Support Is The Key To Success

First of all in my closing message to you, I would like to thank my family, especially my Husband Bob, for all the sacrifices they have made. Their support has been beyond expectations. I couldn’t have done this job without them.

I have always been the symbolic leader of any position or office I have held. I could not have completed my job or assignment without the support and hard work of our “American Legion Family”.

What we have done in the last year:
• I’ve watched every Post, District and Area work as a team to do everything they could to make our goal. Even though we didn’t make the goal that National set for us; I care more for what we have done as a team.
• We asked you to make 100% in turning in your votes and the troops won. PepsiCo has officially announced that The American Legion’s Operation Comfort Warriors will be awarded a $250,000 grant from the soft drink giant after finishing first in voting during February’s Refresh Everything Project.

Internet voters were able to choose which of 729 competing charities would receive grants of $5,000, $25,000, $50,000 or $250,000. The top three finishers in the $250,000 category are receiving the grants.

“There are so many people to thank, I don’t know where to begin,” said American Legion National Commander Clarence E. Hill. “First, I want to thank Pepsi and its charitable Global Giving Foundation. Then I want to thank The American Legion members, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion members and Legion Riders who supported us by spreading the word and voting. In fact, I want to thank everybody who voted for Operation Comfort Warriors. This was truly a national grassroots effort. Most of all, I want to thank our troops, who go into harm’s way for us every day. It is their sacrifice that makes it possible for us to enjoy the freedoms we all share.”

Since December 2008, the American Legion family has raised funds for Operation Comfort Warriors, a program dedicated to meeting the needs of wounded military personnel, providing them with comfort items not usually supplied to Veteran hospitals.

• The whole Legion Family has joined together to have welcome home/send off gatherings for the Guard and Reserve groups coming home or being deployed.
• Assisting with the needs of Veterans and active duty members and their families whenever it is needed.
• Seeking out the returning veterans and asking them to become part of our team.
• We are working our Legion programs. We now have more posts supporting teams in Legion Baseball. You are reaching out to the schools to bring a needed message to American children on what our flag and constitution means to us and them.

Consolidated Post Reports (CPR). As of this writing, we have 91 reports turned in. Way to go!
• We asked you to reach out and support our active duty soldiers and their families. I see it and more at my visits all over the state.
• I see and hear about the fund raising and donations to Veteran hospitals.

Operation Comfort Warriors wins $250K From Pepsi Cola

WASHINGTON (March 22, 2010) – The people voted and the troops won. PepsiCo has officially announced that The American Legion’s Operation Comfort Warriors will be awarded a $250,000 grant from the soft drink giant after finishing first in voting during February’s Refresh Everything Project.

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by the government. OCW ensures that patients at U.S. military hospitals and warrior transition units are given items like sweat suits, DVDs, puzzles, electronic devices, books, calling cards and more. The American Legion pays all administrative costs for the program, meaning 100 percent of the donations, including the grant money, will go directly to purchasing items for the troops.

The American Legion, a wartime veterans organization, was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, Americanism, and youth programs. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through more than 14,000 posts across the nation. For more on Operation Comfort Warriors, visit www.legion.org/owc.

Commander’s Article continued from page 1

• You are working to change your goals at the Post level to make it friendlier to our younger Veterans and their families. This is what the American Legion is all about.

• At the Awards Dinners that I attended, it was wonderful to see how excited and proud the members were to be recognized for their volunteer work. Every Post should be doing this. If you recognize them with a Thank You whether it is a document, plaque, or a pat on the back, they will continue volunteering.

My theme of “BACK TO BASICS” is what you did. Thank you for everything you’ve accomplished this year.

Our future as an American Legion Family is in safe hands. Thanks for caring.

For God and Country,
Carol Hamburger
Department Commander

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander
Carol Hamburger
(602) 418-0605

Vice Commanders
(A) Kenneth Dowse (520) 834-4043
(B) George Cushing (928) 544-4797
(C) Joseph Duggan, III (928) 567-5540

Leg/Aux/SAL

Dist 1 Commander
Dale Hiller (928) 210-7786

Dist 2 Commander
Gary Nelson (520) 591-5764

Dist 3 Commander
Norma DeGonzague (520) 567-5540

Dist 4 Commander
Charles Robbins (520) 723-7807

Dist 5 Commander
George Sticklin (928) 428-7431

Dist 6 Commander
Thomas Altstatt (928) 535-3218

Dist 7 Commander
S. Ann Seney (928) 753-3555

Dist 8 Commander
Jerilyn Strande (928) 649-3374

Dist 9 Commander
Robert Gilmore (623) 202-6256

Dist 10 Commander
Judith Baischel (480) 229-1581

2010 National Convention

Milwaukee, Wisconsin August 27 – September 2, 2010

The Arizona Delegation has been assigned to the Clarion Hotel, 5311 South Howell Avenue, 53204, (414) 481-2400

Rooms are limited and reservations will be on a first come, first served basis. Please indicate arrival & departure dates

NATIONAL CONVENTION RESERVATION FORM

RESERVATIONS TO BE LISTED IN THE NAME OF:______________________________

ADDRESS:___________________________________________________________TELEPHONE:___________________

Additional occupants shall include Leg/Aux/SAL

Arrive/Depart

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

__________________________

Check appropriate boxes:

King or Queen, 1 or 2 persons $ 122.63 * $ ______

Double, 2 beds, 1 or 2 persons $ 122.63 * $ ______

Roll Away rate $ 10.00 per day $ ______

Arizona Party – Dinner and entertainment at hotel $ 35.00 per person $ ______

Registration (mandatory for Legion, Auxiliary and guests) $ 15.00 per person $ ______

Past President’s Luncheon (payable to Auxiliary) Call Auxiliary $ ______

States Dinner (payable to Auxiliary) $ 45.00 per person $ ______

National Commander’s Banquet (limited to first 20) $ 45.00 per person $ ______

TOTAL DEPOSIT $ ______

*The registration fee and 1 night's lodging deposit, plus any other fees must be submitted with this reservation form.

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY JULY 16, 2010

• Occupancy Tax in the amount 14.6% per room/night is already included in the room rate.

• $2.00 per room night is returned to the National Convention Corporation by the hotel.

CANCELLATION MUST BE RECEIVED AT DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS BY JULY 23, 2010
**General Information:**

*****NOTICE*****

All Attendees must be REGISTERED to attend EVENTS

All meetings are held at the Renaissance Glendale Hotel, 9475 W. Coyote Blvd.

Hospitality Suites (check at registration desk)

Registration hours: Registration Desk

Thursday, June 17th Noon until 5:30 PM

Friday, June 18th 7AM until 5:30 PM

Saturday, June 19th 7AM until 5:00 PM

Sunday, June 20th 7AM until 9:00 AM

**Special Events:**

- Golf Tournament, Thursday, Registration 7:00AM, Falcon Dunes Golf Course, Luke AFB
- Membership Breakfast, 100% Post, District & Area Vice Commanders, Friday, 7:00AM, Post 29
- PALS Dinner, Friday, 5:30PM, Post 29
- GNUTS Luncheon, Saturday, 11:30AM, Post 29
- PDC Luncheon, Sunday, 1:00PM, Post 29

**Sons of The American Legion**

- Xavier Rodriguez, Detachment Commander
- Luke AFB Commander, BG Kurt Neubover
- Chief of Police, Glendale, Steven Conrad
- Mayor, City of Glendale, Elaine Scruggs
- Welcome, Host Post 29, Ruben Gonzalez, Commander
- Invocation, Carol Stensby, Chaplain
- Advancement of Colors, Carl Armbruster, Sgt-At-Arms
- Post 29: Installation of Officers, John Aldecoa, Grand Chef de Gare
- Legionnaires Insurance Trust, John Aldecoa
- American Legionnaire Insurance Trust, Joe Aguilar, NEC
- National Security Commission, Shaun Shields
- Children & Youth Commission, Roland Matteson
- Legion Riders, John Moffit
- Legislation Commission, John Aldecoa
- PO&W/IA Committee, Paul Griffin
- Bingo Committee, Scott Miller
- Trophies & Awards, Shaun Shields
- Public Relations Commission, John Aldecoa

**Friday, June 18, 2010**

**TIME** | **EVENT** | **SPEAKER CHAIRMAN** | **LOCATION**
--- | --- | --- | ---
10:00am | Convention & Conference Committee | Louis Pellow | Solana C

**Saturday, June 19, 2010**

**TIME** | **EVENT** | **SPEAKER CHAIRMAN** | **LOCATION**
--- | --- | --- | ---
8:00am | Convention Reconvenes | Xavier Rodriguez, Commander | Solana A

Sunday, June 20, 2010

**TIME** | **EVENT** | **SPEAKER CHAIRMAN** | **LOCATION**
--- | --- | --- | ---
8:30am | Joint Memorial Service | Carol Stensby, Chaplain | Media Center

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**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TO FOLLOW**

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**Friday, June 18, 2010**

**TIME** | **EVENT** | **SPEAKER CHAIRMAN** | **LOCATION**
--- | --- | --- | ---
7:00am | Membership Breakfast | 100% Post, District, Area Vice Cmdrs | Post 29

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***Have a SAFE Trip Home!***
A.L.L.E.C.A. Encampment In Prescott

The ALLECA encampment this year will be back at Emmanuel Pines outside of Prescott. Opening day for the cadets is Saturday, June 26th with graduation at Noon on July 2nd. As of the writing of this article, we have gotten over 40 applications in. Last year, we had a record number of graduates for the 28 years of the program; we are hoping to increase the number this year.

A few months back, I found material pertaining to ALLECA at Department that I didn’t know was still around. It dealt with the founding of the program in 1981. Apparently that year, a resolution was passed at the Department Convention calling for the developing of some type of Law Enforcement program for teens in conjunction with the Arizona Department of Public Safety. Very early on, the program was recognized by such noted individuals as Senator Barry Goldwater, Senator Dennis Deconcini, Bob Stump and Eldon Rudd. Over the years, the program has evolved into one that has gained recognition by our National headquarters as evidenced by the articles in the “Dispatch” and the Legion magazine. This is truly a Children and Youth program as well as one that can easily fit into National Security. All Legionnaires are welcome to drop in during the week of the camp and observe the training these cadets go through. It is a pleasure to see how they progress.

As its Director for the last few years, I have been proud of what the program has accomplished in bringing to the youth the knowledge of what it means to be a law enforcement officer and what the field of law enforcement actually encompasses. I am now turning my position as Director over to a younger Legionnaire who I am sure will remain with the program for many years to come. I have recommended to the upcoming Department Commander, DPS Sgt. Dan Palmer, Post 61 as my replacement. Dan has been with the ALLECA program since its days at the DPS training facility in Tucson. He has been Academy Commandant for some years and during that time has made ALLECA a program to be proud of.

Finally, I want to thank all the Department Officers, the Districts, the Posts and the Legionnaires who have supported the ALLECA program over the years. I am sure all will provide the same support to Dan.

Frank Whitten, Director , ALLECA

Arizona Veterans Foundation
Saluting Those Who Serve
1104 S. Ash Ave. • Tempe, AZ 85281 • 480.703.4008

Coming to a Bashas’ Store Near You!
From June 1 to June 30th
Bashas’ • Food City • Bashas’ Dine
Support the Arizona Store that Supports Arizona Veterans, Military Personnel and their Families

Operation Boots

Accept Only the Genuine Article
www.arizonaveteransfoundation.org

Heber-Overgaard Post Builds Memorial
This Veterans Memorial was “unveiled” by Department Commander Carol Hamburger May 15th at John D Wilby American Legion Post #86 in Heber-Overgaard honoring all Veterans. Many volunteer hours and hard work went into this. Stop by & visit when you are in the area.

Heber-Overgaard Post Builds Memorial

Gray Dog Roofing
602.620.8352
Remodeling • Roofing • Windows
ROC#249890

Roofing

Show Your Membership Card - Receive A 10% Discount!
30 Years Experience
Quality Service
Competitive Pricing
Ron Applebee: 602-620-8352
Chance Applebee: 602-616-1933
Flint Applebee: 928-308-9597
Congratulations to Posts Reaching 100% Mark

Hello Legionnaires! I recently sent out letters to all of the Posts that reached the 100% goal and above. What an excellent job! We all know how hard it is to achieve that goal each year and we at Department appreciate your determination.

For those that have not reached their 100% goal, I say keep trying. Post #44 in Scottsdale (my Post) hosted an Open House on May 22nd for eligible veterans and their families. Tours of our Posts were given, free hot dogs, sodas and fliers explaining some of our programs. All we asked of the veterans was to bring their proof of service and we signed them up that day. We will not give up trying.

I wish all of you success in your continued efforts to reach your goals. If I can help, please call me on my cell at (602) 570-9481. It is always on. Thank you all for your hospitality on my visits and I still have a few more District meetings to attend. Hope to see you all at Department Convention!

Still serving for God & Country

Andres “Andy” Jaime, Jr.  
Membership Chairman

Carol’s “Welcome Home” Party

Nathan, a terrific alto saxophonist from Raymond Kellis H.S., serenading Commander Carol with “Harlem Nocturne” which is Carol and Bob’s favorite song. (This was a special gift from her office staff)

Post 29 Commander Ruben, Commander Carol & Adjutant, Rollin Kohrs with a gift from Post 29

Our Area Vice Commanders, Larry, Curly and Moe (he’s looking rough) presenting a gift to Commander Carol

We had a terrific crowd to “Welcome Home” Department Commander Carol
Remember when you were a youngster and were told to wash up for dinner? Like the obedient child you were, you dashed right off to wash your hands. When those palms over and announced which time she promptly turned palms to Mom for inspection at backs of your hands and made a comment on those filthy nails.

It takes work on our part. We need to be aware of what we’re thinking and why. Unkind thoughts and phrases seem to come so easily while the opposite is often hard to conjure up. Let’s all concentrate on being a little kinder each day, one day at a time and before we know it, God’s light will shine brighter around us all and His all-encompassing love will warm our hearts.

To quote George Burns from his movie “OH GOD” – “THINK ABOUT IT!”

Carol Stensby, Department Chaplain

Chaplain’s Corner

Cleanliness Is Next To Godliness!?
American Legion - Department of Arizona Membership Report

May 22, 2010

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**New Arizona Bills Affecting Veterans**

Signed bills take effect on 29 July 2010

**ARIZONA SENATE**

**SCR 1056- Vietnam Veterans’ Day**

A concurrent resolution proclaiming each March 29th as Arizona Vietnam Veteran’s Day. final read in Senate 28-0 and transmitted to the Secretary of State and Director of Arizona of Veterans’ Services.

**HB 219 veterans services; military installation fund (NOW: charitable organizations; pull tab games)**

Creates a special “pull tab” type of game under the Arizona Lottery for charitable veterans’ service organizations and fraternal organizations. The Lottery Director estimates it will bring in $12 million a year to such organizations.23

**ARIZONA HOUSE**

**HB 2198 military family relief fund**

Expands assistance from the Military Family Relief Fund to the families of Arizona military members deployed since 11 September 2001 who face economic hardship. Currently, the law limits financial assistance to the families of deployed Arizona military members killed, wounded, injured or who suffer serious injury or illness while deployed. Would also allow the Department of Veterans’ Services to hire an administrative person for the fund and the committee that oversees the fund. 7 May 2010; Signed by Governor.

**HB 2350 Purple Heart recipients; tuition waiver**

Will waive Arizona university and Community College tuition for recipients of the Purple Heart Medal whose disable from those wounds for which the medal was received is fifty percent or higher.23

**HB 2684 POW/MIA flag; display**

Will require the POW/MIA flag to be displayed with the National flag at the state capitol, superior court buildings, city or town halls, and buildings serving as a county’s main administrative buildings. 3 May 2010; Signed by Governor.

The above information is to let you know about some of the Arizona Senate and House Bills that pertain to all of our veterans.

**Neal Sundeen, Legislative Committee**
CALL TO CONVENTION

Call to the 92nd Annual Convention of The American Legion Department of Arizona

By authority of the Department Executive Committee, the 92nd Annual Convention of the American Legion Department of Arizona is hereby called to meet in Glendale, Arizona, June 17 - 20, 2010.

The Convention business sessions will be held in the Solana Ballroom of the Renaissance Glendale Hotel.

The Annual Department Convention is the legislative body of The American Legion, Department of Arizona.

The convention is called for the purpose of setting the programs of The American Legion for the ensuing year, amending the Department Constitution and Bylaws and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before it.

At twelve o’clock noon of the final day or at the conclusion of all other business of the Department Convention, which ever occurs first on Sunday, June 20, 2010, officers for the ensuing year will be elected, these being the Department Commander, three Department Vice Commanders, National Executive Committeeman and Alternate National Executive Committeeman, in that sequence.

Back in Action
9377 E. Bell Road #101
Scottsdale AZ 85260

Lana Upshur
Veteran Coordinator
480-513-4801 Office
480-513-4867 Fax
www.veteranrehab.com

Veteran Spinal Decompression Program
At Back in Action of Scottsdale we take our Veteran Spinal Decompression Program very seriously. Most of the veterans that come to us have been struggling with back or neck pain for quite some time. Many of them have lost the ability to function normally and many are on pain medication and suffering.

Studies have shown that our program within 8 weeks can help 89.9% of the patients that are candidates and complete our program. (see Mayo study) Most patients will start feeling relief between their 8th and 12th visit. This is a finite treatment plan that has been proven to help those frustrated patients that have been through the chiropractic, physical therapy and pain treatment regiment.

Cervical or Lumbar treatment for:
- Disc Herniation
- Facet Syndrome
- Disc Degeneration
- Sciatica

Our Mission
Back in Action is honored to support Project We Remember as they support our vets that have so proudly fought for our freedom. It is our primary purpose to raise funds for this organization as they help our veterans with housing, counseling, job placement and financial support. We believe that we can provide a significant positive effect on the daily lives and the morale of our veterans by demonstrating that we care both in words and in actions. Back in Action has sponsored its own veteran apartment along with quarterly donations.

Are you a Veteran that suffers from Back or Neck pain?
We have a custom Veteran Spine Rehabilitation program. Physical Therapy along with state of the art Spinal Decompression with the DRX 9000. No out of pocket expense with veteran authorization.

Call now to verify that you are a candidate for the Veteran Rehab Program
480-513-4801

Call to Convention
We would like to thank you all for working with me while I was there for my neck and back treatments. Everyone was very professional and friendly. I couldn’t ask for a better environment. The staff at Back in Action helped me understand more on how to work through my pain from my service connected injuries. The decompression neck therapy that I was being helped for helped me by being able to range my neck more now than before when I started. The therapy program that they put you on will help you better understand on how important it is in being able to care for yourself. If you have any back or neck problems, you should ask your doctor to allow you to receive treatment from the team at Back in Action!

– Michael D. Soto SFC, (Ret) USA