Greetings fellow Legionnaires and thanks for meeting our most recent Membership Target of 65%!

Our Fall Conference in Tucson went well despite coinciding with all of the Veterans’ Day activities at our Posts. We had four National Staff Members present LEAD (Leadership, Education and Development) Training and the courses were very well attended; averaging 100 per class!

This was John Aldecoa’s final conference as Department Adjutant and I want to thank him for his many years of dedicated service to our Department. I welcome Angel Juarez. He is ready to assume the title and I know John will only be a phone call away!

Bill Parker, a member of Post 44 in Scottsdale, is working on a Veterans History Project. He is looking for Veterans who are willing to share their experiences. The interviews can be done at the VA, the Veteran’s Home or at a convenient location for the Veteran. The Veteran will receive a copy of the tape, and one copy will go to the Library of Congress to preserve our hero’s history. Of course, we would love to reach our WWII Veterans but any Vet is

It’s Been A Great Run
John Passes the Torch

Thanks for the memories, it has been a wild ride the past 15 ½ years as your Department Adjutant; if it were not for the onset of “CRS”, I would have stayed at least another five years. I served with 16 Department Commanders since coming on board with Mac Maklary in 1998. All became good friends and unfortunately, six of them are no longer with us today but they will always be in my heart and memory.

I am not saying good bye because I’m sure I will see many of you again as I will still be very active in The American Legion for many more years to come.

Department is in good hands with Angel Juarez as your new Department Adjutant; if you have any questions or concerns, he is only an email or phone call away.

Thanks again, it has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve you all.

–John
PDC Henry Branch and Past Area B Vice Commander, Andy Jaime at the Vets Job Fair held on October 17th. They provided brochures, handed out information and applications; and answered questions concerning Veterans benefits. Great job guys!

Commander Judi; Robert Hernandez, Legionnaire of the Year; and PDC Ken Dowse

Fall Conference

Department Commander Judi, Department Chaplain, Carol Stensby; Department Membership Chairman, Beth Nehring; and Department Historian, Jerilyn Strande. Our Lady Veterans shine!

LtoR: Cesar Parada, George Cushing, Bobby Reyes and Cesar Parada

National Convention

LtoR: Neal Sundeen, George Cushing, Senator Jeff Flake, Bobby Reyes and Cesar Parada

LtoR: Neal Sundeen, Representative Trent Franks and George Cushing

LtoR: Neal Sundeen, Senator John McCain and George Cushing

LtoR: Neal Sundeen, Representative Ann Kirkpatrick and Neal Sundeen
Don’t Hang Budget Cuts On Veterans

National Commander Daniel Dellinger testified before the Senate and House Committees on Veterans Affairs in September, 2013. Commander Dellinger initiated his testimony to the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee by stating that The American Legion did not want the Congress to balance the budget on the backs of America’s Veterans. Commander Dellinger quoted from resolution number 34 which states, “American Legion urged Congress and the Administration to cease all efforts to reduce the defense budget from its current level, and to fully fund the Department of Defense in order that our military is unquestionably capable of carrying out its essential mission.” Commander Dellinger also discussed Tricare by stating that The American Legion opposes any further increases in Tricare fees including prescription drug fees. He stated that the first priority of the military health system is to provide health care benefits to active duty personnel, however, less than half of Tricare beneficiaries are active duty military personnel and their dependents. The remaining 58% of Tricare beneficiaries are retirees and their dependents, with working–age retirees and their families making up more than a third of the total.

The American Legion also requested that the VA be properly funded and that protecting VA sequestration does not protect VA from ordinary, run of the mill budget cuts, and several programs have recently been in jeopardy. A solution must be found to VA’s Capital Lease Program that will allow the VA to continue to deliver critical care and services through community–based outpatient clinics (CBOC). Even though the medical budgets of the VA are protected by advanced appropriations, The American Legion would like to extend the entire VA budget to include IT research, construction and the Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA) responsible for ending the backlog would enjoy the same protections of the medical accounts. This would stabilize and protect Veterans funding in the midst of turbulent fiscal wars on Capitol Hill and the cost would be “zero”.

Commander Dellinger also discussed the post 9/11 G.I. Bill by stating that The American Legion wants to protect our Veterans with oversight that includes provisions to evaluate post-secondary education institutions on quality factors and State approving agency’s should be returned their original power to protect the G.I. Bill along with adequate funding to execute their mandate. Student Veterans should be allowed in–state tuition rates when they cannot reasonably satisfy residency requirements.

The American Legion also is concerned about Veteran’s homelessness and strongly supports the Administration’s goal of eliminating Veterans homelessness by 2015 and requests that Congress provide the resources that are necessary to accomplish this goal to include medical, rehabilitative and employment assistance to homeless Veterans and their families.

The American Legion also strongly supports the administration’s goal of eliminating the backlog of VA claims by 2015 and requests that Congress support this goal.

When Congressman Stump from Arizona was Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, disabled Veterans tax/widows tax was eliminated for Veterans with more than 50% disability. The American Legion would now like to eliminate this tax completely for disabled Veterans and their widows. It simply is not fair for a Veteran to have to pay a tax on his disability that other federal employees are exempt from.

The American Legion remains committed to protecting the American flag and supports legislation that would safeguard the nation’s flag from physical desecration. This requires a Constitutional Amendment that is supported by all 50 states, however, it has failed to pass in the Senate, even though it has passed the house several times.

Prior to the Commander’s testimony, The Arizona Legislative Committee consisting of George Cushing from Surprise; Bobby Reyes from Flagstaff; Cesar Parada from Nogales; and Neal Sundeen from Scottsdale, discussed all of these legislative priorities with Senator John McCain, Senator Jeff Flake, Representative Trent Franks and Representative Ann Kirkpatrick. We also visited with the office of Representative Gosar and spoke to his aide with regards to these point papers. All of the Representatives and our two Senators were supportive of The American Legion and its goals to maintain a strong national defense and support Veterans.

Neal S. Sundeen
National Legislative Committee
Member, The American Legion, Department of AZ
I joined Post 58-Fountain Hills and Post 105-Phoenix Legion Riders as they served a great luncheon at the Phoenix VA Home. Angel and I recently met with their recreation director about starting a Legion Post in the VA Home. If residents can’t afford the dues, we will have an opportunity to “Adopt a Vet”.

My Post (58) collected a 16 foot trailer load of furniture and bedding that we delivered to the United Way Warehouse in Prescott for the victims of the Yarnell Fire.

I spoke at a Veterans’ Seminar in Coolidge on the need for a Vet Center in Pinal County and attended Chandler’s first Yellow Ribbon Event to welcome home four recently returned Veterans. I’d love to see that done in all of our communities!

On November 3rd, I attended a Veterans Mass at All Saints Parish in Mesa. Carol Stensby, our Department Chaplain, joined us all the way from Vail. Thanks to Post 41 Past Commander Al for being my Honor Guard; our Department of Arizona Flag stood proud among the service flags.

In February, Districts 11 and 12 will have staff from National Headquarters in town for our Membership Drive. We can utilize any and all volunteers to call potential members in their areas. Earn a National Commander’s Pin for five new members or a challenge coin for fifteen! We also need Service Officers to be available to field questions from prospective members. Save the dates, February 6, 7, and 8th and watch the All Post Mailing for more information.

We will miss Anne Cline who is leaving our staff at the end of November. As you read this, we may have a new face at Department Headquarters. John Aldecoa will be having a Retirement Party at Post 41 on December 14th. Hope to see many of you there!

For God & Country,
Judi Beischel, Department Commander
Arizona American Legion Riders

Get To Know Your Post Ride

I’d like to thank the Department of Arizona for asking the American Legion Riders to have a column in the Legionnaire in order to let our fellow Legionnaires know what the ALR is doing in Arizona.

One of the most exciting programs we do on a statewide basis is the “Get to Know Your Post Ride”, which is being run by ALR 117 in Phoenix. For every five Posts you visit which are participating Posts, you get a chance to win cash prizes ($1,000, $400, $300, $200 and $100). Profits from this program this year will go to Justa Center, Veterans First Ltd., and MANA House. Run sheets (and entry forms) can be purchased from your local ALR Chapter for $15.00. If they don’t have any available, you can contact myself, Vicky at vicky.mad4vets@gmail.com or W.L. at egbdfib@gmail.com. Run sheets should be available after the Department Conference, and the actual run goes from January 1, 2014 until September 30, 2014. This is a great way to get to know other Posts and to raise money for worthwhile causes.

YOU DON’T HAVE TO BE AN ALR MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE – ALL LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE.

As of our Department Convention in June, there were 52 ALR Chapters in Arizona with a total membership of over 2,063. In the preceding year, ALR Chapters in Arizona donated 178,742 hours to charitable, community and Veterans’ organizations, and donated $232,760 to charitable causes. A total of 110,984 hours of time was donated to their sponsoring Post, and $79,911 was donated to their sponsoring Posts. The American Legion Riders continues to be one of the fastest growing and most exciting new programs of The American Legion. Any Post interested in forming an ALR Chapter can contact me at: prescottbikers@hotmail.com for more information.

Finally, if you are ever interested in seeing what is going on with all of the ALR Chapters in Arizona, feel free to visit our website at: www.azalr.yolasite.com

John Moffitt
Member,
American Legion Riders National Advisory Committee
Chairman,
American Legion Riders, Department of Arizona (AZALR)
Assistant State Captain,
PGR (Patriot Guard Riders)
Judge Advocate, District 8,
American Legion, Department of Arizona,
prescottbikers@hotmail.com

The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion

Annual Open House
JANUARY 4, 2014
12:00 noon – 5:00 PM

We would like to see ALL of you for relaxing company, excellent food and some “after holidays” fun.

Bring your favorite dish and join us at
Department Headquarters
4701 N. 19th Avenue, Phoenix

See you then!!
Americanism and Scouting Report

Eagle Scout of the Year Receives Scholarship

During The American Legion’s Fall Meetings held in Indianapolis, the Samsung American Legion National Selection Committee announced the 2013 Samsung American Legion Scholarship recipients. One of the nine students receiving a $20,000 scholarship was Aidan Schneider. He attended Boys State in Flagstaff this past summer where he was awarded the $1,000 scholarship on the Department level. Aidan attends Northland Preparatory High School in Flagstaff and also was named The American Legion Department of Arizona Eagle Scout of the Year in March. He is to be congratulated for receiving this esteemed honor, well done Aidan.

The Samsung Scholarships are restricted to high school juniors who complete either a Boys State or Girls State program and are a direct descendant - i.e. child, grandchild, great grandchild, etc. - or a legally adopted child of a wartime veteran who served on active duty during at least one of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for American Legion membership.

Again, this is an example of using the programs of the Americanism Pillar. Anyone of the programs can be combined Scouting, Junior Shooting Sports; Oratorical and Boys State. As stated previously, we need to become more involved in the Americanism Program. These are the programs that strengthen our youth. They are the future of this country.

I am working on a program that will help disabled Veterans. The program – U.S. Veterans Service Corps – would be run through the Order of the Arrow Boy Scouts of America. It will be administered on a chapter level. There are 22 chapters in the Grand Canyon Council and I have assigned each chapter to a particular American Legion Post. There are four BSA Councils in Arizona and I’ve started with the Grand Canyon Council.

The program will facilitate service projects for members of the Order of the Arrow. They will help disabled Veterans do various jobs around their property. This will include mowing lawns, minor outside repairs and general clean-up projects. The program can also be used as an Eagle Scout Project if done on a larger scale.

I would like to thank my Legion Family for their support in my wife’s passing. We were married for 47 years. I would like to thank all who attended her services at National; it meant a great deal to me.

As always, let us not forget our brothers and sisters in harms way.

Wayne Chatfield
Vice Chairman, Americanism Committee, Chairman, Scouting Committee
whiskeycharlie2503@yahoo.com

Membership Report

Membership LEAD Training Well Attended

I hope that everyone had a delightful Veterans Day as it is the day of celebration to give respect and tribute to our fellow comrades.

With the holidays coming, I also hope that you enjoyed your Thanksgiving with friends and family. I want to wish everyone a joyful Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 2014.

The Fall Conference held in Tucson and the Membership portion of the LEAD Training was well attended with a full room. National Staff did presentations on membership, online renewals, membership recruitment and retention. They also did a presentation on the National DMS (Direct Mail Solicitation) Program. A history of DMS was given to clarify many of the questions regarding its procedures. I know it helped me understand how the program works. Thanks to National Staff for their assistance and to all who attended. For anyone still having questions regarding membership, feel free to contact me at 602-363-8546 or email me at 70wave@gmail.com

Now for the good news, the National objective of 65% was set for November 15th. As of November 7th, we were at 66.01%, ahead of objective. GREAT JOB! Also, congratulations to each of the Areas for reaching 65%. Let’s keep up the good work.

Continued on next page...
Alternate N.E.C. Report

Who We Are As Legionnaires

Legionnaires, I’ve been to National Convention and the Fall Meetings of the National Executive Committee since my last article. Let me state who we are as Legionnaires.

Still Serving; it’s who we are! The American Legion is the voice of 2.3 million American Veterans and service members. As a resolution based organization, The American Legion’s positions represent the views of its members and are based on our Four Pillars; Veteran’s Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children & Youth. We need to keep the Four Pillars in front of us. The following are the Legislative Priorities:

Protect Veterans: Prevent the Department of Defense from the harmful cuts imposed through sequestration. The American Legion recognizes and supports the need for a fiscally responsible government. However, do not degrade the Nation’s ability to defend itself. H.R. 55

Oppose further increases in Tricare fees, including prescription drugs fees. The American Legion stands strong against those who would dilute the promises made in the contract with those who serve in our Nation’s defense.

Properly fund the V.A. to ensure quality health care and benefits for Veterans. The American Legion is deeply concerned about access to quality health care for Veterans. In an era of budget restraint V.A. cannot fall victim to underfunding. H.R. 813/S. 932.

Provide quality education through the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

As an organization that drafted the original G.I. Bill, The American Legion wants to protect our Veterans education rights. H.R. 357/S. 257.

Focus on programs that assist Veterans with jobs. The VETS Program should be kept in its rightful place within the Department of Labor. It should be solely focused on getting Veterans jobs.

Support Veterans – entrepreneurs. Businesses owned by Veterans have earned the right to compete fairly through federal procurement.

End Veteran homelessness. The American Legion strongly supports the V.A.’s goal of eliminating Veterans homelessness by 2015.

Repeal taxes that penalize disabled Veterans and widows. V.A. disability compensation should not be off-set from military retirement pay.

Protect the American Flag. The American Legion remains committed to protecting Old Glory. We want the flag of our country to be protected.

The reason I’m listing all of The American Legion Legislative Priorities is that it’s easy to get distracted by all of the bickering that our Congress is doing. We all know how dysfunctional our leaders can be, so please keep The American Legion’s goals a priority for you. Communicate with our elected leaders about The American Legion’s goals.

For God and Country,
Dick Perry, Alt. N.E.C.  
www.azlegion.org/about-us/committee-reports/nec-report/

I want to thank Safford Post 32 for the fine reception I received at their Membership Dinner and at the District 5 meeting. I also attended District 4’s picnic and look forward to visiting District 1, 3, and 6 meetings during the next couple of months. If you would like me to visit your Post or you have any questions, please contact me. I am here to assist you.

Remember that all it takes is to JUST ASK!

Beth Nehring,  
Membership Director

Membership article..... continued

I know that National has sent out an extra renewal notice, so I am sure that you will be seeing membership renewals coming in. Make sure that you turn your memberships into Shelia in a timely manner so that we get credit for all of those renewals and new members. January 1st is not that far away, so let’s put an extra effort in reminding members to renew before December 31st. For those who have not renewed yet, please help our American Legion out and get your renewal in. For our Post 100 members out there, visit your local Post or any Post of your choice and transfer into the one you like.
Everlasting

December 2013

Bartholomew B Woods
Gerald B Rademacher
Howard McCullough
Thomas L O'Connell
Charles J. Craycraft
Michael M Moyers
Frank M Osterman
Richard E Depweg
Edward Perimutter
Roland K Demond

Post

The Arizona Legionnaire

December 2013

Sea Cadets from Arizona and Missouri will be in join us for the dedication of the WWII Memorial “Salute the Fallen” Dedication Ceremony. Guns from USS Arizona and USS Missouri will also be dedicated as part of the new Memorial. Sea Cadets from Arizona and Missouri will be in attendance.

Pearl Harbor Day Events

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and World War II Memorial “Salute the Fallen” Dedication Ceremony

Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza, Phoenix

Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 9:15 A.M.

RADM Scott Sanders (ret.) featured speaker.

Guns from USS Arizona and USS Missouri will also be dedicated as part of the new Memorial. Sea Cadets from Arizona and Missouri will be in attendance.

***************

Secretary of State Ken Bennett’s “Run to the Guns” December 7, 2013

Salute the Fallen of WWII - Ride with us and join us for the dedication of the WWII Memorial at the State Capitol. For more information or to sign up, contact Jim “Boomer” Bourassa at RunToTheGuns@cox.net.
The annual Fall Conference traditionally provides the first opportunity for Department appointees and chairmen to "share" some knowledge with the "old" or newly appointed post officers. However, this year, training was OBE – that is, Overcome By Events. The event was the National Leadership, Education, And Development (LEAD) training classes that were held during the conference. The eight hour training was good; but regrettably the four seminars consumed time that would have been otherwise used for local training. Never fear, there are other ways to get your questions answered!

The best way to get the information is by contacting the Department subject matter representative; do that by locating him or her in the Department and Post Directory. Never heard of the directory??? Well then, talk with either your Commander or Adjutant; they both received a copy earlier this year and it contains the names and contact information for each of the Department Chairman (and much more). Most of the chairmen have been around for some time and are willing and able to answer any questions you may ask.

As far as Post Historians, I’m truly sorry that I was unable to meet with you and offer guidance in creating your Post History/Yearbook. I have developed a “down and dirty handout” that offers helpful tips and pit-falls to avoid. If you’re interested in obtaining the handout, please either email me at: sicily84@cableone.net or give me call at 928-649-3374; I will be glad to send it to you. Remember, Department Convention is just around the corner and hopefully we’ll meet there!

Until next edition...

Jeri Strande
Department Historian 2013-2014

Okay, time to take tongue-out-of-cheek and remind you that this is NOT what this holiest of all seasons is about. This season is about love and sharing and glorifying God. It’s the season to spend special moments with friends and family. Most families have traditions surrounding the season and while traditions are a wonderful thing, the world will not come to an end if something goes wrong or doesn’t turn out exactly as planned. Instead of running around like that proverbial headless chicken, this is a time to be still and fully appreciate the good things in life; your family, your friends and most important your God.

So, hop out of that fast lane, pull over and slow down. The scenery can truly be enjoyed this way.

I wish you all a blessed holiday and a Happy New Year.

Please remember in your prayers the family of PDC Maria Currie and Gary Doran, husband of Sharon Doran, National Auxiliary Historian.

For God and Country,

Carol Stensby,
Department Chaplain

Chaplain's Corner

Life In the Fast Lane

By the time you read this you should have had your fill of turkey, pumpkin pie and football. Or not! But most likely, your skates will be laced up and you’ll be going full speed ahead into the upcoming holiday season.

You can hardly be blamed for rushing out to join the hordes of shoppers before Thanksgiving is even over. Basic decency seems to take a back seat as people will do almost anything to take advantage of one another in order to reach their quest for Black Friday fulfillment. Perhaps it should be known as Black and Blue Friday!

Please don’t think a thing about running your credit card balance to the max which will put you in financial jeopardy for the next ten months until you do it all over again. Do your utmost to make sure that everyone around you gets every little thing they could want this year.

It’s okay to run yourself into the ground as you cook and bake while sending the kids to their rooms or outside to play because “YOU’RE BUSY”!

Department Directory A

Valuable Resource

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Carol Stensby,
Department Chaplain
### District 1 - Commander: Terry Greene

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### District Totals
- Total 1,325
- Total 84
- Total 66.72%

### District 2 - Commander: George Molina

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### District Totals
- Total 5,904
- Total 4,000
- Total 66.65%

### District 3 - Commander: Mike Stout

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<td>34 Frank W. Wright</td>
<td>Chino Valley</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>58.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Verdant</td>
<td>Cottonwood</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>68.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### District Totals
- Total 3,442
- Total 2,300
- Total 66.82%

### District 4 - Commander: Roy White

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Goal 2014</th>
<th>% Goal 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Fred A. Humphreys</td>
<td>Casa Grande</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>80.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 McClellan-Parnson</td>
<td>Florence</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>69.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 William P. Kern</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>81.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42 John Ivens</td>
<td>Grand Canyon</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>48.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 Jerry &amp; Daw</td>
<td>Tonalea</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>79.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### District Totals
- Total 855
- Total 495
- Total 56.99%

### District 5 - Commander: George Sticklin

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Goal 2014</th>
<th>% Goal 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35 Henry Berry</td>
<td>Globe</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>78.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Lloyd C. Hill</td>
<td>Clifton</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>62.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>32 Swift-Murphy</td>
<td>Safford</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>77.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49 McCulloch-McNair</td>
<td>Duncan</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>65.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95 Lopez-Hernandez</td>
<td>Solomon</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>83.57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### District Totals
- Total 792
- Total 595
- Total 75.13%

### District 6 - Commander: Don Coffman

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Goal 2014</th>
<th>% Goal 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 John H. Slaughter</td>
<td>Winslow</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>85.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Greer-Dewitt</td>
<td>Holbrook</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>43.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 Whittier</td>
<td>Whittier</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>76.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 Tonto R. Kim</td>
<td>Payson</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>59.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 William House</td>
<td>Show Low</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>73.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### District Totals
- Total 1,304
- Total 972
- Total 74.63%
Best wishes for a successful Legion Year.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.
PDC Bud Hansing & Sandy Adams

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Wishing everyone a great new year.
Karl & Evelyn Wilson, Post #27

Best wishes & Happy Holidays.
American Legion
Apache Post #27

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to our American Legion Family.
PDC Bruce & Sandy Conklin

May the blessing of the season be known to all of you. May God sustain our military and their families. Happy New Year!
PDC Al & Donna Tercero

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.
NEC Paul & PDP Helen Griffin

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.
PDC Larry & PDP Ginger Cox

Here’s wishing all our members and their families a most wonderful Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and a great New Year!
PDC Kenneth Dowse

Merry Christmas to all of our American Legion Family and Happy 2014!
Ernie & Rebecca Faris

A Very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year to all our Legion Family!
PDC Joe & Jeannie Aguilar

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.
Scott Miller, Area C Vice Commander

To our Legion Family, may the joys of the Season be many and 2014 be prosperous. May God bless our troops!
20&4 Honor Society of Women Veterans
AZ Echelon 35

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year.
Andres “Andy” Jaime, Jr.

We wish our American Legion Family a Joyous and love filled holiday season.
In Memory of Bunny Hamilton from her Family

May this special season bring you the music of laughter and the warmth of friendship.
Alt. NEC Dick & Elaine Perry

Have a safe and Happy Holiday Season!
Gary Hamelstrom

Happy Holidays!
Mike & Marty Stout

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.
Bah Humbug!
Gayle Reed

Have a safe and blessed Christmas Season.
Nicki Cruz, Unit #62 President

Wishing our Legion Family a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
God Bless our Troops!
Judi Beischel, Department Commander
Jim Beischel, S.A.L. Detachment Chaplain

Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
John J. Morris Post #62 Family
Marge Ahrens, Commander
Nicki Cruz, Unit President
Keith Brown, S.A.L. Commander
Lin Sines, ALR President

We wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year.
Kenny & Sheila

During the holiday season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our success possible. It is in this spirit we say Thank You, best wishes for the holidays and a Happy New Year.
The Munchbachs, Post #64

Merry Christmas from your Department Historian
Jeri Strande

HAPPY! HAPPY! HAPPY!
Carl & Tina Armbruster

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
Keep recruiting!
Beth Nehring, Dept. Membership Chairman

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Manny Rodriguez

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
Sahuarao Post #68

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Don Coffman, District 6 Commander and Jan

As another year with our American Legion Family surrounding us reaches this holiday time, our loving Juarez branch prays that all of you and yours find blessings and warmth in memories and newfound faith for a new prosperous year. We hope to share them with you.
God Bless and keep you all.
Angel & Tommie Juarez

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our American Legion Family.
Your Department Staff
Veterans Creative Arts Festival
Show Us What You Have!

The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors the Veterans Creative Arts Festival each year. This year, the program is getting special emphasis. The Department of Arizona American Legion Auxiliary President, Karen Smith of Douglas, has selected the Creative Arts Program as her special project this year. Her project co-chairmen, Sencie Patchin of Tombstone and Sherrie Tucker of Sierra Vista, say their two main goals are to raise funds for the program and to educate their own members as well as Veterans in their community about the program.

The key purpose of the National Veterans Creative Arts Competition and Festival is to recognize Veterans for their creative accomplishments and to educate and demonstrate to communities throughout the country the therapeutic benefits of the arts.

There are five divisions in the competition 1) Arts 2) Music 3) Dance 4) Drama 5) Creative Writing with a total of 173 categories below these major headings.

Deadlines for entries are in late December. Each of the three Arizona VA Hospitals set their own deadline dates.

The actual art shows are all scheduled in February. Entry forms are available at your VA Hospitals and at most of the area clinics.

Contact your local American Legion Auxiliary Unit regarding their involvement and for more information about the program.