



THE ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRE

VOLUME 2008

• OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA •

ISSUE 2

Much to be Accomplished In Final Quarter

As we start the last quarter of The American Legion year and the most active quarter, there is plenty of work to be accomplished.

Membership in our Department is doing great so far, but we're at the time of the year when things start to slow down. At this time, we have two 100% Districts and 46 100% Posts. A special thank you goes out to all that have achieved this.

We are approaching the time of the year that the Consolidated Post Report will be due. Last year, National only achieved 57% reporting. Let's show National what the Department of Arizona has contributed. This is where National obtains the figures on how we support our programs and how we serve our communities and veterans. These reports are gathered from each Department and submitted to Congress. We are an organization of volunteers so be proud to let them know what your members and your Post have done. As I said in my last article, this will be one of the two requirements to receive Bruce's "Ground Pounder's" Award. This report is due into Department by May 15th.

I had the opportunity to attend the Area "B" Oratorical Contest but was unable to make the finals due to schedule conflicts. With the final contest being over, I would like to wish this year's winner, Michael Fleming from Mesa High School, success at the National competition level. I want to thank all those present from the Legion Family that attended these contests to show their support and



especially to those who helped out in the contest from the Oratorical Chairman, Jim Burke, to the Judges, time keepers, ushers and all others who helped in making this another big success this year.

Since my last article, I have again had the opportunity to make my official visit to many Posts and to represent The American Legion Department of Arizona at several other events, meetings, etc.

Shortly after our Department "Open House", on January 19th, Sandy and I were invited to Post 36 for their dinner/dance and the next day I attended the District 2 meeting at Post 102 in Tucson. As far as Post visits, on February, 2nd we attended a dinner/dance at Post 41 in Phoenix. February 16th, we were up at Post 81 in Lake Havasu City and then came back the next day to attend the Post 83 Mesa Annual Dinner at the Pier De Orleans Restaurant in Mesa.

February 23rd, we were invited to attend the dinner at Post 29 Glendale, honoring our National Auxiliary President, Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan. We all enjoyed what she had to say and she has a wonderful personality. She is one very dedicated and knowledgeable lady for sure. The next day we were celebrating at Post 2 Tempe, for their Birthday and Americanism Awards Dinner.

In the beginning of March, several of us from the Legion Family filled up our gas tanks and headed north for the traditional "Northern Run" which included visits to Post 6 Prescott; Post 42 Grand Canyon; Post 3 Flagstaff and then wrapped up in Post 13 Williams. The weather was a little chilly for us Southerner's but we really lucked out this year and although we did see some snow, it wasn't on the road and it didn't create any problems traveling as it has in the past. The weekend of the 15th and 16th we found ourselves in the southwest part of the state in Post 19 Yuma, for The American Legion Birthday and Awards Banquet and the next day attending the District 1 meeting.

As for the events that I was able to attend during this period there was the following: Recruit.Military.com Job Fair (January 17th); Salute America's Heroes, at Post 35 Chandler (January 27th); Military.com Job Fair (February 7th); Phoenix V.A.M.C. Creative Arts Festival (February 14th); Iwo Jima Parade in Sacaton, (February 23rd); Wesley Bolin Plaza, for the dedication

Commander continued on page 2

American Legion National Commander Visiting Arizona

National Commander, Martin Conatser, will be making his official visit to the Department of Arizona May 18th through May 21st. A banquet in his honor has been scheduled at Apache Post #27 in Apache Junction for Sunday May 18th. No host cocktails 5:00 PM and Dinner at 6:00 PM. Please contact Department at 602 264-7706 for further information and tickets. A flyer will be going out in the All Post Mailing so check with your Post Commander and Adjutant for details.

Inside This Issue:

- National Convention Registration..... 2
- Baseball Tradition 3
- Overflow Hotels 3
- Volunteers Needed 3
- Scholarships Letter 4
- Having A Successful Event 4
- Tuba City Win Air Rifle Match 5
- Catalina Repeats In JROTC 5
- Department Hosting Western Regional 5
- Post Everlasting 6
- Chaplain's Corner 6
- Membership Report..... 7
- State Convention Info..... 7
- Baseball Fund Raiser Back
- Vets For Freedom Tour..... Back
- Gone Fishin' Back

State Oratorical Winners

On March 8th, the Department Oratorical Contest was held at The American Legion Post 44 in Scottsdale. Representing Area A was Katharine McMurray and from Area B Michael Fleming. We didn't have a contestant from Area C this year.

1st Place – Michael - \$1,500
2nd Place – Katharine - \$800

Michael advances to the National Competition being held in Indianapolis in April. He automatically wins \$1,500 for competing in the first round. If he advances to the second round, he will win another \$1,500. If he wins that round, he will then compete in the final contest where the third place winner receives \$14,000; second place \$16,000 and first place \$18,000. Good Luck Michael!

Four Districts were represented by the following students: Katharine McMurray, Sonoran Science Academy – District 2; Jessica Ridings and Jackelyn Skiles, Coolidge H.S. – District 4; Jaclyn Weeman, Xavier College Preparatory – District 11; and Michael Fleming, Mesa H.S. – District 12. Each of these students did an outstanding job and we congratulate them.

Thank you to the judges and all of the volunteers who continuously make this program such a big success. A special thank you to all of The American Legion Family members and officers who came to the contests and showed their support for the students. I know they appreciate seeing you out there. I would like to thank John P. Burns Post 36 in Tucson, William Bloys Post 2 in Tempe and Sipe Peterson Post 44 in Scottsdale for hosting the contests. Your officers and membership did an outstanding job!

Jim Burke, Department Chairman



L-R: Frank Whitten; Sally Truesdale; Jane Sundeen; Carol Hamburger; Area B Vice Commander; Michael Fleming; Katharine McMurray; Dr. Mary Murphy; Neal Sundeen; and Jim Burke, Department Oratorical Chairman

**THE ARIZONA
LEGIONNAIRE**

(USPS# - 115-290)
Published bi-monthly by
The American Legion
4701 N. 19th Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85015
602-264-7706
e-mail: hdqtrs@azlegion.org

Editor
Sheila Galloway

Publisher
John Aldecoa

Deadline
10th of the month preceding publication.
Material submitted after this date is not
guaranteed admission. Submissions
should be typewritten.

**Change of Address &
Circulation Information**
Subscriptions are \$1.50 per year for
members, paid as part of dues. \$10
per year for nonmembers.

"Periodicals" postage paid at Phoenix,
AZ and additional mailing offices.
Postmaster: please send address
corrections to: Arizona Legionnaire,
4701 N. 19th Ave., Ste. 200, Phoenix,
AZ 85015. Design and copyright
belongs to The American Legion.

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander
Bruce Conklin
(602) 418-0605

Vice Commanders
(A) Richard Perry (520) 457-3608
(B) Carol Hamburger (602) 789-7743
(C) Richard Kepler (928) 772-6576

NEC
Julius "Mac" Maklary (520) 364-5038

Alternate NEC
D.M. "Joe" Aguilar (520) 385-2142

Dist 1 Commander
Gregory Luna (928) 329-2989

Dist 2 Commander
Carol Stensby (520) 762-9282

Dist 3 Commander
Ernie Smith (520) 364-7603

Dist 4 Commander
Jerry Boales (520) 836-2705

Dist 5 Commander
Ernie Rodriguez (928) 348-9609

Dist 6 Commander
Catherine Cosgrove (928) 333-2680

Dist 7 Commander
Ed Rocha (928) 635-9511

Dist 8 Commander
Joseph Duggan (928) 567-5540

Dist 11 Commander
Keith Bartz (623) 972-9505

Dist 12 Commander
Jim Takas (480) 703-5118

Commander continued from page 1

and unveiling of the Code Talker's Monument (February 28th); The American Legion Rider's quarterly meeting at Post 27 Apache Junction (March 1st), and was able to stop in at Post 107 Phoenix where they were hosting a dinner for "Operation Homefront".

I want to extend a personal thank you to the entire Legion Family of all the above listed Posts and Districts that I visited during this time. Your hospitality and warm welcome that Sandy and I have received will always be remembered in our hearts. Thanks to all of you very much.

I believe that when we have members in our ranks that deserve to be noticed for their outstanding service, we should recognize them for their dedication. The first member that received a plaque from his Post was Samuel J. Carruba from Post 36 Tucson. Sam has volunteered

in excess of 13,130 hours of service as the Post Service Officer in the past 26 years. Jim Grone received the Americanism Award from William Bloys Tempe Post 2 Tempe, where he has served as Chairman on the Tempe Veterans Day Parade for over 20 years and also was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame in 2006. Last, but not least by all means, goes to Dominic Rosso who received a plaque for the "Driver of the Year" from Post 3 in Flagstaff. Dominic is also a member of the D.A.V. Volunteer Service Organization. He was recognized for transporting 90 patients over 13,527 miles and for 562 volunteer hours in taking our veterans to and from their doctor appointments this year. I salute all of you for your dedicated service beyond the call.

In the coming months, Posts and Districts will be nominating and electing officers for 2008-2009. Choosing officers for your American Legion is one of the most important functions and the success largely depends on their

faithful service. These officers should be chosen for their ability to perform the work of the office to which they are elected and not because of their social prestige or because they want the title of the office. Members that are experienced, educated and have exposure through serving on committees, attending leadership classes, conventions and conferences, make that person ready for positions of responsibility.

Remember, the Department Convention is right around the corner; June 19th - 22nd in Tucson. Get your reservations in and let's help John P. Burns Post 36, our Host Post, out in defraying the cost of the Convention booklets by purchasing ads and being a booster sponsor.

Remember to "Focus on the Future" in all that we do and let's all work together to have a productive year with many more to follow.

For God and Country,
Bruce Conklin, Commander

2008 National Convention
Phoenix, Arizona August 22 - 28, 2008

The Arizona Delegation has been assigned to the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa, 2400 East Missouri Ave. (602) 955-6600
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:

<input type="checkbox"/>	King bed, 1 or 2 people	\$ 106.66 *	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Double, 2 beds, 1 or 2 people	\$ 106.66 *	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional Occupants	\$ 10.00 per day	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arizona Party: Mexican Dinner & Mariachi Entertainment	\$ 30.00 per person	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Registration (<i>mandatory for Legion, Auxiliary and guests</i>)	\$ 15.00 per person	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Past President=s Luncheon	Call Auxiliary	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	States Dinner	\$ 45.00 per person	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	National Commander's Banquet (<i>limited to first 30</i>)	\$ 45.00 per person	\$ _____

TOTAL DEPOSIT

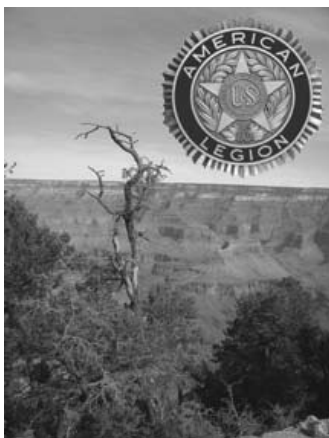
\$ _____

*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 14, 2008

- Occupancy Tax in the amount **12.27%** 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 18, 2008



**For the Latest
Legion Info
www.azlegion.org**

American Legion Baseball Long Time Tradition

This year, Arizona will host the 2008 State American Legion Baseball Tournament as well as the 2008 Western Regional Baseball Tournament. These events will be held in August at the Surprise Sports Complex, Surprise, AZ. We must realize that The American Legion here in Arizona is about to conduct one of its most important years as we will also host the 2008 National Convention. This is our chance to stand out among The American Legion Family nationally and demonstrate the dedication we possess.

On August 15th, the opening ceremonies will begin for the 2008 Western Regional Baseball Tournament where Arizona will host the five State Championship teams that include Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, California and Hawaii.

As you already know, The American Legion is committed to America's youth and that is why we have sponsored American Legion Baseball since 1925. The goals of American Legion Baseball are the development of team discipline, individual character and leadership development qualities in young people.

Here in Arizona, during the regular American Legion Baseball season, more than 300 ball players, managers, coaches and assistants are on baseball fields, eager to play baseball as they represent The American Legion. Many of these youngsters will become community leaders, and many will go on to serve our country. A number of their parents and grandparents have also served and are serving this very moment. Some of their parents and grandparents were and currently are American Legion Family Members. These players may go on to become baseball professionals and possibly join the prominent list of the Baseball Hall of Fame, which more than 45% of the inductees started their career in The American Legion Baseball Program.

These are committed team players representing the organization that we so believe in. Their dedication is beyond doubt as they endure the extreme weather conditions during the summer monsoon in Arizona where temperatures often exceed 114 degrees! They are ambassadors of The American Legion! They are exposing and sharing these activities with family, friends and the community and we must openly embrace them with our support.

Many baseball fans and friends who attend these ball games become members while realizing the importance of our youth and learning about the community related programs that The American Legion provides. The exposure to the public of this activity provides education to the community and is a proven way to increase membership in The American Legion Family as many will ask about The American Legion activities and "how to become a member." This is an attractive concept for achieving new members as I personally have experienced this at many of the ball games last year and have distributed many applications. It is unique because they actually asked me for the details!

Since the 2007 season, we have been fortunate to have Department Officers who are excited about Baseball in Arizona. Department Commander Bruce Conklin, Vice Commander Carol Hamburger, Department Adjutant John Aldecoa and candidate for Department Commander, Henry Branch, all have devoted time for the season's activities. They have supported our committee at scheduling meetings, attended games both locally and at the State Tournaments, and have participated in award presentations for the championship ceremonies. In 2007, Past District 12 Commander, Domingo Bonilla had

created the Baseball Chairman seat within the district. This position, that I still hold, has greatly increased the communications with the District Commanders and has produced a generous contribution and support. The Son's of The American Legion Detachment Commander, Jeff Frain, has shown his dedication as well by establishing the Baseball Chairman position that allows me to have the floor to reach out to members at conferences. Ed Cleary, Detachment Adjutant, has volunteered time to help create

Hosts continued on page 6

Overflow Hotels for 2008 Department Convention

Inform the Hotels "American Legion 2008 Convention" to get the rates listed.

Fairfield Inn By Marriot
4850 South Hotel Drive
Tel#: (520) 747-7474
Single room or Double room: \$67.00 + tax
Executive King: \$77.00 + tax
Non smoking building
has designated smoking areas
Cut off date: June 6, 2008

Crossland Economy Studios
4800 S. Butterfield Drive
Tel#: (520) 746-3612
Single: \$49.99 + tax
Double: \$59.99 + tax
\$5.00 per extra person
Smoking available on 3rd Floor
No cut off date
first com first served
rates could fluctuate

Days Inn
4855 S. Palo Verde Road
Tel#: (520) 747-8988
Single (Queen): \$54.95 + tax
Single (King): \$59.95 + tax
Double (2 Queen): \$64.95 + tax
Limited smoking rooms available
Cut off date: June 6, 2008

Red Roof Inn
3704 E. Irvington Road
Tel#: (520) 571-1400
Single: \$45.00 + tax
Double: \$49.00 + tax
Smoking rooms available
Cut off date: May 21, 2008

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed at the Arizona State Veteran Home in their "Adopt-A-Vet" program.

This program matches volunteers in the community with a veteran living in their nursing home. Volunteers come in to visit, play a game of checkers or take them for a stroll in the park next door. There are three levels of commitment depending upon your availability.

Caring Companions are those who have a lot of time and are able to come in once a week to visit with their assigned veteran. These people are matched with someone who has no family or friends in town.

Friends of Veterans are for those volunteers who have busy schedules but still want to make a personal connection with a veteran. Typically they are matched with someone who is more independent, but would still benefit from a friendly visit once in a while. We ask that volunteers visit at least one time a month, but may come more often if time allows.

Special Event Escorts are volunteers who are willing to be placed on our e-mail notification list. We let you know when we need people to help out for special events such as trips to the zoo, serving special holiday meals or helping with a carnival.

If you would be available to volunteer, please contact Leslie Goin at 602-263-1808 or lgoain@azdvs.gov

I look forward to hearing from you,

Dorelia Brooks
Volunteer Coordinator
Arizona State Veteran Home

**Sons of The American Legion
"Past Squadron Commanders"**

4 Person Scramble Golf Tournament

When: April 26, 2008
8:00 am shot gun start
7:00 am registration
Where: LINKS Golf Club,
445 E. Ocotillo rd., Queen Creek
480-987-1910

Cash Raffle

(1) \$500.00 (1) \$350.00 (1) \$150.00 with 144 players
(1) \$500.00 Driving contest
(3) Closest to the pin (1) Longest drive (2) longest putt
Entry Fee: \$70.00 per player
Includes green fees, cart, and lunch and (1) "cash" raffle ticket.

"All American Legion Family and Friends are Welcome"
Benefiting: Sons of The American Legion Children Charities

**Sons of The American Legion
"Past Squadron Commanders"**

Registration Form

Contact: Jeff Frain Phone: 480-620-3216 Send entry forms to: Attn: Jeff Frain S.A.L. Special events 10240 E. Carol Ave. Mesa, AZ 85208 Make checks Payable to: S.A.L. Special Events	Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____ If entering a full or partial team please fill in the following information Name: _____ Name: _____ Name: _____ Total # player's _____ @ \$70.00 each Total amount enclosed: \$ _____
--	---

**Checks must be included with registration for entries.
If you would like to sponsor a hole or be presenting sponsor please contact Jeff Frain at salspecialevents@cox.net for more details

NEAL S. SUNDEEN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

CERTIFIED SPECIALIST INJURY & WRONGFUL DEATH LITIGATION
STATE BAR OF ARIZONA

NEAL S. SUNDEEN, P.C.
TELEPHONE (602) 265-1200
1221 E. Osborn Rd. Ste. 105
Phoenix, AZ 85014, USA

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

Theodore C. Jarvi, Attorney at Law
Retired JAG - Legion member
1050 E. Southern Avenue, Suite G-3
Tempe, Arizona 85282
Tel 480-838-6566; Fax 480-838-8810
E-Mail: Theodore.Jarvi@azbar.org

* Federal law prohibits the payment of attorney fees by the veteran for assistance with any VA claim prior to final, negative Board of Veterans Appeals decision.

**MONTHLY INCOME
And
NO MORE
HOUSE PAYMENT
FOR LIFE**

**VA FHA
REVERSE MORTGAGES**

**FREE INFORMATION
PACKET**

**Call
Vicki or Vince
(480) 820-1169**

**Capital Pacific Mortgage
4625 S. Lakeshore Drive
Tempe, AZ 85282
MB0903082**

**Veteran Owned
Member American Legion
Post 2**

Letter to the Editor

Scholarships Go A Long Way

I want to pass this on to y'all about my youngest daughter Collette Monique Thorgerson (nee Wayne), and her older sister, Brigette Denell Elgie (nee Wayne).

The support of the United Submarine Veterans, Inc. and The American Legion scholarship awards that two of my daughters have been able to use towards their college education makes me proud to have been able to serve in the military and then watching how these two lovely ladies continue the legacy of living in a free country where people can pursue their dreams.

Brigette received her undergraduate degree at Smith College and has gone on to get her Masters while Collette graduated from the University of California, Davis and is working towards her Doctorate at Purdue. All of my children have received recognition and awards for outstanding deeds. Both Brigette and Collette have always been service oriented. Brigette was involved in the treatment of homeless troubled vets and continues to set examples for those around her and her daughter and two young sons. She has temporarily taken time off from the workplace for motherhood until her children are all in school.

Collette is working very hard to complete her education while raising a young daughter (also one in dry-dock), attending work-study programs overseas during semester breaks, doing volunteer work in the states and teaching undergrads. She herself served on active duty in the Air Force during Operation Desert Shield.

I have every reason to believe these achievement-oriented women would not have made it to where they are now without the monetary scholarship awards and I know that both of these organizations provided inspiration as well as some cushion comfort that they would not have had otherwise. It is with that thought that I want to thank the Sub Vets and The American Legion and the spouses, including the Auxiliary and the SAL, whose efforts to help the progeny of our American service veterans does itself proud. I myself have continued to support the ways and means to help contribute to fundraising for scholarships to help our youth. As a father, I know first hand how you have helped and continue to do so.

As the son of a Veteran and "Auxiliary" Mom, I grew up in The American Legion Family and benefited as a youngster with Boy Scouts sponsorship and later in American Legion Baseball. As a Navy Veteran and member of the Submarine Veterans I have enjoyed the ongoing fellowship of my shipmates as we watch the changing tides of our "Navy Ways" and the changing face of our nation. As a disabled military veteran who has received care from our Department of Veterans Affairs Hospitals, I have seen how The American Legion and its Auxiliary has been there for me, veterans all over, and service personnel currently serving our nation.

If you could pass my thanks on to the national organizations it would be gratefully appreciated from a humble veteran who is a very proud papa of six children. Keep up your good works for the good of our nation and be proud of your efforts for the American way.

Respectively,
Kenny Wayne, USN (SS) - Member of American Legion Post 79, Yarnell

The American Legion Purchase Program



We make it ~ easy ~ to purchase the latest appliances for your home, particularly if you are remodeling or relocating.

In addition, you can select and purchase these additional great products for your home:

- Craftsman® Garage Storage
- Sealy® and Sears-O-Pedic® Mattresses
- NordicTrack® Exercise Equipment
- Craftsman® Lawn Tractors
- Kenmore® Outdoor Grills, Televisions and more!

This unique program from Sears Commercial features —

- A private selection consultation, with a professionally trained specialist
- Preferred Affiliate Program Pricing, backed by our Price Matching Plus policy
- Program and pricing is **only available through Sears Commercial Sales**
- This offer is not available through Sears retail or dealer stores

3 Easy Steps

- Step 1: Members simply go to sears.com and find the product(s) they are interested in and write down the product/model number(s).
- Step 2: Members email the product number(s) to Company's designated contact at Sears Appliance Select : americanlegion@searshc.com for a quote. To receive this pricing a member must include their Company discount code **CU067849** in the email. They can also call a dedicated phone number for Legion Members at 214-392-5088.
- Step 3: Members can then use a credit card to purchase the discounted item and it will be delivered via a custom freight company.

All manufacturer warranties apply with the option to purchase extended Sears Protection Agreements. Installation is not included with delivery.

**Sears
Commercial**

Bonding Together For A Successful Event

This month my article is directed more towards the smaller to medium posts that sometimes have trouble getting their activities advertised in the local media. That may be because the event just needs a little "pizzazz" or maybe the public just needs to be able to tie the event to another organization that is getting ink in the paper.

One possible way you might be able to get that "pizzazz" is by "partnering". For those of you who are not familiar with the phrase "partnering", it's a new buzz word that refers to two or more organizations working together for "mutual helpfulness". Their reasons for coming together may be due to limited personnel, location, financial deficiencies or all of the above, but in the long run share in the benefit.

For instance, if your post wants to sponsor a blood drive or some other community event, but due to age or afflictions of your membership are not good sources for donating blood, then partnering is the answer! You may have the facility and with the "pull" of the local blood service, your event will more than likely be front page news!

Of course, partnering for a blood drive is just a suggested event - you may have some other community service that you feel is important like a membership drive, a school supplies drive. The events are limitless, but working with another organization may be the wedge you need to get your foot-in-the-door with the press.

In closing, always keep in mind Public Relations is one of those necessary evils that requires planning, patience and prudence - make a plan, put a good person on the project and watch for your name in the paper!

For God and Country,
Jeri Strande, Dept. PR Chairman

1ST Brigade (Separate) 101st Airborne Division in Viet Nam July 1965 through January 1968

The 11th Biennial Reunion of the 1ST Brigade (Separate) 101st Airborne Division will be in Hampton, Virginia September 25-28, 2008. All members of assigned and attached units who served between July 1965 and January 1968 are welcome. For more detailed information, contact:

Ivan Worrell - PO Box 675, Sweetwater, TN 37874-0675

phone and fax (423) 337-5983,

e-mail: firstbrigades101magazine@yahoo.com

<http://firstscreeamingeagles.org>



Catalina Repeats

Pictured is the team from Catalina High School who won the overall team trophy at the 2008 JROTC Skills Meet at Cesar Chavez High School.

A Skills Meet consists of both Drill and Physical Fitness Competition. The 10 person Armed Team took first in Regulation and Exhibition Drill, the Color Guard and the Dual Unarmed Exhibition Team also took first place. The Fitness Team took third place. The Overall Champions is decided by totaling scores from all the events.

Battling with 19 other High School Junior ROTC Units, this is the second year in a row that the Catalina Teams have won the overall Championship.



L - R Cadet Michaela Bondy (Color Guard CO), Cadet Lynette Reyes (Unarmed Drill Team CO) and Cadet Alex Morris (Fitness Team CO), Rollin Kohrs (JROTC Coordinator)

Department of Arizona Hosting Western Regional Baseball Tournament

High School baseball season has begun around our great state with many young men aspiring to enhance their skills on the diamond. Take some time and go out to the local high school and watch baseball as it should be played. As a matter of fact, don't just watch the game, become involved with their program, introduce yourself to the coach and publicize The American Legion program. Coaches are always looking for persons to support their program. Tom and Bud, our local chairman, are working diligently to enhance The American Legion Baseball program and need your help to improve the program within Arizona.

The Department Tournament will be held at the Surprise Complex beginning on Friday August 1st. All games will start at 4:00 PM. Field locations will be published in the next Legionnaire. I certainly hope that we can have a few more of our Legionnaires in attendance than we have had in the past. Admission to the tournament is free. Come out and watch some exciting baseball.

The 2008 Western Regional will be held at the Surprise Recreational Campus starting on August 13th with the Banquet of Champions on the concourse of the stadium and the tournament starting the following morning at 9 AM. In order for this tournament to be a success I need your help. Advertising in the program is \$300.00 per page, \$200.00 per half page, and \$125 for a quarter page. Any post selling an outside ad for the program will get a business size card ad in the program. Any individual will get their name mentioned on the Booster Page. Tickets to the game are \$30.00 for a tournament pass, \$7.00 per session (2 games), \$4.00 for children. Advance tickets can be purchased by contacting the Department Office or myself. Volunteers will be needed to assist in taking care of the dugouts, shagging foul balls, and selling souvenirs.

Tuba City Best Shots

The Arizona State Air Rifle Match was held at the Ben Avery Range on January 19, 2008. The meet is sponsored by The American Legion, Department of Arizona and hosted by T. G. Browne High School JROTC. Nine teams competed representing the Army, Navy and Marine Corps JROTC programs. The Match was tight with Tuba City winning with a score of 2073 followed by Alhambra with a 2070 and T. G. Browne with a score of 2022.

Ashley Manygoats was the "Top Gun" of the meet with the highest individual score. She also won the shootout scoring five out of ten bullseyes from the standing position. The coach for the Tuba City team is GySgt. Tim J. Shaner (Ret.).

The next major event for the JROTC Units will be the Desert Classic Drill meet to be held on the campus of Alhambra High School commencing at 8:30 on April 12th.

329th Fighter Interceptor Squadron (ADC) - George A.F.B. - 2008 Reunion

The 329 is planning a Reunion in Reno, Nevada for September 23rd through the 25th at the Eldorado Hotel. Hotel rooms will be at a rate \$69.00 a night. Reservations can be made direct with the Hotel at 800-648 59.66 using a Group Code of NFIS329 or online at: www.eldorado.com/group/329FIS.

A memory book is being compiled and information is to be forwarded to Jim Geddes ASAP. Please contact Jim at cpines64@cox.net, 702-478-8549 or 33 Chalet Hills Terrace, Henderson, Nevada 89052-6697 if you have any questions and also to let him know of your attendance.



L to R: Ashley Manygoats, Darrell Robbins, Stephen Goldtooth and Kevin Haskey

PRESCOTT IS SOLD ON
Lindquist, inc., Realtors®




Fred Lindquist CCIM, Broker
 424 East Gurley Street
 Prescott, AZ 86301
928-445-7600

Proud to be a Legionnaire
www.lindquistrealtors.com



With TEL3Advantage™ Flex Plan
 Call anywhere in the USA, Canada & INSTATE, for only



1.9¢
 Long Distance


- Online customer Sign-up or over the phone
- 1.9¢ when using a local access number & 2.9¢ over toll free access
- Online Billing
- Same rate 24/7
- Most competitive domestic International ratescancelling
- Instant activation
- Huge savings on you long distance
- No setup, cancelling or monthly fees

- No PINs
- Local Access
- No Hassles
- No Gimmicks
- No Contracts or commitments

TEL3Advantage™ Flex Plan is a revolutionary prepaid long distance service you can use from any phone, even your cell phone, without the hassle of switching phone companies, dialing PINs or paying hidden fees associated with phone cards.

Toll Free For Sign-Up
1 800 330-6897
www.wcldr.com

IMPORTANT
 please give Agent
790194



If you want to volunteer, give me a call at (602) 550-0762 or email me at rkohrs2133@msn.com. HELP OUR COMMITTEE MAKE THIS A GREAT SUCCESS!

Rollin Kohrs, Department Baseball Chairman

Live in Your Home for the Rest of Your Life, or for as Long as You Choose and Never Make Another House Payment!

This is made possible by a Government-Guaranteed FHA Insured Program with a Home Equity Conversion Mortgage, known as a "Reverse Mortgage", for Seniors age 62 and older who qualify.

- No monthly house payments
- No possibility of ever losing your home
- No income or credit requirements
- You preserve and receive income from your home equity, tax free
- Your title and all rights of ownership remain in your name
- Will not affect your social security or medicare benefits

We are Seniors helping Seniors. For over 30 years, we have been helping Seniors take care of their retirement.

Please call or write for more information that will answer any questions that you might have.



ROY BRANCH
 Reverse Mortgage Specialist
602-682-5111 PHX
520-237-7780 TUC
 MBR A.L. Post 36 World War 2 Vet



Post Everlasting

1	Francis W McDonough
Nick Bernardo	Donald J Thill
Donald Coghill	Jay S Zimmerman
George A Curry	14
Frank J Fiorucci	James E Graves
Robert A Hays	Kenneth E Howard
Nello Rosato	Alma C Nelson
2	John H West
John J Amish	19
Paul Briggs	Glenn A Brown
Louis Franco	Linda A Calkins
Comer K Hammonds	Lewis E Hale
3	22
Glenn R Compton	Victoria Argostino
Robert George	24
Scott James	Richard Wiegand
Mark A Sapp	25
4	James Murphy
Harry G Scheier	26
5	Donald E Nacke
Milton J Wilson	George M Simpson
6	27
William E Berry	Richard Bolin
Clyde Evans	Grover A Carter
Vincent R Gallegos	Mel Dunn
Denis E Graham	Arthur L Hill
William D Kahl	Robert L Kincade
Fritz M Kirsch	Hillard W Kloemken
Margaret M Mitchell	Orville C Langan
James E Muenker	Dale S Smith
Milton C Reamy	George Taylor
Arthur G Schreiber	Edward J Wilson
William A Sieckmann	28
7	Daniel B Lucero
Frank Borman	29
John O Cotton	Ralph G Baskett
Joseph E Gaines	Wilfred L Bouley
Ken F Kerber	William C Branstrup
Ernest Luna	Thomas W Chatburn
Robert E Mc Cleery	James Lee
Dallas D Wynn	J P Maher
9	Peter J Rourke
Joseph N Helmick	Juan D Sanchez
Lloyd Henning	Henry H Soto
10	Harry H Stobbe
Joseph Scoleri	Norman R Tucker
William H Weis	Carl C Vacco
11	David Valencia
William L Floyd	John L Van Duzer
Enrique G Marquez	Ray Walker
Trinidad C Segovia	Sarah Warnick
12	Jane R Widden
Robert J Cousins	James R Yeager

John Zumbroegel	32
Kenneth B Armstrong	Michael D Cranford
Orville A Green	Miles E Mann
Gerald L Mc Queen	Ray M Robinson
Dennis V Shurtz	35
Clifford Kile	Frank T Mazon
Donald G Waring	36
Carl M Alapeck	James E Boyd
Henry Fischer	Frederick J Howard
Raymond C Kunsemuller	Joseph J Matalone
George E Neis	Kenneth L Nellermeoe
Flavious J Patterson	40
David W Bratten	41
Raul M Cota	Louis H Duran
Tony Duran	Jesus M Hernandez
Mike Velasquez	42
James K Pierce	44
Lynn C Altmeyer	Chad M Golab
Eugene D Johnston	Anthony P Lombardi
John G McFarlane	Clarice F Pollard
H S Price	Donald J Sckrabulis
48	John Lutich
50	Lang C Tang
Sing Yee	52
Edward J Madden	Ronald E Siegmund
54	Ervin T Steege
Charles A Worden	55
Anthony Hooge	Angelo S Mogavero
56	David Pospisil
59	Pete Estavillo
61	Roy E Allen
62	George A Belanger
Ray Boone	Gerald W Dyar
Reuben W Erickson	

Leonard E Evans	Gerald D Goss
Clarence L Mallett	Leo J McCormick
Richard E Northrop	William C Robb
Leo Roesler	65
Raymon M Pittman	66
William S Burns	Edward L King
Joseph J Pace	Edward C Schlenker
William J Shea	Harold E Thorp
Terrel J Vickoren	68
Henry Armenta	Jay Barnett
Antonio E Bravo	Julio M Calderon
Elmo Cisneros	Ignacio A Cota
Edward E Gradillas	69
Clarence A Baker	Charles J Bishop
Larry A Poteet	Max P Quitter
William R Spry	73
Pauline A Eisele	E J Kruse
Robert C Spackeen	John J Wotring
75	Francis N Drouillard
79	Martin G Cavanaugh
81	John P Chirdon
Estel Collins	Donn Fallenbuchel
Donald G Foster	Charlie E Fox
83	Erwin Clement
86	Thomas L Cambron
Lawrence W Danielson	88
Dewaine K Cummings	89
James C Delaney	93
David B German	Bruce A Ward
94	Emily A Anderson
Paul W Landrock	Bernard J Mc Peak
Kenneth J Miller	John R Molloy
Harold L Panner	100
Robert Abrams	

Donald Babcock	Milt Baskin
Melvin B Branson	Robert L Brewer
Charles L Brown	Robert W Button
James L Cox	Franklin D Ellingson
Jerry A Gilmore	Anthony J Greenwald
Arlyn Kinkel	Peter V Kotchou
Charles A Lancaster	Craig T Larson
Alfred McInerney	Alva D Messenheimer
Charles Morrison	Ernest Ortega
Frank P Perry	Mike Piron
Peter H Puetz	Robert Pyrtle
Tommy Quintier	Paul S Reed
Raymond C Reeve	Samuel J Repp
Charles B Rogers	Felix J Romero
Robert R Rucker	W D Sherrill
Milton D Sproull	George J Wilson
Richard A Wood	Richard Worones
Leonard M Zamora	101
Richard J Baker	Sydney A Saetre
George T Tastsides	William A Wolfllin
102	William R Austin
Russel C Mills	105
James F Ballard	Richard Cooper
107	Joseph A Bernard
Jim Jay	Gerald L Schwartz
108	George W Thornbrew
109	John H Lovern
Angelo Riviezzo	Scott A Vanvoorst
Martin Wendling	114
Robert Correa	Joel N Jefferson
115	Donald E Brown
Forrest B Slocum	126
George R Freeman	

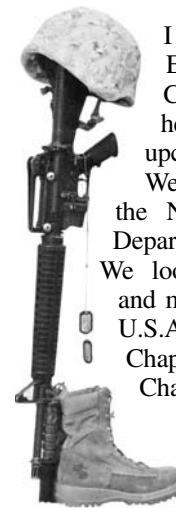
Welcome Back!

Mistakenly, these members were listed as deceased and they aren't:

John Lugo, Post 44
Edward Martinez, Post 31
Sherwood Propst, Post 62

Chaplain's Corner

Greetings Comrades



I hope everyone had a glorious Easter Sunday. It seems that the Fall Conference was only yesterday and here we are looking forward to the upcoming Department Convention. We also are looking forward to the National Convention which the Department of Arizona will be hosting. We look forward to meeting friends and making new ones from across the U.S.A. I am excited about seeing fellow Chaplains that I met at the National Chaplains' Conference.

Many good things have happened in The American Legion Family, like the dinner honoring our National Auxiliary President, Jan Pulvermacher-Ryan, at Post 29 and having the opportunity to meet her. We are also confronted with the sad part of losing some of our American Legion Family members and those brave men and women of our Armed Forces.

We were honored to co-celebrate with Unit #62 Peoria, the celebration of life for Aunt Sady Rady 101 year old matriarch of Unit #62 where she had volunteered for thirty years.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for all the gifts you have bestowed on us. We must remember to thank You for them and also praise You for our wishes not granted.

We ask Your blessings on our American Legion Family and especially on our gallant men and women serving in war torn lands. We ask all these things in Your Holy Name. Amen

For God and Country,
Bill Schneider
Department Chaplain

Hosts continued from page 3

fund raisers to help us with expenses. These officers, and many officers in the Tucson Area, understand the hard work that goes into the program's preparation throughout the season and they distribute this information to the many audiences they speak with.

I have received wealth of information in the past year from two outstanding mentors. These are two dedicated directors who work hard to provide these young team members the opportunity to expand their leadership and sportsmanship abilities. Bud Grainger (Tucson, Area A) and Rollin Kohrs (Phoenix, Department: Area B), are prime examples of true dedication as their efforts go far beyond what is expected.

Together, Bud and Rollin have a combined total of time working with the Baseball Program that exceeds 65 years! Not to mention the many offices they have held over the years and they still hold with the same solid dedication. They are model examples of The American Legion investing in America's young people! There is a need for future enthusiastic leaders with the same dedication and loyalty as Buddy and Rollin have possessed and have clearly and unquestionably demonstrated over the years. They continue to give countless hours of their time and have made this program, and other programs they are involved with, number one priorities in their lives. As any American Legion Officer or Chairman knows, it takes valuable time away from family and personal lives when

you are a committed volunteer and leader.

Calling upon The American Legion and corporate sponsors for funding, support and volunteerism is a very humbling task. Asking for help and often experiencing rejection towards youth programs can make it difficult to "stand tall" and keep moving ahead. But these directors continue to move ahead with the program year after year. These are two prime examples of what the founders of The American Legion had in mind when they developed the Baseball Program in 1925.

I ask that you get familiar with the Baseball Program in your area as I too am fairly new to the program. Before getting involved in Arizona, the only exposure I had to American Legion Baseball was through my father-in-law, August Meyer, Post 157 Branchville, NJ. Although he is no longer with us, he was a strong supporter of American Legion Baseball for many, many years. I can only hope that I can demonstrate the same impassioned commitment as he has shown. I ask for your support to help me achieve my whole-hearted goals and obligations as the Sons of The American Legion Detachment Baseball Chairman and Area B Baseball Chairman.

This program is rapidly growing in Arizona. As we are now in the 2008 season, your support and contributions are greatly needed to keep this program active and moving forward. The American Legion is committed to organizing

teams and supplying insurance, field maintenance and lighting, baseballs, the cost of professional umpires and many other functions that will be conducted in 2008 especially for the Regional Championship games. From January through May, we organize the teams as we reach out to high school coaches and ask for their participation. Each year, there are high schools that have financial difficulties and therefore cannot participate. Your contributions can help towards the sponsorship of such teams or help towards many other financial obligations we face each year.

Please visit <http://www.baseball.legion.org/history.htm> and you will get an understanding of what this program consists of. We are asking all Posts to please contribute to this worthy cause. Your support and contributions will be an investment in our youth and continually go on to be recognized by The American Legion and The American Legion Baseball Program. The players and committee would like to extend a thank you to those who have supported and continually support this activity.

Thank you,

Thomas Kusek
American Legion Baseball,
Arizona Detachment Baseball Chairman
Area "B" Chairman,

THE ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRE

VOLUME 2008

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

ISSUE 2

American Legion Baseball

Ahwatukee
4302 E. Ray Rd.
(480) 704-0010

Avondale
10120 W. McDowell Rd.
(623) 936-9776

Chandler
3450 W. Chandler Blvd.
(480) 855-3658

Gilbert
1422 W. Warner Rd.
(480) 813-7799

Glendale
7350 W. Bell Rd.
(623) 878-4848

Mesa
3420 E. Baseline Rd. #107
(480) 558-7401

Camelback
1615 E. Camelback Rd.
(602) 263-0110

7th & Bell
430 East Bell Rd.
(602) 843-6770

Phoenix
50 N. Central Ave.
(602) 256-9200

Scottsdale
4032 N. Scottsdale Rd.
(480) 429-8270

Scottsdale
16495 N. Scottsdale Rd.
(480) 609-9800

Scottsdale
14854 N. Frank Lloyd Wright Pkwy.
(480) 614-0338

Tempe South
780 W. Elliot Rd.
(480) 491-5332

Tempe University
414 W. University Dr.
(480) 446-3116



are teaming up to raise funds for the American Legion Baseball Program.

Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Time: 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: ALL BAJA FRESH

locations.

Dine in. Take out. Call ahead, grab it and go! Get together with family and friends to help us while you help yourself to some great food-with an event like this, everybody wins! Help earn important dollars for our cause!

Enjoy great Baja Fresh® food while benefiting American Legion Baseball.

Bring this AD in and 15% of the proceeds will be donated to American Legion Baseball in Arizona

On March 18, 2008, the Vets For Freedom Tour came to Tucson to meet the media, the veterans, the public and to spread their message of hope, success and support for our men and women in uniform and especially in harm's way in the middle east. They were hosted by the John P. Burns Post 36 of The American Legion.



The event was attended by a wide swath of veterans, public and local media. Post 36 was proud to host this meeting. All attending found the presentation extremely inspiring and uplifting. The speakers were informative and emotional and brought the audience to their feet with applause many times. We wish them much success with the rest of the tour.

Thank you to Antonio Rigney, Historian Post 36 for the picture and article.

L to R: SSGT David Bellavia USA, Co-Founder of Vets For Freedom, nominated for the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross and has received the Silver Star, the Bronze Star for Valor and the Conspicuous Service Cross; Jeremiah Workman, USMC (Active), currently on his second tour in Iraq, winner of the Navy Cross; Ken Dowse, Post 36 Commander; Capt. Pete Hegseth, USA, Executive Director of Vets For Freedom, who was awarded the CIV and the Bronze Star; and Lt Col. Steve Russell (Ret.), Battalion Commander of the unit that captured Saddam Hussein, received the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with Valor Device and the Oak Leaf Cluster; the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Valorous Unit Award.

Gone Fishin'

What do you get when you have 150 challenged students and their counselors, AZ Game & Fish Rangers from around the Valley, volunteers from The American Legion Family, LOTS of fish and you put them all together at Red Mountain Park in Mesa? You have the 10th Annual AZ Game & Fish FOP Lodge #71 Regional 6 Fishing Clinic which was held on February 21st.

It was a fun-filled day for everyone involved, especially the students. They are given fishing equipment and bait so that they can participate in the catch and release of fish freshly stocked in the pond that morning. The students actually get to help put some of the fish in the pond. The excitement when the students catch the fish is contagious. Everyone there is clapping and cheering. Pictures are taken for bragging rights back at school and the pride that you see on the student's face stays with you. It's a huge accomplishment that they did on their own.

Each student gets to keep the fishing equipment they use that day in hopes that they will go fishing with family and friends in the future. This is the only fishing clinic where the students can keep the equipment. There are other fishing clinics but the students have to turn in the equipment when they are done. Some of the sponsors for the equipment include Bass Pro Shops and Remington.

The students also have lunch provided (donations from Basha's). The Rangers and volunteers cook hamburgers and hot dogs, serve salads, chips, cookies and soda and water. It was lots of fun and everyone looks forward to doing this again next year!



L to R Roland Matteson, Post #105; Sheila Galloway, Unit #61; Sherry Hall, Unit #61; Bruce Conklin, Department Commander; Debbie Collins, Department Auxiliary 2nd Vice President; Larry Collins, Squadron #105 and AZ Game & Fish Ranger.



Students enjoying a day of fishing