My fellow Legionnaires,

This is my last article as Department Commander. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve you this past year. During my travels your hospitality and courtesy was impressive and I thank everyone. I have always stated that one never stops learning and this experience has again provided me even more knowledge and insight into our great organization. I would like to thank our staff, Sheila Galloway, Anne Cline and Gayle Reed for their never ending assistance and patience. They are a great team. The Department Vice Commanders and District Commanders as well as our Chairmen have extended themselves many times this year to make the Department of Arizona a success.

Our Post and District elections are now over and for many there will be new officers to assume the responsibility and leadership of their members. Convention is right around the corner and we will be electing a new Department Commander as well as Department Vice Commanders. I ask every Post and member to attend Convention and participate in that election process.

Let us not forget our National guests who will be in attendance; Western Region National Vice Commander – Jeanette Rae; National Judge Advocate – Phil Onderdonk; and the leading candidate for National Commander – Dan Dellinger. During Convention, there won’t be a Commander and Adjutant session. Instead, a LEAD Training – Legal Procedures session will be held on Saturday afternoon from 1:00 – 4:30 pm. Our National Judge Advocate will be in attendance to answer any and all questions regarding issues, procedures, by-laws, etc. I recommend that all officers and members attend this important session and ask whatever is on your mind. It is an education that will be invaluable toward your leadership. Please attend.

As this year draws to a close, I will be attending Boys State, ALLECA (American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy) and Girls State. These are three superb programs in which our youth gain the knowledge of Democracy, Americanism and respect for our flag.

 Commander continued page 5

To Never Forget

Department Commander Ken Dowse pointing out a specific name on the Traveling Viet Nam Wall while in was in Cottonwood
Photo by Jeri Strande

Index

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Call To Convention...........3 Chaplain’s Corner.............9
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Convention Agenda.........6 Angel Juarez ..............11
Convention Agenda.........7 Homecoming Photos ....11

Commander’s Message
Memorial Day Ceremony
National Cemetery in Phoenix

Glendale Auxiliary Unit and Post #29 Color Guards

Ahwatukee Post #64 Color Guard

Ahwatukee Post and Unit #64 presenting wreath

Phoenix Post #105 wreath presented by Ken & Tina Lapka

George Cushing
standing guard

Area B Vice Commander, Andy Jaime
presenting the Department Wreath

Beth Nehring presenting the 20 & 4 Honor Society of Women Legionnaires Wreath

Phoenix Post and Squadron #107 presenting Post 107 Family wreath
CALL TO CONVENTION

Call to the 95th Annual Convention of The American Legion Department of Arizona.

By authority of the Department Executive Committee, the 95th Annual Convention of the American Legion Department of Arizona is hereby called to meet in Carefree, Arizona, June 20 - 23, 2013.

The Convention business sessions will be held in the Saguaro Ballroom of the Carefree Resort Hotel in Carefree, Arizona.

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, whichever occurs first, on Sunday, June 23, 2013, officers for the ensuing year will be elected, these being the Department Commander, three Department Vice Commanders, in that sequence.
In closing, I ask every member of the Department of Arizona to continue to grow our organization. Remember, we are the advocates for every veteran, member or not. We are the largest Veterans Organization in this country. On a daily basis, we fight to protect and improve our veterans’ benefits whether it is medical, retirement or education. We fight toward getting our flag amendment and stolen valor act passed and will continue to do so until accomplished. When speaking with a fellow veteran who is not a member, make them aware of the facts. Ask them to join our organization and add their voice. After all, it is an investment for their own protection whether young or old.

I hope to see many of you at Convention. Thank you for your support and cooperation over this last year. May God bless you, your families and our veterans. For God and country, Ken Dowse, Department Commander

---

Legion Baseball National Tournament in Surprise This Year

**Post 29 Recruiting Volunteer Support**

Seven state baseball champions and a host team from Arizona will square off this summer in the main stadium at the Surprise Recreation Campus – spring training home of the Texas Rangers and Kansas City Royals. The event is the American Legion Western Regional Baseball Tournament, a qualifier for the American Legion World Series in Shelby, NC.

Hosted by Earl E. Mitchell Post #29 in Glendale, the Western Regional will be held August 8 – 12, 2013. It will be an eight team, double-elimination tournament featuring American Legion Department Champions from Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah and Texas. Teams arrive in Surprise on August 7th.

The first tournament event is the Banquet of Champions on the concourse of the ballpark that evening at 7:00 PM featuring the introduction of the competing teams, a guest speaker and a video presentation. Guests are welcome; dinner tickets are $15.00 per person.

The full tournament game schedule will be posted on the Arizona Baseball Web Site www.azball.org – or you can call the local tournament chairman for details at 602-550-0762. Games begin August 8th with a 9:00 AM double header; the second tournament double header is at 5:00 PM. Official opening ceremonies will precede Game 4 and are expected to begin at approximately 7:30 PM.

Local tournament organizers are anxious to recruit volunteers to assist with a wide variety of duties. Positions available include “housing volunteers,” who will assist with each team’s hotel arrival and departure; van drivers, to shuttle teams between the hotel and ballpark; and, stadium volunteers to fill many different roles. Van drivers will work in shifts starting at 7:45 AM and 2:00 PM daily; a photo copy of your driver’s license will be needed to comply with insurance requirements. Volunteers for any or all of the tournament days can contact Rollin Kohrs at 602-550-0762.

Tournament souvenir shirts will be presented to all volunteers.

In addition, the Baseball Committee will raffle off a 50 inch TV, $250.00 in cash, and a patriotic quilt. Raffle tickets, already on sale, are priced six for $10.00; the drawing will be held during the 7th inning of Game #4 the evening of August 8th. The winner need not be present to win. Tickets are available from Rollin Kohrs, Tom Kusek and Anne Cline. The Baseball Committee is also selling souvenir pins for $4.00. The pins replicate the letterhead at the top of this article.
2013 National Convention
Houston, Texas August 23 – August 29, 2013

The Arizona Delegation has been assigned to the Four Seasons, 1300 Lamar St, 77010 (713) 650-1300
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, 1 or 2 persons $ 152.10* $ __________

☐ Double, 2 beds, 1 or 2 persons $ 152.10 * $ __________

☐ Roll Away rate (additional occupant $35.00) $ 35.00 per day $ __________

☐ Arizona Party – Dinner and entertainment $ 37.00 per person $ __________

☐ Registration (mandatory for Legion, Auxiliary and guests) $ 25.00 per person $ __________

☐ Past President’s Luncheon ***(payable to Auxiliary)*** Call Auxiliary $ __________

☐ States Dinner ***(payable to Auxiliary)*** Call Auxiliary $ __________

☐ 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 19, 2013

- Occupancy Tax in the amount 17% 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 26, 2013
Friday, June 21

(cont'd)

Special Events:

ALL Attendees must be REGISTERED to attend EVENTS.

2013 Annual Convention
Department of Arizona
June 20-23

Greetings

Welcome Home Post 177: Henry Buksa, Commander

Call to Convention: Ken Dowse, Department Commander

Pledge of Allegiance: Carl Armbruster, Sgt-at-Arms

Advance of Colors: Teddy Julian, Grand Chef de Gare

Convention & Conference Report: John Aldecoa

National Security: Mike Espinoza

Rehabilitation: Mike Espinoza

Employment: Mike Espinoza

Membership: Ken Dowse, Department Commander

Adjournment of Orders

Call to Order: Ken Dowse, Department Commander

Joint Opening Session: Steve Allen, National VA&R Committee Chairman

September 1-3, 2013

AVFR + SERVICE OFFICERS SEMINAR – Friday…1:00PM to 3:00PM...

VAER + SERVICE OFFICERS SEMINAR – Friday…1:00PM to 3:00PM...

Memorial Breakfast: Monday, June 24, 2013

100% Post, District & Area Vice Commanders, Friday, 7:00AM, Post 34

Hotel Registration Lobby

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Check-in starts at 6:30AM

Special Events:

ALL Attendees must be REGISTERED to attend EVENTS.

2013 Annual Convention
Department of Arizona
June 20-23

Greetings

Welcome Home Post 177: Henry Buksa, Commander

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Memorial Breakfast: Monday, June 24, 2013

100% Post, District & Area Vice Commanders, Friday, 7:00AM, Post 34

Hotel Registration Lobby

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Check-in starts at 6:30AM

Special Events:

ALL Attendees must be REGISTERED to attend EVENTS.
Alternate N.E.C.: The Washington Trip

I went to Washington D.C. with Commander Ken Dowse February 23 through February 27. Also attending was N.E.C. Paul Griffin, George Cushing, Jim Burke, John Aldecoa, Angel Juarez and Larry Bahill.

We had a Joint Session of the National Security and Foreign Relations Commissions. The Ambassador of Israel to the United States, Michael B. Oren, gave us a general view of what Israel faces. He stated that Israel’s right to security and peace is tested every day. He said Israel is very thankful for the support of the United States.

Next, we were given POW/MIA updates and briefings by Major General (Retired) W. Montaque Winfield, Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel; Johnie E. Webb, Deputy to the Commander of Public Relations of the Joint Personnel Accounting Command; and Ann Miller-Griffiths, Chair of the Board for the National League of POW/MIA families.

Here is a breakdown of our POW/MIA’s: WWII – 73,000, Cold War – 139, Korea – 7,000, Vietnam – 1,653, Iraq – 2 Navy pilots and 3 contractors. Arizona has 15 service members unaccounted for from the Vietnam conflict.

The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command has set a goal to be obtained by 2015 of identifying 200 remains per year. Congress has cut funding so how this will affect this program and their goal is unknown.

On the second day, we had Commander’s Call. We were briefed on the Legion’s Legislative priorities for the 113th Congress. We also had appointments with all of Arizona’s Congressmen and women.

Congresswoman Kyrsten Sinema from the 9th District and Ron Barber from the 8th District were both very impressive as they were attentive and promised to support our Legislative priorities.

Congressman Ron Barber asked me to be a member of his District 8 Home Front Veteran’s Commission.

I urge all Legionnaires to keep communicating with their Representatives and Senators. Only in this way can we make them understand what we need. Just maybe we will get the Legion’s priorities passed.

For God and Country,
Dick Perry, Alternate N.E.C.

Chaplain’s Corner

Be “Still”

What exactly does this mean? To some it might mean to stop moving about busily; to others, something completely different. By way of explanation, some synonyms for the way the word is being used for this message are silent, calm, tranquil, noiseless and quiet.

Please reflect on the many conversations you’ve had with others. In all honesty, you will most likely find that you were far busier formulating your rebuttal than you were in truly listening to what was being said to you. The end result of this trait is that you’ve possibly missed the point. Maybe this is why some discussions go on for a long period of time between ingress and egress. We’ve all been in situations like this and often find them frustrating.

In order that we truly hear what someone is saying, it is necessary to “still” your mind. It is in this manner that you may hear a subtle plea for help or understanding; tears of grief being shed internally or an outright cry for change. As has been mentioned before, we are all chaplains of a sort. We have a responsibility to aid our fellow man in times of peril regardless of their perception of what that peril might be.

The same method is applicable if you wish to hear the Word of God. In this case, it is not only necessary to “still” your mind but you heart as well. Open your heart as you would a dam and let all of your feelings flow out to God. When you’re finished, close your dam and let His renewing waters flow back in. WOW-talk about refreshing! Consider giving yourself some of this refreshment every day for the ultimate euphoria.

Please keep the families of our departed family members in your prayers. Since the last publication, Julius “Mac” Maklary, PDC (1998) has transferred to Post Everlasting and Sherry Hall, Past Auxiliary Department Chaplain has transferred to Unit Everlasting. May they rest in peace.

For God and Country,
Carol Stensby, Chaplain
Department of Arizona
## American Legion • Department of Arizona
### Membership Report

**May 21, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 7 - Commander: Scott Miller</th>
<th>Post Name</th>
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<td>Kenneth Dowse</td>
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**District Totals**

| 41,000 | 39,066 | 95.29 |

**High: Area B – 97.90% • District 2 – 98.64% • Post 124 – 193.33%**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>District 1 - Commander: Andy Norigea</th>
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**District Totals**

| 1,498 | 1,425 | 95.13 |

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<th>District 3 - Commander: Al Reyes</th>
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**District Totals**

| 5,845 | 5,742 | 98.24 |

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**District Totals**

| 8,333 | 8,000 | 96.90 |

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**District Totals**

| 1,498 | 1,425 | 95.13 |

<table>
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</table>

**District Totals**

| 9,985 | 9,768 | 98.73 |
Meet Angel Juarez - Arizona’s New Assistant Adjutant Adjutant

Angel Juarez has dedicated his life in service for military veterans. He served six years in the U.S. Army, both active duty and reserve. He has since applied many dedicated volunteer hours with Veterans Service Organizations locally and at the National level. Angel was appointed as an Assistant Cub-Master in his Cub Scout Pack and serves as the Pack Committee Chair. He serves as an Executive Board Member of The American Legion Post 41 in Phoenix, AZ.

Angel was installed as the Chaplain of his American Legion Post in July 2002. Successive Post Commanders have re-appointed him through 2012. He serves as a committee member on The American Legion National Internal Affairs Commission.

In 2009, he was elected Squadron 41 Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. Angel has recently been appointed to serve as the Assistant Adjutant for the State of Arizona American Legion Headquarters offices.

Angel was born and raised in Phoenix, AZ. He attained National Certification as an Emergency Medical Technician at Phoenix College in 1994. He is currently attending to his degree completion at Arizona Christian University toward a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration.

He and his wife Tommie Juarez have been married for six years. They have five children in their blended family, ages 5-26. Their oldest children, both daughters, have blessed them with four grandchildren. The three sons remaining at home are active in their Sons of the American Legion Squadron through honor guard service and scout programs.

Commander Dowse’s Homecoming

Department Adjutant John presenting a gift to Commander Kenny; Assistant Department Adjutant Angel waiting his turn.

Department Commander Kenny thanking everyone for showing up and sharing his Homecoming with him, Kathleen and Joe.

PDC “Bud” Hansing giving some “advice” to Commander Kenny.

Photos by Robert Hernandez, Department Historian
My deepest and heartfelt, sincere Thank You to each and every member of the American Legion Family for your flowers, donations, cards, calls, support and for taking your valuable time to attend the Visitation and Celebration of Life for my husband Julius “Mac” Maklary.

There are no words that can totally express how much each of you helped myself and our family during such a difficult time. Please know that your thoughtfulness and kindness was more than appreciated.

I am so thankful for the Legion Family that has been a part of Mac and my life for more than 40 years. Your actions Did make a difference, meant so much and will not be forgotten.

All my thanks again.

Penny Maklary

---

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- Windshield Repairs/Replacements
- Complete Automotive Detailing

We take pride in our facility and invite you to stop by and take a tour. Meet our friendly, qualified staff and talk directly to your technician. We appreciate and support all of our Veterans & their Families - you take care of us, let us take care of you !

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**Assisting Veterans with VA Disability Claims - Appeals Only**

Theodore C. Jarvi, Attorney at Law
Retired JAG - Legion Member
1050 E. Southern Avenue, Suite G3
Tempe, AZ 85282
Tel: (480) 838-6566; Fax: (480) 838-8810
E-Mail: tjarvi@jarvilaw.com

*Federal law permits the payment of attorney fees by the veteran for assistance with any VA claim if Notice of Disagreement is filed after June 20, 2007.*