



For God & Country



# THE ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRE



VOLUME 2015 • OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA • ISSUE 4

## New Arizona Commander Billy Ellis

My theme for this year is "Unity without Uniformity". We are all different, each Post is different, each member is unique, but we are all united in this great organization. The three rings on my pin are all different, but they are joined together with The American Legion Emblem.

Directly after Convention, I traveled to Flagstaff to meet up with American Legion Riders and William Shatner. We all sat around a campfire and listened to a Navajo Veteran tell the Navajo Creation Story. The following morning, after breakfast at Post 3, I visited the construction site of the National Cemetery at Camp Navajo near Flagstaff with Past Department Commander, Andy Jaime. On the way back from Flagstaff, I stopped at Post 93 in Camp Verde where I visited with the Commander.

On July 4, I attended the Independence Day Celebration at my home Post 39 in Gilbert. Then I traveled to Post 41, Post 65, and Post 2, where I visited with the their Commanders. Sunday, July 5, I drove to Tucson and stopped at Post 36, and Post 59. I went on to Post 68 where I visited with the District 2 Commander.

On Friday, July 10, I was at Post 39 bright and early for Channel 3, Good Morning Arizona Friday Field Trip. Although they cancelled my two minute interview, the reporter did talk at bit about Post 39 and the Arizona Wall Project, Veterans Park being built in Gilbert.

July 11, many of you attended the Department Organizational Meeting at Post 1. The next day, I attended the Organizational Meeting for District 12 at Post 107.

July 17, 18, & 19 I plan to attend the 40 & 8 Promenade in Sierra Vista. Along the way

I hope to stop at several Posts to get stamps on my "Get to Know Your Posts" ALR card. I won't be on the bike though.

Remember, 2016 Membership is now being collected. Please send in your membership timely. Let's work to make 2016 the best year yet for membership in Arizona.

For God and Country,  
Billy Ellis, Department Commander



## ALLECA Class of 2015

The American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy (ALLECA) had another successful year. The 2015 Class took place from May 30th to June 6th and we graduated 32 Cadets (including Cadet Advisors). We received 45 applications this year, but 10 pulled out of the program due to various reasons. We had 35 Cadets registered for check-in and only 33 arrived. One Cadet



was terminated from the program for integrity/disciplinary issues and one had a medical emergency and had to be hospitalized. 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, so that is how we handle disciplinary issues.

As in all years, we had a few "firsts" happen. We didn't have an actual graduation this year because the day prior had brought on excessive

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## 2015 Department Convention

Photos by Roy White,  
Department Historian



Eagle Scout of the Year: LtoR: Dale Barnett; Wayne Chatfield-Scouting Chairman; Keith Brown; Amy Hankins Brown; Dakota Hankins; Commander Andy; and Levi Brown.



Newly elected Department Commander Billy Ellis with newly elected Department Auxiliary President Josephine Herrera



Department Color Guard from Post 29 - LtoR: Tom Junk; Frank Moreno; Steve Jones-Color Guard Captain; Francisco Barraza; Manny Moreno; and Gilbert Maldonado.



Dale Barnett, Candidate for National Commander, installing the 2015-2016 Department and Detachment Officers



LtoR: Department Commander Andy; Department Auxiliary President Jane Shoemaker; and Jr. Auxiliary President Jessica Vaupel



Legislator of the Year Sonny Borelli receiving his award from Larry Bahill, Legislative Chairman.



Memorial Service performed by Scottish-American Military Society from Col. Alexander Brodie Post 48-Phoenix.



LtoR: Commander Andy; Shirley Kavis; and Dale Barnett

**DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
FALL CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 6-8, 2015**



**CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS  
DOUBLETREE REID PARK**

445 S. ALVERNON WAY  
TUCSON, AZ 85711

**ROOM RATE:**

\$99.00 per room per night  
single/double occupancy

For Reservations call REBECCA: 520 323-5219

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

A Golf Tournament will be held.  
More information forthcoming.

For Hospitality Rooms, contact:  
Angel Juarez (602) 264-7706

**Please make reservations by  
OCTOBER 18, 2015  
to receive \$99.00 discounted rate**

## THE ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRE

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Sheila Galloway

**Publisher**  
Angel Juarez

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Free online at [www.AZLegion.org](http://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  
**Billy Ellis**  
(602) 418-0605

Vice Commanders  
(A) **Steve Aguirre (520) 906-1748**  
(B) **Michael Thelen (480) 282-0815**  
(C) **Sherie Mercier (928) 856-2437**

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

Alternate NEC  
**Judi Beischel (480) 229-1581**

Dist 1 Commander  
**Terry Greene (928) 246-6670**

Dist 2 Commander  
**Manny Beltran (520) 392-3719**

Dist 3 Commander  
**Ed Meza (520) 586-9628**

District 4 Commander  
**Jim Sylvester (520) 840-6382**

District 5 Commander  
**Richard Rodriguez (928) 865-2710**

District 6 Commander  
**Alfred Avenenti (928) 245-9629**

District 7 Commander  
**Rodger Ely (928) 380-6027**

District 8 Commander  
**Ken Johnson (805) 714-9369**

District 11 Commander  
**Dan Palmer (602) 377-4405**

District 12 Commander  
**Scott Reeves (602) 722-0587**



ALLECA continued from page 1

rain, which made the location into a mud bog the following day. One of the graduates of the ALLECA 1993 Class returned and it just so happened that he was in Sergeant Palmer's troop when he was a Cadet. He is now a Patrolman with DPS and serves on the SWAT as a Bomb Technician. We also had a Justice of the Peace teach a class for the first time, so thank you to Judge Don Watts.

The Most Improved Cadet was David Shaffer; the Never Quit-Never Award went to Nicholas Wright; and the Most Physically Fit Male and Female Awards went to Nathan Chave and Jadyne Cawson. Cadet Emerald Prebble was selected for a scholarship to attend the Arizona Youth Leadership Conference in July 2015. The Class President was David Shaffer and the Class Guidon was Morgan Little.

I still find many of our Legion family asking me, what is ALLECA? It is a partnered youth program between the Department of Arizona American Legion and the Arizona Department of Public Safety that began back in 1981 and has now reached its 34th year. It is one of only 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 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 is sponsored by The American Legion and our program is seen as the national model for such programs.

The program consists of a seven-day encampment and is held at St. Joseph's Youth Camp (Mormon Lake Village), about 23 miles south of Flagstaff. The program is offered to youths 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 (depending upon age group) upon entering the program. The cadets experience many aspects of law enforcement including, but not limited to; first-aid, defensive tactics, SWAT, collision investigation, Citizenship and Americanism, building searches, active shooter, what not to do when driving, how to prevent bullying, 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 website at: [www.alleca.org](http://www.alleca.org).

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

We have created an ALLECA Graduates Group Page on Facebook 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. 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. Speaking of alumni, one of our 1993 graduates, graduated from the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy (ALEA) in 2014 and he is now an Officer with DPS. He spent the last 20 years in the United States Marine Corps retiring as a Bomb Technician and is now serving on DPS SWAT. Officer Simon Wade has now joined the ranks of the ALLECA Staff and is a Counselor for the program. Congratulations Officer Simon Wade, Badge 7660.

Thank you to George Cushing (Past Department Commander and Nominee for the Western Region Vice-Commander of The American Legion) for spending the majority of the week with the class. The cadets appreciate the time, money and participation that is given to this program and would like to see more of our Legionnaires come and visit; have lunch with them, watch what they do throughout the day and week.

A very special thank you to all 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; and the Phoenix Police Department. 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 donated over 80 hours during a week for the program. These are the officers; Sgt. Dave Hornung (GCSO and Deputy Camp Commandant); DPS Sgt. Diana Mondragon (Assistant Camp Commandant); DPS Detectives/Officers Brady Little, David Stopke, Tiffany Harold and Simon Wade; Phoenix PD Reserve Officer Mike Warren; Maricopa PD Officer Chris Evans; and U.S. Army ROTC Cadet, Cadet Corporal Ashley Chastain (ALLECA 2010 Graduate). A HUGE special thank you goes out to our ALLECA volunteers James Shaw (ALLECA 2012 Graduate) and Jhosselyn Flores for taking time to run our command post. Thank you to Cadet Advisors Gabby Musselman, Robbie-Ann Hardesty, Mickey McCullough-Cruz and Nathan Davis for all their untiring work and devotion throughout the week.

What are the dates for ALLECA 2016? We are planning to have two classes; June 10-18 and July 15-23. Applications for both classes will be available on January 1st and they can be downloaded from the websites: [www.alleca.org](http://www.alleca.org) or [www.orgsites.com/az/legionalleca](http://www.orgsites.com/az/legionalleca).

If you have questions about the program, please contact Sgt. Dan Palmer via cellular phone at 602-309-8531 or [allegadirector@hotmail.com](mailto:allegadirector@hotmail.com). I look forward to another exciting year and our goal is to have over 100 applications submitted for 2016.

For God and Country,  
Sgt. Dan Palmer  
ALLECA Director/Camp Commandant

## Arizona American Legion Riders 56 Arizona Chapters

The American Legion Riders in Arizona have wrapped up another successful year. We now have 56 active ALR Chapters in Arizona, with a total membership of 2,405 - an increase of almost 6.4% from last year.

Last year, ALR in Arizona gave 165,407 hours in volunteer time and donated \$317,950 to charitable causes. We also continue to support our Posts; 151,100 hours of volunteer time and \$86,815 was donated to their sponsoring Posts by ALR Chapters. The Get to Know Your Post Program is also in full swing; if you haven't purchased a run sheet yet, check with a member of the ALR or see a Rider from ALR 117 to purchase one. This is a great way to get to see other Posts, and a chance to win up to \$1,000.



On another note, two riders were recently photographed at a rally in Phoenix protesting in front a mosque, causing some negative publicity for both the Legion and the ALR. They were identified as being members of ALR 117 and Post 117; immediate action was taken and the members were expelled from the Post and the ALR. ALR 117 and Post 117 should be commended for their quick and decisive action.

Finally, Arizona ALR had two honors in June - first, we were chosen by our fellow Riders in the Western Region to host the Annual ALR Western Romp, and ALR 86 in Overgaard did a great job hosting Riders from throughout the Western Region; second, ALR Riders in Arizona were asked by National to escort William Shatner across Arizona on his Route 66 Ride to raise funds and awareness for the Legacy Scholarship Foundation.

In closing, I'd like to thank the Riders, Directors and Presidents, AZALR District Reps, and my Vice Chairman and Secretary for helping us all have a great year, and making the Arizona ALR a group we can all be proud of.

As always, if you are interested in seeing what is going on with all of the ALR Chapters in Arizona, feel free to visit our website at [www.azalr.yolasite.com](http://www.azalr.yolasite.com). If you want to start an ALR Chapter in your Post, please contact me at the e-mail address below for information on how to get started.

For God and Country,  
John Moffitt, [prescottbikers@hotmail.com](mailto:prescottbikers@hotmail.com)  
**Member**  
American Legion Riders National Advisory Committee  
**Chairman**  
American Legion Riders, Department of Arizona (AZALR)

American Legion  
2015 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**

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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. 23, 2015**

## **John J. Morris Post 62**

### **Winners of the Richard H. Bieri Memorial Cooperation Trophy 2014-2015**

Ronald Reagan said: "Let us be sure that those that come after-- will say of us in our time that in our time we did everything that could be done." The John J. Morris Legion Family is proud to have delivered an outstanding set of cooperative program outcomes for Veterans, family, children, and the local community.

As a family, Post 62 worked hard to ensure that Americanism was present and love of country was visible at every event and every day of the year. Together, they celebrated Memorial, Independence, Gold Star Mothers, Patriots, Veterans and Pearl Harbor Day as well as The American Legion Birthday. In addition to the patriotic speeches and music, the Legion family color guard posted colors at all of these open-to-the-public events. The color guard also posted colors at memorial services held for brothers and sisters that passed during the year, as well as at several local nursing homes and a local cemetery. They also worked with a Post-chartered Boy Scout Troop teaching flag etiquette, working together to place flags at Veteran gravesites on holidays, and enabling the scouts to assist with ceremonies at Post 62. Additionally, they conducted a class encouraging Scouts to learn and assist with proper flag retirement procedures. The color guard traveled to Phoenix International Airport on more than one occasion to welcome home Honor Flight Participants, including one sponsored by Unit 62. ALR 62 participated in a Veterans' Day flag ceremony at a local school and Iwo Jima Parades along with many other patriotic events. Appeals were mailed to all local places of worship and on September 11th, bells were rung and a moment of silence was held in remembrance. Members volunteered to cheer at The American Legion Western Regional Baseball Tournaments in Surprise AZ. Together, 18 boys and 23 girls sponsored by Legion Family 62 will participate in the Girls/Boys State Programs.

Children & Youth is a high priority in this Legion Family. As an example, they supported Operation Kids at Luke AFB. Aimed at teaching children what their parents are experiencing, the program enacts mock enlistment, boot camp, deployment, and debriefing for 200 children. Every child was presented with a GI Josh Dog and they were a great hit! Another popular program is the Annual Christmas Party held for children of deployed parents. The Legion donated the food, ALR donated funds, Squadron donated toys for all of the children, and the Unit had arts, crafts, magicians, petting zoo, face painters, and Santa & Mrs. Clause. It was an amazing day for all involved and the entire Legion family came together to ensure everyone had a smile on their face. Working together, gift cards for school shoes, back packs filled with school supplies, trips to laser tag and mini golf and much more was provided for local children that have a parent stationed at Luke AFB. Additionally, a young active-duty family with a 7 year old son and infant quintuplets was "adopted" by 62. The Dad is in the Air Force and Mom is a Veteran. Baby registry items were delivered, extra hands were there to give mom assistance, and homemade meals continue

to be delivered on a regular basis. Thanksgiving and Christmas meals also included presents for everyone.

Legislatively, this year started with a lot of local concerns that received national attention regarding the Arizona VA Health System. Together, members attended town hall meetings with State Senators and were televised demonstrating support for Veterans and spouses. In November, the Legion family hosted a Veteran's Forum that was open to the public. All candidates running for Governor of Arizona were invited to speak and field questions. Then-candidate Governor Ducey was in attendance.

Supporting Veterans is another key priority at Post 62. Post 62 hosted a Veteran's Crisis Command Center where 85 veterans received assistance immediately and doctor appointments were setup within a week. The event also included information on housing, jobs, and suicide prevention. Auxiliary members greeted and checked in guests, served drinks and lunches and helped service officers and VA staff in any way they could.

In addition to member-donated cleaning supplies, bedding, appliances and personal consumables, generous monetary donations were made to local homeless Veteran's shelters and transitional housing facilities. Visits and donations were made to Mary Ellen's Place, a shelter for women Veterans, in honor of the Department President's Special Project "Women Veterans". Donations and art supplies were delivered to the Prescott VA. Members assisted with gift wrapping and shopping. Lap robes with a value in excess of \$30,000 were handmade and delivered across this great state to any Veteran in need. Excitingly, a member who is a WWII Veteran was sent by the Unit on an Honor Flight. Two separate luncheon events were hosted at the Phoenix VA for blind women Veterans. Each Veteran received a gift, but more importantly, Legion family members who attended, including National ALA President Janet Jefford, were entertained by their wonderful stories.

Poppies have been distributed throughout the year, and the foyer of Post 62 has been beautifully decorated with poppies and the Flanders Field Poem. Generous donations were also made to the Fisher House and to Creative Arts. Members participated in the City of Peoria Veteran's Day 5K Family Run and in a Wounded Warrior Golf Tournament in Sun City.

The John J. Morris Family teamed up with another Post and held a ceremony and luncheon for eight local WWII Veterans who received the French Legion of Honor Medal. The French consulate was there to present the awards along with several local dignitaries and local press. So many Legion family members attended that it was standing room only. Post 62 hosted a dinner reception for ALA National President Janet Jefford. It was a huge success with Legion, Auxiliary Department and Detachment officers on hand to welcome her. On behalf of Governor Ducey, Col. Wanda Wright, Ret., the newly confirmed head of Arizona Department of Veterans Affairs, presented a Gubernatorial



AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
CONFERENCE  
NOV. 6-8, 2015

**AMERICAN LEGION 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

POST NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (PRINT)

POSITION/TITLE (PRINT)

If also ALR Rider  
then place an X

1	_____	_____	
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**PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE NOV. 1, 2015**

DO NOT MIX LEGION WITH SAL  
NO REFUNDS OR SUBSTITUTIONS

# Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona Fall 2015 Conference

DoubleTree Hotel - Reid Park, Tucson, Arizona

Detachment Meetings Start Saturday Morning, November 7th, 8:30am

Fall Conference: November 6, 7 & 8th, 2015

Registration is \$10.00 per SAL member attending. Registration fees are non-refundable.

Registration after deadline subject to higher fees.

Your Squadron #:  Amount Enclosed:  Check Number:

Check box if  
ALR rider

PRINT or TYPE full name

PRINT or TYPE Position/Title


1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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7	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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9	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**DEADLINE:** SAL Conference Registration and Payment must be *received at AZ Department Offices* by close of business on Wednesday, October 28th, 2015. **Make check payable to 'Department of Arizona'.**

**HOTEL:** *Reservations are made directly with the DoubleTree - Reid Park by October 18 to receive 'The American Legion Meeting Rate'.* Conference Dates Nov 6-8th, 2015.

**Send Conference Registration:**

**Make your Hotel Reservations:**



MAIL Check and completed form to:  
**Department of Arizona**  
 4701 N. 19th Ave Suite 200  
 Phoenix, AZ 85015-3799



**DoubleTree Hotel**  
**Tucson Reid Park**  
*Mention: Legion Conference*  
 445 S. Alvernon Way  
 Tucson, Arizona, 85711  
 TEL: 1-520-323-5219





## POST EVERLASTING

1	Billy K. Griffith	Ned L. Maestas Jr.	68	Francisco Cordero
Robert W. Adams	Bryan T. Stewart	39	Antonio A. Montijo Jr.	Howard E. Davis
James L. Farrer	24	Francisco Aguilar Jr.	69	Charles E. Emery
Alfred P. Pfordte	Robert B. Amick	Richard D. Olle	Harold E. Bernhagen	Jack W. Ford
Robert B. Thompson	Delmas E. Harper	40	Karis R. Brown	Lyle Frohberg
3	John F. Nicolais	Melvin E. Abell	Howard L. Combs	Jim Fuller
Earl Bell	25	Larry L. Dubbs	Michael M. Grubbs	Gilbert G. Geurin
4	Joseph E. Flammia	Arthur G. Halverson	Theodore A. Miller	Paul Hain
Wayne Kolinek	Anthony Novo	Richard L. Keffer	George P. Pappas	Edgar C. Hicks
6	Virgil E. Wood	Brandon N. Porter	Jake Williams	Donald A. Johnson
James I. Baker	26	Joseph T. Sullivan	73	Carl Johnson
John S. Johnson	William P. Kinsey	41	Robert L. Pratt	Lee Manley
Noel A. Lowry	Hugo Pulzato	Alex L. Celaya	75	Andrew L. Schuyler
Kenneth C. McCormick	Walter H. Smith	Arthur R. Rivera	Harold G. Fick	William E. Seginski
Donald L. Smith	Mark A. Stockwell	42	76	John Skupien Sr.
7	27	Daniel E. Muntean	Olaf Dworakowski	Alfred Vicario
Ramon O. Lopez	Donald F. Barta	Albert Talsma	78	Walter Whiteman
Craig W. Piel	Howard N. Dicks Sr.	44	Mark Bond	Darrell L. Wilson
Maj. David K. Warman	Lowell T. Holloway	Robert G. Barker	Larry Gilbert	Don E. Wolf
Ret.	Edwin Kyhn	Edward T. Nesdill	Dale C. Morse	101
8	Dennis C. Ludkey	Richard Potts	79	Donald L. Falk
Lloyd Caldwell	Frederick P. Sheehan	Bob A. Procknow	Luke M. Gokey	Juri Jurisson
Harold P. Keller	Earl R. Vaughn	Jack H. Schuler	81	Gerald R. Unger
Raymond W. Litke	Edward C. Whittemore	Richard H. Thibeault	Richard A. Alves	107
Eddie G. Sylvester	Francis A. Winkelspecht	Walter A. Thomas	John L. Barger	Dale J. Alexander
9	28	Robert W. Wachowicz	Paul A. Christenson	John K. Snyder Jr.
Jose Blanco	Cruz C. Perez	William J. Wallock	Herbert A. Criqui	108
11	29	45	William R. Galey	Crawford A. Sechler
Ernest P. Blatt	James G. Blaney	Monty Gayle Woods	Ronald D. Kilgore	109
Archie L. Burkett	Lloyd H. Garner	51	Timothy M. Madigan	Mark E. Mager
Victor Rose	Kearney L. Hickox	Paul G. Antone Sr.	Jorge E. Maldonado	Robert P. McGovern
12	William A. Semper	52	Edward A. Moody	Deborah J. St Dennis
Marshall W. Heath	30	Norma A. Cameron	Basil Sinko	113
Joseph C. Maglio	Dennis L. Palmer	James M. Dwiggin	Steve Thompson	Barry C. Fain
14	James M. Schuring	John O. Fullerton	Donald J. Windhorst	Donald P. Pearson
Floyd A. Bauldoff	31	William R. Regueiro	Ted Zienka	117
Joseph W. Perrin	Wade E. Ferguson	54	83	John L. Fox
15	Boudy M. Pena	Charles D. Higson	Harold Casteel	James F. Greenhalgh
Henry Smith	34	55	James F. Galvin	122
16	Gino N. Andreoni	Alexander Bubb	Rueben Weissman	Frederick Velletri
Billy J. Adams	Edward Elmasian	Frank C. Fortner	86	125
Lorenzo C. Gonzales	George C. Pearson	Thomas E. Walmsley	John C. Anderson	Wilfredo M. Caraveo
A. C. Moravitz	35	57	88	Daniel Carrillo Jr.
Elton E. Shumaker	Joe Gammons	Billy J. Aleshier Sr.	William C. McPeck	Hector Valencia
17	James T. Knowles	Manuel Bowling Jr.	91	126
Walter C. Jeffrey Sr.	Gilbert E. Lopez	Robert J. Eimar	Donald L. Kitzman	Donald P. Garcia
Jesus Velez	Herbert C. Timmerman	58	Kenneth D. Krause	128
18	36	Harold O. Bigelow	John J. Nevins	Billy D. Steele
Cecil M. Long Jr.	James W. Cessna	Jerome D. Carr	John W. Taylor	130
19	Walter M. Jones	62	93	Robert H. Rowland
Thomas Poindexter	Tom T. Moore	Frank G. Girgen	Charles W. Brewster	131
Douglas L. Ray	Jack A. Tatem	Richard P. Hanson	94	Clyde L. Burton
Ronald Romero	37	William R. Houser	James H. Nokleberg	Thomas R. Gaines
Douglas A. Willson	Victor Bork	63	John S. Stroup	Stanley Johnson
22	Robert E. Cheney Jr.	Shirley W. Krabbe	Conrad R. Tvedt	132
Benjamin J. Aalseth	Richard J. Kennedy	64	Peter Vitto	Victor Garcia
		Paul L. Hartzler M.D.	Jack O. Youells	Roger M. Greenlees
		65	96	Ingo Schneider
		Castro Jones	Joseph J. Grasso	138
		Bonnie C. King	Charles F. Piper Jr.	Everett W. Hughey
		66	100	139
		Bruce L. Atkinson	Richard Balsbaugh	Daniel J. Donahue
		Otto W. Fuller	G. Frank Berger	
		Allen J. Mertel	Jerri L. Brown	
		August A. Sandau	Charles T. Cook	

## Chaplain's Corner

# Forgiveness

displeased with His children when they misbehave. In this case, it would be committing transgressions that vary in nature and degrees (we call them sins) for which it becomes necessary to seek forgiveness. Most are also taught that our God is all loving and forgiving. At the point where we confess our weaknesses and seek redemption, we are forgiven and asked to sin no more.

In an attempt to live a more "God like" life, we, too, are taught to be forgiving of those who transgress against us. In most cases, this is not too difficult of a task. The wall we run into seems to be that while we do forgive, we cannot seem to forget. It's a fair guess that nearly everyone has had a disagreement with someone, usually a family member or a long-time friend who brings up something that occurred long, long ago for which they may have forgiven you but have not forgotten.

If we truly wish to be more like our Creator, we must learn to forget as well as forgive. When you forgive, the slate should be wiped clean and once erased, that chalk dust cannot be reformed into rewording the sin; it must be gone forever; forgiven and forgotten. Everyone deserves the chance to start with a clean slate. Keep your eraser handy.

Please keep the defenders of our freedom in your prayers as well as all of our Veterans; especially the ill and infirm.

For God and Country,  
Carol Stensby, Chaplain, The American Legion, Department of Arizona

*Bieri Award* continued from page 6

## Proclamation.

Monetary donations for supplies and postage were made and many members assisted the Military Family Support Group sending packages to troops every month. Donations were made to Operation Comfort Warriors.

Community service and education often go hand in hand around Post 62. Thousands of dollars are spent each year providing a clothing pantry to help a local school district in a low income area. Unit 62 makes sure it is always stocked with socks, underclothes, sweatshirts, shoes, and jeans. Gift cards are also made available for shoes to be purchased. In addition, a food drive was held for families at these schools for Thanksgiving and Christmas. A total of 12 baskets with all of the fixings were donated including the turkey! Unit 62 participated in Give 10 to Education with school supplies and National Education Week with goodies and thank yous for teachers and staff. Bookmarks and comic books were provided on Read Across America Day. In addition, three scholarships were made for students attending school trips to Washington D.C. Members participated in a Patriots Day Golf Event to raise funds for scholarships for children of disabled or deceased Veterans. Many members of the Post 62 Family raised funds for nursing scholarships by participating in a M\*A\*S\*H Party held at the Post.

Also as part of Community Service, \$1,000 and hundreds of pounds of food were donated to local food banks. Numerous local families in need were given financial support. Additionally, this Legion family took action when another local Post was ready to shut its doors. Within 24 hours, Post 62 Legion, Auxiliary, and Squadron members hosted a car wash and appealed to all Post 62 members to patronize the car wash, the 50/50 and their Post.

Most people who are brought up in traditional American households are given some sort of training of a religious nature. This training usually includes teaching that there is a God and that we are all His children. Because we are all His children, He loves us unconditionally. Like any parent, He becomes

Not only was \$1,400 raised, soon thereafter, food was donated and a dinner was held at Post 105 to help raise additional funds. What an awesome show of support from one Legion family to another!

When it comes to Public Relations, size really does matter. In total, John J. Morris American Legion Family was published with 502 inches of column text, 24 color and 16 black and white news photos, eight television appearances, and an untrackable number of Facebook views and shares. Virtually every Legion Family program has been reported in local newspapers.

There were many community and social events; Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans, Valentine Shop, Senior Prom, Legion Birthday Bash, Arts & Craft Fair, Auxiliary Birthday, Marine Corps Birthday Ball, Girls State Day at the Ballpark with members on field, security volunteers at the Moving Wall, Scholastic Youth Shooting Sports Fundraiser and Banquet, two Blood Drives and much more. With public relations and local media support, many of these events were successful in engaging the community at large.

In all, with over 24,000 service hours reported, total monetary and in kind donation totals of Americanism \$2,500; Children & Youth \$18,000; Community Service \$3,000; Education \$2,300; and VA&R with slightly more than \$76,000 and another \$100,000 worth of coupons sent overseas, this Legion family has demonstrated teamwork and the uncommon results that come with it.

Approved By Unit Vote May 19, 2015  
Approved By Post Vote May 19, 2015  
Unit 62 President - Amy Hankins Brown  
Post 62 Commander - Keith Brown  
Post 62 Adjutant - Bill Sherman

**William Bloys Post 2 in Tempe**

# A Very Historical Bell Rings for Freedom

Once, a long time ago, the Bell was the sole communicator between the “masters” and their captives-the Nazis and their prisoners-who were mostly Jewish and Hungarian professional men and Poles during World War II. The concentration camp, called Mauthausen, was located 11 miles downstream on the Danube River near Linz, Austria’s third largest city. The Bell told the prisoners (who were never allowed to speak) when to get up, work, eat, exercise, and retire.

In June 1945, the late Max Connolly, from Tempe, AZ and a



First Sergeant at the time, was stationed at Horshing Air Base. He was placed on detached service and his duties were to return POWs and displaced persons to their homes. That is when Max decided to liberate the Bell. With the help of some of the people who had lived with the dreaded Bell and hated its sound day after day and year after year, Max set about obtaining the Bell.

This is what happened in Max’s own words: “One day we drove over to the camp and during the afternoon light, we fooled the guards while one former inmate scaled the building high on



the side of a quarry. He hacked down the support pole and then lowered, by rope, the unit composed of pole, bell and tin hood. After many lengthy attempts to ship the Bell to my brother Frank, of the Tempe Daily News, it was barely too wide and barely too heavy to put in a mailbag; after much conniving, a cooperative

officer put the Bell in a bag for me with the words – it looks about right to me.”

Upon returning to the United States and Tempe, Max donated the Bell to William Bloys Post #2 stipulating that it only be rung in the name of Freedom. Shortly after receiving the Bell, Post 2 members constructed a special belfry on top of the old Post Home on East Fifth Street where it hung until we moved into the new Post Home. This special belfry was built in memory of Max to house his “Liberated Bell” and it is rung on the Fourth of July each year as a symbol of LIBERTY & FREEDOM for all.

Submitted by Sherrie Grey, President  
William Bloys Auxiliary Unit 2

## SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS JUNE 28, 2015 CONVENTION

Aubrey A Woolsey	\$3,000	Rebecca Faris	\$2,000
Melvin Rollins	\$1,000	Bob King	\$500
Richard Exler	\$500	Larry Guskjolen	\$500
Gary Haggerty	\$500	Richard Trevino	\$500
Baldamar Cervantes	\$500	Larry Ruffe	\$500
Michael Curran	\$500		

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Thank You to ALL of you for your continued support.



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**AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY**  
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USO Show - 6:30 pm  
Raffle Prizes

\$5.00 donation for food requested  
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*For More Information, call the Post or  
judyalvarez@cox.net - (480) 528-2508*

## Upcoming Events:

### WWII 70TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE WEEKEND

AUGUST 14 TO 16, 2015

#### *Wreath Laying Ceremonies*

August 14th at 10 a.m. at  
Green Acres Mortuary  
POC 480 495-2654

August 15th at 10 a.m. at  
Chapel of the Chimes Mortuary  
POC 623 937-9297

August 15th at 8:00 a.m. at  
National Memorial Cemetery-Phoenix  
POC 480 513-3600

August 15th at 9:00 a.m. at  
Prescott National Veterans Cemetery  
POC 928 717-7569

August 16th at 11:00 a.m. at  
National Memorial Cemetery-Phoenix  
POC 480 513-3600

Concludes Spirit of '45 Commemorative Weekend

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2015 MAC MAKLARY MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2015

Hosted by American Legion Post 11  
Four Man Scramble at Douglas Golf Course  
9 a.m. Registration 10 a.m. Shotgun Start  
\$40.00 per person \$160.00 per foursome  
Hole Sponsor Signs \$25.00 Donations Accepted  
For more information, contact SCOTTY 520 364-5171

### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 105 THIRD ANNUAL LEGACY RUN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2015

KSU: 0800 AT Post 105 12450 N. 35th Avenue,  
Phoenix, AZ 85053

Destination: Bullhead City  
Return on Sunday, October 18, 2015  
Riders: \$20, Passenger \$10.00  
Call 602 843-2906 for more information  
(Remember your helmet if going to Laughlin)

### DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2016  
12:00 NOON TO 5:00 P.M.  
More information in next Legionnaire



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\*Federal law permits the payment of attorney fees by the  
veteran for assistance with any VA claim if Notice of  
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