

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

ISSUE 2

# **Department Staff Hard At Work in 2009**

Fellow Legionnaires, I bring you greetings. We are rapidly moving further into this year as we work on our agenda and I wonder where the time has gone. At the Department Headquarters, the staff has been extremely busy, working hard, and giving a high level of performance while serving veterans, their families and communities.

We have made excellent progress with Children & Youth, the Oratorical Contest, Operation Wounded & Comfort Warriors, Membership, and other programs. Our officers have performed admirably by providing quality leadership at all levels (Department, District, and Post) and are commended for a "job well done".

In January, a Children & Youth /National Security Forum was conducted at Post 29 in Glendale, with over 60 people in attendance. Legion and Auxiliary chairmen gave training to our Junior Auxiliary, Department officers, and members on a myriad of The American Legion Family programs. On the agenda; JROTC, Joe Foss Foundation,



Boys & Girls State, Legion Baseball, Oratorical Contest, Junior Shooting Sports, Boys & Girls Scouts, just to name a few.

In early February, National Membership Director Billy Johnson and National Vice Commander Harley Ray (Oregon) visited Arizona to canvas the community and assist our membership team in acquiring another new Post #133 in Maricopa. The team operated from the First Baptist Church of Maricopa and even signed up the pastor! Thus far, our team has proudly added three (3) new posts and are currently working on others in Yucca

and Cornville.

I also toured the ADVS Veterans Home and visited the VA Medical Center in Phoenix. At the home, I viewed the state-of-the art medical equipment available to treat veteran residents suffering with dementia or Alzheimer's. At the VA Medical Center, I attended the Auxiliary's Creative Arts Festival and observed the different forms of art (knitting, carving, painting, etc.) made by veteran patients.

Our Legion Family came together to attend the post everlasting memorial service for Past Department President PattiJo Marlowe. PattiJo was a long time member of Unit # 1 and was dearly loved by all. Her service to The American Legion and Auxiliary was outstanding; she will be missed. Later in the month, the legislative committee delegation flew to Washington D.C. to attend The American Legion's 49th Conference to discuss veteran issues with elected Arizona representatives on Capitol Commander continued on page 2

# **Department Oratorical Winners**

On March 7th, the Department Oratorical Contest was held at The American Legion Sipe Peterson Post 44 in Scottsdale. The following students participated in the contest: Katharine Mc Murray, Sonoran Science Academy, Tucson; Nicholas Everetts, Fountain Hills H.S., Fountain Hills; and Clayton Masterman, Fort Mohave H.S., Fort Mohave. These students did a terrific job and congratulations to each of them.

Clayton advances to the National Contest in

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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 then he will compete in the final contest where the third place winner receives \$14,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$16,000 and 1<sup>st</sup> place \$18,000. We wish Clayton the best of luck in Indianapolis!

I would like to thank everyone who attended the contests. It is encouraging for the students to present their speeches to a large audience. A very special thank you to the cadets of the Civil Air Patrol Deer Valley Squadron 302 who were the escorts. The cadets are also members of Squadron 105 and Junior Auxiliary Unit 105 Westown. Thank you to the judges - Julie Vietri, Neal Sundeen, Pam Joranstaad, Mark Joranstaad and John Tymczyszyn for the terrific job; to all of the volunteers who make this program such a big success, without you we can't do it; and a special thank you to The American Legion Family of Post 44 for hosting the Department Contest and for providing breakfast and lunch for everyone-it was outstanding!

1 <sup>st</sup> Place - \$1,500 - Clayton
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place - \$800 - Nicholas
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place - \$500 - Katharine

Roger Munchbach, Chairman



L-R Front Row - Clavton Masterman. Nicholas Everetts and Katharine McMurray Back Row- Department Commander Henry Branch, Civil Air Patrol Squadron 302, Department Auxiliary President Vickey Zwall



Thank you to everyone who attended the Department Oratorical Contest. As you can see, we had a terrific audience and the students really appreciated speaking to a full room

## THE ARIZONA

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Commander continued from page 1

Hill. The proposed flag protection amendment passage, VA health care, rights of veterans, GI Bill, national security, Global War on Terrorism, etc. were major issues of importance. The delegation urged lawmakers to support all critical legislation affecting veterans.

On March 7th, the Department Oratorical Contest finals were held at Post 44 in Scottsdale, with all three Department areas represented in the strong competition. The young people were well prepared and did an outstanding job speaking on the U.S. Constitution. Department Oratorical Chairman Roger Munchbach conducted the event that had over 100 people in attendance to hear the contestants. Clayton Masterman, a senior at Fort Mohave High School (District 7), won the competition. Clayton received a check for \$1,500. We wish Clayton the

best of luck at the National Competition in Indianapolis.

The Arizona Legionnaire

Ann and I have been traveling throughout our great state to many official visits, functions and activities. We thank you for the warm hospitality. delicious meals, wonderful gifts, and excellent presentations. Thanks to Post 36 in Tucson, for an exciting evening of dancing and the Eagle Leadership Award and to Post 65 in South Phoenix and Post 41 Phoenix, for the grandeur of the Inter-post Visitation and the smoothness of "oldies music", respectively. A special thank you to PDC Louie and Gilda Pellon for the excellent barbeque ribs!!

The American Legion Riders (ALR) through Operation Wounded Warriors (OWW) are sponsoring fund-raisers (donation tables at Wal-Marts, raffles, motorcycle benefit runs, etc.) to help recovering, disabled and homeless veterans. They have also helped the families left behind by our military personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan.

All posts are encouraged to complete and turn in their Consolidated Post Reports (CPRs) and to take credit for all your Legion work, as it will be reported to Congress. The Department Convention will be held June 18th through 21st, at the Renaissance Hotel in Glendale.

Until next time, May God Bless you. Continue to "Just Ask" when recruiting new members. To reach our membership goals, we need to get in as many renewals as possible, and don't forget about the National Commander's membership incentives.

FOR GOD & COUNTRY Henry Branch

# 24 Year Old Promise

On March 12, 2009, Cheryl & I attended a reception for Arizona Governor, Jan Brewer. At the reception, I was given the opportunity to bring closure to a promise that I had made 24 years ago.

In the early 1980's, I was appointed to the Arizona Vietnam Veterans Memorial Board. Our job was to design, fund and build the Arizona Vietnam Veteran Memorial. We dedicated the memorial in November 1985 and had invited President Reagan to the ceremony. He was not able to attend, but sent the Secretary of Defense, Casper Weinberger, to the dedication. The Secretary of Defense hand carried a letter from President Reagan and read it at the dedication. After the ceremony he gave the letter to the board. We discussed what to do with the letter because the State did not have a very adequate system for archiving paper documents and we felt the letter would be misplaced or worse, destroyed. I was selected to be the custodian of the letter until such a time that we felt it would be properly archived, protected and displayed at the State capitol in Phoenix.

In 1985, the then Senator Jan Brewer was an avid supporter of the memorial and other veteran issues. When she recently became the Governor, we decided it was time to turn the letter over to her. When I found out she was coming to Sierra Vista, I made arrangements to present the letter to her. The presentation went very well and the Governor was very pleased and moved by an original, one of a kind, letter from the late President Reagan. To say the least, it certainly made my day and was the final closure to a 24 year promise.

Thanks Larry Braden Past POW/MIA Department Chairman

#### THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

November 6, 1985

I am honored to have this opportunity to extend warm greetings to the Vietnam Veterans of Arizona and all others gathered for the dedication in Phoenix of the Arizona Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Our Vietnam-era veterans fought for the preservation of America's freedoms and the Arizona and for the people of South Vietnam. In Arizona and throughout these United States, they did not hesitate the onester their nation's call. Americans, and all of America's freedoms and for the promise of liberty freedom-loving people, owe them a debt that can never be repaid.

There are no words to express the depth of appreciation I feel for the sacrifice and courage of these brave Americans, but we must do all we can to pay every possible honor to them and to their fallen comrades.

More and more citizens are coming to appreciate just what our Armed Forces were trying to achieve in Indochina. Theirs was not a war of conquest or subjugation; it was, rather, a part of our national heritage, with Americans taking up arms in behalf of people resisting aggression by a ruthless and tyrannical foe.

I proudly join in saluting the Vietnam Veterans of Arizona on the dedication of this special memorial. Nancy It is a fitting and well-deserved homage. and I send our best wishes. God bless you.

Rouald Reagan

#### April 2009

Department Commander

#### April 2009

## For Some of Us Memorial Day Is Everyday

I cannot help but see some irony in most holidays. Memorial Day is one that especially hits home with me. I am sure we all know someone who is affected directly by this particular day. Still we only seem to honor those who gave it all, so we could enjoy it all, one day of the year. I see the faces of friends whose names appear on the Vietnam Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, DC.

Is it only to clear our conscience to do good things on certain days? Like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July where patriotism runs high for one day or Thanksgiving where we hand out food baskets and contribute to food banks to feed the poor and homeless for one day or Veterans Day, where we honor Veterans for their service every day, for one day or Mothers and Fathers Day, for one day.

It is good that we do set aside these celebrations to recognize service and sacrifice but we should not let these "holidays" be set aside only as a day off work or an opportunity for a family outing or a backyard barbecue.

On many Memorial Day's in the past, I have had the honor and privilege to be a part of the commemorative service at Greenwood Memory Lawn Cemetery in downtown Phoenix. As a member of the Honor Guard of American Legion Post #1, I had the opportunity to reconnect with many fellow veterans that I do not get to see often. Looking into the faces of others who also have seen mans' inhumanity to man close up, reestablishes the bond we have. I know that although we "do" Memorial Day once a year, these fellow Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines "do" Memorial Day everyday in their hearts and minds. We gather, poke fun at each other using the friendly inter-service rivalries freely. But as we watch the Flag go by and hear Taps, the tears are never far off.

Every day someone's loved one becomes a Memorial Day statistic and we should not forget them either, not only the fallen, but the families of the fallen, for Memorial Day comes every day, somewhere.

I wrote an article several years ago in The Arizona Legionnaire about Lance Corporal Tim Davies. He was killed about noon on July 20, 1966. I wrote in the column that I could still hear the three shots that I later learned were fatal to my friend and fellow Marine. I was having a hard time, through survivor's guilt, of understanding how I could make his passing anything but loss. It seemed to me that a life lost should be a plus somewhere, but how?

I put myself in the position that if it were me and not him that fell that day, how would I want him to carry on. I knew I would want him to live a full and happy life, not mourn and become a casualty as well. This is how we should honor our fallen heroes, live a full and rich life and make their sacrifice a plus somewhere in our lives. So to honor them, live your life to the fullest and keep Memorial Day in your hearts and thoughts... every day.

Semper Fi, Tom Hinsdale

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Arizona Military Women's Conference

June 26, 27, 28, 2009

Arizona Department of Veterans Services and Veterans First Ltd. are co-hosting this event. Please visit <u>www.azdvs.gov</u> for future updates.

# The American Legion Department of Arizona 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention June 18 – June 21, 2009

Hosted by Earl E. Mitchell Post #29 Glendale, AZ (623) 937-3411

# Renaissance

Phoenix Glendale Hotel 9495 W. Coyotes Boulevard, Glendale, AZ 85305 (623) 937-3700 or FAX (623) 937-3703

Pre-registration Form –PLEASE DON'T MIX LEGION, AUXILIARY OR S.A.L.

#### **Please Print**

Name:	Post#	_Title:
Name:	_Post#	_Title:
Name:	Post#	Title:

Send completed form and \$10.00 per person pre-registration fee to: EARL E. MITCHELL POST #29 6822 N. 57<sup>TH</sup> Drive, Glendale, AZ 85301

**Registration fee at the Convention will be \$12.00 per person.** 

#### Post 31 Gets Permanent Charter



Area A Commander Louis Romero looks on as District 2 Commander Ken Dowse presents the permanent charter to Ray Greely, who was standing in for Commander Manny Canez. Seated are Jerry Connors, Finance Officer, and Neva Rasmussen, Adjutant and acting Chaplain/Secretary. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of March, Madera Post 131 of Green Valley was awarded it's permanent charter. District 2 Commander Ken Dowse, accompanied by Area A Vice Commander Louis Romero, District 2 Adjutant / PDC Dave Roun, District 2 Sr. Vice Commander Gary Nelson and District 2 Historian Tony Rigney, read and presented the document at the March General Membership Meeting. The meeting was well attended by members and by future members of Unit 131, which expects it's charter within weeks, and hopeful members of a Squadron 131.

Post 131 is the 1<sup>st</sup> of two new posts in District 2 established during Ken Dowse's year as Commander. Post 131 already has a Post Home and the members are working tirelessly to get it into shape and, from what was witnessed today, they are making major headway. We all are

expecting great things from this new post and its members.

Article/Picture submitted by Tony Rigney District 2 Historian

#### Found – WWII Medals

Approximately 15 medals and ribbons, likely from WWII, were found in the East Valley.

These would have been lost some time before April 5, 2008. Included in the medals are: Purple Heart, Silver Star, Bronze Star, U.S. WWII Victory Medal, Distinguished Service Cross and a Legion of Merit Medal. If anyone knows who the medals might belong to, please call Sherri Power, Mesa Surplus Store at (480) 644-2663 or (480) 644-4510.

# **Legion Volunteers Served Lunch at Fishing Clinic**



Arizona Game & Fish Rangers hosted a fishing clinic at Red Mountain Park in Mesa in February for handicapped children in the Mesa School District. The students were given fishing poles and equipment for "catch and release" and then were served lunch by volunteers from The American Legion Family. It was a fun and exciting day for all!



#### 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 <u>prohibits</u> the payment of attorney fees by the veteran for assistance with any VA claim prior to final, negative Board of Veterans Appeals decision.



#### April 2009



## **"Membership Never Takes A Break**"

... I love that saying and as the Department Membership Director, I've used it many times...and there's no truer statement!

This year, as many of you know, National will not be distributing any Direct Mailing Solicitation (DMS) members to the Departments; resulting in each state having to get out and "beat the bushes" to get new and renewal members to make-up the difference. Members are what we need to keep our great organization alive! So far this year, the Department has issued four (4) temporary charters for new posts – while new posts

#### The Arizona Legionnaire

are vital to our growth, equally important is bringing back the members we already have!

Now is the time for Post Commanders to put their 1st Vice Commanders to work...after all **MEMBERSHIP** is their primary job! Now is the time for that vice commander to gather up his/her membership team which should include some of your long time members. The team needs to review the membership roster and assign names of non-paid members to be contacted (more often than not, your long time members know these folks by their first names....heck, they may have originally recruited the person). Make a plan and stick to it!

Phone calls and letters are fine, but personal contact is the **best** way to find out why your membership is not renewing...you may find that it's because they have differences with the current leadership, or maybe it's because they feel that the post is not serving their needs or maybe it's because of financial difficulties! You will never know the answer to the question, if you don't contact them. I think that you will be pleasantly surprised to see how gratifying it is to get out and meet your members!

Thus far in our membership year, our areas/districts/

# Over 300 JROTC Cadets participated National Guard Base in Phoenix

posts have worked very hard and with the result of a strong American Legion, it is worth the effort, so keep the faith and remember, "Just Ask"!

For God and Country, Jeri Strande, Membership Director Dept. of Arizona





**Over 300 Participate in "Drill Down"** 

in the "Drill Down" contest at the West-Mitchell 9th Annual Drill Meet held on February 21st at the 161st Air In this contest the Cadets are given commands in rapid sequence and are "tapped" out if they miss one of the commands. This is quite remarkable to watch and keep up with. Overall, there were 33 schools who participated in the Drill Meet. "Hats Off" to Dan, Mason, Steve, Petee, Linda, and ALL of the volunteers who made sure the Cadets, Officers and visitors were taken care of.

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5

Post

**Everlasting** 

1

Joseph Ball

Robert J Beaudry

Paul Berntson

Andy Chavez

Charles A Martel

R R Webb

Robert G Weese

2

Charles F Eckler

3

Joe C Montoya

Clifford E White

4

Manuel R Amador

Donald L Finkenkeller

Lynn M Sheppard

5 Gilbert G Guajardo

Marvin L Harrison

6

Lawrence B Burns

William L Gardner

Ulric Neilson

Lu Verne A Olson

Joyce Rangel

Arthur Taylor

Mary E Wadley

Richard H Waid

Norma J Gallagher

Alfred F Tellez

8

Ruth L Brennan

Bentura O Carbajal

9

Allen W Pratt

10

Frank I Cesarec

James B Lahm

Ray Shreaves

11

Conrad A Duron

Gilbert Estrada

John C Fortune

Ken Friskey

Joe Haro

A R Lupfer

12

Jack Cederwall

### April 2009

Conrad Braaten Armindo Castelhano John W Clancy Robert Cook Morris E Creek Robert E Deal Junior P Denton Ralph E Eldridge Leo D Faoro A J Froggett Edward Gutierrez Peggy J Hall Cecil A Harris George H Haug Ronald Hollis Edmund L Joswiak Edward Lemer George Lovett Vasileos N Malapanes Norman R McKitrick Adolph W Mueller Frank Newman P James Noonan Norman L O' Connor Samuel D Openshaw Domenic Pasinato Robert H Peterson Warren J Rodemeyer J B Rogers Ramon A Roubideaux John L Russo John M Scott Bruce Siri Kenneth Spangler Edward A Sprouse James S Stafford Louis E Tewell George Thompson John Vinsonhaler Donald Willcoxson 101 Harold F Knipe Dominic E Leo Milton J Schroeter 102 William C Giguere Harold R Johnston Thomas D McKinley 103 Jacob J Ahsinger Robert L Webb 107 Don Stithem 108 Claude Simons 109 Stanley K Fink 115 James H Davis

Gabriel Vargas 14 Robert E Broan Duane R Coleman Lee Daniels 15 Edward M Gonzalez 18 Ansurio M Morales 19 Harvey F Auld Marguerite R Bolt Rodney E Carr Hubert A Doten Raymond R Edwards John Fields John J Hinds Ernest P Montana Luciano F Nunez Warren D Sanborn Kenneth J Suttle 22 Charles H Melrose Henry Peairs 23 Archibald C Scrivner 24 Ernest H Escapule Juan Esquer Justin L Mobley 25 Gary L DeWeese Jon S Hagstrand Charles R Mick Ron Ross John R Tower 26 Ojars V Bedre Fred L Coleman Americo Fiaschetti Ken Hammar Llovd L Heimer Norman W Mead Robert L Reid Arnold T Stenberg 27 Chauncey C Considine Frank C Guild Paul Tulupan Edward J Wilson 28 Porfirio M Seballos Samuel C Taylor 29 Paul T Allen Alvin J Backhus James J Dempster Joe R Gonzales Adolfo M Hernandez

Leslie G Sharp

#### The Arizona Legionnaire

Roger A Keltgen

Roland Lambert William Larremore Victor A Lazok William L McClelland Eldon R Mueller Vaughn R Patterson William J Peters Jesus Rodriguez Robert E Schliebs Louis J Shukstor Clarence R Spitler Harold R Stauffer Donald B Sullenger Joseph C Volrich 34 Edward H Kalber 35 William Barbour Harry E Bareford 36 Harold D Bock Thomas A Hartman Clayton Klomp Lawrence A Massey Gerald D Mc Shea Thomas M Newell Carroll L Shook William R Toner 37 Micky L King John E Natcher James R Niles 39 Arthur E Cooper Howard F Potter 40 Peter A Elmstedt William D Hobbs Paul A Jerrain Leo W LeFebvre 41 George T Galindo Pedro E Rodriguez Edward M Young 42 John R Eakin 44 Sam Bertoni Dominic A Jerome James Kirwan Donald C Peacock James F Rosenfeld Robert A Turner 48 Ray L Winiecke 50 Ervin Gin 52 James L Creek

Donald E Frye Albert E Hill 53 Frank A Harris 54 William Delbridge 55 John Herdt Walter H Williams 57 Robert A Jones Roy B Killinsworth 58 William Koeller 59 Alezandro S Aguirre Manuel Montano 61 Sonny Alley Geno P Bolton William H Jackson Robert Settle 62 Robert L Bates Raymond Douglas Theodore Dziepak Lawrence W Gates Alan H Heins Roland R Hill George F Ivy Ernest W Jackson Paul E Jorgenson Kenneth S Kearns John F Mocker Brently A Strickland George T Van Roov Donald E Vobach Dale Warnick 64 Clarence F Wascher 65 Otis Liggins 66 Russell D Anderson James L Askin Gil S Berggren Clarence I Dillmann Cary W Fleming William L Huff George M Kay Frank Rauth Joseph J Sabo Gerald D Smith Darryl A Wall 68 Leonard H Aros G G Durgin Faustino Jubera 69 Robert F Moyer

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Bill Bloomhuff

Thomas I Bly

**Chaplain's Corner** A Nation Divided

This American nation continues to become "a nation divided".

When the Republicans hold the majority, the Democrats become the bad guys, the spendthrifts, and the anti-establishment. Then, miraculously, when the Democrats hold the reins, the Republicans become the bad guys, with all that that implies.

In a nation overwhelmingly Christian/ Judaic, the Muslims are the ones who are the heretics, in the Muslim/Hindu sections of the world, it is the Judeo-Christians who are persecuted. Power and majority makes "right & might".

In this nation, the whites distrust those of other colors; brown, yellow, black, red, etc. Yet when these same whites go to other nations of other hues, they become suspect, followed, persecuted,

questioned, as we do the minorities in this part of the world.

Why? Is it our upbringing, our friends, our national heritage? Political times, economic pressures? Yes, yes, and again yes to all of these.

The vast majority of us are considerate and ignorant of others differences, yet there is snickering at ethnic jokes, typecasting by color or nationality. Ò There is typecasting in the work place, male against female, color against color, we look

> down on those with less education, a lesser earning ability, foreign birth, even

the other persons looks, we often do this without conscious effort, never considering where these feelings come from.

We are all God's creatures, and we should not find fault until we are perfect. This economic situation we are in is not the fault of either the Democrats or the Republicans, but the shortcomings of both parties.

Our racial tensions are mostly due to the teachings of our ancestors, not wholly our present generation -look at history! The Greeks fought the Athenians; the Egyptians fought the Persians; the tribes of Africa have fought and enslaved each other for thousands of years. The Shiites and Sunnis have battled since time began. Christians have warred against the Muslims since Christianity began. We all have mixed ethnic backgrounds but we have not

# **American Legion - Department of Arizona Membership Report**

Area		Goal	2009	% of Goal	
A B	Louie Romero Ariel Rodriguez	8,998 19,408	8,518 18,074	94.67 93.13	
С НО	Jim Strande Henry Branch	8,799 11,810	8,056 6,707	91.56 56.79	
	nd Totals:	<b>49,015</b>	41,355	<b>84.3</b> 7	
		High Area	- A		
		High Distric High Post – 53 –			
Diet	rict 1 - Commander:D	0			
Post	Name	City	Goal		% of Goal
19 46	H.H. Donkersley Chic Chisom	Yuma Bouse	1,086 120	980 132	90.24 110.00
47 56	Somerton	Somerton Yuma	15 164	9 162	60.00 98.78
67	Floyd G. Jefferson Frank Mick	Roll	32	33	103.13
70 Dist	Freman Sharp rict Totals	Parker	36 1 <b>,453</b>	21 1,337	58.33 <b>92.02</b>
Dist	rict 2 - Commander:K	en Dowse			
Post	Name	City	Goal		% of Goal
7 23	Morgan McDermott Ridge-Igo	Tucson Nogales	514 85	465 81	90.47 95.29
36 59	John P. Burns Cocio-Estrada	Tucson Tucson	1,246 321	1,258 306	100.96 95.33
66	Green Valley	Sahuarita	1,515	1,497	98.81
68 73	Sahuaro Casas Adobes	Tucson Tucson	342 169	312 176	91.23 104.14
74 102	Calabasas Tucson Mountains	Rio Rico Tucson	15 147	2 132	13.33 89.80
109	McCulloch-Wagner	Vail	617	610	98.87
111 113	Patagonia Burton E. Buck	Patagonia Sonoita	16 33	14 33	87.50 100.00
	Yoem	Tucson	34	13	38.24
132	Madera Oro Valley	Green Valley Oro Valley	15 17	28 19	186.67 111.76
	rict Totals		5,086	4,946	97.25
	rict 3 - Commander:D Name	avid Lambert City	Goal	2000	% of Goal
11	Fred A. Hilburn	Douglas	343	277	80.76
16 20	L. A. Engle Jr. Tenely - Lopez	Bisbee Willcox	108 50	88 34	81.48 68.00
24 45	Roy Fourr	Tombstone	659	603	91.50
52	Vicente Manzo Bill Carmichael	Benson Sierra Vista	80 901	74 851	92.50 94.45
Dist	rict Totals		2,141	1,927	90.00
	rict 4 - Commander:Jo Name	erry Boales City	Goal	2009	% of Goal
8	Fred A. Humphreys	Casa Grande	216	206	95.37
9 17	McClellan-Parsons William P. Kern	Florence Superior	194 32	194 32	100.00 100.00
18 48	P.A.L. Francis M. Bunch	Kearny San Manuel	34 71	44 67	129.41 94.37
51	Haskel Osife Antone	Blackwater	30	28	93.33
54 129	William David Hood Duane Ellsworth	Coolidge Queen Creek	126 99	116 89	92.06 89.90
133	rict Totals	<b>L</b>	15 <b>817</b>	17 <b>793</b>	113.33 97.06
	rict 5 - Commander:G	oorgo Stiaklin	017	170	21100
Post	Name	City	Goal		% of Goal
4 28	Henry Berry Lloyd C. Hill	Globe Clifton	202 145	203 112	100.50 77.24
32 49	Swift-Murphy	Safford	476 33	422 27	88.66 81.82
95	McCulloch-McNair Lopez-Hernandez	Duncan Solomon	98	88	89.80
	rict Totals		954	852	89.31
	rict 6 - Commander:T Name	om Alstatt City	Goal	2009	% of Goal
15 30	Frank Perkins John H. Slaughter	Winslow Springerville	97 185	88 172	90.72 92.97
31	Greer-Dewitt	Saint Johns	34	31	91.18
37 60	Navajo Whiteriver	Holbrook Whiteriver	93 42	79 44	84.95 104.76
69	Tonto Rim	Payson	534	455	85.21
76 80	WilliamHouse Hopi	Show Low Kykotsmovi	232 39	225 1	96.98 2.56
82 86	Warren L. Dempsey John D. Wibby	Ganado Overgaard	15 427	4 415	26.67 97.19
126	Snowflake - Taylor	Snowflake	45	19	42.22
	Joseph McCarthy rict Totals	Saint Johns	22 1,765	16 1,549	72.73 <b>87.76</b>
Dist	rict 7 - Commander:A	nn Seney			
	Name Mark A. Moore	<b>City</b> Flagstaff	<b>Goal</b> 630	<b>2009</b> 562	% of Goal 89.21
13	Cordova	Williams	100	100	100.00
14 22	Swaskegame Golden Valley	Kingman Golden Valley	323 236	309 237	95.67 100.42
33	Jerry & Daw	Tonalea	19	14	73.68
42 57	John Ivens Robert Fulton	Grand Canyon Ash Fork	192 115	190 102	98.96 88.70
81 87	Robert A. Eckert Mohave Valley	Havasu City Bullhead City	1,341 568	1,235 496	92.10 87.32
88	Dolan Springs	Dolan Springs	139	126	90.65
	Meadview Curtis Huskon	Meadview Leupp	47 27	44 19	93.62 70.37
123 127	Forrest C. Longwell Mohave Valley	Seligman Mohave Valley	37 56	34 56	91.89 100.00
	rict Totals	ve vancy	3,830	3,524	92.01
	rict 8 - Commander:Jo		<b>C</b> .		0/ 00 -
6	Name Ernest A. Love	City Prescott	Goal 812	769	% of Goal 94.70
25 40	Verde Valley Bobby Bisjak	Cottonwood Chino Valley	894 447	834 411	93.29 91.95
78	Humboldt	Humboldt	246	233	94.72
79 90	Taylor-Keehner Black Canyon City	Yarnell Black Cyn Cty	245 43	232 46	94.69 106.98
93	David C. Johnson Dennis S. Pike	Camp Verde	330 34	297 22	90.00 64.21
108	Gary Streeter	Bagdad Prescott Vly	111	97	87.39
122 Dist	Cordes Lakes Mem. rict Totals	Cordes Lakes	42 <b>3,204</b>	42 <b>2,983</b>	100.00 <b>93.10</b>
				,	

March, 15 2009

Dist	rict 11 – Commanderl	Bob Hicks		
Post	Name	City	Goal	2009 %
1	Luke-Greenway	Phoenix	1179	990
5	Southern Meadows	Phoenix	81	66
10	Organ Pipe Cactus	Ajo	85	86
12	Kellis-Draper	Wickenburg	362	331
29	Earl E. Mitchell	Glendale	1,580	1,456
43	Hazel Morton	Phoenix	19	19
50	Thomas Tang	Phoenix	59	48
53	Hazelton-Butler	Buckeye	41	86
61	Crandall-Palmer	Avondale	654	578
62	John J. Morris	Peoria	2,283	2,156
72	Dwight Eisenhower	Phoenix	25	21
94	Sun City West	Sun City West	365	341
96	Surprise	Surprise	144	124
101	John H. Harries	Sun City	178	168
105	Westown	Phoenix	573	575
128	Daisy Mountain	Anthem	62	56
Dist	rict Totals		7,690	7,101

Disti	ict 12 - Commanuel . I	om wm			
Post	Name	City	Goal	2009	% of Goal
2	William Bloys	Tempe	484	447	92.36
26	Mesa	Mesa	1,069	1,072	100.28
27	Apache	Apache Jct	2,454	2,349	95.72
34	Frank W. Wright	Cave Creek	302	273	90.40
35	Mathew B. Juan	Chandler	684	684	100.00
39	Merrill-Mitchell	Gilbert	573	530	92.50
41	Tony F. Soza	Phoenix	888	777	87.50
44	Sipe-Peterson	Scottsdale	1,195	1,088	91.05
55	James O. Shroeder	Sun Lakes	213	202	94.84
58	Fountain Hills	Fountain Hills	421	390	92.64
63	Lena Vaughn Whitney	Mesa	33	26	78.79
64	Ahwatukee	Ahwatukee	140	143	102.14
65	Richard H. Hamilton	Phoenix	334	320	95.81
75	Sunnyslope	Phoenix	409	347	84.84
83	East Mesa	Mesa	95	96	101.05
84	Ira H. Hayes	Sacaton	56	58	103.57
91	Wayne V. McMartin	Chandler	200	169	84.50
107	Irving B. Selmer	Phoenix	539	481	89.24
114	Bushmasters	Scottsdale	34	44	129.41
115	North Scottsdale	Scottsdale	61	50	81.97
117	Pat Tillman	Phoenix	64	68	
124	Guadalupe Veterans	Guadalupe	17	22	129.41
Disti	rict Totals		10,265	9,636	93.87

District 12 - Commander: Tom Will

of Goal 83.97 81.48

100.00

84.00

100.35

92.34

Chaplain's Corner continued from page 6

begun to embrace the idea of "love thy neighbor". Diversity makes us what we are, good or bad, our God given ability to make our own decisions, to direct our own lives. Until we wholeheartedly accept our gods and teachings, we are doomed to have strife, warfare, distrust, suspicion, and unbelief. As to the huge differences in our government, this is the mark of a true democracy.

It is wrong to cast aspersions against our elected officials, calling them socialists, or some other epithet that is derogatory – we should remember that the party in power was elected, (usually), by the majority and support the country not any particular individual.

As to religion, we were all made with the right to change as long as we had a belief in a higher being and followed those teachings. I have <u>never</u> found any religion to advocate the destruction of another; only warped teachings to justify the actions of the minority.

As to race, we are what we are and God loves us all. Can we not follow His teachings and change our lives little by little to accept those that are different from us?

Peace be with us all, and learn to love.

Richard Kepler, Department Chaplain

# **Traveling Wall In Buckeye**

The Vietnam Veteran Traveling Wall will be at Verrado High School in Buckeye, AZ. The first full day of viewing will be on Friday April 3rd with a ceremony at 1:00 PM and then again at 5:00 PM. On Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be an opening ceremony at 10:00 AM, an evening ceremony at 5:00 PM;

and on Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>, Reveille and Posting of Colors at 8:00 AM, Summit Community Church Service at 9:30 AM, Motorcycle ride to the wall event at 1:00 PM and closing ceremony at 6:00 PM.

If anyone has a loved one's name on the Wall and would like to have their name read at the Saturday ceremony, please contact Bob "Nomad" Lane at (623) 694-2455 nomadic@yahoo.com or Trish Carlisle-Thompson at (602) 284-9491 mistilady@yahoo.com.

Verrado High School is located at 20050 W. Indian School Road (west of Jackrabbit Trail)



visit our Web site at: www.theLIT.com

<b>TERIC</b>	<b>2009 National Convention</b> Louisville, Kentucky August 21 - 28, 2009	<b>ention</b> 28, 2009	
	The Arizona Delegation has been assigned to the Galt House Hotel & Suites, 140 North Fourth Street (502) 588-4044 Rooms are limited and reservations will be on a first come, first served basis. Please indicate arrival & departure dates	lt House Hotel & Suites, -4044 come, first served basis. dates	- Hunt
	NATIONAL CONVENTION RESERVATION FORM	<b>VATION FORM</b>	
	RESERVATIONS TO BE LISTED IN THE NAME OF:	E NAME OF:	
ADDRESS:		TELEPHONE:	
Additional oc	Additional occupants shall include Leg/Aux/SAL	Arrive/Depart	
		/	
Check appropriate boxes:	JOXES:		
Jr. Suite, 1 o	Jr. Suite, 1 or 2 persons (only 10 available)	\$142.62 *	↔
Double, 2 b	Double, 2 beds, 1 or 2 persons	\$125.36 *	÷
Roll Away rate	rate	\$25.00 per day	S
Arizona Party	urty	\$25.00 per person	÷
Registration	Registration (mandatory for Legion, Auxiliary and guests)	\$15.00 per person	s.
Dast Preside	Past President's Luncheon (payable to Auxiliary)	Call Auxiliary	↔ 
States Dinn	States Dinner (payable to Auxiliary)	\$45.00 per person	s 
Dational Cc	National Commander's Banquet (limited to first 20)	\$45.00 per person	S
		TOTAL DEPOSIT	s

\*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 BYJULY 16, 2009*Occupancy Tax in the amount 15.01% 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.





DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA 2009 STATE CONVENTION JUNE 18 - JUNE 21, 2009 HOSTED BY EARL E. MITCHELL POST #29 6822 N. 57<sup>th</sup> DRIVE GLENDALE, ARIZONA 85301 (623-937-3411) CONVENTION HOTEL RENAISSANCE PHOENIX GLENDALE HOTEL 9495 W. COYOTES BOULEVARD • GLENDALE, ARIZONA 85305 623 937-3700 or Fax 623 937-3703 ROOMS AVAILABLE JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH JUNE 20<sup>th</sup> (CHECK OUT – 21<sup>st</sup>) SINGLE ROOM (KING OR QUEEN BED) OR DOUBLE ROOM (2 DOUBLE BEDS) LIMITED ADDITIONAL SUITES AVAILABLE SINGLE/DOUBLE \$89.00 + TAXES ABSOLUTELY NO SMOKING IN ANY HOTEL INTERIOR INCLUDING PATIOS AND COURTYARD CUT OFF DATE: MAY 18, 2009 Check-in time: 3:00 PM Check-out Time: 12:00 PM IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU DO NOT BLOCK OUT ROOMS WHEN MAKING RESERVATIONS INFORM THE HOTEL "AMERICAN LEGION CONVENTION 2009". RESERVATIONS #1-800-228-9290 (Specify Renaissance Glendale) POOLSIDE HOSPITALITY SUITES WILL BE ARRANGED THROUGH POST 29. HOSPITALITY SUITE RESERVATIONS WILL REQUIRE A CREDIT CARD NUMBER.

CONTACT: RUBEN GONZALEZ AT POST #29 623 937-3411

POST 29 WILL HANDLE ALL SPECIAL FUNCTIONS: MEMBERSHIP BREAKFAST, PALS DINNER, GNUTS LUNCHEON, PDC LUNCHEON POST 29 PLANS TO SERVE FOOD FROM THURSDAY DINNER THROUGH SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST. MENUS AND SCHEDULES TBA

SHUTTLE SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED FROM THE HOTELS TO POST 29

POST 29 WILL SPONSOR A GOLF TOURNAMENT ON THURSDAY, JUNE 18<sup>th</sup>. SHOT GUN START 7:30 AM \$65.00 PER PLAYER, INCLUDES PRIZES AND LUNCH

