subsequent chances to WIN!
 Proceeds will go to support Team Alaska, proudly presenting Lisa Williams as a candidate for the American Legion Auxiliary National President for 2022-23, and a first for Alaska!

Printed in USA



from the Desk of Marty Carlton, Department Chaplain

It has been a beautiful summer. Soon, we will be warming up to the idea that it will be cold outside. Fall is upon us. With November and December coming up, it is time to prepare for the cold winter months ahead.

As I reflect on our past, I can't help to wonder how the future generations will see up. What a blessing it is to live in the country. We have made strides to make this country a great place to live. It is amazin to me that when I look around I see evidence that we are a people that have compassion for one another. With our zeal to work together, we can become a better country.

We need to keep our elected officials in prayer. That they might govern with wisdom and not out of spite or hatred.

For God and Country

~~~~~TAPS~~~~~

- List of names and post numbers: Post 11 Donald Carlson, Raymond Moran-WWII, Charles Rogers-Korea; Post 12 William Hotch-Vietnam; Post 13 Robert Turner, Alfred Widmark-Korea; Post 18 Earl Hays-Vietnam; Post 20 Roy Duncay-Korea, John Osborne-Vietnam; Post 27 Gerald Husung-Korea; Post 28 James Bain-Vietnam; Post 33 Arthur Sylvia-Vietnam, Dick Walling; Post 35 Dallas Massie-Vietnam, Frederick Sampson-Korea, Robert Thomas-Vietnam; Post 77 Eugene Hansen-WWII, Lewis Obrien-Vietnam; Post 1 Herbert Conlan-Vietman.

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY! FAMILY IS ALL WE NEED!

Membership often seems to be a daunting task. So many questions: Can we get the numbers that we need? How do we get people to join? What do we do? Where do we go? How do we sell it? I believe we are making this task harder than it needs to be. Let's all start by taking a deep breath, step back for a moment and reflect on why we became members. Next, take another moment and think about why we stay members. Now, with those two things in mind is it really that hard of a sell? I don't think so. I think the American Legion Auxiliary can sell itself if we can just let people see what we do.

The American Legion Family Posts, Units, Squadrons and Chapters make our communities a better place to live. We help Veterans, Active Duty Military, schools, Boys and Girls scouts, senior citizens, sports teams, police, firemen, and so many more. Who wouldn't want to join us? I think the biggest hurdle is: People don't know where to find us, don't know who we are or what we do. We are often in the community for events, but it is high time we get out and be available for the community to become members of the greatest organization in the world. Get out into the community and do a membership drive let people know they can join The American Legion Family. Don't be afraid to sign up anyone who is eligible: Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Juniors, and Sons of the American Legion and once they are signed up don't forget to let them know if you have a local Chapter of Riders.

The next task we face is keeping our members! This I think is more daunting than most of us realize. I truly believe that this organization is big enough that there are plenty of things to do. In other words, pick the things that you like to do and do them! Be passionate, be bold and do your own thing. I believe we will be stronger together if we are able to passionately do the things we love.

Team Alaska Supports Lisa Williamson for American Legion Auxilliary National President 2022-2023. Includes images of red polo shirts and a table with columns: ITEMS, SIZES, POCKET, QTY., COLOR, UNIT PRICE, TOTAL. Table rows include MEN'S POLO, LADIES POLO, and a TOTAL COST row.

Let people express themselves and work on the programs that they are passionate about. Don't force a member to take on a task that they don't really want, keep the negativity out of the meetings and be open to new ideas. Our individuality will bring us together and make us stronger if we take control of ourselves and celebrate one another.

Membership is the lifeline of this organization. Without the members there is no American Legion Auxiliary. Dare to be unique, dare to be YOU!

The American Legion Family is made up of so many individuals and together we change lives on a daily basis.

Remember be good to one another and work together, this is a family and family is the strongest bond there is. Together we will change the world!

For God and Country
Von Lamm
ALA Department of Alaska



On December 8th, 1941 President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered these famous words to a shocked Nation.

"Yesterday, Dec 8,1941, a date that will live in infamy. the United States of American was suddenly and deliberately attacked by navel and air forces of the Empire of Japan....."

# Happenings at your Post

**Jack Henry Post 1**

Monday - Homemade Pizza 5:00pm -7:30pm  
 Tuesday - Cribbage 4:30pm  
 Wednesday - Tacos 5:30pm -7:00pm  
 Thursday - Burgers & Brew 5:30pm -7:00pm  
 Friday - Steaks 5:30 - 7:30pm  
 Saturday - LOL Drawing

**Seward Post 5**

Taco Tuesday  
 Friday Night Steaks  
 Food Served every night

**Wrangell Post 6**

**MARCH**

3/5 & 3/19 - Taco Tuesday 5pm  
 \$1 Tacos - \$3 Frybread - \$5 Indian Tacos  
 Family Games, Pull Tabs, Raffles

**APRIL**

4/2 & 4/16 Taco Tuesday 5pm  
 \$1 Tacos - \$3 Frybread - \$5 Indian Tacos  
 Family Games, Pull Tabs - 50/50 Raffle

**Matanuska Valley Post 15**

Tuesday Pool League  
 Thursday Night Darts League  
 Friday Prime Rib and Live Band  
 Saturday Cajun Food and Karaoke

**General Buckner Post 16 Family**

2nd Saturday Auxiliary Dinner 6:00pm  
 Friday Burger & Brew 6:00pm - 8:00pm  
 1st Friday of the month Special  
 3rd Friday Steak Night 6:00pm

**George H. Plumley Memorial Post 20**

Sunday Breakfast 10:00am - 1:00pm  
 Every Friday is Steak Night 6:00pm-8:00pm with an added Special Dish  
 Every Sunday Breakfast Menu Dishes 10:00am -1:00pm  
 Every Friday Aux Unit 20 Sponsors  
 The Friday Night Raffle 12:00pm - 8:00pm  
 Drawing (sign up once a day to enter)  
 Every Saturday must be present 4:00pm  
 Membership drawing (no sign ups)  
 Every Sunday must be present 2:00pm

**Spenard Post 28**

Monday Karaoke 9:00pm-12:00am  
 Tuesday, Taco night 6:00pm  
 Wednesday Chicken Wings, etc. 6:00pm  
 Thursday, Philly Cheese steaks sandwiches 6:00pm  
 Friday Steak Night and Karaoke 6:00pm-8:30pm  
 Saturday, Karaoke 8:00pm

**Muldoon Post 29**

Tuesdays, Taco night 6:00pm - 8:30pm  
 Wednesday Night Dinners 6:00pm - 8:30pm  
 Catfish, Chicken Wings, Pork chops  
 Friday Night Steak Night 6:00pm - 8:30pm

**Peters Creek Post 33**

Thursday Taco Nite - 4:30pm - 8:30pm  
 1st & 3rd Friday  
 6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Chappie James Post 34**

Commanders night starting at 6:30pm every Thursday

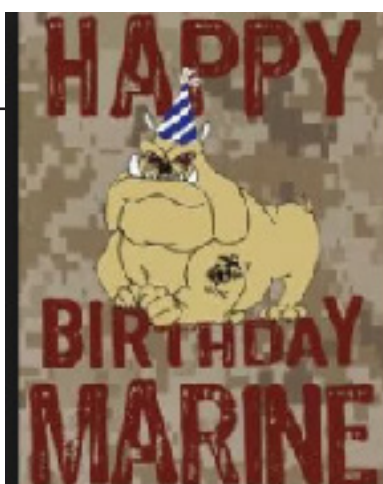
**Susitna Valley Post 35**

Open Daily @1:00pm  
 Meeting Nights: Legion: 1st and 3rd Tuesday 7:00pm  
 Auxiliary: 1st Tuesday 7:00pm  
 Sons: 1st and 3rd Monday 7:30pm  
 Riders: 1st Saturday 6:00pm  
 Wednesday: Taco Night 6:00pm - 8:00pm Texas Hold'em 7:00pm - ?  
 Fridays: Steak Night 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Senior Appreciation Dance: Last Thursday of Every Month 2:00pm - 4:00pm

**C.R. Huber Post 57**

Sunday Breakfast 10-2  
 FOOTBALL & NASCAR Every Sunday  
 Monday night Football  
 Thursday Burger Night 5:30-9:00 PM



**News from the 101st National Convention  
 National Children & Youth Committee Summery  
 By Don Maupin, Department Sergeant-at-Arms**

A meeting was held at the 101st Annual National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana on Saturday August 24th at 8:30am to discuss Resolution No. 5 School Safety and resolution No. 6 Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program.

**Resolution NO. 5 School Safety:**

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, August 27, 28, 29 2019, That the American Legion urges and encourages all American Legion post to consider asking their members to volunteer in their community elementary, middle and high schools, in accordance with school district policies and procedures, to walk the halls in their uniform, or other suitable clothing, identifying them as an American veteran to inspire, encourage and install confidence in your students while acting as a physical presents to let those that wish to harm children know that veterans are there to assure students that they have a safe environment to learn and grow as American citizens.

A motion was made seconded to Approve this Resolution, Motion passed

**Resolution NO. 6 Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program:**

Resolution, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Indiana. August 27, 28, 29, 2019. That The American Legion urge and encourage all American Legion posts to institute and adopt the Eddie Eagle Gun Safety courses for schools in their communities to make American aware of the responsibilities of gun ownership and to teach and educate our students and citizens of our right to keep and bear arms the second amendment to the constitution; and be finally

RESOLVED, That our local posts work with their law enforcement agencies and local school boards, in accordance with their policies and procedures, to identify best methods to educate our school age children using the Eddie Eagle Safety course.

A motion was made and seconded to Reject this Resolution. Motion Passed. The reason was the wording "to teach and educate our students and citizens of our right to keep and bear arms the second amendment to the constitution".

Reason for rejection this was that this program is to teach students gun safety and not to teach students and citizens gun rights.



**2019- 2020 National Membership Target Dates**

|                        |            |      |
|------------------------|------------|------|
| Early Bird/NEF Kickoff | 9/11/2019  | 50%  |
| Fall Meetings          | 10/9/2019  | 55%  |
| Veterans Day           | 11/14/2019 | 65%  |
| Pearl Harbor Day       | 12/11/2019 | 75%  |
| Mid-Winter             | 1/15/2020  | 80%  |
| Presidents Day         | 2/12/2020  | 85%  |
| Legion Birthday        | 3/11/2020  | 90%  |
| Children & Youth       | 4/8/2020   | 95%  |
| Armend Forces Day      | 5/13/2020  | 100% |

Delegate Strength 30 Days Prior to National Convention

**DON'T FORGET!!!**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 3RD, 2019**





The American Legion was founded on four pillars: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. Today, those pillars remain at the Legion's core as the organization continues its commitment to our Nation's veterans, its servicemembers, their families, the youth of American, and ordinary citizens. The United States Mint is proud to mark The American Legion's extraordinary milestone—a century of dedication—with a new ensemble of commemorative coins.

For more information on purchasing these beautiful coins go to [legion.org](http://legion.org).

### About the Oratorical Contest "A constitutional speech contest"

The American Legion Oratorical Contest exist to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, right and privileges of American citizenship. The program has featured numerous politicians and prominent contestants over the years, including former president candidate Alan Keyes and CNN anchor Lou Dobbs.

Young orators earn some of the most generous college scholarships available to high school students. Over \$138,000 in scholarships can be awarded each year. The overall national contest winner gets an \$18,000 scholarship. Second place takes home \$16,000, and third gets \$14,000. Each department (state) winner who is certified into and participates in the national contest's first round receives a \$1,500 scholarship. Those who advance past the first round receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship. The American Legion's National Organization awards the scholarships, which can be used at any college or university in the United States.

High school students under age 20 are eligible. Competition begins at the post level and advances to a state competition. Legion department representatives certify one winner per state to the national contest, where department winners compete against each other in two speaking rounds. The contest caps off with a final round that decides the three top finishers.

Speaking subjects must be on some aspect of the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. Speeches are eight to 10 minutes long; three-to five-minute speeches on an assigned topic also are part of the contest.

For more information:  
[oratorical@legion.org](mailto:oratorical@legion.org)

## Fresh off the bike, Don "DJ" Jones Director, ALRA

Good Day All! I hope everyone is having a fun and safe fall as we move into winter and that white stuff. As we move into the months of November and December, where family members and friends travel for the holidays to visit each other, please be safe.

In the next two months we have a couple of days that we as SAL, ALA, Legion Riders and Post member need to recognize. November 11<sup>th</sup>, Veterans Day and December 7<sup>th</sup>, the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. As these days come up on us, we as American Legion Family Members need to take a few minutes and reflect what each of us can do to help each other in our Family Community. As for the other big days, Thanksgiving and Christmas and New Year's. We should all reach out to members, families and friends. As like my Post 57, we have events planned, members should show up and join in and help out to support these events. I guarantee you will have a great time!

I also want to thank Post 1 of Anchorage and Post 17 of Kodiak for their site visit, I had an awesome time at each! I also want to take time to thank Post 35 of Wasilla for an invite to their 9/11 tribute. This tribute relives the heroics of many people and how it changed all American lives.

Update on our call-in meetings. We are still in the early stages of this and are working on the time and frequency of the informal meetings. If you are not getting a text or email from me, I don't have a good contact. Please, contact me at, [dale@terntech.com](mailto:dale@terntech.com), please put SAL Contact in the subject line, or text me at 907-360-1880 with all info. This is a great way to stay in the information loop and to keep your squadron updated with the latest detachment information. We will be having another call-in meeting in November, to update all Squadrons on the fall meeting.

Squadron 57 is still working on fund raising for our ALA 57, Lisa Williamson who is set to become an ALA National President. Our 1<sup>st</sup> fund raiser will be a 2020 calendar raffle, \$50.00 per calendar, a winner every day, (\$20,00.00 total give away) winner goes back in the draw to be able to win again. **All proceeds from this raffle will go to help support «Team Alaska American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska Leadership Development For God and Country**



.....Cont. from 1st Vice Davis

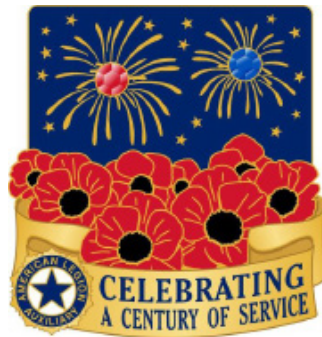
There was much recognition of the potential within the LEGION Act. We all know the Cold War vets that fell into the "cracks" of the authorized membership periods. No more. Honorable service from 7DEC1941 until now is the new criteria for membership in the American Legion. Find those men and women who served in Germany, Korea, CONUS, OCONUS, and any time period. Many may have tried to join before the LEGION Act and we had to tell them no. Say hello and let them know of the changes.

Carry a couple of applications with you. Getting a new member means being ready to sign them up. Old applications are still usable; just write LEGION Act on it for those covered by the new standards.

And ASK!

No one will sign new members up if no one asks a potential new member. Explain why you are a member; continuing your service; working in the community; and taking part in something larger than their local circle of friends.

For God and Country



CELEBRATE, ALA is 100 years old on November 10, 2019. We have accomplished a century of service to our veterans, military and military families. I am proud to be associated and being a part of such a fantastic and dedicated organization. With the Legion Act and new eligibility for our spouses to join the American Legion Auxiliary our organization can only grow larger to help and promote our mission.

From the desk of Jane Larson,  
Department Auxiliary President



With Veteran's Day being November 11th, I am sure many of us, along with all of our American Legion family will be participating in many of the Veteran's Day services. A applaud and thank all of you for the great work you do for our veterans.

As you may or may not know all of our VA health care facilities have gone smoke free for everyone as of October 1st, 2019. The Health Behaviour coordinator has asked for our help and support to put together "Quit Kits" for our veterans. An email was sent out to officers, past presidents and units with a list of item for making the kits. I hope you will join with me and help in putting some of these kits together. If you are needing the list of items, please let me know and I will be happy to forward it to you.

Another date that I would like to recognize is November 13th, which is Caregiver Appreciation Day. I want to give a big shout out to all of our members who are caring for our veterans on a very personally level. Thank you!

December is right around the corner and it's time for our American legion Auxiliary Christmas Gift Shop. So, mark your calendar for December 7th, 2019 at 10:30am. It will be held at the Domiciliary in their Atrium in Anchorage. We are always looking and welcoming all of our members to come and visit and help our veterans. Let us know if you would like to come and participate.

In closing, I would like to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. Please remember our veterans, military and military families as you give thanks and celebrate the holidays.



From the desk of Barb Nath,  
Department Auxiliary Secretary



November/December –

Can you believe we are almost half way through the year. It promises to be a busy year.

National Convention is over and it was a huge success. There were some big changes made and these will be brought to the membership. Yvonne Lamm, our Department Membership Chair will provide that information. Our new National President is Nicole Clapp and she will be here for our Department Convention in April. Our very own Angela Schwerzfiger was election Honorary Western Division President. Congratulations Angela.

Before the end of this calendar year we have the following activities planned:

- October – Halloween Activities
- November 2nd – Silver Team
- November 11<sup>th</sup> – Veterans Day
- November 1<sup>st</sup> – Poppy Orders due
- November 28<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving
- December 5<sup>th</sup> – Mid Year Reports Due to each Department Chair
- December 7<sup>th</sup> – ALA Christmas Gift Shop
- December 7<sup>th</sup> – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- December -- Christmas and Holiday Celebrations

In addition, I am asking the following committee chairs to write a short paragraph on their committee and send it to Kelly Petersen at Legion Headquarter (kelly@alaska-legion.org) and she will plug it into the magazine for the appropriate month.

- January – Legislative and National Security
- February – Americanism
- March – Community Service
- April – Children and Youth

The magazine comes out Nov/Dec, Jan/Feb, March/April, May/June and information is due the month before (usually around the 10<sup>th</sup>). Hope you all have a marvelous holiday season.

### NEWS FROM THE FISHER HOUSE

*The Fisher House is in need of Keurig Coffee cups. Regular and decalf. If you can donate either cash or coffee, go staight to the Fisher House front desk, House 1.*

*If you would like to find more information about how you can help the Fisher House you can contact:*

Jenny Hall - Manager  
Phone # 907-222-1673  
JHall@akfisherhouse.org  
www.AKFisherHouse.org  
4943 Zeamer Ave.  
JBER, AK 99506

*We so appreciate anything you can do.*



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

**Jack Henry Post 1**  
 Meets 1st Thursday @ 7 PM  
**Commander Michael Downs**  
 1st Vice Commander Justin Mills  
 2nd Vice Commander Steve Untiet  
 Sgt-At-Arms DJ Jones  
 Adjutant Peter Pritchard  
 Finance Officer Ray Untiet  
 Chaplain David Mazack  
 Historian Bob Price  
 Service Officer William Campbell  
 Executive Committeeman Jim Sartin  
 Jim Vorderstrasse  
 Tom Roh  
 272-5242, FAX 272-5792  
 P.O. Box 91285

**General Buckner Post 16 Family**  
 Commander **Michael Morawitz**  
 Adjutant Bill Sheldon  
 SAL Commander Chip Dugan  
 Meetings - 6 PM  
 SAL - 2nd Monday  
 Legion - 3rd Wednesday  
 Aux - 3rd Thursday

**Spenard Post 28**  
 Commander **Galen Rick**  
 1st Vice Michael Hayward  
 2nd Vice David Todd  
 Adjutant Kirk Waldhaus  
 Finance Richard Kazaitis  
 Chaplain Martin Carlton  
 Historian Phil Parks  
 Service Officer Martin Carlton  
 Sgt-At-Arms Nate McKay  
 Judge Adv. Kenneth Jacobus  
 Exec. Committeemen:  
 Dale Chubin  
 Richard White  
 Taggert Hooper

**GRANDE DU ALASKA**  
  
 GRANDE CHEF DE GARE  
**Tom Schanrock**  
 907-283-6192  
 GRANDE CHEF DE TRAIN  
 Walt Crary  
 (907)690-1951  
 GRANDE CONDUCTEUR  
 Dave Webster  
 907-376-8880  
 GRANDE CORRESPONDENT  
 Billy Smith

**ALASKA LEGIONNAIRE**  
**ARTICLES ARE DUE**  
**TO THE DEPARTMENT**  
**NO LATER THEN**  
**January 10th, 2020**

**ROBERT G. BLAIR POST 17**  
 Commander **Walter Sargent**  
 Adjutant Pamela Cawley  
 Service Officer Mike Nichols  
 318 Center Ave.,  
 Kodiak, AK 99615  
 Office: 486-3258 / Bar: 486-5757

**Annual Sponsors of**  
 • Boys & Girls State  
 • AL Baseball Service High  
 • Boys Scout Troop 214  
 • Cub Scout Pack 214  
 • Dimond High JROTC  
 • Post 28  
 Scholarship Program  
 7001 Brayton Drive  
 Anchorage, AK 99507  
 907-344-3841

**C. RUSSELL HUBER Post 57**  
 Commander **Jimmy Russell**  
 Adjutant  
 Service Officer  
 1st Vice Mark Fraley  
 Sunday Breakfast 10-2  
 Followed by:  
 Football & NASCAR  
 Monday Football  
 Thursday Burger Night 5:30-9 PM

**Sons of the American Legion**  
**2019 - 2020**  
**Detachment of Alaska Officers**  
**Commander Dale Toenies**  
**1st Vice Jamie Weeks**  
**2nd Vice Chris Bedel**  
**Adjutant/Finance Kevin Collier**  
**Chaplain Conner Hayward**  
**Sargent-at-Arms Chip Duggan**  
**Historian Shane Rupe**  
**Executive Committeemen**  
 Bill Wolter  
 Thomas Attwood  
 Rolf Aarseth  
**NEC**  
 Howard Fruhwirth, Jr.  
**Alt. NEC**  
 Loren Estrada, Jr.



**JOSEPH T. CRAIG POST 3**  
 Meets every Monday, 7pm  
 Potluck every 3rd Saturday  
 Commander **Jeremiah Sullivan**  
 Adjutant Deb Davis  
 Service Officer Hunter Davis  
 225-2021, P.O. Box 5121  
 Ketchikan, AK 99901  
 www.americanlegionpost3.com

**NINILCHIK POST & UNIT 18**  
 Commander **Tony Rea**  
 Adjutant David Behm  
 President Kathy Bowen  
 Secretary Catherine Laky  
 Tres/Tandy Wallace  
 Mile 136.5 Sterling Hwy  
 Phone 567-3918

**Con Miller Post 30**  
 Commander **Robert Blackmore**  
 Adjutant Harold Schuster  
 Canteen Manager Harry Schuster  
 3614 Old Richardson Highway - Moose Creek  
 907-490-6830  
 P O Box 56615  
 North Pole AK 99705

**C. RUSSELL HUBER SQUADRON 57**  
 Commander **Dale Toenies**  
 Adjutant Cary Toenies  
 Finance Officer Chris Bedel  
 1634 S. Cushman St.  
 Fairbanks, AK 99707

**SAL 2019 TARGET DATES**

|      |                    |
|------|--------------------|
| 10%  | September 11, 2019 |
| 25%  | October 9, 2019    |
| 35%  | November 14, 2019  |
| 45%  | December 11, 2019  |
| 60%  | January 15, 2020   |
| 75%  | February 12, 2020  |
| 80%  | March 11, 2020     |
| 90%  | April 8, 2020      |
| 100% | May 13, 2020       |
| 105% | July 29, 2020*     |

**Delegate Strength Target Date 2019-2020 MEMBER-SHIP YEAR**

**SEWARD POST 5**  
 Meets 2<sup>ND</sup> Tuesday 7p.m.  
 Commander **Clare Sullivan**  
 Adjutant Mike Calhoon  
 Service Officer Tom Sears  
 Taco Tuesday ~ 4p.m.  
 Steak Night Friday ~ 4p.m.  
 P.O. Box 306  
 Seward, Alaska 99664  
 907-224-5440

**GEORGE H. PLUMLEY MEMORIAL POST 20**  
 Commander **Gregory Fite**  
 Adjutant Al Diaz  
 Service Officer Ron Engebretson  
 283-3222, 902 Cook St.

**PETERS CREEK POST 33**  
 Commander Herman Staschke  
 Adjutant Mark Brecci  
 Service Officer Fred Richardson  
 907-688-2354  
 21426 Old Glenn Hwy  
 Chugiak, Ak 99567



**SUSITNA VALLEY POST 35**  
 Commander - **Ron Travis**  
 Adjutant - Delmar Johnson  
 Service Officer - James Francois  
 Monthly Meetings  
 Legion & Aux - 1st Tues 7pm  
 ALR - 1st Sat 6pm  
 SAL - 1st & 3rd Mon 7:30pm  
 P.O. Box 870370  
 Wasilla, AK 99687  
 907-376-3500  
 Mile 46 Parks Hwy  
 www.facebook.com/post35ak

**DORMAN H. BAKER POST 11**  
 Commander **Walter E. Crary**  
 Adjutant Billy M. Smith  
 Service Officer Anthony Tillery  
 Pull tab sales at the club  
 452-2228, 129 First Ave.  
 Fairbanks, AK 99701

**AURORA BOREALIS POST 21**  
**All Female Post**  
 Commander - **Orelvis Ibarra**  
 Service Officer - Elexzanderia Carr  
 Meeting 3rd Saturday @ 2 pm  
 Sept - May  
 P.O. Box 91116  
 Anchorage, AK 99509



**LYNN CANAL POST 12**  
 Commander - **William Rostad**  
 Adjutant - Ralph Strong  
 Service Officer - Terrance Pardee  
 First Vice - Thomas Spencer  
 766-2530  
 amerlegion@aptalaska.net

**MULDOON POST 29**  
 Meeting 3rd Tuesday @ 6:30 pm  
 Commander **Jeffrey Corey**  
 1st Vice Keith Stolberg  
 Service Officer Lois Sholl  
 1467 Muldoon Road  
 Anchorage, AK 99504  
 907-338-3550  
 Fax 907-338-0756  
 muldoon29@gci.net

**MATANUSKA VALLEY POST 15**  
 Commander **Eric Wright**  
 Adjutant Donald Maupin  
 Service Officer Bill Kennedy Jr.  
 Meets 1st & 3rd Mon., 6 p.m.  
 1550 Mystic Cr  
 P.O. Box 1146, Palmer, AK 99646  
 745-4440  
 www.facebook.com/aklegion15  
 aklegion15@gmail.com  
 RV's can hook up to electrical and enjoy a lake front VIEW!

**JACK HENRY UNIT 1**  
 President **Ann Foley**  
 1st Vice Amy Bell  
 2nd Vice Karen Wolters  
 Secretary Susan Stepsics  
 Meetings: 1st Thursdays @ 7 p.m.  
 Mailing Address: 840 W. Fireweed Lane  
 Anchorage, AK 99509

**ALASKA LEGIONNAIRE**  
**OPT OUT FORM** - Please mail to 1550 Charter Cir. Anch. Ak. 99508  
 I would like to view the Legionnaire online  NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 http://www.alaskalegion.org Membership No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Instead of receiving it through the mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please permanently remove me from the Legionnaire mailing list. This option will City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 not effect any of the Legion mailings State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_