



THE ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRE



VOLUME 2009

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ISSUE 5

Let's All Remember... "Take the Time To Ask!"

We have completed our organizational meetings and are ready to start our new year. Our officers are in place and we are ready to move on to a great year. With your help, we have put together a fine American Legion Team. They have pledged to work with every one of you this year to accomplish our goals. Our Vice Commanders want to make this a fun year.

My theme this year is "Back to Basics" which is based on "The Four Pillars":

1. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation
2. National Security
3. Americanism
4. Children & Youth

Each of these Pillars encompasses a variety of programs that benefit our Veterans, service members and their families, (especially their children).

Each post should select the programs that would work best for the needs of their community. In working specific programs, this will ensure membership.

We have many veterans that are not members who just need to be asked to join. They are willing and able to



help other veterans in any way that they can. "Take the Time to Ask"

When you get a new member or a member who has transferred in, don't just hand them a card, ask them to join a committee.

What skills or talents do they have?
...*Just Ask*

Even members that are home bound can help.
....*Just Ask*

Remember what it feels like to be left out of things?
....*Just Ask*

The more we help others, the more they will help us.

Clarence Hill, our new National Commander, said that one of his membership goals was to reach out to all veterans from Vietnam era, post Vietnam era, and current war on terrorism veterans. We need to explore a highly untouched group, female Veterans; 16% of all U.S. forces are females. We also need to be aware of issues affecting women veterans. In using all of this we will accomplish our membership goals. Without this, we will slowly die.

This will take a lot of hard work by all of us. This means the whole "American Legion Family". For every Veteran that joins, we can get possibly five or more members for the S.A.L. and Auxiliary.

My first official visit was to Post 97 in San Tan Valley. They held their first meeting on August 8th and they are already setting up teams to contact the schools in their area about the Oratorical, Baseball and Boys State Programs. I wish them much success!

August 14th, we went to Swaskegame Post 14 in Kingman, to help them celebrate their 90th Birthday. It was a wonderful night. They showed off their newly

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Arizona American Legion Baseball 2009 Season Ends

The 2009 Arizona American Legion Baseball season comes to an end and this was one of the most competitive seasons yet. The top teams in Area "B" battled in the last two weeks to place in the State Championship games.

Alhambra High School, sponsored by Post 29, Glendale, had the best record at 16 wins and two losses, Mt. Ridge Black 2nd, Mt. Ridge Maroon 3rd and Florence placed 4th. This was



the first year that the number two, three and fourth place teams participated in American Legion Baseball.

Tucson Area "A" line-up included Tucson High School/Post 7, Mayhem/Post 7, Northwest Red Raiders and Post 59/KFC. The top four teams competed in Tucson, Reid Park Fields for the State Tournament.

At the State Tournament each game was a thriller with Area "A" teams eventually eliminating the Area "B" teams.

Tucson High School/Post 7, Mayhem/Post 7, and NW Red Raiders provided competition and eventually Post 59/KFC, of Tucson, won the State Championship advancing the team to the Western Regionals (Region 8). Post 59/KFC won its fifth state title since 2000, to go with three runners-up, under Coach Alex Gaynes.

The Regional Tournament

Cocio-Estrada Post 59/KFC, (54-12) lost to Las Vegas 12-8 in the Western Regional Tournament. Post 59/KFC, as Arizona State Champions, was only two games away from the American Legion World Series, which was held in Fargo, ND. In the Fairfield, CA vs. Las Vegas game, Las Vegas won and proceeded

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Cocio-Estrada Post 59/KFC – Tucson – State Champions. Past Department President, Kimberly Wynn, from Morgan McDermott Unit 7, Tucson, conducted the awards ceremony. (Photo by Gerry Gall)

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DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander
Carol Hamburger
(602) 418-0605

Vice Commanders
(A) Kenneth Dowse (520) 834-4043
(B) George Cushing (623) 544-0797
(C) Joseph Duggan, III (928) 567-5540

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

Alternate NEC
Paul Griffin (602) 938-0918

Dist 1 Commander
Dale Hiller (928) 210-7786

Dist 2 Commander
Gary Nelson (520) 591-5764

Dist 3 Commander
Norma DeGonzague (520) 384-4311

Dist 4 Commander
Charles Robbins (520) 723-7807

Dist 5 Commander
George Sticklin (928) 428-7431

Dist 6 Commander
Thomas Altstatt (928) 535-3218

Dist 7 Commander
S. Ann Seney (928) 753-3555

Dist 8 Commander
Jerilyn Strande (928) 649-3374

Dist 11 Commander
Robert Gilmore (623) 202-6256

Dist 12 Commander
Judi Beischel (480) 229-1581

Baseball continued from page 1

to the World Series. Midland, Michigan, Post 165 beat Medford, Oregon, Post 15, 11-4 and Midland is now the reigning American Legion World Series Champions. Congratulations to all of the teams who participated! To get additional information on these games, please visit www.legionbaseball.org and www.cocioestrada59.org/baseball.html (Post 59 website). Detailed statistics are located on these sites. Please visit these sites as so many members work hard to provide updates on important

Commander continued from page 1

decorated lounge and served a wonderful dinner prepared by Ann & Steve Seney. The highlight of the night was a video about the history of the Post. I also got to meet Past Department Commander Joe Whalen. Homer Graves, a long time member of Post 14, was there. He had the honor of helping to physically move the Post from its old location to the current site. Commander

September 16

'The American Legion Day'

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Senate has passed a resolution designating September 16, 2009 as "The American Legion Day." The measure, Senate Resolution 260, was shepherded through last evening by Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, after submitting the resolution earlier in the day.

As she presented the resolution to fellow senators, Snowe praised the 90-year old veterans service organization, the largest in the nation, for its continuing work to aid wounded warriors and military families, for Legionnaires' legacy of community volunteerism and for the organization's significant role in establishing important national legislation.

"As all of us in this chamber know, The American Legion remains today an active and vigorous advocate for service members, veterans and their families here on Capitol Hill," said Snowe. "Among its greatest legislative achievements was the enactment of the ...GI Bill of Rights. The initial draft of the GI Bill was written by Legionnaires at the Mayflower Hotel here in Washington, DC. Many consider the GI Bill as one of the greatest pieces of legislation ever enacted.

"Congress presented The American Legion its Federal charter on September 16, 1919; therefore, I think it only fitting that we proclaim September 16, 2009, 'The American Legion Day,'" Snowe added. "I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this well-earned measure, demonstrating our mutual esteem and reverence for this outstanding organization." The measure passed without opposition.

A similar resolution was introduced in the House by Rep. Debbie Halvorson, D-Ill., in late July. House Resolution 679 is expected to be adopted early next week.

Clarence E. Hill, the National Commander of The American Legion, expressed great

information and events.

This season, Ira Hayes Post 84, Sacaton, and their coaches were outstanding and provided great support and representation for The American Legion Baseball Program. Commander Manuel Hernandez, Gerry Gall, Department Historian; and officers and members from Post 84 were in attendance at nearly all of the team's home and away games. Thank you Post 84 for being a positive part of the program.

Special thanks to all who supported the

Dale Heckathorn said the Post is just waking up!!! Stop by to enjoy some of the exciting happenings in Kingman.

I'm looking forward to visiting as many of you as possible this year.

"Did You Know"

Arizona Membership in 1920 was 3,223

program in 2009 and in past years. The only way our youth can participate is through support from The American Legion Family. Members can help this program by visiting high school coaches near your Post and asking how the Post can support young athletes form an American Legion Baseball team.

Thank you for a terrific year!

Tom Kusek
Detachment Baseball Chairman/Area "B" Chairman

Arizona Membership in 2008 was 49,305
We've Come a Long Way

Hope to see you all at the Fall Conference in Lake Havasu City. CONGRATULATIONS on reaching the 50% membership target!

For God & Country

Carol Hamburger, Commander

thanks to Rep. Halvorson, who I had the great pleasure of addressing yesterday during my congressional testimony, for her fine efforts to establish September 16th as "The American Legion Day."

With a current membership of 2.5-million wartime veterans, The American Legion was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, Americanism, and youth programs. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through more than 14,000 posts across the nation.

FALL CONFERENCE 2009

CHARITY GOLF OUTING



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30 TH 2009, THE
COURSES AT LONDON BRIDGE, LAKE
HAVASU CITY**

**8:00 A.M. SHOTGUN START
COST PER PLAYER: \$60.00
4 PERSON SCRAMBLE**

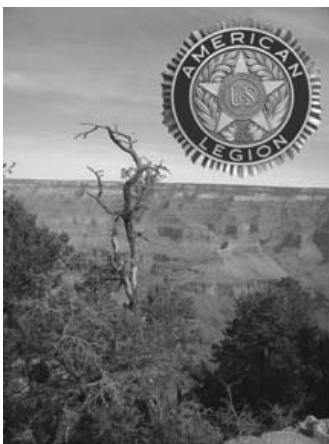
PLAYER #1 _____ HDCP _____
PLAYER #2 _____ HDCP _____
PLAYER #3 _____ HDCP _____
PLAYER #4 _____ HDCP _____

****If you don't have a handicap please use avg. score****

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY OCTOBER 23, 2009

Return Form to American Legion Post #81, 181 Paseo Del Sol, Lake Havasu City,
AZ 86403. Attn Jill Richeal

ALL MONIES RAISED GOES TOWARD LEGION PROGRAMS



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Legion Info
www.azlegion.org**



2009 DEPARTMENT FALL CONFERENCE

Quality Inn, Lake Havasu City

ALL Attendees must be REGISTERED to attend EVENTS

**Registration hours: Friday, October 30th 12:00 Noon until 5:30 PM at Post 81
Saturday, October 31st 7:30 AM until 4:00 PM at Quality Inn**

Friday, October 30, 2009

TIME	EVENT	SPEAKER CHAIRMAN	LOCATION
3:00pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Rollin Kohrs, Chairman	Ocotillo Room
6:00pm	Joint Opening Session	Aquatic Center	
	Call to Order	Carol Hamburger, Department Commander	
	Advancement of Colors	Carl Armbruster, Sgt-At-Arms	
	Invocation	Richard Kepler, Chaplain	
	Pledge of Allegiance	All	
	Preamble to Constitution	All	
	Opening Remarks	Carol Hamburger, Department Commander	
	Welcome, Host Post 81	Ken Haugen, Commander	
	Greetings:		
	Mark Nexsen	Mayor, City of Lake Havasu	
	Doris Goodwell	AZ District 3 Representative	
	Buster Johnson	Mohave County Supervisor	
	Margaret Nyberg	Lake Havasu City Councilwoman	
	Debbie Collins	Auxiliary Department President	
	Alyson Florian	Department Junior President	
	Vickey Zwall	National Executive Committeewoman	
	Peggy Brown	Western Division National Vice President	
	Xavier Rodriguez	S.A.L. Detachment Commander	
	John Aldecoa	Grand Chef de Gare 40&8	
	Dee Hoisington	Director VIP 20&4	
	Joanne Wiley	Departmental Chapeau 8&40	
	Joey Strickland	Director, AZ Dept of Veterans Services	
	Jimmie Foster	Leading Candidate for National Commander	
	Joe Aguilar, NEC	Introduction of Guest Speaker	

Address: National Commander Clarence Hill

Presentation of Awards: Carol Hamburger, Department Dommancer

MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

Saturday October 31, 2009

8:30 a.m.	S.A.L. Conference	Xavier Rodriguez, Commander	Aquatic Center
8:30 a.m.	Americanism and Children & Youth		Havasu Room
	Americanism:	PDC Charles Vawter, Chairman	
	Children & Youth:	Roland Matteson, Chairman	
	Baseball:	Rollin Kohrs, Chairman	
	Boys State:	PDC Charles Vawter, Chairman	
	Boy Scouts:	Ariel Rodriguez, Chairman	
	Oratorical:	Roger Munchbach, Chairman	

Saturday October 31, 2009 (continued)

TIME	EVENT	SPEAKER CHAIRMAN	LOCATION
8:30 a.m.	Citizens Flag Alliance: Education & Scholarship: ALLECA:	PDC Maria Currie, Chairman Keith Bartz, Chairman Frank Whitten, Chairman	Havasu Room
8:30 a.m.	Club Committee	PDC Bud Hansing, Chairman	Cholla Room
10:00 a.m.	Convention & Conference Committee	PDC Louis Pellon, Chairman	Cholla Room
10:00 a.m.	Legislative Committee	PDC Paul Griffin, Chairman Neal Sundeen, Council Chairman	Yucca Room
11:30 a.m.	GNUTS Lunch		POST 81
1:00 p.m.	Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Service Officer Training	Lee Borgen, ADVS	Cholla Room
1:00 p.m.	Commanders & Adjutants Training	Carol Hamburger, Department Commander John Aldecoa, Department Adjutant	Havasu Room
3:00 p.m.	Membership Workshop	Andy Jaime, Membership Director	Havasu Room
3:00 p.m.	Oratorical Chairman's Meeting	Roger Munchbach, Chairman	Yucca Room

Sunday, November 1, 2009

8:30a.m.	Joint Memorial Service	Richard Kepler, Chaplain Kathleen Medalen, Auxiliary Chaplain	Aquatic Center
9:30a.m.	Conference Reconvenes Trophies & Awards Committee Reports Announcements Benediction Retirement of Colors	Bob Nixon, Chairman John Aldecoa, Adjutant Richard Kepler, Chaplain Carl Armbruster, Sgt-At-Arms	Aquatic Center

Executive Committee Meeting to Follow

****Have a SAFE Trip Home****

Tried-and-True Methods Launch New Arizona Posts

From the Desk of the National Adjutant
By Daniel S. Wheeler

Getting "back to the basics" is a common war cry when rallying Legionnaires in the quest for recruiting new members. If you've ever attended a national, department or district membership workshop, chances are you've heard that phrase thrown around more than once. But they're not just words - quite the opposite. In the midst of their simplicity, they speak loud and clear. When there was no Internet, Direct Mail Solicitation program or phone blasts, The American Legion still had a healthy membership in the millions. Legionnaires went door to door, asking fellow veterans to join. They talked about the Legion and its many incredible programs for veterans, servicemembers, their families and America's youth. Pretty basic stuff maybe, but it worked. Moreover, nearly every community had a post, and people knew the Legion because the post was visible and active.

Now, it's working again in the Department of Arizona where, during the 2008-09 membership year, Legionnaires were able to start seven new posts - believed to be the first time a department established seven new posts since Michigan did it in 1997. The results of the work of those Legionnaires are what give me hope that we are headed in the right direction in the membership battle.

Jeri Strande, a member of Post 135 in Cornville, Ariz., and the 2008-2009 department membership director, said the "back-to-the-basics" approach began early in the membership year. Immediate Past Department Commander Henry Branch told Arizona Legionnaires that, because the department wasn't going to have DMS members during his tenure, they were going to need to hit traditional membership methods even harder.

"Our commander basically said, 'We need to get on it, doggone it!'" Strande said. "And we had several Legionnaires out there who reached out to us and asked if it was possible to start some posts as well. They also saw a need for those posts."

Strande said the membership success was truly a top-to-bottom effort. While national staff offered assistance, membership drives on the post level also included local, district and department Legionnaires, as well as some help from National Vice Commander Harley Ray.

"National sent out some letters for us, letting veterans in the area know we are coming in," Strande said. "But in most cases, (Branch) was there. We had people from all levels of the Legion involved. The entire Department of Arizona did a very good job with this. It takes effort and work from people who are committed to go out and do the job. That's what we had."

Legionnaires went door to door, talking up their organization's value. Strande herself had never gone through a grass-roots membership effort before last year. The process was an eye-opener. "I'm not a real arm twister; I think our product sells itself," she said. "Even if we didn't sign a person up, we were still getting the Legion message out. We were still letting people know what our organization is doing. We were getting the word out. We were getting those people into a conversation about The American Legion."

Strande said the opportunity for growth among the new posts is strong. One post already has improved its membership by 435 percent; several are set to start Auxiliary units and Sons of The American Legion squadrons. The enthusiasm has carried over into the 2009-10 membership year. "My outgoing district commander (Joe Duggan III) asked me if we were still going to do another start-up post in this area," she said. "When I told him that we were, he said, 'Then invite me because I want to come and help out with that.'"

There are new, improved ways to pursue membership leads, and to not take advantage of those opportunities is a poor decision on our part. But for 90 years, we've always been able to count on face-to-face contact as a way to draw in new members. Tried-and-true methods are not to be forgotten. Just look at what Arizona did last year. "High tech" helps, but "high touch" gets the job done.

National Commander Clarence E. Hill Presents Testimony to a Joint Session of the House & Senate Veteran's Affairs Committee

National Commander Clarence Hill appeared before a Joint Session of the Veteran's Affairs Committees in the United States Congress on September 10, 2009. Commander Hill thanked the 111th Congress for recommending FY2010 Funding Allocations for many VA accounts that meet or exceed funding targets proposed by The American Legion. Commander Hill also thanked the Members of Congress for passing a comprehensive and effective post 9-11 GI Bill that more accurately reflects the sacrifices of America's service members. However, he asked that the Congress consider making "on line" educational resources available to Veterans who elect to utilize this form of educational benefit.

Many Veterans, because of family and economic considerations, are required to immediately return to the work force rather than elect a full time education. An "on line" educational program would be of benefit to these Veterans that cannot go full time.

Commander Hill also asked that the Congress stay on top of changes in healthcare and technology for the "new generation" of Veterans. Commander Hill made several budget recommendations for the VA for healthcare, construction of medical facilities, state Veteran's homes, state Veteran's cemeteries and the National Cemetery.

In Arizona, we have one state Veteran's home and one state cemetery that have received funding from the Federal Government; however, we are in need of an additional Veteran's home in Tucson and a state cemetery for Northern Arizona.

Commander Hill also asked that the Congress consider advanced appropriations for the VA so that they can timely, predictably and sufficiently fund the VA medical system without having to go back to the Congress because there has been a budgetary shortfall. The American Legion believes this legislation would help resolve the question of timely and predictability that would not be affected by continuing resolution or other budget delays.

The American Legion would still have a normal appropriations process to request additional funding if the amount already approved appeared insufficient.

The National Commander also asked the Congress to pass a Medicare VA Reimbursement Act. This would allow the VA to bill Medicare when Medicare eligible Veterans have received care at a VA medical facility. At the present time, the VA is prohibited from billing Medicare for Veterans who receive medical care at a VA Hospital or other medical facility. However, Congress has required the VA to collect 3rd Party Reimbursements from Veteran's healthcare insurance providers to help cover the annual discretionary appropriations for medical care.

If the VA had additional funding, the VA would be able to treat more priority Group 8 Veterans and this group of Veterans would also be allowed to obtain their prescriptions through the VA rather than some other source.

During our visit to Washington, we were able to discuss these issues with Senator Kyl and Senator McCain and their Legislative Aides. We also discussed the above Legislative Priorities with Congressmen Harry Mitchell from Congressional District 5 and Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick from Congressional District 1.

We were fortunate to have National Commander Hill with us when we met Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick and Congressmen Harry Mitchell. Congressmen Mitchell and Congresswoman Kirkpatrick are both members of the House Veteran's Affairs Committee and actively participated in the hearing.

Senators Kyl and McCain have always been willing to meet with The American Legion representatives and we would like to thank them for their courtesy and time in discussing Veteran's Affairs with members of The American Legion from Arizona.

Neal S. Sundeen
Legislative Co-Chairman



Neal Sundeen, John Aldecoa, Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick, National Commander Clarence Hill, Paul Griffin



Neal Sundeen, Senator Jon Kyl, Paul Griffin



Paul Griffin, Senator John McCain, Neal Sundeen



John Aldecoa, National Commander Clarence Hill, Congressman Harry Mitchell, Neal Sundeen, Paul Griffin

New Veterans Mural in Williams, AZ



This mural located above the shop windows at 117 E. Route 66 in Downtown Williams, was painted by local artists Mike and Sandy Rusinko. Make sure that you stop in Williams and enjoy this beautiful mural. John Ivens Post #42 Grand Canyon has their office in this building. What a terrific tribute to all of our Veterans past, present and future. Thanks to Al Dunaway for taking the picture.

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Membership Drives Planned

The 91st American Legion National Convention membership delegates' meeting was held at the Louisville Convention Center. The meeting was chaired by Past National Commander, Dale Barnett and National Membership Director, Billy Johnson. No resolutions were

Hello S.A.L. Members and Legion Family

Our new year is underway and we are looking forward to a great year. This year the SAL will continue to focus on our programs. Child Welfare will still be one of our major programs; we will also put some added emphasis on some VA programs. VAVS and Fisher House will be two programs that I will be emphasizing throughout the year, as well as the Spinoza Bear program. We hope to raise lots of funds for these great programs this year.

As you all know, what we do cannot be accomplished without our members. Membership is the cornerstone of our organization and it is important to renew your members and recruit new members to help in our efforts. I would also like to invite any post that does not have an SAL squadron and would like to start one to contact us and we will be more than happy to help you in getting it started.

I want to thank all of my officers for their great work thus far this year and wish them success the rest of the year. Thank You for the opportunity to serve as Detachment Commander this year and I hope to get out and meet as many SAL members as possible.

Xavier Rodriguez
Detachment Commander

presented and plenty of membership success ideas were shared with 39 Department delegates in attendance. Direct Mail Solicitation (DMS) will resume in the near future after National recoups some of the related expenses from DMS. The delegates were asked NOT to depend on DMS rather, get out and actively recruit new members. Face to face contact and telling what we do as Legion members is more successful than a letter that may end up in "file thirteen".

On the local level, we had a membership drive at Post 44 in Scottsdale on September 16th which is the day that Congress chartered The American Legion. I'm not sure if any others did the same, but it is something that could be done for the rest of the year at different dates.

My membership challenges and awards will be announced at Fall Conference in Lake Havasu City. Commander Carol will also announce her personal challenges for membership.



Female Veterans from the White Mountain area participated in the 2009 Fourth of July Parade. They had eight female veterans aboard their first time entry float and are looking to add a lot more for next year's parade. Way to go Ladies!

A Pair of Special Events

The Department of Arizona Open House will be held on January 9, 2010 at Department Headquarters.

The Children & Youth and National Security Workshop/Conference will be held on January 23, 2010 at William Bloys Post 2 in Tempe.

Both of these events are open to everyone in The American Legion Family. Please mark your calendars now so you won't miss these. We will be sending out flyers in future mailings to the Posts, Units and Squadrons. Hope to see you at both of the events.

I would like to let every member of our Legion Family know how inspired, as well as motivated, I am to help achieve the best membership year ever. The American Legion leadership at all levels in Arizona appears to be just as motivated. Hopefully, we can inspire our members to ask friends and family members that are eligible, to become members. We also have seven new Posts and I would like to ask everyone that might be in the neighborhood of these Posts, to stop by or call them and show your support in any way you can. Thank you and remember to invite a Vet to join...Back to Basics!

For God & Country

Andres "Andy" Jaime, Jr.
Membership Chairman

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Post Everlasting

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	John Mattson
	Ralph A Watkins
4	John Dalton
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	Walter R Johns
	Fred J Mentzel
	William C Odell
	Joseph J Pasanella
7	Richard O Muck
	William W Thomson
8	Paul E Marks
9	Clarence O Johannessohn
11	Clarence T Bishop
13	R E Fain
14	Robert E Costello
	Andrew F Vlock
15	Peter D Baca
	Albert T Hernandez
	Robert W Metzger
18	Donna M McDougall
19	Glenn D Bryant
	Randolph J Calaway
	Willis J Grinols
	James J Lambros
	Norman L Pearman
	Clois U Sandlin
	Orin J Stimson
22	Tom Reynolds
	John Ed Taylor
25	Robert V Granados
	Darold D Hayden
	Antonio C Martinez
	John Pipes
	Jack M Rauton
	Robert H Reeves
	Ronald D Spence
	Larry D Webb
26	Gene T Daniels
	Edward Harmon
	Norman J LeBlanc
	Therrel Mortimore
	Melvin A Newtown
	Roger J Post
	Max Wright
27	Mitchell Lundquist
	William M Pryor
29	Christopher G Hageman
	Lance G Johnson
	Kenneth L McGovern
	Harvey L Mendel
	Stephen Menzia
	Ruben V Rabago
	John C Sinatra
	Frank Winter
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	Alvin F Krupp
34	Max Jungbauer
	Russell W Schmunk
35	Leo V Pittman
36	Joseph Banchy
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	Bruce R Enney

Eugene H Gaddis
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Jerome W Kindler
John Maier
Hayes E Mitchell
James F Quinn
David M Swope
Frederick M White
Charles E Wood
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Frank Jolley
39
Robert Anglada
Frank P Coelho
Marion Woolf
40
Richard J Murphy
James Rabbitt
John R Turner
43
Sally S Marsaln
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Joseph G Haddy
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Chaplain's Corner

"Give it to God in Prayer"

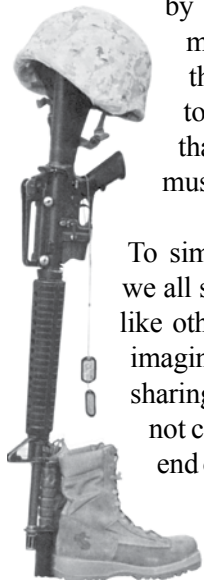
I received a phone call recently from a man I have high regard for. He wanted to tell me he had enjoyed the article in our last Arizona Legionnaire that I wrote, titled "By God's Grace". He had the courtesy to say that this article showed insight, and intelligence.

I had to tell him that perhaps he had read the wrong article - I have never thought I had advanced insight, and certainly not above average intelligence. I just truly believe in God, and know that he expects the best we can give; honesty, integrity and, above all, a love for our fellow man.

I had good teachers as a child who taught by example, not with the adage of "do as I say, not as I do". I learned to say "I'm sorry" when I wrong, "please" as a request and "thank you" for what was given to me; including "thank you" to God for his many blessings. I thank God daily for my five sons, 13 grandchildren, and now 14 great-

grandchildren; yes, I am a good catholic who practiced "be fruitful and multiply". I also render unto Caesar by being active in my community, agreeable to my neighbors and forgive my enemies (though that is hardest of all!). I try to be a good example to those I come in contact with-though I am sure that somewhere in God's great green earth, there must be one or two persons who don't like me.

To simplify the Ten Commandments, that is what we all should do-thank God, and do our best to love/like others. If this was practiced by all of man, just imagine what we could accomplish! No more wars, sharing what God has made possible (and no, this is not communism), accepting others' differences, the end of famine, cooperation to cure disease, produce beautiful art and literature, all possible just by following a few simple steps as God has given us nothing complicated, hard to start because of our distrust and suspicion of others, but easier and easier as we continue to follow God's way.



We have but to truly believe, follow God's teachings, and "give it to God in prayer".

We have the power to change so much if we but follow those simple guidelines and live "By God's Grace"

Be with God,

Richard Kepler,
Department Chaplain

Tucson Hosts "BULGE" Veterans National Reunion

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge-the largest land battle in U.S. Army history-are to hold their national annual reunion in Tucson, October 6th through 11th, at the Hotel Arizona, 181 West Broadway. The reunion will mark the 65th Anniversary of the horrendous battle during which more than 19,000 U.S. troops were killed and another 62,000 injured. The battle included three airborne divisions, nine armored

Bulge continued on next page

Military & Veterans Appreciation Night

with the Phoenix Suns

Please join us on a very special night as the Phoenix Suns celebrate Veterans Day on November 11th



Phoenix Suns

vs.

New Orleans Hornets

Wednesday, November 11th 2009

US Airways Center @ 8:30pm



PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Ticket to a Suns game
- The Military & Veterans will be involved with the Suns in-game presentation throughout the game
- Group Gift - Suns player jersey bag
- Team Welcome on the Jumbotron
- \$5 goes back to the American Legion Veteran and Family Assistance Program



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 1, 2009

AMERICAN LEGION PRE-REGISTRATION: \$10.00
(AT CONFERENCE-\$12.00)

PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:

ROBERT A. ECKERT POST #81
Attn: Jill Richeal, Club Manager
181 PASEO DEL SOL
LAKE HAVASU CITY, AZ 86403

POST # _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

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PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE NAMES

MUST BE RECEIVED BY: 10/15/09

# of Tickets	Ticket Price:		Total:
200 Level Curve	@ \$32	\$	\$
	(\$5 from each ticket goes back to the American Legion)		
PAYMENT METHOD:			Total Amt. Enclosed \$
NAME			
CC#			
SIGNATURE (required)			
ADDRESS			
CITY			STATE ZIP
HOME PHONE: () -			CELL PHONE: () -
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Questions? Contact Nick Myers at 602-379-7547 or e-mail: nmyers@suns.com Fax your completed order form to 602-379-7873			