



For God & Country

THE ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRE



VOLUME 2015 • OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA • ISSUE 2

Majority of Veteran's Bills Passed

Hello fellow Veterans and Legion Family. This year's 52nd Arizona Legislature First Regular Session took place on Friday, 13 February 2015. I'm proud to say that after attending eight of these sessions at our state Capitol, the majority of Bills concerning Veterans passed. To view these Bills and inform our members, please view and pass out this website: www.azleg.gov/bills.asp to all who may be interested. Call your elected officials and thank them for supporting our Veterans.

On February 22nd, I was honored to represent The American Legion Department of Arizona in Washington, D.C. along with Larry Bahill; Neal Sundeen; Jim Burke; NEC Dick Perry; Mike Espinosa; PDC George and Jan Cushing; Jeff Frain and Chuck Treat. It was an awesome experience for me and the two days that we visited the "hill" were filled with meeting all but one of our elected

officials. There was a lot of handshaking, picture taking, cafeteria food, walking and stair climbing. The most important part was that all of our Representatives were receptive to the 2015 American Legion Legislative Priorities for the 114th Congress. The following is a listing of what we were asking their support for:



1. Fully fund a superior national defense as the global war on terror rages on.
2. Continue efforts to reform the Veterans Administration.
3. Support more efficient VA claims systems.
4. Provide help for Veterans struggling with mental health issues and brain injuries.
5. Ensure transition programs are not adversely affected by sequestration.
6. Create opportunities for Veterans in the private sector.

Commander continued on page 4

Veterans Clinic in Polacca



On February 4, 2015, I was honored to be among the guests for the opening of a Veterans Clinic as a joint venture of the Indian Health Service and Veterans Administration in Polacca, AZ.



The clinic will serve Veterans in the area so they don't have to travel a long distance to either Flagstaff or Tuba City. Executive

Officer, DeAlva Honahnie, of the IHS facility in Polacca and Donna K. Jacobs, Medical Center Director of the Prescott VA Hospital, were keynote speakers at the event. The hospitality of the Native Americans was wonderful and we were even treated to some traditional dancing by the Hopi Tribe. Members of American Legion Lori Piestewa Post 80 and Eugene "Geno" Talas, Adjutant, were also on hand to help with Veteran issues and to sign up new members. What a great day everyone had!

For God and Country...

Doug Keller, Vice Commander, Area C, Department of Arizona

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HAPPY 96TH BIRTHDAY AMERICAN LEGION

Written by D. J. Pembroke

Happy Birthday American Legion, it's been a mere 96 years and you've helped a lot of people with their bad times and their fears.

You've always been there for us Vets, about our questions, with answers and such.

It shows that The American Legion is never out of touch.

I know that here at Post 19 we come for many things;
Bingo, shooting pool, or dancing or drinking, and trying to sing.

But all in all, the smiles remain or a friendly howdy-do
or maybe just a place to talk, we know what we have to do.

Anyhow...Happy Birthday for another 96.

If you need something done just right, the Legion knows the tricks.

I'm glad to be a member no matter what they say.

I'd give it up for the country, hang in there U.S.A.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA CONVENTION



JUNE 25-28, 2015



Convention Headquarters

**CAREFREE RESORTS & VILLAS
37220 MULE TRAIN ROAD
CAREFREE, AZ 85377**

ROOM RATE

\$99 per room per night single/double occupancy

For reservations call: 480 488-5300

**Be sure to mention The American Legion to
receive special rates.**

Golf Tournament will be held.

See Page 13 for details and registration

For Hospitality Rooms, contact:

Angel Juarez 602 264-7706

***Please make reservations by MAY 20, 2015
to receive \$99 discounted rates***

THE ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRE

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Arizona Delegation Attends Legislative Conference in Washington

By Neal S. Sundeen
(National Legislative Committee Member)

Department Commander Andy Jaime led a group of Arizona Legionnaires back to Washington, D.C. to lobby for Veterans benefits and for a strong national defense. While we were in Washington, D.C., we also participated in National Commander Michael Helm's testimony to a joint session of the Senate and House committees on Veterans Affairs.

We met with Senators McCain and Flake, along with House members including Sinema, McSally, Schweikert, Salmon, Gosar, Kirkpatrick, Grijalva, Gallego, and Franks. Commander Jaime asked our two Senators and nine Representatives to

fully fund a superior national defense as the global war on terror rages on. Commander Jaime told our Representatives and Senators that The American Legion believes it is critical to maintain a well-funded Department of Defense to ensure a strong national defense to protect America and its allies from enemies such as the Islamic State. Additionally, The American Legion strongly advocates for a good quality of life for troops in a sensible transition from military service to civilian life.

Commander Jaime also asked our Senators and Congress to continue efforts to reform the VA and

Legislative Conference continued on page 15

Area B Report

Plenty of Action In Area B

Hello Legionnaires, looks like we are headed for a warm spring and HOT summer! At least our winter wasn't as bad as back East.

In January, I visited Post 36 in Tucson for Commander Andy's Official Visit and stayed for the District 4 Meeting, then back to Phoenix to finish out the month of January at the Children & Youth Workshop at Post 26 which was very informative.

February was more doings! Started with the Four Chaplains Ceremony at Post 41 with Commander Andy; then bingo at the State Veterans Home on the 2nd with Post 91 in attendance. I was at the Capitol with a group of Veterans and the Commander on the 5th attending a hearing on HB2091; from there we stopped by the Standdown at the State Fair Grounds. Next, it was the District 12 Rehab Dinner and Auction at Post 35. That morning, I was in the Laveen Annual Parade with the 40&8 Train that the Grand Marshall rode in.

Commander continued from page 1

7. Provide top education through Post 9/11 GI Bill.
8. End Veteran homelessness.
9. Oppose further increases in TRICARE fees, including prescription drug fees.
10. Repeal unfair offsets that penalize disabled Veterans and widows/widowers.
11. Protect the American Flag.

Lastly, we had a visit by President Obama to the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center. Our Department Adjutant, Angel Juarez, was in the meeting representing The American Legion, Department of Arizona, and did an outstanding job!

On the 12th, it was another visit to the State Capitol for another hearing on a Veterans bill and finished the week with services for Don Mosley, Past Commander of Post 65. I made a visit to Post 55 in Sun Lakes on the 17th then swung by Post 91 afterwards. On the 18th, it was another visit to the Capitol for a meeting with the Veterans Service Organization.

I missed out on the District 11 and 12 Oratorical Contests by attending the Sacaton 75th Iwo Jima Anniversary Parade. Rounded off the month with a visit to Post 44's General Meeting on the 26th and ended the month attending the Area B Oratorical Contest at Post 27.

In closing, I would like to say "LET'S KEEP BRINGING IN THE MEMBERSHIP" remember the three "R's" from grammar school? Let's redo them "RETAIN, RENEW, RESPECT". This is retention of members, renew dropped members and respect for all Veterans regardless of period served! We are all "VOLUNTEERS"

Danny Bugh, Area B Vice Commander

I took the day to visit with our in-patient Veterans in their rooms. It was an awesome way to spend the day and it was an honor to meet, share time, lots of laughter and storytelling with our fellow Veterans.

My thanks to all the Posts that have reached 100% and over; please keep it going, we still have many Posts that have a ways to go. Call your delinquent members and let them know we value their membership and need their voice on the "Hill"; their membership is their voice.

Still serving America,
Andy Jaime, Jr.
Department Commander

Arizona American Legion Riders

Springtime Busy for ALR

American Legion Riders throughout Arizona continue to keep busy—even with cold, rain and the occasional snow. ALR Riders attended dozens of funerals for our veterans and service members, and welcome homes and send-offs for our active duty troops at Patriot Guard Rider “missions”. In February, ALR Riders from throughout the state participated in the Ira Hayes Day Parade in Sacaton. ALR 8 (Casa Grande) handed out 715 American Flags to children and Veterans seated along the route. The AZALR Traveling Trophy is continuing to pull Riders in statewide to try and claim the Trophy; in January and February, the trophy was claimed by ALR 44, ALR 62 (twice), ALR 29, ALR 58 and ALR 86.

Spring will be a very busy time for Arizona ALR. In addition to the many upcoming rides and events sponsored by individual ALR Chapters, on March 18 ALR Riders (in conjunction with the PGR) escorted the Traveling Wall into Prescott, where it was on display at the Prescott Gateway Mall from March 19-22. On April 11th, we will have our statewide AZALR Quarterly



Meeting at ALR 8 in Casa Grande; April 17-19 we will be having our annual AZALR Camp-Out hosted by ALR 93 in Camp Verde. June 4-7, the Western ALR Romp will be hosted by ALR 86 in Overgaard, which will bring in ALR Riders from throughout the Western Region.

GET TO KNOW YOUR POSTS – if your Post hasn't been contacted yet, it will be shortly to see if they want to participate in this year's Get to Know Your Posts. Run sheets will be available for sale (and the run will start) at the AZALR Camp-Out in April.

If you are 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. If you want to start an ALR Chapter in your Post, please contact me at the e-mail address below for information on how to get started.

For God and Country,
John Moffitt, prescottbikers@hotmail.com

Member

American Legion Riders National Advisory Committee

Chairman

American Legion Riders, Department of Arizona (AZALR)

Youth Programs In Full Swing

The youth functions of the Americanism Pillar are getting in full swing. The Department Oratorical Contest is over and, once again, won by Chetan Bafna. Chetan is a senior at Kofa High School in Yuma and last year he attended Arizona Boys State.

The Eagle Scout of the Year is Dakota Hankins, he is 15 years old and a member of The Sons of American Legion at Post 62. If you remember, he was the Sons of The American Legion “Scout of the Year” in 2012. At the Department Convention, he will receive a check for \$500.00 and a plaque. His application has been forwarded to National for recommendation of “Eagle Scout of the Year”.

By now, all Posts should be in Baseball, Boys State and ALLECA mode. We need more participation in Legion Baseball. I realize that not every Post can sponsor a team, but some Posts can combine their efforts to sponsor a team. This way the costs can be divided between the Posts. Just an idea, how about a district

team, with several Posts getting together to sponsor a team.

Every Post in the Department should send at least one youth to Boys State. If you know of a youth that is interested in law enforcement and would like to attend ALLECA, contact Sgt. Dan Palmer at Allecadirector@hotmail.com. Also, he is the person to contact for Jr. Shooting Sports.

It has been a couple of years since an American Legion “Square Knot” has been awarded. This award is available to any Legion member who is also involved in scouting. At present, there have been only nine of these knots awarded in the state. The application is available on line at legion.org under Scouting.

In keeping with Commander Andy's point for the year “Volunteerism”, we need volunteers for all of these activities. As always, let us not forget our brothers and sisters in harms way.

Wayne Chatfield

Vice Chairman Americanism and Scouting Committee Chairman



Congratulations to the all of the students who participated in the Department Oratorical Finals on March 7th in Ahwatukee. Chetan Bafna won \$1,500; Melissa Zeid won \$800; Christian David won \$500.00; and three won \$300 each, Madeline Nicholls; Cooper Barghols and Cody Cropp.



Department Oratorical Winner Chetan Bafna, from Kofa High School, and Department Commander Andy Jaime

Membership Director Challenge 2014-2015

MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE ENDS: 05/29/15

I want to see each Post compete for these Awards; EACH category listed below will be awarded First Place, Second Place and Third Place for highest membership total reached by May 29, 2015 (that is a total of 15 awards):

X-Small	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large
15-75	76-200	201-500	501-1,000	1,001 plus

In order to determine which category you belong to, use your 2015 Goal.

The awards are:

- 1st Place - \$100.00 National Emblem Sales Gift Certificate**
- 2nd Place - \$50.00 National Emblem Sales Gift Certificate**
- 3rd Place – The American Legion Certificate Maker CD**

It may be possible for one Area to win all of the awards! Your Membership Committee and I will be keeping track as to how everyone is doing. This is a great challenge and I tried to make this year's awards as fair as possible to all post sizes as well as awarding something that a Post could use.

Good Luck to everyone!

**Beth Nehring
Department Membership Director**

90 Years of Service

“In this city on July 17, 1925, by action of the South Dakota Department of The American Legion, the nationwide organization of Legion Junior Baseball was proposed as a program of service to the youth of America.” Since its beginning over ten million young people have played American Legion Baseball.

During the 1929 season, every state entered teams into competition. 1931 marked the first appearance in championship play of a player who was later to become a big league star. Kirby Higbe hurled a complete game for Columbia, South Carolina, and lost the final game in the 14th inning 1 – 0. Ten years later, he was the National League’s top pitcher.

Fifty five per cent of Major League Baseball players played American Legion Baseball as teenagers. Nearly 75% of all college players played American Legion Baseball as teenagers. Over 50 American Legion Baseball graduates have been inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

The purpose of American Legion Baseball for the past 90 years has been to give young men an opportunity to develop their skills, personal fitness, leadership qualities, and to have fun. The

program has succeeded by giving these boys the opportunity to find themselves, work well with others, get college scholarships, and even become professional baseball players.

Once again, Arizona will see many outstanding players display their skills and following the highly successful 2014 Regional Tournament that was held in Surprise, Arizona. This year should be competitive and exciting. American Legion Baseball continues to flourish in the Department of Arizona with teams from Area “A” and Area “B” competing for the privilege of going on to the Regional Tournament each year.

As preparation has begun for the 2015 season, I encourage Posts to contact the local high schools in their areas to solicit and sponsor teams to compete in the program.

Our Department Baseball Tournament will be held in Tucson at the Kino Veterans Sports Complex. The games on July 24-25-26 will be played at the South Complex Fields and the Department Championship Game will be played inside Kino Veterans Stadium on Monday, July 27. All current Service Personnel, Veterans and Legion members will not be charged any admission.

The Baseball Committee and I would like to welcome all American

Baseball continued on page 13



The American Legion Family of Scottsdale Post 44

invites you to join us at the **Homecoming** for

Andy Jaime

Arizona Department Commander 2014-2015



Please join us for Dinner

Thursday, April 23, 2015

at

Scottsdale American Legion Post 44

7145 E. Second St., Scottsdale, AZ

5:00 PM No Host Beverages

6:00 PM Dinner

Choice of Roast Sirloin Vera Cruz or Chicken Cordon Bleu

Includes Salad, Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetable and Dessert

\$15.00 per person

Reservations Required

Please RSVP with reservation and choice of dinner entrée to **480-941-9053**

SEATING LIMITED TO 160. PLEASE CALL IN YOUR RESERVATION EARLY.



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
CONVENTION
JUNE 25-28, 2015

AMERICAN LEGION REGISTRATION - \$10.00
(AT CONVENTION - \$12.00)

PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:

Department of Arizona,
4701 N. 19th Ave, #200, Phoenix, AZ 85015

POST NUMBER _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

NAME (PRINT)

POSITION/TITLE (PRINT)

If also ALR Rider
then place an X

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PRE_REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 10, 2015

DO NOT MIX LEGION WITH SAL
NO REFUNDS OR SUBSTITUTIONS

The Blue Star Memorial

The Blue Star Memorial Program was originally adopted in 1945 by the National Council of State Garden Clubs (currently named National Garden Clubs) as the Blue Star Memorial Highway Program to honor those who had served in World War II.

Over the years, the program has evolved to include markers to be placed in areas such as parks, historical grounds, and other appropriate civic areas. The marker was also changed to include the words “A tribute to the Armed Forces of America”, and to include all men and women who have served, were serving, or would serve in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

This Blue Star Memorial was dedicated in Ahwatukee Park (4700 E. Warner Rd., Ahwatukee, Arizona 85044) on March 24, 2012. Each memorial is carefully maintained by the sponsoring Garden Club. Garden Clubs, donations, and memorial pavers help fund most of the memorials throughout the U.S.

If your Post is interested in having a Blue Star Memorial in your area, contact your nearest Garden Club or the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs for additional information.



American Legion 2015 Convention Program Book Advertising Rates

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

ALL ADS MUST BE PRINT READY

**Mail your Ad and/Or Booster along with payment made out to:
Department of Arizona, 4701 N. 19th Ave, #200
Phoenix, Az 85015**

**ALL ADS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN
APRIL 15, 2015**



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
CONVENTION
JUNE 25-28, 2015

S.A.L. PRE-REGISTRATION - \$10.00

(AT CONVENTION - \$12.00)

PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:

Department of Arizona

4701 N. 19th Ave, #200, Phoenix, AZ 85015

SQDN NUMBER _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

NAME (PRINT)

POSITION/TITLE (PRINT)

If also ALR Rider
then place an X

1	_____	_____	
2	_____	_____	
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15	_____	_____	

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 10, 2015

DO NOT MIX LEGION WITH SAL

NO REFUNDS OR SUBSTITUTIONS

American Legion Department of Arizona

BOOSTER SIGN UP

CONVENTION

JUNE 25—28, 2015

NAME & POST/UNIT/SQDN

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

\$2.00 per name

(Mr. & Mrs. Constitutes 2 names)

Please return form with check made out to:

Department of Arizona

4701 N. 19th Ave #200

Phoenix, AZ 85015

MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 15, 2015

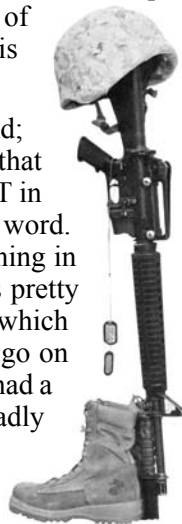
Chaplain's Corner

Oh, Those Deadly Sins

In the last issue, we addressed one of the Seven Deadly Sins; GREED. The original intent was to pursue the remaining six in future articles. Upon review, it became clear that those remaining sins, while sinful and far reaching in subject matter, had one thing in common. The sins become deadly when they are committed to excess. We'll review the remaining six and visit how they become deadly. WRATH, better known as anger, is an emotion we all exhibit from time to time. Show me a parent who hasn't been positively livid with their child or a spouse with a mate. It happens, but you let your anger dissipate before doing something foolish. Sin, not deadly here. Next up is SLOTH, or laziness. This one becomes deadly when you're too lazy to do laundry or cook meals for your family or are too lazy to go out and earn a living to care for your family. Needing a day at the beach is not deadly. Once again, only when taken to the extreme.

This next one is the biggie and probably the deadliest; it is PRIDE, urged into action by that little word ego. This is the one that can easily take over a life. I'm sure we've all witnessed it at one time or another. Some folks will do anything to save their PRIDE regardless of how abhorrent it might be. We all take pride in some things; the key is not to let it get out of hand. The easiest way to keep PRIDE at bay is to be humble.

The next two sins kind of go hand in hand; they are LUST and ENVY. There really isn't that much difference in the words except that LUST in most minds implies a carnal meaning to the word. We won't delve deeply into LUST as its' meaning in life is obvious; it's a definite no-no! ENVY is pretty much the same thing, basically wanting that which you cannot have. It's okay to wish you could go on that cruise your friends are taking or wish you had a Corvette like your buddy. This one becomes deadly when your kids go without shoes or medical care because you are using the money in an attempt to gain those things.



The last sin is GLUTTONY. Not even going to go there folks. You know if you're overeating or not.

It's easy to see how we all commit these sins in a small way. It's normal. Do everything in moderation and you'll be fine and God will still love you even if you slip up a time or two.

It's been a rough month for the Department of AZ. Please keep PDC Bill Bingham in you prayers as he recovers from recent heart surgery. Also, keep Alt. NEC Judi Beischel in your prayers as she is recovering from recent eye surgery and also lost her brother, Kevin in early March. Pray for PDP Karen Smith and her family as her sister also passed in early March. Prayers are a powerful thing folks and Sherie Mercier needs some for husband Mark who has been having medical problems and recently had surgery. God Bless you all.

For God and Country,
Carol Stensby, Department Chaplain

Baseball continued from page 7

Legion Posts to over 300 local games and the Championship games to support the team you sponsored or just to support these young men representing The American Legion.

By offering support, you will help our coaches and players experience sportsmanship as they become better members of the community while honoring our Flag and Country. Opening ceremonies at the tournament games will be something that each and every one of you should experience once.

For further information on American Legion Baseball in Arizona, go to the baseball web site www.azball.org.

Respectfully,

Rollin Kohrs,
FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

American Legion Department of Arizona 2015 Convention Golf Tournament Thursday June 25, 2015

**RANCHO MANANA GOLF CLUB
5734 E. RANCHO MANANA BLVD,
CAVE CREEK, AZ. 85331**

CHECK IN AT 6:30am, SHOTGUN START 7:00am
4 PLAYER SCRAMBLE \$60 PER PLAYER

Entry Fee Includes: Green Fees, Cart Fees, Range Balls, Bag Handling, Scoring, Tournament Services, Pavilion Use, Catered Buffet Lunch, Cash Bar Setup.

*Lunch Will Be Served at Smoke House
in Cave Creek*

Send Registration and Payment to:

Pat Tillman Post 117

Attn: Steve Allen

16428 N 32nd St, Suite 101

Phoenix, Az, 85032

Player Name	Phone Number
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 15, 2015

American Legion • Department of Arizona Membership Report, March 23, 2015

A	Al Reyes	9,487	8,977	94.62
B	Danny Bugh	17,746	16,771	94.43
C	Doug Keller	7,581	6,885	90.82
HQ	Andy Jaime	7,705	4,567	59.39
Grand Totals		42,519	37,200	87.49

High: Area A- 94.62% • District 4-96.90% • Post 143 - 252.94%

District 1 - Commander: Terry Greene

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
19 H.H. Donkersley	Yuma	942	875	92.89
46 Chic Chisom	Bouse	107	115	107.48
47 Somerton	Somerton	15	1	6.67
56 Floyd G. Jefferson	Yuma	163	146	89.57
67 Frank Mick	Roll	20	3	15.00
70 Freman Sharp	Parker	35	36	102.86
District Totals		1,282	1,176	91.73

District 2 - Commander: Steve Aguirre

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
7 Morgan McDermott	Tucson	348	307	88.22
10 Organ Pipe Cactus	Ajo	62	63	101.61
23 Ridge-Igo	Nogales	65	68	104.62
36 John P. Burns	Tucson	1,256	1,199	95.46
59 Cocio-Estrada	Tucson	345	307	88.99
66 Green Valley	Sahuarita	1,378	1,355	98.33
68 Sahuaro	Tucson	320	321	100.31
73 Casas Adobes	Tucson	136	128	94.12
102 Tucson Mountains	Tucson	96	88	91.67
109 McCulloch-Wagner	Vail	832	738	88.70
111 Patagonia	Patagonia	17	19	111.76
113 Burton E. Buck	Sonoita	19	12	63.16
125 Yoem	Tucson	55	39	70.91
131 Madera	Green Valley	756	777	102.78
132 Oro Valley	Oro Valley	270	321	118.89
142	Tucson	19	14	73.68
District Totals		5,974	5,756	96.35

District 3 - Commander: Mike Stout

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
11 Fred A. Hilburn	Douglas	283	265	93.64
16 L. A. Engle Jr.	Bisbee	74	40	54.05
20 Tenely - Lopez	Willcox	42	40	95.24
24 Roy Fourr	Tombstone	635	573	90.24
45 Vicente Manzo	Benson	99	95	95.96
52 Bill Carmichael	Sierra Vista	745	675	90.60
141 Pearce	Pearce	16	12	75.00
District Totals		1,894	1,700	89.76

District 4 - Commander: Roy White

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
8 Fred A. Humphreys	Casa Grande	251	255	101.59
9 McClellan-Parsons	Florence	146	144	98.63
17 William P. Kern	Superior	21	18	85.71
18 P.A.L.	Kearny	40	33	82.50
48 Francis M. Bunch	San Manuel	23	16	69.57
51 Haskel Osife Antone	Blackwater	37	43	116.22
54 William David Hood	Coolidge	123	104	84.55
97 San Tan	San Tan Foothills	60	49	81.67
129 Duane Ellsworth	Queen Creek	56	52	92.86
133 Bernie G Crouse	Maricopa	81	98	120.99
District Totals		838	812	96.90

District 5 - Commander: Richard Rodriguez

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
4 Henry Berry	Globe	185	173	93.51
28 Lloyd C. Hill	Clifton	137	112	81.75
32 Swift-Murphy	Safford	328	306	93.29
49 McCulloch-McNair	Duncan	46	40	86.96
95 Lopez-Hernandez	Solomon	85	78	91.76
District Totals		781	709	90.78

District 6 - Commander: Don Coffman

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
15 Frank Perkins	Winslow	87	74	85.06
30 John H. Slaughter	Springerville	160	141	88.13
31 Greer-Dewitt	Saint Johns	30	21	70.00
37 Navajo	Holbrook	54	32	59.26
60 Whiteriver	Whiteriver	44	35	79.55
69 Tonto Rim	Payson	440	304	69.09
76 WilliamHouse	Show Low	161	154	95.65
80 Lori Piestewa	Kykotsmovi	48	54	112.50
82 Warren L. Dempsey	Ganado	15	1	6.67
86 John D. Wibby	Overgaard	441	418	94.78
126 Snowflake - Taylor	Snowflake	24	23	95.83
130 Joseph McCarthy	Concho	34	26	76.47
District Totals		1,538	1,283	83.42

District 7 - Commander: James Roscoe

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
3 Mark A. Moore	Flagstaff	533	439	82.36
13 Cordova	Williams	105	100	95.24
14 Swaskegame	Kingman	285	260	91.23
22 Golden Valley	Golden Valley	215	212	98.60
33 Jerry & Daw	Tonalea	15	0	0.00
42 John Ivens	Grand Canyon	144	124	86.11
57 Robert Fulton	Ash Fork	87	91	104.60
81 Robert A. Eckert	L. Havasu City	1,186	1,169	98.57
87 Mohave Valley	Bullhead City	448	410	91.52
88 Dolan Springs	Dolan Springs	111	97	87.39
103 Meadview	Meadview	48	47	97.92
112 Curtis Huskon	Leupp	26	20	76.92
123 Forrest C. Longwell	Seligman	30	21	70.00
127 Mohave Valley	Mohave Valley	35	36	102.86
136 Yucca	Yucca	22	23	104.55
District Totals		3,290	3,049	92.67

District 8 - Commander: Tom Shackelford

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
6 Ernest A. Love	Prescott	687	628	91.41
25 Verde Valley	Cottonwood	543	502	92.45
40 Bobby Bisjak	Chino Valley	351	316	90.03
78 Humboldt	Humboldt	284	268	94.37
79 Taylor-Keehner	Yarnell	272	230	84.56
90 Black Canyon City	Black Cyn Cty	46	51	110.87
93 David C. Johnson	Camp Verde	266	254	95.49
104 Dennis S. Pike	Bagdad	24	19	79.17
108 Gary Streeter	Prescott Vly	84	77	91.67
122 Cordes Lakes Mem.	Cordes Lakes	37	33	89.19
135 Cornville	Cornville	66	73	110.61
139 George D. Reiff	Crown King	17	24	141.18
140 Prescott Valley	Prescott Vly	76	78	102.63
District Totals		2,753	2,553	92.74

District 11 - Commander: Wayne Chatfield

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
1 Luke-Greenway	Phoenix	751	639	85.09
5 Southern Meadows	Phoenix	61	48	78.69
12 Kellis-Draper	Wickenburg	362	340	93.92
29 Earl E. Mitchell	Glendale	1,271	1,198	94.26
43 Hazel Morton	Phoenix	10	7	100.00
50 Thomas Tang	Phoenix	46	42	91.30
53 Hazelton-Butler	Buckeye	98	87	88.78
61 Crandall-Palmer	Avondale	582	617	106.01
62 John J. Morris	Peoria	1,879	1,782	94.84
72 Dwight Eisenhower	Phoenix	15	18	120.00
94 Sun City West	Sun City West	327	315	96.33
96 Surprise	Surprise	196	177	90.31
101 John H. Harries	Sun City	100	83	83.00
105 Christopher J. Lapka	Phoenix	572	533	93.18
128 Daisy Mountain	Anthem	84	81	96.43
134 Laveen	Laveen	65	75	115.38
137 Isaiah Mays-Bill Mauldin	Tonopah	47	38	80.85
143 Goodyear	Goodyear	17	43	252.94
144 Glendale	Glendale	15	15	100.00
District Totals		6,480	6,138	94.50

District 12 - Commander: Glenn White

Post Name	City	Goal	2015	% Goal
2 William Bloys	Tempe	354	359	101.41
26 Mesa	Mesa	757	652	86.13
27 Apache	Apache Jct	2,601	2,489	95.69
34 Frank W. Wright	Cave Creek	362	369	101.93
35 Mathew B. Juan	Chandler	626	578	92.33
39 Merrill-Mitchell	Gilbert	640	691	107.97
41 Tony F. Soza	Phoenix	808	756	93.56
44 Sipe-Peterson	Scottsdale	980	1,023	104.39
55 James O. Shroeder	Sun Lakes	194	178	91.75
58 Fountain Hills	Fountain Hills	478	449	93.93
63 Lena Vaughn Whitney	Mesa	33	27	81.82
64 Ahwatukee	Ahwatukee	141	160	113.48
65 Travis L. Williams	Phoenix	330	249	75.45
75 Sunnyslope	Phoenix	193	173	89.64
83 East Mesa	Mesa	105	89	84.76
84 Ira H. Hayes	Sacaton	56	43	76.79
91 Wayne V. McMartin	Chandler	264	247	93.56
107 Irving B. Selmer	Phoenix	473	440	93.02
114 Bushmasters	Scottsdale	60	43	71.67
115 North Scottsdale	Scottsdale	59	15	25.42
117 Pat Tillman	Phoenix	233	215	92.27
124 Guadalupe Veterans	Guadalupe	28	29	103.57
138 James Witkowski	Tempe	209	183	87.56
District Totals		9,984	9,457	94.72

Legislative Conference continued from page 4

put an end to the waiting for VA appointments and secret wait lists. He said that there is a need for continued improvement and reform such as strengthening the oversight program. Veterans must have faith that the healthcare system designed for them will be there to meet their needs. Commander Jaime also asked for additional resources and alternative treatments from those suffering from PTSD and traumatic brain injury. Additional resources and alternative treatments must be provided as options for Veterans and Service Members in need of treatments for brain injuries and mental stress.

Commander Jaime also asked our Representatives and Senators to implement a pilot program that would subsidize businesses and non-profit organizations that create on-the-job training opportunities for Veterans. Additionally, extend and improve the work opportunity tax credit for hiring Veterans under the VOW Act.

The American Legion, being the founding author of the original G.I. Bill, believes that the Veterans should be allowed to convert G.I. Bill education funds into capital for business startups. These grants would further the goal of growing the Veteran-owned small business industry, which, in turn would generate jobs for Veterans. The Arizona delegation also asked our Representatives to end Veterans homelessness and oppose increases in TRICARE fees including prescription drug fees.

When National Commander Helm spoke to the joint session of the House and Veterans Affairs Committee, the chairman of the committee stated he would protect the American Flag and The American Legion is committed to protecting Old Glory, and continues to support legislation that safeguards our nation's flag from physical desecration. Members of the Arizona delegation were asked to co-sponsor legislation that the Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee presented in the House. Miller said that he had signed and asked other members of Congress to sign on too. This legislation would require a constitutional amendment that is supported by all 50 states, however, it has failed to pass the Senate even though it has passed the House several times.

Prior to the National Commander's testimony, the Arizona Legislature Committee, consisting of Larry Bahill, George Cushing, National Executive Committeemen Dick Perry, Jim Burke, Mike Espinosa and myself, discussed all of these legislative priorities with our Senators and nine Representatives. All of the Representatives and two Senators were supportive of The American Legion and its goals to maintain a strong national defense and support Veterans.



LtoR: NEC Dick Perry; Larry Bahill; Commander Andy; Mike Espinosa; Congresswoman Sinema; PDC George Cushing; and Neal Sundeen



LtoR: Larry Bahill; PDC George Cushing; Jan Cushing; Senator McCain; NEC Dick Perry; Commander Andy; and Neal Sundeen



LtoR: NEC Dick Perry; Commander Andy; Senator Flake; Larry Bahill; Jan Cushing; PDC George Cushing; and Neal Sundeen



LtoR: Mike Espinosa; Larry Bahill; Commander Andy; Congresswoman Kirkpatrick; and NEC Dick Perry



LtoR: NEC Dick Perry; Mike Espinosa, Larry Bahill, Congressman Grijalva; and Commander Andy

Upcoming Legion Events

April 10-12, 2015

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona Campout at Deadhorse Ranch State Park, Cottonwood, AZ. Tent & RV sites available. For registration/info, contact Detachment at 480 239-2844.

April 18, 2015

Sons of The American Legion "Past Squadron Commanders" Golf Tournament. Scramble Format 7:30 A.M. Shotgun Start Registrations starts at 6:30 A.M. At Viewpoint Golf Resort, 650 N. Hawes Road, Mesa, AZ 85207. Contact Jeff Frain at salspecialevents@cox.net

April 19 – 22, 2015

Gunny Burns Memorial Mini Reunion 1stBn9th Marines Association South/West Region Held at AVI Resort & Casino, Laughlin, Nevada. There will be many activities available and on the evening of the 22nd, we will honor our Hero, Gunny Sgt. Leon Burns, a Marine whom we all loved. For more information: Tom "Doc" Stubbs, 16040 N. 52nd Place, Scottsdale, AZ 85254 or email at 2stubbs1@cox.net

April 23, 2015

Department Commander Andy Jaime's Homecoming. Hosted by Sipe-Peterson Post #44 in Scottsdale – See page 7 for details. Contact Post #44 at 480 941-9053.

May 7, 2015

22nd Annual Patriotic Day Celebration Kyrene Akimel A-Al Middle School. 9:00 A.M. AMS Gymnasium, 2720 East Liberty Lane, Phoenix, AZ 85048. For more information call 480 541-5800 or www.kyrene.org/aki



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*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.

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Legion of the Silver Rose Induction Ceremony



*Honoring the Victims
of Agent Orange*



To recognize the Courage, Heroism, and Contributions of American Service personnel found to have been exposed to Agent Orange in a Combat Zone, whose exposure resulted in internal, invisible wounds which are revealed only by the passage of time.

April 25, 2015
American Legion Post 58
16837 E Parkview Ave
Fountain Hills, Arizona 85269

Honoree motorcade will be escorted to the event by members of the American Legion Riders and other supporting Motorcycle groups.

Rally point will be Post 58 – Route will go around the Fountain Lake back to Post 58

11:50 Motorcade departs Post 58 - returns 12:15
12:30 Induction Ceremony – American Legion Post 58
13:15 Luncheon (inductee and guest is provided all others \$5.00)

Contact: Lew Payne 480-818-7986 or Ernie Petit 480-309-3625.
Email Ernie at taphousebar@yahoo.com for information