



THE ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRE



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ISSUE 4

Mentoring + Training = Retention

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Legionnaires for giving me this opportunity to serve as your Department Commander. I am deeply honored and promise that I will do my best to serve you in any way I can. I am especially grateful to my Post 24 Family and my District 3 Family for all of the support this past year and for helping make my dream come true. Thanks to all who supported me in my campaign.

I would like to thank Past Department Commander, Carol Hamburger, for her service this past year. You had a great year Carol, and all members of our Legion Family thank you.

This last year has been very exciting. My campaign took me to many Posts throughout the state. I have talked to a lot of Legionnaires and I found that they all work very hard to achieve the goals for their Post and for the State of Arizona.

I feel strongly and I know they do too, that we continue to find ways to serve our Veterans, their families, our Communities, State and Nation. The Legionnaires that have gone before us leave footprints for us to follow to guide us into the future. Each Post must determine what their needs are and how to achieve their goals in order to grow.

I believe the way to grow is mentoring your new members. Getting them involved and giving them a job to do. Once they are involved, they will step up to the plate. The needs of our Veterans are greater now than ever before. We have way too many homeless Veterans-one is too many! A challenge we face is to find ways to help those that are in need. This doesn't always mean financial aid but should include ways



to help them help themselves. In this way, we help them to maintain their dignity while adding to the improvement of our Posts and communities.

To accomplish everything we want to do this year, we are greatly challenged. We have to start with our newly elected and re-elected officers and help them understand the responsibility of their offices. By giving them support, information and training, they will have what they need to carry out their jobs. Each Area,

District and Post needs to set up an internal training procedure available for all.

I'm looking forward to working with all of the elected officers and appointed chairs this year. I know that I have a wonderful group of leaders to work with and look forward to all we can accomplish together.

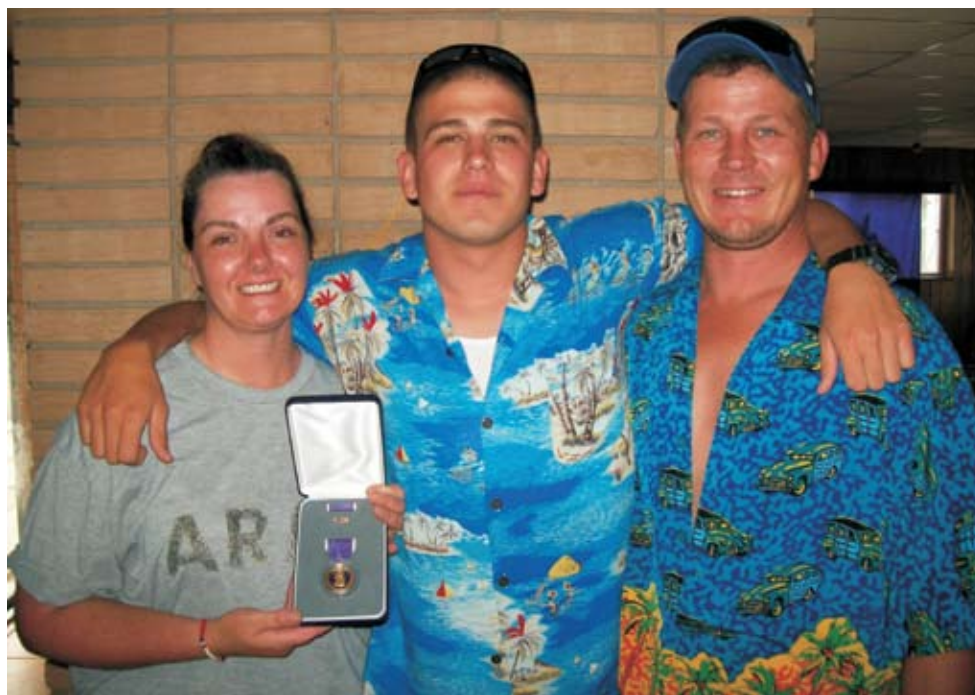
Let's get all members of each Post to sit down with your elected officers to make and find ways together to make our Posts a gathering place for our Veterans and their families. Let us not forget the original purposes of our American Legion principles-The Four Pillars: National Security, Americanism, Veteran's Affairs, and Children & Youth.

My challenge to each and every member of The American Legion, Auxiliary and S.A.L. is **TO SIGN UP ONE NEW MEMBER.**

For God and Country,
Dick Perry, Commander

Post 36 Brings Soldier Home

In December, John P. Burns Post 36 brought a young soldier home for the holidays to see his family before he left for his tour of duty in Afghanistan. We made him a member of Post 36 and he and his family spent many happy hours at the Post. The young soldier said that Post 36 had become "his place".



Well, in June, we got to spend some more time with him. PFC Kenny Jennings III was wounded in action at Zanbar, Afghanistan on March 5, 2010. A 107 exploded and left shrapnel in his left side and buttocks. He was awarded the Purple Heart and was in Tucson with his family for recuperation. He once again visited with friends, family and his new comrades at Post 36. On July 4th, our nation's birthday, he left friends and family on a flight back to Afghanistan to join his comrades in 1st Platoon/ Delta Company/3rd of the 187th in southwest Asia.

All the members of John P. Burns Post 36 wish him (and his family) the very best. The members feel that a part of them, a fellow Post 36 member, serves us and our nation in Afghanistan. We wish all of our service men and women the very best and a safe return home.

W.A. 'Tony' Rigney, Post 36 Finance Officer

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Pakinkis New PR Chairman

Hello, my name is William F. "Bill" Pakinkis, I am a member of American Legion Roy Fourr Post #24 in Tombstone, AZ. I have been a member there for eight years and before that, I was an active member of American Legion Floyd Jefferson Post #56 in Yuma, AZ where I filled several positions as an elected or appointed officer.

My other Veterans affiliations include being a Life Member of the Marine Corps League. I have served as the Department of Arizona Commandant for three terms, a Detachment Commandant for five terms in Yuma and Tombstone. I was also elected or appointed to various offices as well as being appointed the Department's Public Affairs Officer.

I am also a Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans, 2nd Marine Division Association, Marine Corps Association,

Military Order of the Devil Dogs, and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

I have an extensive background in Public Relations, Marketing, as well as being a published Journalist. I am currently handling all of the public relations for



numerous special events in Tombstone, i.e. Wyatt Earp Days, Tombstone Salute to the Buffalo Soldiers, 81st Annual Helldorado Days, Tombstone Wild West

Days (a salute to the Men and Women of the Armed Forces), and I am currently the Assistant Public Affairs Officer for "B" Troop, 4th US Cavalry (Memorial) Fort Huachuca, AZ.

In 2008, I was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society, and currently serve as a Board Member of the Sierra Vista Veterans Memorial Cemetery Foundation, as well as serving on the Greater Sierra Vista United Veterans Council.

My point of contact information is: PO Box 873, Tombstone, AZ 85638; e-mail Broncobill@PowerC.net or telecom at (520) 457-3511/ (520) 266-5266. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you,
William F. "Bill" Pakinkis
Department Public Relations Chairman

Get To Know Your Post's Program

The American Legion Riders, Department of Arizona (AZALR), is having a statewide fundraiser to benefit the American Legion Legacy Foundation and the Pat Tillman Foundation. 75% OF THE PROFITS FROM THIS PROGRAM WILL GO TO THE LEGACY FOUNDATION AND 25% WILL GO TO THE PAT TILLMAN FOUNDATION. Most Legion Family members already know about the Legacy Foundation, but here is some info on the Pat Tillman Foundation.

In the aftermath of the attacks on September 11, 2001, Pat proudly put his NFL career with the Arizona Cardinals on hold to serve his country. This decision was just one of many he made over the course of his lifetime to help others and serve a cause greater than self-interest. The Tillman family and friends created the Pat Tillman Foundation in 2004, following Pat's death while serving with the 75th Ranger Regiment in Afghanistan. The Pat Tillman Foundation was established to carry forward Pat's legacy of leadership and civic action by supporting future generations of leaders who embody the American tradition of citizen service, and is fast becoming a national leader in providing resources and educational support to veterans, active service members and their dependents. The Tillman Military Scholars program aids all veterans and specifically the ever-growing population of veterans and dependents of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

ALR Post 117 (Pat Tillman) in Phoenix is responsible for coordinating this event. The primary purpose is for Legion Family members to get to visit and know the various Posts throughout the State which has a Legion Riders program. For every

five Posts which you visit (and have your entry form stamped) you will get a raffle ticket to enter the drawing for cash prizes. The more Posts you visit, the more raffle tickets you get and better chance you have of winning cash prizes. Depending upon the participation, we are hoping for a grand prize of \$1,000, with several smaller cash prizes. The drawings will be held at the 2011 AZALR Annual meeting, which will be held during the Department Convention in June 2011.

In order to participate as a Post to which we will ride, the Post has to have an American Legion Rider Chapter and has to pay an \$80 buy-in fee. This gets that Post listed as a Post to visit, as well as two (2) rubber stamps which will be used for verification of when someone visits your Post. *Since we have over 2,100 riders alone in the State (not to mention the fact that participation by individuals is open to all Legion family members which number over 40,000 in Arizona), your Post should more than make up for this \$80 by the increased customers it will get and the money they will spend at the Post when they are there. So hopefully your Post is willing to spend the \$80 buy-in fee; if not, your ALR Chapter is free to pay the buy-in fee.* If your Post has an ALR Chapter and wants to participate, it must pay the buy-in fee and purchase a minimum of 10 run sheets no later than September 30, 2010. If your Post and ALR Chapter decide not to participate as a "stop", they can still help out this program by purchasing run sheets from ALR 117 and re-selling them to members of the Legion Family.

Although only Posts which have an active ALR Chapter can participate in the buy-in and be a stop on the run, any Legion family member from any Post can purchase the run-sheets and participate in the event. Run

sheets should be available at Posts which have Legion Rider Chapters beginning November 1, 2010, and the program will continue until May 31, 2011.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE GET TO KNOW YOUR POSTS PROGRAM

- The \$80 buy-in must be in to ALR 117 no later than September 30, 2010.
- Money for the initial 10 run sheets must be in to ALR 117 no later than September 30, 2010. Additional run sheets can be purchased by ALR Chapters from ALR 117 throughout the run period.
- Stamps and run sheets will be distributed by November 1, 2010. The actual run starts November 1, 2010.
- All stamped sheets must be returned to ALR 117 no later than May 31, 2011.
- The drawing for prizes will be held at the quarterly AZALR meeting at the June Legion Department Convention.

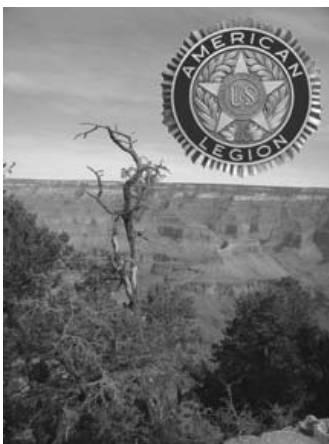
CONTACT INFO:

Monies and run sheets returned should be sent to Special Events ALR Post 117, PO Box 55717, Phoenix, AZ, 85078. Checks should be made payable to "SPECIAL EVENTS - ALR 117"

FMI contact W.L. Foster at egbdfib@gmail.com (602-684-4625) OR Henry Burks at hank.usmc@yahoo.com (480-296-3886)

Here is a great chance for not only the American Legion Riders, but for all Legion Family members in Arizona, to support the American Legion Legacy Foundation.

John Moffitt
Department Chairman, AZALR



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Legion Info
www.azlegion.org**

Time To Replenish The Ranks

As we enter into the 2010-2011 year, we face a major challenge before us. During last year we sadly lost an estimated 1,250 fellow Legionnaires to Post Everlasting. With those who did not renew and the new members who joined we declined by a couple of hundred members. Through the current difficult times we have remained confident in what our American Legion can accomplish and this year we need to put a concentrated effort into increasing our membership.

There are about 500,000 veterans in Arizona who are candidates for membership in the largest veterans' organization in the country. Let's give them some information to think about. Let them know that:

-In 1942 The American Legion wrote the original G.I. Bill of Rights.

-Last March when the delegation from Arizona went to the National Executive Conference in Washington D.C. (V.A. Affairs, National and Homeland Security), they met the Senators and Congressman of our state to present the Legion's key issues. One issue was to increase funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs to \$125 billion for the 2011 year.

-Another was to enhance the Post-911 G.I. Bill Educational Benefits which took effect in August 2009. The Legion is supporting Legislation to include Vocational Schools, on the job training and apprenticeships. Many veterans would rather learn job training rather than attending two years of public or private institutes of higher education. On May 27th, Senate Bill 3447 was introduced to achieve this goal.

Inform those veterans also of our Children and Youth Programs:

- Boys and Girls State (possible \$20,000 scholarship)
- Our Oratorical Competition (possible \$18,000 scholarship)
- Our Eagle Scout of the Year (possible \$10,000 scholarship)



- Our American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy for those interested in law enforcement.
- Our American Legion Baseball Program

How can any of these 500,000 veterans, when given this message, not agree that The American Legion is a fine and upstanding veteran's organization and join? These veterans have children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. What an opportunity for them.

Our Department Commander Dick Perry has put out a challenge for every member to recruit one new member. This is not an impossible request. Think of who you encounter during the year; friends, neighbors, associates. They are out there and you have the tools

to reach them.

When renewing your membership for the forthcoming year, you will receive with your 2011 card an application for a FREE \$1,000 Accidental Death Insurance or Dismemberment Policy. This is provided by your Department of Arizona. If you wish to purchase additional insurance, that is up to you but send in for the FREE insurance. If you did not receive the application with your 2011, card contact your Post.

POST COMMANDERS: Do not hold onto membership renewals. Submit them in a timely manner (weekly). Your members have renewed in good faith and their money is not yours until you process that renewal. Please note; if you hold renewals and unfortunately that member dies due to an accident and their renewal hasn't been sent in, your Post could be liable for the insurance payment.

I know the article is a little lengthy, but the information is worthwhile. I look forward to serving this year as your Membership Director. If you need any assistance, you may call Sheila at Department (602) 264-7706 or me, Home (520) 885-6994, Cell (520) 834-4043, or Email k.dowse@att.net. We will keep you posted on membership statistics during the year.

For God and Country,

Ken Dowse, Department Membership Director

Good Historians Don't Grow On Trees!

So, your Post Commander has asked you to serve as the Post Historian but frankly you can't imagine what's so important about taking the time to record the "stuff" that's going on at the Post.

As the Department Historian, I have to admit that most post members rarely understand what historians



do or why we are necessary. Frequently, while sitting around the post lounge or monthly meeting you'll hear the gibe, "you historians don't do anything important. You don't really produce anything or even contribute to the post economy."

A simple comeback to questions about alleged uselessness is this; "Is your memory unimportant?" Surely no one but a fool would say yes! Historians are the memory cells of the "brain" in an organization. To put it another way, historians are the workhorses of long-term memory; we help our current and future members to know what has transpired in our posts.

Let me say again...*good historians don't grow on*

trees! If your commander has the confidence in you to do the job, I hope that you will do your best. To the most novice historian, I recommend that you "study up" on histories *before* you put ink to paper - start with the Officer's Guide page 160. The American Legion has outlined specific requirements for histories with national competition potential. Additionally, the Department has established guidelines for local history competition which I can provide to you at your request. **I highly recommend you review the requirements now**, so that when it's time to enter the competition your histories are in proper format.

With Department Commander Perry's busy calendar, I too will be depending on you to aid me in recording the Department's history by acting as my ears and eyes at events that I am unable to attend. Unfortunately, I do not know all the Post Historians, so please take a moment to contact me either through my email address at sicily84@cablone.net or phone me at 928-649-3374, so that I can get to know you as well as get your contact information.

In closing, I send my congratulations to the Post Historian winners of the 2009 - 2010 Department Post History Book Contest: Small Category went to Cordes Lakes Memorial Post 122; Medium Category went to Ahwatukee Post 64 and Large Category to John P. Burns Post 36, Tucson.

For God and Country,

Jeri Strande, Department Historian

Congratulations To All Our Sweepstakes Winners

\$3,000

Joseph E. Bernauer, Tucson

\$2,000

Edward G. Loftus, Phoenix

\$1,000

Clayton Shankland, Sun City

The following were winners of \$500 each:

Ernest E. Padilla, Tucson

Gary D. Martinez, Phoenix

Charles A. Wright, Tucson

Edmund Archer, Sun City

Dave O. Kremer, Sierra Vista

Norman J. Hill, Pinetop

Melvin L. Caldwell, Sierra Vista

Wesley J. Meser, Sun City West

Thank you to each one of you who participated in the Sweepstakes!

A.L.L.E.C.A. Encampment In Prescott

ALLECA had another successful year which took place from June 26 to July 2, 2010. We had 55 applicants arrive at check-in and of those three returning cadets were selected to be Cadet Advisors. By the end of the week, 47 cadets graduated. Throughout the week, we teach the cadets that Integrity is a must and if you violate it, you are terminated from the program for that year. The ALLECA 2010 class was considered a success because of the following reasons:

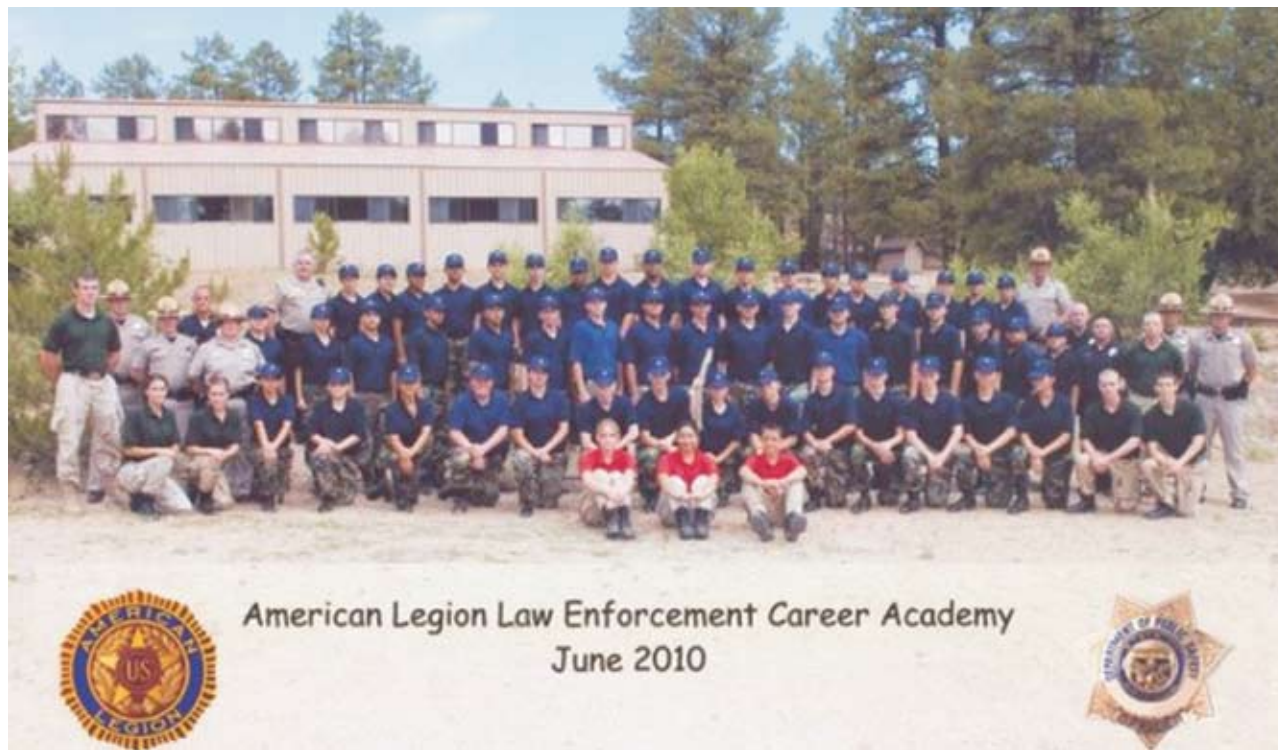
- (1) We had more cadets arrive for check-in compared to previous years
- (2) We tied last year's graduating numbers
- (3) We had six alumni return to help out the program and created a special team for the staff called "ALLECA Volunteers"
- (4) The graduating class ran nine miles for their graduation run, the most ever in the history of the program
- (5) We had the largest turn-out of representation of The American Legion at the graduation compared to previous years
- (6) We had more American Legion members visit throughout the week
- (7) All of the cadets received a DVD at the graduation
- (8) This was the first year that the graduates ran their graduation run outside the compound and actually ran to the Thumb Butte Mountain in Prescott
- (9) This was the first year that we sold ALLECA Proud Supporter T-Shirts and Pins at the graduation ceremony
- (10) We had six cadets return for second year.

During the graduation ceremony, we had a small change-of-command ceremony involving Frank Whitten and Sergeant Dan Palmer (both Post #61 Avondale members). Frank stepped down from the program as the Director and Sgt. Dan took over as the new Director. Frank was thanked for his years of service to the program (2004-2010) by being recognized by The American Legion Department of Arizona with a plaque and he also received one from the ALLECA staff. Commander Dick Perry, Past Commander Carol Hamburger and Area B Vice Commander Jim Burke completed the presentations to Frank and also filled in as guest speakers. Many kind words about Frank's history were shared, especially his total years of volunteering to the state of Arizona. Frank was also recognized for bringing attention to the program last year by his efforts in getting the ALLECA story out to everyone in the Legionnaire, The Dispatch, and The America Legion Magazine "I'm a New Person Now". Frank is not going too far though; he has taken on the position of ALLECA Assistant Director and Area "B" representative for the ALLECA program.

A special thank you and recognition went to Carol Stensby (Area "C" ALLECA representative) for her hard work this year in raising over \$7,000.00 for the program from the Ladies Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, American Legion Posts, Legion Riders, and businesses, and also for her hard work in recruiting cadets from the southern portion of the state. Carol's awesome work helped to sponsor numerous cadets who couldn't financially meet the cost to attend the academy.

During the graduation ceremony, Cadet William Tutty (nickname Matlock) was selected as the Most Improved Cadet for the week. Cadets Gavin Wisner and Jordyn Reyes were recognized as the Most Physically Fit Male and Female cadets.

So what is Sgt. Dan's commitment to The American Legion as the new ALLECA Director? First of all, his goal is and has been to graduate 60 cadets



during a graduation ceremony, so that means he and his staff will constantly recruit more cadets in order to achieve and surpass the goal. To do this, a special thank you goes out to Vice Commander Jim Burke who helped the program by creating nice dress shirts for the ALLECA Law Enforcement staff. The officers will wear these shirts when meeting the community, doing presentations, and while recruiting youth at schools, clubs, and other programs. We discovered that officers are more approachable by youth when not in uniform, so we are hoping this change will be successful.

In order to get the word out, we created two ALLECA websites to reach out and meet our youth with the use of the Internet. The ALLECA websites are: www.orgsites.com/az/legionalleca and www.webspawner.com/users/alleca and both sites have already had over 3,000 hits each since their creation. As Sgt. Dan said in the "I'm a New Person Now" article last year, "if we can save one youth, then we've been successful". Additionally, we created a "Facebook" ALLECA Graduates group page where alumni of the program can stay in touch and look at and download photographs and videos. The group page has already grown in numbers and it reaches out and touches alumni back to 2005; we are searching to find older alumni to join the group too. Within this group page, the alumni can tell us of their future plans and what exactly ALLECA did for them.

We created an ALLECA Proud Supporter T-Shirt to use as a tool in getting the word out to the community. We are hoping that the people that have bought a shirt or two will wear them and help bring more cadets to the program. We are selling the shirts for \$10.00 each along with an ALLECA hat pin for an additional \$3.00. On top of that, we are selling the older style ALLECA cadet T-Shirts for \$6.00. We are hoping that the sales will bring monies back into the program to purchase much needed equipment to keep the program running successfully and help to sponsor future cadets.

Sgt. Dan will continue to give everything he has towards the program, because making a positive influence in the lives of the youth is his passion in life. What does Sgt. Dan need from you as a member of The American Legion?

- (1) your continued support of the program by telling others about it
- (2) members that will volunteer their time to help improve the program with recruitment of cadets and obtaining logistical equipment, such as; a dedicated computer, a box trailer

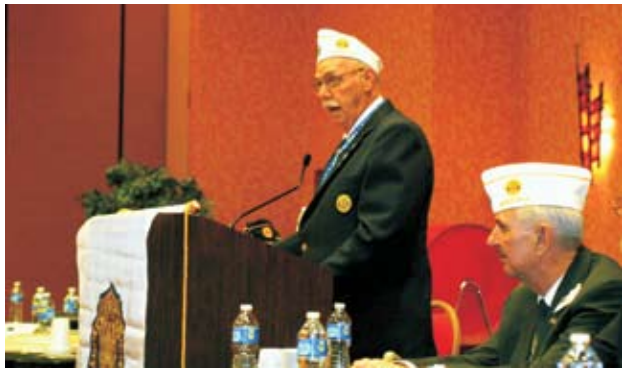
- to transport and store ALLECA equipment & uniforms
- (3) continued monetary donations to the ALLECA program to help continue sponsoring financially hindered cadets so they can attend the program
- (4) two washers and dryers donated to the Emmanuel Pines Camp where the ALLECA program is held.

We like the location and it's affordable, unfortunately, Emmanuel Pines Camp does not have washers or dryers for the cadets to use throughout the week, so the cadets are having to hand-wash their uniforms and PT clothing during the week which hinders scheduling of events and classes. A donation of washers and dryers is greatly appreciated; otherwise, we will need to find another location for the program. Sgt. Dan will also do everything within his power to make each ALLECA year better than the previous one.

Thank you to all The American Legion members that have and continue to support the ALLECA program. Without your support, the program would not have achieved its 29th Anniversary. Being that 2011 is the 30th Anniversary of the ALLECA program, we are looking at having a huge celebration after the ALLECA 2011 graduation ceremony. Times, dates, and location will be provided at a later date and everyone within The American Legion Family will be invited to attend.

A special thank you goes out to all of the law enforcement officers that continue to volunteer their time each year. Without them, the program would not be as successful. Here are their names: Officers Dan Kuch & Ken Mitchell (Lake Havasu City PD), Officers Andy McIlveen and Chris Farrar (Chandler PD), Sgt. Dave Hornung (Gila County Sheriffs), and DPS Officers Jason Warren, Brady Little, Corey Hanson, Mike Dickinson, Diana Mondragon, and Dave Irvine (Ret.). A special thank you to our ALLECA volunteers Ryan Koch, Kala French, Destiny Hardin, Ryan Howald, Daniel Calhoun, and William Wallace. Thank you to our Cadet Advisors Joshua French, Taeler Harmon, and Vanessa Valencia.

If you have questions about the program or would like to be a representative of the program, please contact Sgt. Dan at 602-377-4405 or allecadirector@hotmail.com or Frank at 623-872-0886 or f.whitten@cox.net.



Top: Newly elected Department, District and S.A.L. Detachment Officers being installed Clockwise from Left to Right: Newly elected Department Commander Richard Perry addressing the delegation; Newly elected Department Auxiliary President, Doris Theiss being introduced by newly elected Area A Vice Commander, Al Miller; Commander Carol receiving her Past Department Commander Cap from her husband, Bob; Adjutant John and PDC Louis Pellon presenting Commander Carol with her Past Commander Pin Bottom: "Three Stooges"...that's a wrap! (Ken Dowse, George Cushing and Joe Duggan)



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Ned O Krill
David J Rush
Robert C Shaffer
Glen J Whetten
Post 27
Donald F Bryson
George R Faust
George W Marden
Robert A Miller
Wilford H Sanborn
Arthur E Sargent
Joe Segura
William J Webb
James A Whalen
Morrison C Young
Post 29
Richard P Burrus
Robert L Goforth
Phillip R Harmon
Harry V Hosso
Nathan J LaScala
Victor E Lowman
Earl M Moser
Bob Ratter
Bruce T Story
Gerald Vanlandingham
Post 32
Scott J Busby
Hurley P Carpenter
Edgar O East

James M Fuller
Donald W Herrington
Keith E Lemon
Charles A Owens
Rex W Owens
Post 35
James A Gallagher
Post 36
Thaddeus A Bentkowski
James C Burt
James W Carroll
Nicholas Casciotta
Brian M Chesire
Robert E Cooper
Homer J De Chaine
Keith V Fike
Carl H Fuller
Maynard Hall
James Houghton
Francis J Kopriva
Larry J Post
Hugh J Rodgers
Warren W Sieger
Hoyt H Spiker
Lawrence G Sunich
Wilburn F Tiner
Richard Tuck
Manuel Velazquez
Post 37
Vance Miller
Post 40
Ralph J Gardner
E L Turnbow
Post 41
Albert T Martinez
Lito C Peru
Post 43
Mary E Aniak
Post 44
Kenneth R Beck
Allyn R Colen
Philip M Hotchkiss
Donald C Mitchell
Dennis R Ryan
Post 48
Morris Courtright
Post 52
Larry C Frye
Post 54
Joe O Ellett

Post 55
Dale V Lee
Post 59
Henry M Figueroa
Post 62
Darrell L Fosburg
C A Freeman
Terence O Kavanaugh
Gene R Larson
Phyllis E Schoby
Lorenzo Snell
Walter I Stasiewicz
Post 64
James Gaertner
Post 66
Pete E Guedel
David P Humbarger
Robert N Johnson
William S Jolitz
Harry S Meyer
Charles W Shultz
Carl E Svanberg
Roy W Tronrud
Roberto A Vasquez
Walter W Voland
Thomas C West
Post 78
John G Pearson
Post 79
Walter E Jennings
Post 81
Troy O Bryant
James G Trubia
Post 86
Joseph M Dever
Jerry P Wills
Post 88
Jeffrey F Cullen
Maurice Lacoursiere
Rex Riley
Post 93
Charlie F Cantrell
Post 94
Michael A Altobello
Donald L Cox
Northern I Flegel
Harold V Murdock
V L Terwilliger
Post 100
Albert A Alborano

Alvin L Crawford
Jerrold A Gibbs
Ralph F Moss
Robert L Moulson
James R Smith
Robert W Ulinski
Jack Winston
Post 101
Ernest Ornelis
Post 105
Peter J Canton
John C Dumais
James A Hargrave
Charles S Leech

Post 109
William J Amico
Grant C Davis
Post 117
William H Stynen
Post 127
Harold M Bush
Vallee R Michhimer
Post 128
Charles F Hammerslag
Post 131
Howard Grondahl
Neil E Stremming
Post 132
Gilbert R Bambauer

Citizen's Flag Alliance

New Allies - Eagle Scouts

This year it was heartwarming to see both Arizona's and National's Eagle Scout of the Year choosing the American Flag as a project. In Yuma, the Eagle Scout led his troop in placing flags and newly donated white wooden crosses on the graves of veterans for Memorial Day.

It seems our young people are learning basic values from parents, churches and/or civic organizations. These have taken over where schools now fail.

It is more important than ever to pass a flag protection amendment. As we start a new Legion year under a new National Commander, we must renew efforts to protect our most valuable symbol.

Fly your Flag,
Maria F. Currie, C.F.A. Chairman

New Press Association Chairman

My name is Ron Murphy and I am your new Arizona Press Association Chairman. I am so pleased to have the opportunity to serve as chairman and am looking forward to a new and exciting year. Allow me to introduce myself a little. I have been a member of The American Legion for 32 years. My membership is with John Ivens Post 42 in Grand Canyon, Arizona. I have served in many positions over the years and have enjoyed every moment helping to give back. A few of the offices I have held have been Area C Vice Commander, District 7 Commander, Post 42 Commander and the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 42 Adjutant. I have been married for 30 years and have one daughter, both of whom belong to The American Legion Auxiliary.

I am looking forward to gaining more membership in the association as well as getting members to be more active with the association as well as public relations for Arizona. I welcome all new members who wish to join and remind all that membership is open to the entire Legion family. Please note that membership will only be given to an individual and not an entire post. I know that this has been allowed in the past, however we really need a single person for contact and award purposes.

In closing, I again look forward to working with all of you to serve the Legion family in public relations. It promises to be an eventful and amazing year full of new ideas and training. I welcome all new ideas and suggestions from new and old members alike. My information will be in the Department directory and feel free to contact me with any and all questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Ron Murphy, Arizona Press Association Chairman

Chaplain's Corner

"Loose Lips Sink Ships"!!

We've all heard this phrase and think we get the message; but do we?? Once words pass your lips they can never be retrieved. If that's not bad enough, they're going to be interpreted and re-interpreted by others many times over, literally guaranteeing that the end result will resemble very little of what was originally spoken.

It's a sad fact that harshly spoken words not only sink ships but marriages, friendships and AMERICAN LEGIONS! If they don't sink these institutions, they can badly damage them to the point where they become scrap.



The good Lord taught us to be gentle of heart and kind in spirit. Please keep that in mind before you speak. Try to remember that each day when you awake and your name is not in the obituaries that God has granted you one more opportunity to right your wrongs. Put that time to good use.

Remember, only when our lips are silent can our prayers truly be heard. Be Kind!

Please pray for the repose of the soul of PDC Nils Nilsen who was called to Post Everlasting on July 9, 2010.

For God and Country
Carol Stensby
Chaplain

BIERI TROPHY WINNER

John J. Morris Legion Post #62 Family

Our Legion Family adopted the National President's theme "Reconnect & Energize". This theme inspired our Legion Family to be involved with all programs to support our community veterans, their families and children. It is with great pleasure that we write this 2009-2010 activity report.

Post 62 Family's year started with the joint installation of officers. Department Commander, Carol Hamburger, installed the Legion Officers and Doris Theiss and Jane Shoemaker installed the Auxiliary Officers.

Christmas in July was a Children & Youth fundraiser with two 7' angel trees decorated in a patriotic theme. This event raised over \$1,000.00 for Children & Youth and VA&R. Shoes, socks and underwear were bought for children in the Peoria School District.

The Auxiliary Unit donated \$2,000.00 to buy pillows and towels and delivered them to the Wounded Warrior Foundation at Balboa Hospital in San Diego for the wounded troops (amputees) that were involved in IED bombings in Iraq and Afghanistan. A pillow and towel were tied together with a red ribbon and a pocket flag and card were also enclosed. In February, four members went to Balboa Hospital and toured the facilities where the troops go for rehabilitation from their injuries. It is amazing how our donations help.

A luncheon was held for the Happy Heart Knitters; these ladies knit lap blankets and other helpful items for the Veterans at the VA Hospital in Phoenix, the Veterans Home and the Bob Stump VA in Prescott.

The "Four Chaplains" Ceremony was presented at our February 16th general meeting.

We adopted our dual member, Jessica Pas, USMC, and donated \$500.00 in calling cards to her when she deployed to Afghanistan.

Our Legion Family became the #1 U.S. Veteran suppliers of donated goods such as pillows, sheets, water, socks, toiletries and other useful supplies. Many trips were made to deliver the items to Bob Stump VA in Prescott.

We were involved in "Operation Kids" for the children of deployed parents. The purpose of this project was to put the children through the process their parents go through from recruitment, deployment and to the homecoming. We got involved in the homecoming and gave out goodie bags.

Our Girls/Boys State Dinner was held. The Unit sponsored 23 girls and the Legion sponsored 19 boys for the 2009 session. This year, 2010, the Unit is sponsoring 21 girls and the Legion is sponsoring 19 boys.

During "Legion National Family Week" we held a Golf Cart Poker Run which raised money "To Educate Children of Warriors".

Our Christmas party for children of deployed parents from Luke AFB was a smashing success. The committee and elves did a spectacular job. Santa arrived; there was a petting zoo, hayrides, arts and crafts, face painters, balloon master, a magician, lunch and a make your own ice cream sundae bar. There were approximately 40 families-88 children. Donations were made by all entities which made this party grand.

We also took 100 children of deployed parents from Luke AFB to Castle & Coasters for a day of fun.

Letters were written for the Flag Amendment and other issues in support of democracy. Our Legion Family members worked the polls encouraging members to vote.

A "Make a Difference Day" Champagne Brunch was held. An ice cream social was given for 48 veterans at the Fountains Retirement Home and each veteran received a "snuggle".

We had a Unit 62 "President's Project" this year which was to help St. Mary's Food Bank sort items. To this date, we sorted 23, 016 pounds and donated 74 hours.

We had a "Baby Shower" for the Phoenix Pregnancy Crisis Center and our Legion Family participated in the City of Peoria Cake Walk.

Our Legion Family had a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon awarding a Legion Volunteer of the Year and a Unit Volunteer of the Year.

Our Junior Auxiliary member, Savannah Wray (Marine JROTC, National Honor Society and our Senior Poppy Princess), attended Valley Forge, PA Spirit of Youth Americanism & Youth Conference.

We were honored this year with two of our Auxiliary members becoming U.S. Citizens.

Labor Day weekend was filled with music, picnic potluck and a lot of fun. We also celebrated the U.S. Marine Corps 234th Birthday with a ceremony and cake. Veterans Day was celebrated with a flag raising and potluck, followed that week by our "Early Bird" Dinner. On Pearl Harbor Day, we celebrated with a flag ceremony.

Our big project for Americanism Month was having the Boy Scouts 100th Birthday and the Legion's 90th Birthday Dinner. During the Boy Scouts' Blue & Gold Ceremony, young men were promoted to their next endeavor by crossing over the bridge. The young Cub Scouts experienced the "Rite of Passage" to scouthood.

The Legion presented two Americanism Awards and the Unit presented three Americanism Awards to the Air Force JROTC from Peoria High School.

Our Color Guard has been active all year with a tremendous number of funerals, memorials, graveside burials, flag raisings, meetings, functions and many fundraisers presenting the colors. They consist of 14 Legion Family members. The POW/MIA Flag is presented at every meeting with Resolution 288 read.

All of our entities have attended District meetings and Unit members went to the Workshop Training.

Our Past Presidents Parley Dinner was a big success with the money being donated to the Nurses' Scholarship Fund. The Unit's Education Scholarship went to Aaron Deleonguerrero, a veteran's son, who is studying to become a doctor.

Several press releases were sent to the local media; our newsletter goes out six times a year and our website was revised. Flyers have gone to Luke AFB Social Services and their base publications about our events.

People wonder how we make our money to be so generous with all these outstanding programs. We all work very hard at our fundraisers. Every Monday is Spaghetti Dinner, each Wednesday one of the entities has a dinner, Friday is Fish Fry, Bingo every Thursday and Saturday, four Sunday brunches a year, Golf Cart Poker Run, Jimmy Buffet Party, "No-Bake" bake sale, St. Patty's Day in July, Christmas in July, Auxiliary Craft and Bake Sale, National Security Blood Drive and Bake Sale, Auxiliary Senior Prom and Stash for Cash (you bring in your gold and silver and the company gives you cash for what it's worth and in turn the company donates 25% cash for the total).

Other donations that were made through the year: \$1,000 to Creative Arts, \$500 to Fisher House, \$500 to the Military Lounge at Sky Harbor Airport, \$130 to buy DVDs for Bob Stump VA, \$200 Tolleson Union JROTC, \$150 Trevor Brown JROTC, \$150 to Peoria JROTC, \$200 to Boy Scouts for their Blue & Gold Banquet and 100th Birthday, \$50 WWII Memorial Fund, \$1,000 to "Children of Warriors", \$500 to "Children of Warriors" from the S.A.L., \$500 to Military Support Group for sending packages to the troops, \$500 each month from the AL Riders to the Military Support Group for sending packages to the troops (packages consist of candy, books, CDs, toilet articles, lip balm, instant beverages, socks, q-tips and much more. About 3,250 boxes a year get sent/20 more were just sent out with "female needs"), we provided five families in the Peoria School District with full Thanksgiving dinners, \$200 to Community View Food Bank, \$500 to a member from AEF, \$1,500 Children of Deployed Parents Christmas Party from AL Riders, \$500 to Like Kids Christmas Party from the S.A.L., \$500 to VA&R for pillows, socks and shorts going to the Veterans Home in Phoenix, \$100 to Phoenix Rescue Mission, \$1,300 for Snuggies and Ice Cream Social at the Fountain's Home, \$3,350 for Operation Kids at Luke AFB and \$500 from the AL Riders, \$100 emergency donation for a member, \$500 for Habitat for Humanity, \$200 to Ronald McDonald House, \$200 to St. Mary's Food Bank, \$500 to Boy Scouts to replace stolen gear, \$300 to Spirit of Youth, \$1,000 Child Welfare, \$500 Children's Miracle Network and \$100 to Torch Run/Special Olympics of Arizona.

The Legion Post Consolidated Report has been done and the Auxiliary supplemental reports have been written and submitted. This report was read at our joint meeting and approved by the membership. In closing, we have had a spectacular year and we are thankful for the opportunity to provide care and strive to improve conditions for all Americans. We know our joint programs have helped the integrity of the family in support of our local children and military families. We believe in helping physically, spiritually and patriotically for our community, state and nation, as well as providing emotional support in all our facets of our programs.

For God & Country,
 Unit 62 President, Mary Ann San Souci
 Post 62 Adjutant, Gayle Reed
 Post 62 Commander, Jim McCrady

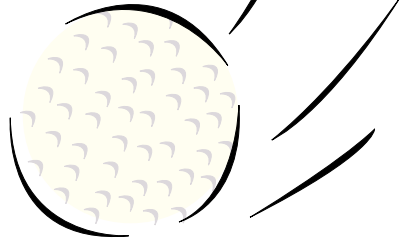
CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK AD RATES

Outside Back Cover.....	\$300
Inside Inside Back Cover.....	\$250
Full Page.....	\$200
Half Page.....	\$120
Quarter Page.....	\$80
Business Card Size.....	\$40
Boosters—Per Name.....	\$2

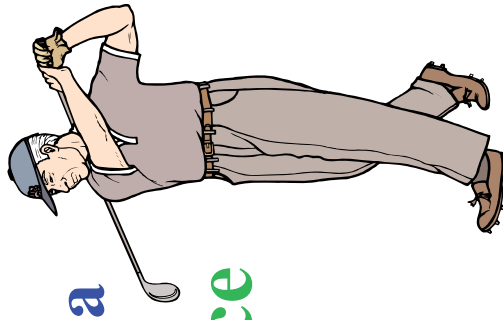
Mail your Ad and/Or Booster along with payment made out to:

PAT TILLMAN POST 117,
 Attention Steve Allen, 16428 N. 32nd St, #101,
 Phoenix, Az 85032

ALL ADS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN OCT 1, 2010



American Legion Department of Arizona 2010 Fall Conference Golf Tournament

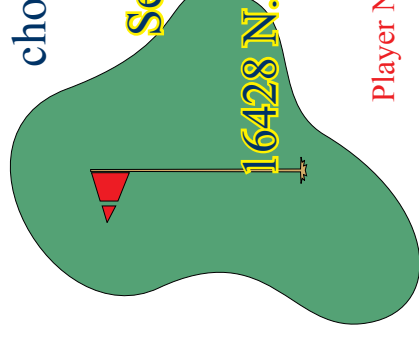


Friday October 29, 2010
AUGUSTA RANCH

2401 S. Lansing, Mesa, AZ. 85209

CHECK IN AT 6:15am, SHOTGUN START 7:30am
4 PLAYER SCRAMBLE \$60 PER PLAYER

ENTRY FEE INCLUDES: Green Fees, Cart Fees, Range Balls, Scoring, Tournament Services, Pavilion Use, Lunch, Cash Bar
Lunch Will Be Grill Buffet (Burgers, Brats, Hotdogs with 3 Chef choice sides and Iced tea or lemonade



Send Registration and Payment to:
Post 117 (Attn: Steve Allen)
16428 N. 32nd St, Suite 101, Phoenix, Az, 85032

Player Name

Phone Number

Hdcp/Avg Score

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCT 15, 2010

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA



FALL CONFERENCE • October 29-31, 2010

CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS
PHOENIX MARRIOTT MESA

200 N. CENTENNIAL WAY
MESA, AZ. 85201

ROOM RATE: \$99 per room per night single/double occupancy
For reservations call: 480-898-8300 or go to <http://www.marriott.com/phxmm>. Be sure to mention The

American Legion to receive special rates

Golf Tournament will be held. More information forthcoming.

For Hospitality Rooms contact:
Steve Allen 602-908-4311

Please make reservation by OCT 1, 2010 to receive discounted rates



American Legion Department of Arizona FALL CONFERENCE • OCT 29-31, 2010 BOOSTER SIGN UP

NAME

NAME

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

\$2.00 per name/\$2.00 Mr. & Mrs.

Please return check made out to:

Pat Tillman Post 117, 16428 N 32nd St, #101, Phoenix, Az. 85032

MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCT 1, 2010