

# Let's Reach An All Time Membership High

My Fellow Legionnaires, as you know, membership is the life blood of any organization. I am very excited that we made our 100% goal by Department Convention (Congratulations!

Commander Ken) and we want to keep that momentum going! We plan on reaching an all-time high this year and with all of your support, I know we can make it happen. Your Membership Team will be going to Indianapolis the first three days of August and our Membership Director, Beth Nehring, and I will be presenting to National

our five year plan to increase our membership and in turn, increasing National's membership also. Everyone is shooting for 3.5 million members at National for our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2019.

National is already working on an American Legion postage stamp to be released in 2019 (I wonder how much a stamp

Commander's Message

will cost by then). Stock up on some Forever stamps to hold you over until "our" stamp comes out!

On a sad note, in my first week as Commander, I had the sad duty of attending the funeral of PDC Marie Currie's Husband, Jack. Our prayers go out to Maria and her family.

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Celebration of Life for our 19 fallen Granite Mountain Hot Shot Firefighters. Three

of the fallen, Jesse James Steed; Travis Turbyfill; and William H. "Billy" Warneke, all served in the Marine Corp. Jesse left a wife and two children age three and four; Travis left a wife and two children age one and two; and Billy's wife is expecting their first child in December. On the trip home, we decided to pay for the first year Auxiliary dues for the *Commander* continued page 4

# 2013 ALLECA Class Spectacular

All I can say about ALLECA 2013 is WOW! The American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy (ALLECA) had another successful year. The ALLECA 2013-1 Class took place from June 1st to June 9th and we graduated 28. We had 55 applications submitted this year and we expected 35

#### Index

Convention Photos2	Chapl
Fall Conference Registration 3	Fall C
Eagle Scout Award4	ALLE(
S.A.L. Registration5	Confe
Bieri Award Winner6	Swee
Post Everlasting8	Yarne

Chaplain's Corner8
Fall Conference Hotel Info9
ALLECA10
Conference Book Ad Rates10
Sweepstakes Winners Back
Yarnell DonationsBack

Cadets to check-in, however, we found that the disparity showed us that youth were double scheduling themselves, so I guess that is a good thing. We had 31 Cadets checkin and unfortunately, we had to send a few home; one Cadet fractured his arm



ALLECA Cadets at the morning flag raising

when he tripped while running, one Cadet had a previous back injury, and we sent a Cadet home for disciplinary issues.

#### The Arizona Legionnaire

August 2013



Newly elected Department Commander, Judi Beischel being installed by Jeanette Rae, National Vice Commander



Commander Judi receiving her Department Commander Cap from her husband, Jim.



Commander Ken and Daniel Dellinger, Candidate for National Commander



Joe Roberts, S.A.L. Detachment Commander and Alissa Montijo, Junior Auxiliary Department President present a wreath at the Memorial Service.



Commander Ken and President Kathleen presenting the wreaths at the Memorial Service as Jim Beischel, S.A.L. Detachment Chaplain; PDC George Cushing and Carol Stensby, Department Chaplain look on.



Aidan Schneider of Flagstaff, receiving the Eagle Scout of the Year Award from Wayne Chatfield, Scouting Committee Chairman.



LtoR: Ken Dowse, Department Commander; Jeanette Rae, National Vice Commander; Kathleen Medalen, Department Auxiliary President; Alissa Montijo, Junior Department Auxiliary President; and Joe Roberts, S.A.L. Detachment Commander



Commander Ken receiving a jacket from Jerry Boales, Area A Vice Commander; Jeri Strande, Area C Vice Commander and Andy Jaime, Area B Vice Commander.



LtoR: Commander Ken; Jeanette Rae, NVC; Bob Hammerel, Squadron #27 and John Aldecoa. John was presented a plaque for his many years of hard work and devotion to The Department of Arizona American Legion as Department Adjutant. He will be retiring at the end of this year.



Commander Ken and Adjutant John, presenting certificates to the Color/Honor Guards who participated in the Honor and Color Guard Presentation on Saturday evening. Six groups participated in the presentation and did a fantastic job and we look forward to seeing them again next year! Special thanks to Bob Hammerel.



## CONFERENCE NOV. 8-10, 2013 AMERICAN LEGION REGISTRATION - \$10.00 (AT CONFERENCE - \$12.00)

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

#### PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:

American Legion Department of Arizona

4701 N. 19th Ave. Suite 200, Phoenix, Az. 85015

POST NUMBER	AMOUNT ENCLOSED	
NAME (PRINT)	POSITION/TITLE (PRINT)	If also ALR Rider then place an X
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
_		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

## **PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE NOV. 1, 2013**

#### DO NOT MIX LEGION WITH SAL

NO REFUNDS OR SUBSTITUTIONS

#### The Arizona Legionnaire

#### August 2013

# THE ARIZONA

Published bimonthly by The American Legion 4701 N. 19th Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85015 602-264-7706 E-mail: hdqtrs@azlegion.org

Editor Publisher Sheila Galloway John Aldecoa

#### Deadline

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

#### Subscription Information

Mailed subscriptions are \$5.00 per year for members. \$10 per year for nonmembers.

Free online at *www.AZLegion.org* and e-mail subscriptions are free. Call or e-mail The Arizona Legion Office to sign up or for more information.

#### **DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**

Commander Judi Beischel (602) 418-0605

Vice Commanders (A) Gene Chewning (520) 780-6177 (B) Domingo Bonilla (480) 628-1191 (C) Scott Miller (928) 853-9768

> NEC S. Paul Griffin (602) 938-0918

Alternate NEC Richard "Dick" Perry (520) 559-0058

Dist 1 Commander Terry Greene (928) 342-1107

Dist 2 Commander George Molina (520) 331-7371

Dist 3 Commander Mike Stout (520)678-2581

Dist 4 Commander Yvonne Perez-Ganegoda (520) 280-7360

Dist 5 Commander George Sticklin (928) 428-7431

Dist 6 Commander Donald Coffman (602) 316-2480

Dist 7 Commander James Roscoe (928) 379-0002

Dist 8 Commander Sherie Mercier (928) 856-2437

Dist 11 Commander Frank Myers (602) 237-9228

Dist 12 Commander Michael Thelen (480) 282-0815



wives and welcome them and their families to The American Legion Family; it's the least we can do!

*Commander* continued from page 1

Please keep the fallen 19 and the families in your prayers as well as our Legion Family Members in Yarnell and Peeples Valley who were adversely affected by the Yarnell Hill Fire. Thanks to all of the Posts that are doing fundraisers to help in our members' recovery. We have contacted National Headquarters regarding the National Emergency Fund and our members will be able to get reimbursed up to \$1,500.00 for expenses incurred while they were evacuated. Forms are available online at Legion.org and members can submit their receipts directly to Department for authorization. I want to personally thank all of you that are doing fundraisers to help! My theme is "PRIDE", PRIDE in The American Legion. **P** is for Patriotism-Proud to be an American, a Veteran, and a member of The American Legion; **R** is for Religion-as it states in our Preamble, For God and Country; that ties in with prayer, remember to pray for our Veterans who serve in harm's way; **I** is for Ideas-have new ideas, think outside the box; **D** is for Dedication-dedication to the four pillars of The American Legion, National Security, Americanism, VA&R and Children and Youth; **E** is for Enthusiasm-the enthusiasm and energy to do the job.

> P-Patriotism R-Religion I-Ideas D-Dedication E-Enthusiasm

For God and Country, Judi Beischel, Department Commander

### Flagstaff's Aidan Schneider Eagle Scout of the Year

The Department of Arizona's Eagle Scout of the Year is Aidan Schneider of Flagstaff. Aidan will be a senior at Northland Prep in Flagstaff when school starts in August. At the Department Convention, Aidan received a plaque and a monetary reward. The award was presented to him by myself as Scouting Chairman. He was accompanied on the stage by his parents, Bill and Michelle Grey. After his scouting presentation, Aidan was surprised by Commander Ken Dowse. Aidan was presented with a \$1,000.00 Samsung Scholarship Award from Boys State. Aidan attended this years Boys State but left before the awards presentation to fly to Costa Rica to spend two weeks working on a coffee plantation.

At the convention, a resolution was presented to the committee by the Scouting Committee. Whereas, Be it resolved that The American Legion develop a recognition program for both young men and women who have achieved the highest recognition with the Silver Award, in a fashion comparable to the Eagle Scout of the Year Award. The Venturing program is open to both young men and young women. Since young women are not eligible to be Boy Scouts, it is only fair to have a scholarship available to them under the Venturing Program. The resolution passed and will be presented to the National Committee at the Convention in Houston.

The Scouting Program is just one of the programs of the Americanism Pillar. As members of The American Legion, we must all participate in the programs. These programs include Baseball, Boys State and Nation, Flag Advocacy, Citizenship, Get out the Vote, Jr. Shooting Sports, Oratorical, ALLECA and Scouting. Our future is reliant on the youth of today. Today, our education system is not teaching Americanism. Therefore, the Americanism Programs are very important for our future. Each individual in the Legion Family should participate in the Americanism Programs.

As the conflict still goes on, let us not forget our brothers and sisters in harms way.

Wayne Chatfield, Scouting Committee Chairman Area "B" Americanism Vice Chairman



#### AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA CONFERENCE Nov. 8-10, 2013

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

#### (AT CONFERENCE - \$12.00)

#### PLEASE RETURN FORM WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:

American Legion Department of Arizona 4701 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Ave. Suite 200, Phoenix, Az. 85015

SQDN NUMBER	AMOUNT ENCLOSED	
NAME (PRINT)	POSITION/TITLE (PRINT)	If also ALR Rider then place an X
1		
2		
3		
-		
_		
15		

## **PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE NOV. 1, 2013**

DO NOT MIX LEGION WITH SAL

NO REFUNDS OR SUBSTITUTIONS

## Bieri Award Winner 2012-2013 Wayne V. McMartin Post 91 Family

Wayne V. McMartin Post 91 started the year in June with a joint installation of Post and Auxiliary officers. District officers were present as well as Past District and Past Department officers who performed the installation. This was the beginning of American Legion Post 91 members working together as a "Family". The family members help each other in fundraising projects with monetary donations or man power, all with the sole purpose of helping veterans and our community.

The Unit President is invited to all General Membership and House Committee meetings of the Post to share the activities of the Unit with Post members. The Post Commander visits the Unit meetings where he shares information on the ongoing and upcoming activities of the Post.

Unit 91 has an ongoing project of providing "Support our Troops" bracelets, tee shirts, doggie tee shirts and doggie bandanas to our members. With support from Legion family members, over \$800.00 was raised to help support our programs.

In July, the Legion family joined together to deliver over \$800.00 worth of school supplies to Hartford Elementary School. These items were donated by Post, Auxiliary, S.A.L. and ALR members.

September and October found the Post 91 family members working closely to plan Oktoberfest activities. Auxiliary members had fundraising projects during the month of October with the proceeds going to the Wounded Warrior Project. Through a team effort, \$5,000.00 was donated to this worthy project. Legion family members collected snacks for "Goody bags" for veterans. Fifty bags were delivered to the veterans at the V.A. Home in celebration of Veterans Day. Auxiliary members have crocheted over 200 hats and 100 afghans. These items were delivered to the V.A. Home where our family members volunteer weekly. Together, family members have volunteered over 500 hours at local food banks. Again, our Legion family joined forces to serve a meal at Victory House. Together, family members donated over 300 hours to prepare, deliver and serve 200 meals to homeless veterans. Over \$500.00 worth of food was donated for this dinner. Auxiliary members along with S.A.L. members, prepared and served dinner to over 50 veterans on November 11<sup>th</sup> at our Post home.

Family members donated \$200.00 to "Stand Down" as well as over \$400.00 worth of jeans.

Post 91 members, Auxiliary, S.A.L. and American Legion Riders, signed and sent 1,375 letters and Christmas cards to "Friends of our Troops" to be distributed to active military all over the world. Hartford Elementary School also participated in the event. Many military personnel sent letters expressing their gratitude for remembering them with the letters and cards that they received.

The City of Chandler hosts a "Woofstock" every year to promote the health and welfare of canines aka "Man's Best Friend". Legion family members participated in this event and raised over \$275.00 to purchase G.I. Josh dogs.

In December, Post 91 Legion Family jointly raised \$800.00 to support an active military family. The husband was

scheduled to be deployed on December 26<sup>th</sup> for one year. He would be leaving behind a wife and three children. Toys and clothing for the children; household goods; gift cards and the one thing the wife wanted most, a family Bible; were purchased for the family. The gifts were delivered by the Post, S.A.L., Auxiliary and American Legion Riders on their motorcycles. The children were thrilled and their mother got a ride on a motorcycle. In early December, a family emergency arose out of state. Upon hearing of the emergency, Legion family members came together to give an additional \$800.00 for an airline ticket to go back home for a few days to attend to the medical emergency of his mother.

Auxiliary members, along with our Juniors, help decorate the Post home and work hand in hand with Post members for holidays and special events. Fundraisers are encouraged at these events to raise money for The American Legion programs. Juniors take part in activities whenever possible. They stuffed goody bags and Easter eggs for under privileged children.

The Auxiliary sponsored a Chili Cook-Off. Legion Family members came together to set up for the event and help wherever needed. The proceeds went to the Chandler Fire Department charities. The City of Chandler sent four firemen to the event to judge the entries. This event helped the firemen understand a lot more about The American Legion and what this family does for the community. A check for \$250.00 was presented to Chandler Fire Chief, Jeff Clark, for their charity.

Many family members have attended "Meet and Greet" for military personnel

#### August 2013

#### The Arizona Legionnaire

at airports as well as at military bases as they returned from Iraq and Afghanistan. Some attended the Marine retirement ceremony of a Post member.

This Legion Family is very active in the "Patriot Guard Riders". The family donated \$900.00 to the Honor Flight Program for a WWII Veteran to attend the ceremony in Washington, D.C. along with an additional \$900.00 for his caretaker to accompany him. The Patriot Guard Riders as well as Auxiliary members accompanied the veteran to the airport with a motorcycle escort.

The members fly their American Flag along with their POW/MIA Flag. The American Flag has been flown over 50,000 hours by our family members in the last year.

Pocket Flags were sent to a member of Post 91 in Afghanistan. He then distributed them to his Unit. Pocket Flags were also sent to the nephew of the Unit's Secretary. He is a paramedic with the USAF Special Forces Para Rescue Team. He distributed them to his Unit and gave them to wounded warriors he encountered during rescue missions and at the hospitals throughout Iraq.

Many Legion Family members have come to the aid and assistance of one of their own injured in an accident. With combined efforts, members have contributed over 500 hours, 1,000 miles and over \$1,000 to his personal and medical care as well as making his home wheelchair accessible. Also, the Legion Family purchased and made necessary repairs on an electric wheelchair for over \$600 for our veteran.

Members worked the voting poles at different elections. These members gave over 150 hours, drove over 160 miles all for the privilege of helping their community and helping voters exercise their constitutional right to vote. Two members worked with the Elections Board counting and verifying ballots for the Presidential Primary and for the general elections. Many Legion Family members have written to city officials and congressmen expressing their wishes and opinions.

Legion Family members recycled over 1,000 hours this year. They also donated over \$3,000 worth of usable goods to help veterans and the homeless.

Legion Family members came together to help a Chandler wounded warrior. Monies were collected to help make adjustments in his home to accommodate his special needs. Also, a total of \$2,500 was donated to help this recovering veteran.

A donation of \$700 was made for members to go to Balboa Naval Medical Center Armed Services YMCA to visit and have a social time and pizza with some of our wounded warriors.

Many of our members took Poppies to their place of employment and received many donations from their co-workers.

The Post and Auxiliary has donated over \$2,000 in support of The American Legion Boys and Girls State Programs. Through this donation, eight young people have had the experience of government procedures. Unit 91's selection for Girls State went on to Girls Nation. She was given a \$250 scholarship for her accomplishments.

The Post 91 Legion Family sponsored an "Awards" night in April. District Officers from all four entities were invited. Many awards were given to members in appreciation of the work they did to help veterans and our community.

Post 91 Family Members participated in

the Victory III, Vets Helping Vets Picnic in April. Seven members donated 30 hours and almost \$400 to help make this event a success.

Through a neighborhood food drive, family members collected and delivered over 2,200 lbs. of canned goods to MANA House. They also delivered a washing machine which MANA House was in need of.

The Post 91 Family has donated to Turkeys for Troops; Wounded Soldiers Program; The Saluting Marine; over \$2,000 to help their own members in financial need; The Vet's Store; Vets Helping Vets; Madison Street Veterans Association for bus passes; and so many more worthy projects.

Legionnaires, Auxiliary, S.A.L., Auxiliary Juniors and members of the American Legion Riders of Post 91 have volunteered over 8,000 hours; over 60,000 miles and over \$30,000 to help veterans. This American Legion Family has put their heart and soul into helping Veterans. American Legion Post, Auxiliary, S.A.L. and American Legion Riders of Post 91 work together as one entity with one purpose in mind, that being to help Veterans wherever they are and whatever they need.

For God and Country,

Kathleen McMartin, Unit 91 Auxiliary President John Geiser, Post 91 Commander Eric McGregory, Post 91 Adjutant



#### The Arizona Legionnaire

#### August 2013



## Post Everlasting

Don Daggett Walter A Foreman Jack K Guthrie 2 Blaine L Learn Mary E Robison 3 Keith B Evans 4 Justin M Solberg 6 Carl W Barber William E Hatcher Paul R Madden Robert Rauch Milton Tweedy 7 Forrest E Edwards 8 John R Wagner 9 Fred L Cotton

۵

Ô.

12 George C Charles Loren D Gordon 14 Gary W Hackett Armand W Page 19 Joseph Ciciulla Robert L Clements John T Currie Jerry Eppenbaugh Joseph E Fitzgerald Buddy L Fivecoat Arnold F Schuma 24 Frank R Chadwick 25 **Richard S Farrington** 26 William F Bates Richard G McLester Ellis Parker 27 Gerald Bordeaux Harold E Kercher Arthur W Leavens Dave Vandiviner 29 Julius W Brown Jess Devalle Marshall E Lumpmouth Donald Lyons George E Rarden Kenneth Vancourt Robert R Widing

32 Lawrence A Dickey 34 Paul K Schilling 35 William Baker Dale Schuerman 36 Harlan J Harter Daniel K Lawrence Thomas Moore William C Strahan Donald R Tweet 39 Dwight L Chamberlain Gloria A Thompson 41 Inez A Hernandez Martin Munoz Joe M Rivera 52 James H Dagley Legscardo R Palmer 54 Marvin Peterson 55 Wallace P Probst 56 Thomas E Aguilar 61 Earl C Broomhead James L McCoy 62 James F Fielding

Edward J Hawkins Harry W Myers Maryrose Popovich A D Sealey Edmund A Wentz 64 Virgil Tracy 66 William D Hennigar Douglas D McQuiggin Francis A Murray Eugene H Smith John W Snedden 69 Calvin Groseclose 72 Stuart Robinson 73 Henry A Dykhuis 76 Jerry G Byrd Charles T Weaver 78 David W Springer 79 Edward W Miller 81 Melvin Irving William D Parker Mike O Taylor 83 Harvey A Legg 94 David A Hester

Raymond G Hoger 95 Lorenzo Arroyos 100 Carl D Albee Don Bass **Richard Bothe** Thomas Brodzeller Stuart L Closson Robert E Donnelly Conrad DuPont Donald D Evert Arnold D House **Ouentin** Love Dale J Nathe Ernie E Salter 102 Robert Dabreau Edward A Jeannot 105 James Burns Timual W Foutch Victor Vroman William R Yearta 107 David Bookbinder Anthony J Maulella Earl R Schmidt Leslie F Smith Clyde E Spencer 108 Stan Farthing 115 Robert L Troyer

### Chaplain's Corner Faith As Your Foundation

Just as The American Legion stands tall and proud on its Four Pillars, we as individuals need a stable foundation in order to endure the trials and tribulations that will happen during our

life. While home environment and general family values that are instilled in us as we grow play a large role in the make-up of our foundation, our Faith in God will add infinite stability to that base. When life assails us and Murphy's Law goes into effect, a strong belief in God and His infinite goodness will sustain us.

Just recently, our fellow Arizonans were struck by a tragedy that was so far-reaching that the entire country was abuzz. The Yarnell Hill Fire that took the lives of 19 young men from the Granite Mountain Hot Shots, destroyed homes in Peeples Valley and practically wiped out the town of Yarnell, undoubtedly caused many to question their Faith in God. It's only natural to hear the phrases "Why me, God?" or "What did I ever do to deserve this?" Of course, the answer is that no one knows. It simply was the Will of God. When our will and the Will of God are diametrically opposed it's easy to assume that God is not on our side. God is always on our side. This is where that strong foundation of faith comes into play. While not suggesting that we can somehow rationalize these things, we must truly believe that it was the Will of God for whatever reason and turn to Him to lead us out of the darkness surrounding us.

With Faith on our side, we can join together as a family to help our friends, neighbors, brothers and sisters to heal with any assets at our disposal. Offer shelter, food, clothing or financial aid but more importantly, offer your prayers that they may heal. There are many rough roads for thousands to traverse. Your prayers will help ease their way. While this event has now taken a back seat to numerous other tragedies in our great nation as far as the media is concerned, it will be uppermost in the minds of those involved for years to come. Keep the Faith and the prayers flowing.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jack Currie, husband of PDC Maria Currie, who passed in June.

For God and Country Carol Stensby, Chaplain, Department of Arizona





# CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS

# DOUBLETREE RIED PARK

445 S. ALVERNON WAY

TUCSON, AZ. 85711

ROOM RATE: \$95 per room per night single/double occupancy

For reservations call: 520-323-5202.

Be sure to mention <u>The American Legion</u> to receive special rates

A Golf Tournament will be held. More information forthcoming.

For Hospitality Rooms, contact: John Aldecoa (602) 264-7706

Please make reservations by OCTOBER 18, 2013 to receive \$95 discounted rates

#### ALLECA continued from page 1

Throughout the week, we teach the cadets that integrity is a must and if you violate it you are terminated from the program for that year; that is how we handle disciplinary issues. We did have one Cadet that hung-tough during the end of the week and we thought he had a strained wrist and afterwards we found out it was a hair line stress fracture. Thanks for hanging in their Cory Mead, Jr.!

The ALLECA 2013 graduating class ran five miles for their graduation. Cadet Destiny Dickinson (daughter of Officer Mike Dickinson-ALLECA Staff) was the Class President. The Most Improved Cadet was Daniel Hill and the Never-Quit-Never Award was awarded to Cadet Samuel Echeverria. The Most Physically Fit Male Award went to Cadet Kain Watson and the Most Physically Fit Female Award went to Cadet Jaicee Warren (daughter of Officer Jason Warren and granddaughter of Officer Mike Warren-both ALLECA Staffers).

We had many firsts this year. This was the first time we had a Class President being the child of an ALLECA Staffer and the first time we had a child and grandchild of an ALLECA Staffer receive a physically fit award. We also had our first child of a graduate attend but unfortunately, he was the one that fractured his arm and had to go home. Cadet Gary Werito's mother, Corey Thinn, graduated from ALLECA in 1993 and she was one of my troops back when I was a counselor. It isn't a first, but we have our second ALLECA graduate serving as a Counselor now, so let's all welcome aboard Officer Kyle Hader. Also not a first, but worth mentioning, is that we now have a flag/guidon for our classes; this hasn't happened since 2003. It was great running each morning with a class flag and trying at every opportunity we could find, to take the unattended flag from the class. Lucky for them, they guarded it constantly, we did come close a few times.

So what is ALLECA? ALLECA is a partnered youth program between the Department of Arizona American Legion and the Arizona Department of Public Safety (AZ DPS) that began back in 1981 and has now reached its 31st year. ALLECA is one of only seventeen (17) such programs in the United States that are geared toward those individual teenagers who have shown an interest in some phase of law enforcement or the military and ours is unique because much of the program is focused on physical fitness. This is one of the many "Children and Youth" programs that are sponsored by The American Legion. The program six and a half day encampment and is held at the St. Joseph's Youth Camp (Mormon Lake Village), which is about 23

miles south of Flagstaff. The program is offered to youth between the ages of 11 and 18. The cadets are fed three meals a day and are provided quarters and uniforms. This camp is not meant to correct disciplinary problems, but is one developed for kids interested in law enforcement or the military. Physical training is rigorous, so cadets attending the academy must be in good shape and able to run 1.5 miles within 15 minutes, and complete 35 push-ups and sit-ups upon entering the program. The cadets experience many aspects of law enforcement, including, but not limited to; defensive tactics, SWAT, collision investigation, Citizenship and Americanism, building searches, active shooter, what not to do when driving, etc. The encampment is under the direct leadership of the Arizona Department of Public Safety with most of the instruction being provided by certified Arizona or Federal law enforcement officers. For more information about ALLECA, please visit the ALLECA websites at: www.orgsites.com/az/legionalleca and www.webspawner. com/users/alleca both sites have over 3,000 hits each since their creation.

I want to send out a special thank you recognizing all of the Arizona American Legion Posts, Women's Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, American Legion Riders, and businesses for supporting numerous cadets that could not financially meet the cost to attend the academy. Thank you

#### American Legion 2013 Conference **PROGRAM BOOK** Outside Back Cover \$300 Inside Back Cover \$300 Full Page B&W Only \$200 Half Page \$120 Quarter Page \$80 **Business Card Size** \$40 Boosters—Per Name \$2

#### ALL ADS MUST be PRINT Ready or Email

Mail your Ad and/Or Booster along with payment made out to: American Legion Dept of AZ 4701 N. 19th Ave #200 Phoenix, AZ 85015 ALL ADS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN Oct. 18, 2013

#### August 2013



ALLECA Class 2013 in the Cool Pines of Flagstaff

letters from the Cadets you supported will be arriving in the mail soon. A huge thank you goes out to Post #3 in Flagstaff and their Sons of the American Legion for feeding the Staff and Cadets for the first day and during the graduation this year.

As I said in the "I'm a New Person Now, American Legion Magazine 2009" article, "If we can save one youth, then we've been successful". We have created a "Facebook" ALLECA Graduates group page where alumni of the program can stay in touch and look at and download photographs and videos. The group page has already grown in numbers and it reaches out and touches alumni back to 1993, and we are searching to find older alumni to join the group too. Within this group page, the alumni can tell us of their future plans and what exactly ALLECA did for them.

What do the cadets say each year about the American Legion and the ALLECA program? Thank you for your support; we want to see more representation of American Legion members during the week and we want to eat lunch with them; thank you for your service to our country; thank you for sparing your money to keep the program running; thank you for taking a chance on me and sponsoring me during the week; thank you for creating this program-it is the best thing that has ever happened in my life; and thank you for helping me become a better citizen and American.

A very special thank you goes out to all of the law enforcement officers and U.S. Army ROTC Cadets that continue to volunteer their time each year from the Arizona Department of Public Safety; Gila County Sheriff's Office; Pinal County Sheriff's Office; and the Phoenix Police and Prescott Valley Police Departments. All of these officers/deputies are wonderful mentors and provide outstanding leadership to the cadets throughout the week, and without them, the program would not be as successful. It should be noted that the law enforcement officers only received 40 hours of pay and donate over 120 hours during a week for the ALLECA Program. These are the officers; Sgt. Dave Hornung (GCSO and Deputy Camp Commandant); DPS Officers Jason Warren, Brady Little, Mike Dickinson, Diana Mondragon, David Romero and David Stopke; Phoenix PD Reserve Officer Mike Warren;

Prescott Valley PD Officer Kyle Hader (2005/2006 ALLECA Graduate) and U.S. Army ROTC Cadet Corporal Zach Johnson (ALLECA 2009 Graduate). Thank you to Cadet Advisors Annaliese Schnelle; Ashlee Chastain; Mariah Lopez and Zachery Wilson for all of your untiring work and devotion to ALLECA.

A very special thank you goes out to our ALLECA Cook Virginia Youngblood. Wow, this lady can cook and I can assure you no one lost any weight during the week. Also, thank you to Carol Stensby, Department Chaplain, for hanging out with us for the week as our Chaplain and also assisting Virginia in the kitchen.

What are the dates for ALLECA 2014? We have not yet determined the exact dates or the location, but you should begin to see announcements around October 2013. If I was a betting man, I'd say to look for ALLECA 2014 happening again around the first or second week of June.

If you have questions about the program, please contact me, Sgt. Dan Palmer, via cellular phone at 602-309-8531 or allecadirector@hotmail.com. I look forward to another exciting year and our goal is to have over 100 applications submitted and to graduate two classes for 2014.

For God and Country,

Sgt. Dan Palmer ALLECA Director/Camp Commandant

## Sweepstakes Winners June 2013

\$3,000	Douglas Edwards Post 86
\$2,000	Benny E. Cardenas Post 45
\$1,000	Gerald Rademacher Post 1
\$500	George Johnson Post 100
\$500	Lyle Frohberg Post 100
\$500	Richard Roeder Post 62
\$500	John Shanahan Post 57
\$500	Manuel Rodriguez Post 28
\$500	David Williams Post 44
\$500	Julie Harris Post 29

\$500 George Williams Post 27

Thank you to each of you for your participation in the Sweepstakes.

# Yarnell Hill Fire Donation Info

Below is information for anyone interested in helping out The American Legion Family of Yarnell Post #79 and also for everyone in the community of Yarnell and Peeples Valley. There were many damages and so many lost their homes. Also, information for donations to the families of the 19 Granite Mountain Hot Shot Firefighters who lost their lives is provided. Check with your local Post and other organizations in your community for fundraisers that may be going on. Whatever you can do will be greatly appreciated.

Contact:

Taylor-Keehner American Legion Post #79, (928) 427-3735

Yarnell Community Presbyterian Church, There is an account at National Bank of Arizona, The Yarnell Hill Recovery Group Account #7600002730 Routing #122105

Basha's, Food City and AJ's Fine Foods are accepting Donations for the 100 Club for the families of the 19 Firefighters and to the Salvation Army for the residents of Yarnell and Peeples Valley.

United Way of Yavapai County has a warehouse for in kind donations. Please call (928) 778-6605

or email yarnelldonations@gmail.com. Some specific items needed are cleaning products, large heavy duty trash bags, tarps, ant repellent, rubber gloves, work gloves, large containers of water.



4701 N. 19th Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85015 602-264-7706



Assisting Veterans with VA Disability Claims - Appeals Only\* Theodore C. Jarvi, Attorney at Law Retired JAG - Legion Member 1050 E. Southern Avenue, Suite G3 Tempe, AZ 85282 Tel: (480) 838-6566; Fax: (480) 838-8810 E-Mail: tjarvi@jarvilaw.com

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

