Covid-19 changes ‘HOW’ we do, but not ‘WHAT’ we do
by Jen DiPietro, EDITOR MT LEGIONNAIRE

Scrambling to respond, staying flexible, resilient, compassionate, taking care of each other, checking six and doing buddy checks, we are still doing our mission (the WHAT) using skills learned from our military time. The only difference that Covid-19 has forced upon us is HOW we’re doing those same things. Meetings have been moved to on-line forums where members are still held to the same courtesies and work is being accomplished (though a blessing of being shorter). Staying home does not mean being out of touch with our families and Legion buddies. We cannot go see them in-person but on-line forums like Skype, Zoom and others give us a sense of being there with them. Now that you are stuck at home, take the time to write a card or send that funny letter; reach out to let someone know you care. Look inside and work is being accomplished (though a blessing of being shorter). Staying home does not mean being out of touch with those same things. 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First off I would like to congratulate all those Posts that have put in extra effort into helping our Department achieve some very important goals this year. We reached the Big 12 goal, first time in 4 years. Membership by March and in doing so, our Department received a $2,000 check from National Headquarters. We are also in line to receive another $1,200 for membership with total points awarded by National Headquarters for this year. There is always a caveat to membership and that is keeping members engaged in the activities of our Post. Like our Vice Commander stated last year in his travels, find that niche that really interests new members and get them involved in something that they can relate to.

There are rewards to attaining goals, but the biggest reward is seeing an active Post with new faces and new ideas. It is that new member that is excited about having joined our organization. They bring new life to a Post that has been just coasting along and never changing. Greet them with open arms and thank God that they found a home in your Post. Over the years we have all seen Posts either give up their charters or merge with another Post in their District and we wonder, “How did that happen?” It doesn’t have to be a small Post either; large Posts that used to have close to a thousand members now have a few hundred and may struggle to attend meetings. I feel that is why it is so important to get new members involved in activities as soon as possible.

As spring approaches let us set our sights ahead to those summer activities in our communities. Hope that you are excited for the things you enjoy doing in our organization. If they do not put much stock in membership, that is their right. There is nothing that states every member must recruit new members or even retain those members that leave. Some members are a recruiting powerhouse, good for you, get out there and do what you enjoy doing. If you are a retention expert, outstanding, keep doing that. We all have things we enjoy doing and the vast majority of members are not recruiters or retention experts. When we press for everyone to do that, we make people uncomfortable, resentful and unhappy and that’s never good for retention.

Remember on Monday, Purpose, Praise. If you are in a leadership role, find out what your members like to do, point them in the right direction and give them a purpose. Set them up for success, give them praise when they do, or even simply putting in the effort. Every one of us are volunteers and you ain’t a sergeant or a major or anything else, anymore. You are an equal to everyone else in this organization; they are your equal in return. Treat them with the knowledge that they can leave at any time and you will be the person that retains them or sends them packing.

If you aren’t in a leadership role, that’s okay, most members are not. Just because you don’t hold a title doesn’t mean you are not important and it doesn’t mean you don’t have influence either. It also doesn’t mean you won’t miss you if you leave, because we will. I contend that it’s your job to remind those who have forgotten what our organization is all about and that you are their equal, no matter their title.

GARY WHITE

From the Desk of the Adjutant

As I write this the COVID-19 pandemic is changing our lives and the way we do business. Due to government mandated crowd sizes we have had to go to teleconference District Meetings, close Department Headquarters and begin working from home. Currently our office manager and I have no contact or phone calls from any of the Headquarters or by phone, so we are still available. All headquarters phones are forwarded. National Headquarters has canceled the Spring National Executive Committee Meeting, National Oratory Finals, Boys Nation, and the Junior Shooting Sports Championships, American Legion Baseball World Series and the National Convention. At the Department level we have cancelled our Oratory final and the American Legion Boys State (ALBS). However, with ALBS this year’s junior class may be allowed to attend ALBS next year as seniors; more to follow on that. American Legion Baseball has been postponed and is being reevaluated every two weeks. Additionally, by a vote of 20 – 2 of the department Executive Committee the Department Convention in Billings has been cancelled, please see Resolution Number 1 in this issue.

With the cancellation of Department Convention, the Department Headquarters will coordinate with Districts and Posts on delivery of the 2021 Post packets that are normally distributed at Department Convention. Additionally, many of the awards that are normally presented at Convention will also have to be distributed by different means. During this time of change and uncertainty it is imperative that Post Officers and Department Officers are able to work autonomously and effectively.

July 1, 2020

American Legion Department of Montana
Seeks to fill the Position of: Department Adjutant

The Department Adjutant is a term hire position for 3 years and serves as the Chief Administrator for The American Legion of Montana of approximately 11,000 members. The Adjutant supervises one paid person at Department Headquarters in Helena, Montana and is responsible for the efficient performance of their duties. Applicants will be considered by the Department of Montana Adjutant Search Committee and advanced to the Department Commander for approval by the Department Executive Committee.

Applicants must possess the following qualifications:
• Honorably discharged United States Military Veteran, copy of DD214 required
• Be a United States Citizen
• Must be a member of The American Legion in good standing
• Undergraduate degree from an accredited University/College, work experience could be substituted
• Proficient in Microsoft Office
• Working knowledge in QuickBooks or related financial software
• Good oral and written skills
• Excellent team and stress handling skills
• Supervisory and Management experience preferred
• Possess professional work interaction with American Legion members/Officers and Politicians at Local, State and National levels
• Must live in Helena 90 days after job acceptance
• Possess valid Montana driver’s license
• Applicants must submit an original, current, drug screening report prior to use of The American Legion Vehicle Air and Vehicle travel required
• Must have a valid passport
• Must have a valid passport
• Must be able to travel to all District meetings (Spring and Fall approximately 10 weekends a year) attend Fall Conference (end of October), Department Convention (end of June), National Convention (end of August) and any other meetings that may come up
• Submit resume and contact information by September 1, 2020 to The American Legion Department of Montana, PO Box 6075, Helena, MT 59604 or mlegmt29@mtlegion.org. Also provide a short essay explaining your interest in the position and a brief salary history.
Coping with Covid-19
Stress
“...are the times that try men’s (and women’s and children’s) souls.” (Thomas Paine)

I pray this finds you all well. I have two things to discuss this issue. For those in Post 2 or who have visited my Facebook page, you already know some of what I’m about to share:

In my faith tradition, when one receives a life-threatening diagnosis, it’s the custom to get a new first name. Seven years ago, I received that diagnosis and had so much faith in the good results accomplished by my surgeon, I said, “No thank you.” on the new name. I was soon to find out that was a learning opportunity. Fast forward four years and suddenly cancer markers became present and were climbing. I gratefully received the new name, intending at the time to make it my legal first name. It was a very powerful spiritual experience felt also by all who were present.

Shortly afterwards my mother died unexpectedly and a legal name change was no longer on my radar.

Recently, I was blessed to celebrate a milestone Birthday and while thinking of what I still needed to accomplish, first on the list that came to mind was making my new name, Chaya, my legal first name — in appreciation to God and in recognition for the good health He has given me. The ‘ch’ is pronounced in the back of the throat, like in Chanukah or Bach, or that’s too difficult because we don’t say that sound in English, ‘HIGH-yah’ will work. It means alive, living, life. When you call me Chaya, you will literally be speaking life to me. Thank you for your patience!

On a more somber note, during uncertain times like these days (months!) with COVID-19, it’s easy to become fearful for the future. “Will I catch the virus? Will my family members catch it? How will I pay my bills?” On and on our imagination can create becoming afraid for the future. “Will I become afraid for the future. “Will I...be strong and of a good courage, neither be dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” Joshua 1:9

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and He shall direct your path.” Proverbs 3:5-6

These are just two of many verses that give me strength. I also remind myself that I am an eternal soul that has a body. Our society focuses our attention on our material, rather than spiritual existence, so it’s very easy to forget. As the radio says from time to time, “This is a test. This is only a test...”

“This, too, shall pass.” Focusing on what we still do have and expressing gratitude helps reframe our day-to-day experience in an uplifting way. Creating a gratitude journal — daily writing out our blessings — is very helpful to redirect our focus to the positive and lift our spirits.

If you are overly stressed and need tools to some, I encourage you to reach out to your local Legion Family Chaplain, depending upon which arm of the Legion Family your membership resides.

You can also be ‘there’ for others — encouraging and helping them will also strengthen you. A short phone call checking in can really lift the spirits of someone alone.

Like 9/11 almost 20 years ago, and other trials our nation has had before, we as a people are resilient; as a nation, we will get through this and be stronger for it.

L-R: Dept Chaplain Chaya Semple, Legion Rider Chapter 2 member Larry Steels, Department Commander Jeff Nelson, Helena Jewish Lay Leader Janet Tatz, Sons of the American Legion Past National Chaplain Dick Ellwein, MT Sons of The American Legion Detachment Captain White, and Post No 2 Commander Bill White

Submitted by Chaya Semple (Photo taken by SAL Squadron 2 member Howard Haines)

Department of Montana Service Officer
KATE HAHN, DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

I have been trying for some time to figure out how to break the ice on the following subject as it may be uncomfortable for some. Yet in a time where a pandemic is sweeping the nation, and there is a large population of aging veterans, veterans and their families are facing decisions that are extremely important, and can be hard to make. I am talking about end of life wishes, choices and requests.

Veteran Service Officers and Montana State Veterans Cemetery personnel receive calls daily as to what is available for veterans and their families when a veteran or spouse are ready to complete their member of Post 20, Dillon, Interred with Military Honors

HINTON, ALBERT, 2/29/2020 – Korea – US Navy – 17-year member of Post 20, Dillon, Interred with Military Honors


MEAN, CARL, 1/16/2020 – Korea – US Army – 13-year member of Post 20, Dillon, Interred with Military Honors


WEBB, WILLIAM, 1/28/2020 – Korea – US Army – 33-year member of Post 42, Townsend, Interred with Military Honors


You can also ‘be there’ for others

Department of Montana Four Chaplains Service
Photo taken following the annual Department of Montana Four Chaplains Service on February 3rd at Touchmark in Helena.
Federal Covid-19 Economic Impact Payments

Check IRS.gov for the latest information on action needed by most people at this time.

2020-01, March 30, 2020

WASHINGTON — The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service today announced that distribution of economic impact payments will begin in the next three weeks and will be distributed automatically, with no action required for most people. However, some taxpayers who typically do not file returns will need to submit a single tax return to receive the economic impact payment.

Who is eligible for the economic impact payment?

Tax filers with adjusted gross income up to $75,000 for individuals and up to $150,000 for married couples filing joint returns will receive the full payment. For filers with income above those amounts, the payment amount is reduced by $5 for each $100 above the $75,000/$150,000 thresholds. Single filers with income exceeding $99,000 and $198,000 for joint filers for joint filers with no children are not eligible. Social Security recipients and railroad retirees who are otherwise not required to file a tax return are also eligible and will not be required to file a return.

Eligible taxpayers who filed tax returns for either 2019 or 2018 will automatically receive an economic impact payment of up to $1,200 for individuals or $2,400 for married couples and up to $500 for each qualifying child.

How will the IRS know where to send my payment?

Payments will begin in the middle of this week and continue into early April. The IRS will use the information on the Form SSA-1099 and Form RRB-1099 to generate a payment. Instead, payments will be automatically deposited into your bank account.

Payments will be made by direct deposit or by paper check, just as they would normally receive their benefits. Direct deposit recipients will receive these payments as a direct deposit or by paper check, just as they would normally receive their benefits.

The vast majority of people do not need to take any action. The IRS will calculate and automatically send the economic impact payment to those eligible.

For people who have not yet filed their 2019 tax returns, the IRS will use this information to calculate the payment amount. For those who have not yet filed their return for 2019, the IRS will use information from their 2018 tax filing to calculate the payment. The economic impact payment will be deposited directly into the same banking account reflected on the return filed.

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFICIARIES

UPDATE: April 1, 2020

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service today announced that Social Security beneficiaries who are not typically required to file tax returns will not need to file an abbreviated tax return to receive an Economic Impact Payment. Instead, payments will be automatically deposited into their bank accounts. The IRS will use the information on the Form SSA-1099 and Form RRB-1099 to generate $1,200 Economic Impact Payments to Social Security recipients who did not file tax returns in 2018 or 2019. Recipients will receive these payments as a direct deposit or by paper check, just as they would normally receive their benefits.

The IRS will post all key information on IRS.gov/coronavirus as soon as it becomes available.

Post 42 Legion

Family deliver Harbor Freight donations

On Friday March 20th, I received an email from our Auxiliary District 6 President Karen Susag with a message from her son, Craig, about donations from Harbor Freight. The National chain was donating facemasks, gloves and aprons to hospitals that were eligible and in need of these supplies. My spouse who works at the local Billings Clinic - Broadwater and Townsend contacted the Clinic supply manager who went to the link right away and filled out the necessary paperwork. Literally, within 30 minutes she received and relayed the certified acceptance letter back to my spouse so that we could go to Helena and pick up the two pallets that the letter said would be ready. When we arrived at Harbor Freight, the gracious staff had only one pallet and no more supplies for a second but said we could return Monday for the other pallet after their supply truck arrived on Sunday. We were very thankful to receive ten boxes (a 4x4x4 pallet full) of what they had on hand and returned Monday to receive two more pallets from their national office.

A HUGE thank you to Harbor Freight for your generous donation of very necessary supplies and for all those involved that helped our small local hospital staff be safer through this pandemic!

ANAVCUS Scholarship Presentation

Carroll senior nursing major Erika Seehafer of Nampa, ID has received a $1,500 Reverend Frank Lawrence Harrington (ANAVCUS) Scholarship for the 2020-2021 academic year. The award is in recognition of academic achievement, leadership potential and spiritual conduct in keeping with the best traditions of The American Legion and Carroll College. The Reverend Frank L. Harrington Scholarship was established in 1987 by the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada, United States Unit, to honor Father Harrington, National Chaplain of The American Legion in 1947-48. Father Harrington was a spiritual leader, teacher and patriot, as shown by his service at St. Charles College (later renamed Carroll College) as dean of men and professor of mathematics. His spiritual leadership and close liaison with Canadian veterans, as members of the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada, helped develop a close relationship which led to the awarding of honorary life membership in the Canadian group’s United States Unit to members of The American Legion, a unit which flourishes today.

Don’t become a victim of Covid-19 scams

As we confront the COVID-19 outbreak, it’s important to take steps to protect your health and that of others. It’s also important to protect yourself against scams related to COVID-19 Below are some common cons and how you can prevent becoming a victim to scammers.

Scammers claiming to help you get a government payment or grant.

Scammers may claim to be from the U.S. Department of the Treasury and promise to help you get Covid-19 related grants or checks in exchange for personal information. This is a scam.

Here’s what the Treasury Department says: “If you receive calls, emails, or other communications claiming to be from the Treasury Department and offering Covid-19 related grants or stimulus payments in exchange for personal financial information, or an advance fee, or charge of any kind, including the purchase of gift cards, please do not respond. These are scams. Please contact the FBI at https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx so that the scammers can be tracked and stopped.”

Fake charity scams

Unfortunately, scammers use events like this pandemic to take advantage of your generosity. Many will even use names that resemble that of a real charity. What can you do? Here are a couple of tips:

• Do some research about the charity. Make sure it’s real and reputable, and know how your donation will be used.

• When donating, use your credit card only on secure websites. Do not pay by gift cards or wire transfer – this is how scammers seek payment.

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Post CN20 Honors last WWII Veteran, Ed Plume by James A. Grosset, Adjutant Post CN20

On Monday January the 6th I received a phone call from one of our members in High River Alberta who told me that we lost our last WWII Veteran, Ed Plume. Ed had served with the 69th Division of the US Army as an infantry rifleman, landing in Le Havre, France and marching through Belgium, then on to Berlin during the Battle of the Bulge.

We were fortunate to have three young soldiers from Ft. Lewis to do his Funeral Honors. They were led by Lt. Erica Bienlen and the family were greatly honored to have such a wonderful act to send Ed to his final resting place.

Ed Plume, a young PFC from California; Post CN20 Commander, Joel Vecchione, Sp4 Lawrence, and Post Adjutant Jim Grosset.

Post 14 Bozeman recognizes Barth as 50-year member by Les Atkinson, Correspondent

Post 14 members Randy Kemp (Adjutant), Len Albright (Commander), and Dallas Thomp (Post Historian, behind the camera) surprised member Jerome Barth with his 50-year Membership Certificate and Pin. They surprised him with a presentation at his house on the afternoon of Thursday, March 5th. Jerome is one of the Post's long-time member of their Honor Guard and rarely missed a ceremony. Congratulations Jerome for your 50 years of Service to the American Legion, the Community and the United States of America.

L-R: Post CN20 Chaplain Greg Amey; Lt Bienlen, a young PFC from California; Post CN20 Commander, Joel Vecchione, Sp4 Lawrence, and Post Adjutant Jim Grosset.

Post 14 Bozeman recognizes Barth as 50-year member

L-R: Post CN20 Chaplain Greg Amey; Lt Bienlen, a young PFC from California; Post CN20 Commander, Joel Vecchione, Sp4 Lawrence, and Post Adjutant Jim Grosset.

Gallatin Post 14

Gallatin Post 14 presented four awards to Cadets at this years ROTC Dining Out Banquet held Friday March 6, 2020, Jim Howe (District 7 Commander) and Len Albright (Post 14 Commander) presented the awards to the four Cadets pictured to the right.

Right to left: Len Albright, Post 14 CDR; MSII Scholastic Excellence Silver to Laura Hanshaw; MSII Military Excellence Silver to Justin King; MSIV Scholastic Excellence Gold to Mara Helmer; Jim Howe, Dist. 7 CDR.
DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA MEMBERSHIP GOAL ROSTER 2020

TEN LARGEST POSTS
Post 2
12 BILLINGS
11 BILLINGS
10 BILLINGS
9 BILLINGS
8 BILLINGS
7 BILLINGS
6 BILLINGS
5 BILLINGS
4 BILLINGS
3 BILLINGS

DISTRICT STANDINGS
DISTRICT PERCENTAGE COMMANDER
1. 100.99% ... Glenn Sharp
2. 100.87% ... Pat Sweeney
3. 94.74% ... Greg Manose
4. 93.94% ... Vincent Schmeckel
5. 92.89% ... Jim McCoy, Martin
6. 94.70% ... John Howse
7. 90.14% ... Richard Hackett
8. 89.92% ... David O'Farrell
9. 88.99% ... Joe Yeoman
10. 82.99% ... Randy Flammond

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION April 1, 2020
SQUADRONS... GOAL 2020... TO DATE
COLUMBUS #1... 45,050... 1,500
PLATTEVILLE #5... 29,431... 800
CULBERTSON #61... 19,902... 700
NASHUA #104... 18,020... 600
GREAT FALLS #3... 17,900... 600
SACO #79... 13,500... 500
LIBBY #79... 9,700... 400
MOOSEHALL #108... 7,000... 300
LEWISTOWN #16... 4,600... 200
BILLINGS #18... 2,700... 100

Go Ahead... Relax...
Let the Legionnaire Insurance Trust Program handle ALL your insurance needs.

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Let the Legionnaire Insurance Trust Program handle ALL your insurance needs.

Post 2
12 BILLINGS
11 BILLINGS
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10. 82.99% ... Randy Flammond
The District 4 Oratorical Contest was held March 14th, at the Masonic Hall in Polson at 1:00 PM. District 4 Commander Glen Sharbono was the moderator for the 83rd American Legion Oratorical Contest. Contestants had to give Prepared Orations on the Constitution for 8 to 10 minutes and a blind drawing Oration on one of four Amendments for 3 to 5 minutes. This year’s assigned topic was Amendment 24.

Scott O’Donnell, a Senior of Kalispell High School won 1st Place and a $150 scholarship plus $100 for travel to the Department contest. The title of his Prepared Oration was “Answer the Call”. Maggie McKeon, a Senior of Columbia Falls High School won 2nd place and a scholarship of $50. Catherine Shields, age 14, sang the National Anthem beautifully. The winners in order of placement were: 1) Timothy Cuddle - Post 2 Helena; 2) Trista Bedfield - Post 31 Twin Bridges; 3) Jadyn Bellander - Post 46 Boulder; 4) Hailey Carpenter - Post 2 Helena

This year we only had three contestants from Columbia Falls “Freedom Post” 72, Polson “Hardwick Post” 112 and Kalispell Post 137. If you’re interested in how to run an oratorical contest information is available at www.legion.org/oratorical and it would be beneficial to attend a District or Department level contest as well.

I would like to thank all members by email and phone to keep them apprised of all the changes. I encourage all members to be checking their emails and the Department website and Facebook daily for updates. April 15 is Tax Day for many of us, and for most of our Posts as well. Remember it is a requirement that our Posts file a Form 990 to the IRS each year (date determined by your Post fiscal year). For many of our Posts you can file online using the Form 990 e-File which requires you to answer only six questions. Regardless of whether you file and what form of the 990 form you use, it is imperative that you file annually. If you fail to file, after the third year your Post will lose its nonprofit status, and it is a bureaucratic nightmare and costly to get reinstated. We are at the time of year when many of our awards and deadlines for some of our programs are due. None of these awards or programs can be complete without the involvement and input of our Post members. I would ask that the membership take an active part in the selection process for our awards. Unlike in the past, in an effort to save on postage costs the Department is no longer sending copies of all awards to the Posts; however the awards are available on the Department website (mtlegion.org), and in the Department publication “Post Colors for Special Olympics Fundraiser”, which each Post receives two copies of at Department Convention or upon request.

Remember your recruiting awards, there are individual and Post recruiting awards which require submission – most due by May 15.

The Consolidated Post Reports (CPR) were mailed in March for the 2019 - 2020 year. At first glance, the CPR may appear complicated and something you don’t want to be troubled with, but perhaps it is the most important document your Post can complete and submit. This information will be combined with that of other Posts, which submit forms to be put into the report annually sent to Congress. Your Post is encouraged to send a photocopy to our own U.S. Representative, Senators and your local Legislators. This summary is “US” when the National Commander and others testify on Capitol Hill on behalf of the American Legion and all veterans. Each Post has a story to tell, and when we speak collectively, our strength is magnified… your Post needs to be a part of that united force. If you have volunteered or done some other service, make sure your Post Commander and Adjutant know so they can include your efforts on the CPR. Consolidated Post Reports are due to Department Headquarters by 15 May 2020, if your Post uses MyLegion.org they may do an online submission, if done online there is no need to send the paper copy.

The Department is accepting applications for students to attend the National American Legion College, November 1-6, 2020 in Indianapolis, Indiana. All costs are paid by the Department and National; to be eligible you must be a graduate of The American Legion Extension Institute and a veteran of Lebanon or Grenada or later (a candidate from any earlier war era may be considered based upon how the Departments successful submission of a candidate with service during or after Lebanon/Grenada period). Applications are available online or from Department Headquarters. Submission date to Department is no later than 15 June 2020.

I would like to thank all members who have donated to the Department address label fundraiser, your generous donations are much appreciated by the Department Leadership.
Chaya Semple, Dept Chaplain

that conflict and succeeding conflicts. It evolved into a patriotic
of the fallen and remember their family members who died in
spontaneously began across the country in the spring of 1866.
and remember the sacrifice of our war dead.
ited from gathering together, that does not mean we are prohibited
Because of the extremely high death rate of Civil War soldiers
ment and ability to
freedom of move
we may not be able
unlike years past,
alert our local media
our voices. We still
power of the pen and
We can still participate in the national moment of remembrance

We still have the power of the pen and
our voices. We still have the ability to alert our local media
outlets and request that they create and run stories on our local
newspapers and broadcast stations. We can request names be printed in the paper or scrolled on our local television and radio
stations leading up to Memorial Day, featuring the stories of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

We can still write a Letter to the Editor, extolling our war dead’s sacrifice, and the freedom purchased with their blood, which in turn will help others to remember them.

We can still fly an American Flag on our home, lowered to half-staff until noon, to remember them.

We can still participate in the national moment of remembrance at 3 pm on Memorial Day to remember them. And, we can continue to pray for peace.

WHEREAS, The United States of America and the world in general are currently experiencing a pandemic associated with the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) therefore causing communities, cities, states and the federal government to enact unprecedented emergency actions in order to contain and combat the impact and risks of spreading the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Upon the recommendations of the United States President, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) the emergency actions taken include, but are not limited to, restrictions on mass gathering, restricted international travel, closure of restaurants and other public gathering spaces, implementation of “social distancing” guidelines and an overall emphasis on personal hygiene and virus germ
abatement actions; and

WHEREAS, The governor of the Montana declared in Executive Order 43-2020 a public health emergency and issued Executive Directives 3.15.20, 3.20.00, 3.24.20, and 3.26.20 requiring: (1) social distancing, groups of no more than 10 people, closure of indoor restaurant facilities, and stay at home wherever possible; and

WHEREAS, A gathering of the members of The American Legion, Department of Montana at the Department Convention in Billings, Montana would be in conflict with the imposed restrictions set by state authorities and therefore place our members at an unreason-

REMEMBER & HONOR

nothing is missing in Our Midst

Something is Missing in Our Midst

JIM KELLY, CHAIRMAN

American Legion Fatality Marker Program

It is gone; and we need to bring it back. A single individual can make this happen, the whole Depart-
ment must unite in one spirit to bring it about. In his letter, William S. Harris, a member of the American Legion, states: “It is time to recognize the importance of our Fatality Markers, take pride in yourself and your

Fatality Markers, take pride in yourself and your

What is missing? Only you can answer the ques-
tion. Is personal commitment, enthusiasm or lack of leadership? We need to renew our common spirit in the members of a group and inspire enthusiasm, devotion, and strong regard for the honor of the group. As we approach Spring Maintenance of our Fatality Markers, take pride in yourself and your

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteering. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives.
Blessings to each of our ALA members! As we have heard so many times lately, “this is unprecedented times for all of us”. Daily we are hearing more and more cases of the Coronavirus in our community, State, Nation, and in the world. I don’t know about you, but I almost hate to listen to the news or read the paper because it seems to just cause more stress. The one website I do try to continually keep up with is our ALAforveterans.org. It has the latest information about our organization and what we can do, or what to cancel or what to extend our deadlines to.

As of the 13th of April our ALA MT Girls State and our own Department Convention have been cancelled. I thank our National and Department Officers along with our Chairmen for their hard work during this time as they work to keep us informed as information comes out.

I also want to thank all of you who are still working from your computers and phones to check up on their members and some of our most vulnerable neighbors and veterans. We are all in this together and if we each take care of our “circle” of friends and acquaintances; we can make a large swath of caring across Montana. I know you have done the Week of Caring and Sharing and hopefully gotten to talk to those who we usually just email or haven’t been in contact for a while. At this time it is important to keep in touch and who knows, you may get a member to renew because you reached out to them. Don’t forget to document all of your hard work.

I have asked Jamie to stay on as our Secretary/Treasurer through this time and into next year. Thank you Jamie! She is so needed with her invaluable knowledge and expertise to help us navigate through the constant changes. We will still be voting to name the offices in our Convention and the redoing of our Constitution and By-laws.

One item I do need to talk about is Department Fundraiser “Dimes and Time”. At this time, we have only received monies from 14 Units. That leaves about 55 Units that still need to hear from. I have asked every member of Department to please donate $10 to this mission. I will be honest and tell you we will not be able to meet our budget if we do not get funds. I understand we cannot go out and meet for funds but maybe for months to come, but we can each do our part and donate at least $10 for the fundraiser.

I pray that you will all take the precautions necessary to keep yourselves safe and healthy as possible. I keep you all in my prayers daily and ask God to bless us as we go through this difficult time. I want to leave you with a bible verse that speaks to me about the uncertainty of our daily lives.

Matthew 6:33-34. “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

Thanking all of our veterans and our members.

**CALL TO CONVENTION**

TO: Officers and members of The American Legion Auxiliary Units in Montana

GREETINGS

The 100th Annual Convention of The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Montana is hereby called to meet and assemble at Billings, Montana, June 26, 27, 28, 2020 to transact and consider such matters as are included in this call and any other business which may properly come before it.

The Convention is called for the purpose of electing officers to the ensuing year, electing delegates to the National Convention, amending the Department Constitution, presenting annual reports, and the transactions of such other business as may be brought before it in conformity with the provisions of the National and Department Constitution.

REPRESENTATION

Representation in the Convention will be by Units. Each Unit in good standing and not delinquent in State and National Dues shall be eligible to representation at the Department Convention. Representation is based on the paid-up Unit Membership as of the beginning of Department Convention as follows:

- Units having up to 50 members are entitled to two (2) delegates and one additional delegate for each additional 50 members or fraction thereof.
- A Unit, to be in good standing must have a minimum of ten paid members and no indebtedness to the Department.

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A regular meeting of the committee will be held on Friday, June 26, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. The first stated meeting of the Department Executive Committee following the Department Convention will be held immediately upon adjournment of the Convention. The minutes of each committee meeting will be kept with the convention minutes for the year.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

All Department Officers and District Presidents will be sworn into office at the conclusion of the session on Sunday morning, June 28, 2020 and will automatically become members of the Department Executive Committees. Any inquiries for information with reference to the Convention shall be answered from Department Headquarters.

Sue Davidson

President

Jamie DeBates

Department Secretary/Treasurer

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Montana Fundraiser

“Dimes and Time”

Our goal is to raise enough dimes to stretch 100 miles for our programs to help veterans, and for each Auxiliary Unit to spend 100 hours in personal time to better the lives of our veterans and their families.

This is to take place November 2019—May 2020 in honor of our American Legion Auxiliary 100th Birthday celebration.

Thank you for your donation!
Four Chaplains Service
Submitted by Leona Somerfeld, Member Post No. Mills Paulus Unit 103
Junior member, Jersey Somerfeld from Mills Paulus Unit 103, presented the Four Chaplain Sunday Program at Guardian Angel Church on February 2, 2020. A memorial display was set-up to commemorate the Four Chaplains. She read the story and did a very nice job explaining the heroic efforts of the Four Chaplains.

The same week of February 2nd, 2020, Jersey went to the Pre-kindergarten class and read a fun story, helped them do a craft making paper chickens and then treated them to her homemade biscuits served with butter and honey.

Glasgow Unit 41 Fill-the-Purse
Submitted by Leila Seyfert, Member Unit No. 41 Glasgow
District 1 President Cassie Johnson challenged each Unit in the District to fill purses with single use toiletry items, such as shampoo, conditioner, soap and toothpaste. Larger items such as deodorant, playing cards, socks, shirts and toothbrushes were also collected. During the regular January meeting of Unit 41 Glasgow, the Auxiliary filled around 20 purses to be donated to homeless women veterans.

It is with heavy heart that I write to you concerning the cancellation of our 72nd ALA MT Girls State. While we are navigating an unprecedented and challenging environment with Covid-19, please know that we have the health and welfare of our staff and attendees foremost in our minds. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your hard work and diligence in visiting schools, talking with the juniors and getting applications and fees together for the girls we did have registered.

We will be refunding 100% of the monies received from all of you and your sponsors, unless you notify us otherwise. Please understand that we do not want to hold you responsible for the girls who are unable to attend next year’s State due to Covid-19. Please keep your girls registered so that if she chooses to attend next year’s session, we can have her registered and ready to go.

Covid-19 has definitely changed the landscape of many of our programs this year but we’ll take the time to regroup, recruit and set ourselves up for a successful 72nd ALA MT Girls State session for June 13-19, 2021. Again, thank you for your support and if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Deceased Members

Polson Post/Unit 112
Post 112 and Unit 112 in Polson held their annual birthday dinner on March 12. Dept. Commander Jeff Nelson, V.P. Chris Nelson, District 1 Commander Glenn Sharborno, Post Commander Dorothy Goodwin, Dept. Secretary Jamie Debates and County Commissioner Roger Knoell were among the attendees.

from left to right are the veteran residents living there and members of the Post and Auxiliary: Mollie Kirk, Anne Newton, JoAnn Piazzola, Jeanette Knoell, and Roger Knoell.
The American Legion was founded after the end of World War I. During March 15-17, 1919 in Paris, the first caucus under the name American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) was held. Two months later, a caucus was held in St. Louis, Mo., where the name The American Legion was officially adopted. The Preamble and the Constitution of The American Legion was presented to the United States Congress on June 16, 1919, the United States Congress chartered The American Legion.

After its formation in 1919, several of its existing women’s organizations wanted to become the official affiliate of the Legion. A committee decided to create a new organization for the women. The Forty and Eight. They envisioned a new and different level of elite membership and camaraderie for female members of The American Legion. The box car of the French railways, so familiar to American ground troops of World War I was chosen as the symbolic heart of the new organization.

The organization was named after the Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux (The Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses). Its members were called Voyageurs Militaire (military travelers). The cargo carrying sign signifying “458” and “W & G” emblems on each French boxcar that carried American doughboys to the front, and “French horizon blue” color, became synonymous with the organization.

The new Forty and Eight organization agreed to send a delegation to the Legion’s national convention in Cleveland, Ohio, with as much fanfare as possible in order to introduce the Forty and Eight to the nation and to other Legionnaires. A railroad box car was rented, and in it, the Forty and Eight rode the rails to the Cleveland American Legion convention. In 1947, The Forty and Eight welcomed The Merci Train, also known as the French Gratitude Train. It was a gift from France immediately following World War II. Over the last century, there have been many programs both nationally and locally that coincide with The American Legion programs: VAVS, Child Welfare, Educational programs, Memorial Day, Boys State, Girls State, Scouting and Children and Youth programs. The Forty and Eight has other programs that stand apart from each other. Two significant ones in Montana are Nurses Training Scholarships and Merci Car maintenance and care.

As we celebrate the last century of success, I thank The American Legion. The Forty and Eight Voyagers Militaire for the past years. I look forward to many more successes in the years to come. Like The American Legion, we value our community programs that support our communities, state and nation and, most importantly, our veterans and their families.

Legionnaires, when you are approached to be a member, please consider joining The Forty and Eight.

*Editor’s note: Want more information? The Forty and Eight will be meeting at the Billings Convention so please pay a visit to our Voyagers - look for the red box car pin on their hats or uniforms.

The History of The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Montana written by Mrs. E. A. King, Mrs. E. O. Ordin and Mrs. J. O. Smith upon their name was the women did just that at the Auxiliary’s first convention in 1921, omitting the word “women’s” – thus becoming the American Legion Auxiliary. From the beginning, both organizations’ main goals were to help veterans and their families. Today, there are over 2 million members in over 12,000 posts worldwide.

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) has three-quarters of a million members in over 8,000 communities. The American Legion Auxiliary has come a long way from “doing the activities more suitable for women” in 2018, the organization’s volunteer hours had an impact of over $1 billion through services to servicemembers, veterans and their families, and our communities.

Additionally in 2018, over 4,000 scholarships were awarded, $8,18 million raised and spent on the ALA Girls State program, $82 million plus raised/spent to benefit children and 5.5 million poppies were distributed with nearly 4.4 million raised. More than 3 million veterans were assisted, 356,000 military families were served and $189 million was spent on community service projects alone.

The American Legion Auxiliary has advocated for veterans rights, including the GI Bill and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs benefits, and ending homelessness among veterans.

The American Legion Auxiliary can still be seen baking pies and donating funds to many veterans as well as sending care packages to deployed troops and writing notes to wounded veterans in hospitals. See The ALA in action: www.ALAforVeterans.org. This was originally published as an eBulletin.


The Voyageurs Militaire (Military Travelers) founded a Child Welfare Program in 1923 to ease the pain and suffering of those children whose fathers never returned or who were unable to care for them during their illnesses. If you have a desire to, or know someone who is pursuing a nursing degree, contact a 408 member for scholarship opportunities.

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Help Our Female Comrades be Recognized

Women have fought for freedom and our country since the Revolutionary War. One of the first women to fight for our country was Margaret Corbin, who was severely wounded fighting alongside her husband at Fort Washington in 1776 and left for dead. She survived though disabled and received ½ of a soldier’s lifetime pension after the war. Several monuments have been erected in her honor, one at the Military Academy at West Point but because she was a woman, before women had rights, you hear very little about her. Another lesser known female, New York teenager Sibyl Ludington, the female equivalent of Paul Revere, rode 40 miles in a rainstorm in April, 1777 through Putnam and Dutchess Counties rousing local militia to fight a British force that had attacked nearby Danbury, Connecticut.

More than 400 women (many more possibly unrecorded) disguised themselves as men and fought in the Revolutionary War and in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. Thousands joined volunteer brigades and signed up to work as nurses, a role previously held by men. One of the more famous nurses was the writer Louisa May Alcott. Women for both sides ventured onto the battlefield, many changing their appearances so they could fight incognito until they were found out and sent home.

During WWI, women operated near the front lines, providing medical care for soldiers wounded in combat. In the US Navy many females enlisted as yeomen, mechanics, truck drivers, telephone operators, and translators. To improve communications on the Western Front, the creation of the Signal Corps Female Telephone Operators was created. They were nicknamed Hello Girls and were noted for their bravery and focus under pressure. They did everything they were tasked to do without any hope of medals, citations and glittering hometown parades. Even after the war, upon returning home they did not receive veteran status or benefits.

In WWII, 350,000 women served in the armed forces in the newly formed WAACs, WAVES, WASPS, and SPARS doing more than being a nurse or office clerk. They repaired and flew airplanes and drove trucks, were killed in combat or captured as prisoners of war. Many nurses received various decorations for their courage under fire; 16 nurses were killed as a result of direct enemy fire, 68 were captured as POW’s in the Philippines and more than 2,000 won combat decorations and meritorious service medals. Women veterans returning home again did not receive veteran benefits and were denied advantages of the GI Bill.

By the time of the Persian Gulf War, i.e. Desert Shield/Desert Storm, women made up 6.8% of the military where many jobs were open to women that had not been open before. Still considered non-combative they endured the same harsh conditions as their male counterparts, performing admirably without special considerations. 5 women were killed, 2 were taken as POW’s, and 21 were wounded. 4 female Marines received the Combat Action Ribbon when they were engaged by and returned fire against Iraqi troops.

Since the Gulf War, military branches have been slowly integrating women into many combat roles previously closed to them. Female troops focus on their job, not their gender, proving themselves as capable as their male counterparts. It has been a long haul for women veterans, being able to be recognized for their acts of bravery, awarded Combat Action Ribbons because they performed admirably doing the same job, getting the same results as their male comrades. American women want to stand up and fight for their country and do their part for the cause because they know that in times of war and conflict, it is their fight too.

With legislation they also are entitled to the same pay and the same benefits but there is still disparity among the genders once they leave the service. The VA hospitals and clinics continue to be geared for the healthcare of men, which is why many female vets do not feel welcome using the facilities. Men are thanked for their service at a higher proportion than women; usually because they are easier to identify. Some men remain uncomfortable with women serving in the armed forces: harboring feelings that war encourages acceptance of violence against women in general or that it denigrates the women. Since its founding in 1919, The American Legion’s Constitution and Bylaws has treated the genders the same. We as members need to treat women veterans with the same respect and comradeship that men receive. We need to set the example for our society to accept that women serve and they are veterans too.

Hopefully we can then make the necessary changes to allow women veterans the healthcare, respect, and recognition they earned.

Your personal help is needed by our female comrades and me as the Department Women Veterans Coordinator to advocate for women veterans in obtaining adequate healthcare. Your help is needed in recognizing and thanking women veterans for their service. Your help is needed to encourage women veterans and active duty females to join the American Legion. One person cannot do it alone. It takes all of us. Please help me identify women in the American Legion by giving them this survey; it is a way for us to recognize and support each other. We served too and we belong to the American Legion Family.

Women Veterans Questionnaire

Name ____________________________  Post# ____________________________
Address ____________________________  E-Mail ____________________________
Phone ____________________________  Phone ____________________________

* What is your preferred method of contact  E-mail _____  Text _____  Written _____

* Why did you join The American Legion?

* Are you interested in meeting other women veterans?

* In what ways would you like to connect to other women veterans?
  In a Social setting  At a workshop
  At an Outdoor event  At an Outdoor activity
  At an Indoor event  At an Indoor activity

Other ____________________________

What are your expectations of the Women Veterans Coordinator?

* Please Mail to: Kim Kay c McCarty Martin  OR  E-mail to IDInNNO@hotmail.com
  1426 2nd Ave S  Great Falls, MT 59405

Any Questions or comments please let me know or call me at (701) 260-2833

Lone Scouts receive Troop Flag from Helena Post 2

Lone Scouts Hailey and Ashley Carpenter of Helena MT were presented a “Troop” Flag by American Legion Post 2

L-R: Vice Commander Duane Cunningham, Life Scout Hailey Carpenter, First Class Scout Ashley Carpenter, and Scouting Chairman Bill Rich

Hysham Post/Unit 92 celebrates Legion birthday

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 92 had cake and ice cream on March 2, 2020, to help The American Legion Post 92 celebrate the Legion’s 101 years of organization.
Congressman Gianforte Honors Three Butte Veterans

Like so many former military guys and gals in Butte, Neil “Pooch” Neary, Thomas Goyette and Roger Knoell didn’t stop serving their country when their active duty ended.

On Monday, the three veterans were honored not only for their time in the service, but for their service to The American Legion and other causes and organizations back home. U.S. Rep. Greg Gianforte presented all three with the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation, which the Montana Republican started in 2017 to recognize outstanding veterans for their commitment to both community and country. “This is a way of saying thank you,” Gianforte said during a ceremony at the American Legion Silver Bow Post 1 building on Wynne Avenue that opened last year during the organization’s 100-year anniversary. About 50 people attended the ceremony, all applauding after Gianforte read statements about each man that he included in the Congressional Record and giving them individual awards and folded American flags.

All three gave a short, simple thank you. “It’s pretty humbling,” said Neary, who has been a member of the American Legion in Butte for 63 years. Neary was in the U.S. Army for three years, including 28 months overseas during the Korean War. He was a member of the Engineering Corps and received commendations including the Good Conduct Medal. Neary said American Legion members in Butte “met me at the bus station” when he returned home and he’s now a lifetime member of the Legion, Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Goyette enlisted in the Navy after graduating from Forsyth High School in Montana in 1967, was trained in aviation electronics and fire control and spent time on the aircraft carrier USS Coral Sea off the coast of Vietnam. He and his crew were responsible for securing and checking the A6 Intruder after flights, inspecting the aircraft and making sure they were refueled and rearmed, ready for the next mission.

Goyette left the Navy in 1970, worked in advanced electronics and as a registered nurse, came to Butte to work at the Military Entrance Processing Station and retired here in 2012. He has belonged to the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, United Veterans Council and was involved in securing the Southwest Montana Veterans Home in Butte.

“I think everybody has a duty to pay back to the community, state and nation for the opportunities we are all given,” Gianforte said after the ceremony. “We are given the right of citizenship but with that comes responsibilities. We are all responsible for helping maintain this great nation.”

Knoell enlisted in the Navy right out of Butte High School in 1970, saw combat in Vietnam aboard two destroyers and fast-support combat craft, and spent nearly half of a 20-year Navy career in submarine service based in San Diego and Pearl Harbor. Knoell said when he was younger, most guys had three choices coming out of high school in Butte — go to college, work in the mines or join the military. He chose the latter and knew “right off the bat” that he would stay in for years. “The Navy to me — there was nothing else in the world as far as I was concerned,” he said. “If I could go back and do it all over again I would.” Since returning to Butte in 1990, Knoell has been active in The American Legion, including time as adjutant and commander of Post 1, and played a key role in getting the new building on Wynne Avenue completed. He is also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the United Veterans Council.
VETERANS
Financial Preparedness
REPORT 2019

How do you compare?
Veterans are a highly diverse group of people—from their military background to their civilian career, from their educational background, and from their age to their marital status. A new study found that veterans who are on-track or ahead in meeting their financial goals cut across these demographics, and they also hold 5 attributes in common.

The Veterans Financial Preparedness Report 2019 is the very first study to examine how well-equipped U.S. military veterans are to meet their financial goals after leaving the military. Prepared by the Legionnaire Insurance Trust for the departments of the American Legion in honor of the Legion’s 100th anniversary, the study includes key findings from a survey of more than 1,500 veterans, representing a wide variety of backgrounds.

Overall, more than one-half of veterans said they are behind on saving for retirement, while just over one-third said they are on-track and just 8% said they are ahead of schedule.

Which veterans are financially prepared?
Given that so many veterans are behind in saving, what sets apart those who are on-track and ahead of schedule from their peers? According to the report, 5 attributes were common among these veterans:

1. They are knowledgeable about personal finances
Personal financial issues may not be an area of interest or expertise for you, but doing your research and becoming educated on topics such as retirement planning, investments and insurance can be an important element of financial preparedness. Most veterans who are ahead or on-track say they are knowledgeable about personal finances, while those who are behind are much more likely to say they do not consider themselves knowledgeable.

2. They started saving early
Veterans who started saving early were more likely to be in a strong financial position, according to the report. While 38% of those who say they are behind haven’t started saving for retirement yet, 60% of veterans who are ahead and 34% of those who are on-track started saving immediately after high school or within the first 2 years of joining the military.

3. They understand the importance of frequent planning for the future
For financially prepared veterans, retirement planning is a continuous process. While those who are behind tend to address their personal financial plans as the need arises, the vast majority of veterans who are ahead or on-track work on their retirement planning on a quarterly basis at minimum.

4. They work with a professional
Partnering with a professional financial advisor is another important aspect of veterans’ financial preparedness success. Three-quarters of veterans who are ahead of schedule and nearly one-half of those who are on-track work with an advisor, compared to just 13% of those who are behind. The vast majority of veterans who work with an advisor say they are satisfied with them and that they are confident they are making the best financial decisions for their family.

5. They protect their family with an emergency fund and life insurance
Alongside diligent saving and planning, veterans who are financially prepared also maintain an emergency fund and invest in life insurance to safeguard the nest eggs they have built. 93% of veterans who are ahead have an emergency fund, as do 75% of those who are on-track. In comparison, only 32% of veterans who are behind have an emergency fund. Similarly, 75% of those who are ahead have life insurance, compared to just 44% of veterans who are behind. Those with life insurance are more likely to be confident they are making the best financial decisions for their family.

5 attributes, 1 mindset
At the heart of these 5 attributes of financially prepared veterans is a single mindset of personal responsibility. Not surprisingly, those who took the principles that made their military service valuable and carried them through to their personal finances tend to be in a stronger financial position.

Veterans who take charge of their finances through personal education, saving early and working with a financial advisor are confident about their family’s financial future.

The report is free to veterans and their supporters at www.thelIT.com

How to Submit Articles & Photos?
Deadline: July 1, 2020
(always include Post & City in Subject Line)

Text - No formatting such as, multiple space and multiple tabs to line up text

• Set one tab (publisher will format to line up paragraphs and columns) PLEASE do not use multiple spaces as All formatting has to be removed before placing into paper.

• Modern formatting is single-space between sentences (after the period)

• Provide artist’s name as well as Post number

• Post, Unit & Department are capitalized

• It is better if articles/stories are written in third person – unless you’re talking about quotes

• Non-veteran authors in the first person

• If you want credit for an article or photo(s), please make sure you let us know.

Photos - send as e-mail attachments - PLEASE!!

• JPG format, as an attachment

• Default setting on a digital camera is usually set very high. Set to 1200 x 1275 pixels which is ideal for printing 4x6 with desired output resolution of 300 dpi.

• Cell phone photos are many times too poor quality so take your time taking the photo & get them focused.

• If the photo is blurry, too far away, tops of heads cut off, shows just the backs of heads we cannot make it look better for you. Send photos in medium resolution.

• Captions should be noted in the e-mail:

• Photo caption which includes Post/Unit name, City along with the names of those in the photo and what Post/Unit they members of

• Don’t spend time setting up photos and captions in a Word document – PLEASE

• Each time a photo is copied/ pasted to edit it loses integrity. Send as an e-mail attachment

• Do not embed (insert) photos in an e-mail (use attach)

• See above (if embedded in the body of an e-mail the photo has to be copied/pasted into Word, then copied/pasted into photo editor). Send as an e-mail attachment

News articles:

• Sending a note/letter to an article via e-mail is best (rather than hard-copy to scan)

• Helps ensure article can be found (sometimes older articles are archived and cannot be found) and also to give proper credit to the author and newspaper to avoid plagiarism.

• Corrections to previously-sent articles

• Send an e-mail with the corrections only

• MOST articles the article has already been formatted and grammar-edited, and inserting the correction saves a lot of time in redoing. Edit and spellcheck your work before you send it if the time.

ByLine… remember always include the submitter’s name for articles. Send Articles, Photos e/Captions to: lmtpub4@gmail.com

Early Submittals Greatly Appreciated!

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Would you like six opportunities to win $400, one to win $500 and one to win $1,800? Join the Big K (1000) Club and be one of the 1000 members eligible to win. Membership is just $25 a year and is open to all Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members over 18 years of age.

This is a fundraiser for Posts, Units, Squadrons, Districts and Department; proceeds will be used to strengthen and increase programs such as Oratory, Government Survey, Scholarship, Baseball and American Legion Boys State, as well as membership programs.

If you are interested in joining contact your Post Adjutant or Department Headquarters. Membership closes December 31, 2019 with the first of 6 monthly drawings for $400 beginning January 2020, $500 on the Legion Birthday and $1,800 at Department Convention.

If you want to give to the Montana American Legion please mail your donation to the address below:

Montana American Legion
Department of Montana
309 West Broadwater
Helena, MT 59604-6075

BIG 1,000 CLUB

BIG 1,000 CLUB

Name: ____________________________________________
Post/Unit/Squadron: ___________________________

ID Number: ______________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

Biographical Information:

Name: ____________________________________________
Post/Unit/Squadron: ___________________________

ID Number: ______________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

Biographical Information:

Name: ____________________________________________
Post/Unit/Squadron: ___________________________

ID Number: ______________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________
Montana Legionnaires... Visit the Montana Military Museum

At historic Fort Harrison
Just west of Helena
Fort William Henry Harrison Museum Foundation & Montana Military Museum
For more information write to:
ATTN: Museum Director/Curator
PO Box 125
Fort Harrison, Montana 59636-0125
myfun51@msn.com • 406-324-3550

Liberty County American Legion Post #88
Welcome to our Post Meeting
Every 1st Wednesday at 7 p.m.
Liberty Co. Community
& Senior Center
618 East Adams
Chester, Montana

Sons Of The American Legion
Detachent of Montana
For More Information About Membership Call:
(406) 324-3989 or (406) 324-3990
or write to P.O. Box 675
Helena, MT 59604

American Legion Post #3
Meets the 3rd Monday at 7 PM
September thru May
at the Elks Lodge
500 1st Ave South
Great Falls MT
(406) 453-8822

American Legion Gallatin Post #14
Servings for Legiontown USA
225 East Main Street
Butte, MT 59715
Open daily
Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. to Midnight

Silver Bow Post #1 and Auxiliary
American Legion of Montana
Welcome Meetings:
1st & 3rd Wednesday every Month – 7:00 p.m.
Dinner: 3rd Wednesday – 6:00 p.m.
New Legion Hall – 3201 Wynne Avenue
Butte MT

American Legion Post #2
3095 Villard Ave.
Helena, MT
Open at 10 a.m.
7 Days a Week
Legion Meets 2nd Thursday
SAL Meets 3rd Thursday

American Legion Post #4
Open Daily at 2:00 PM

AMERICAN LEGION POST #4
HOTTEST MACHINES IN TOWN
1540 BROADWATER AVE.
BILLINGS, MT

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Jerome Faith
Located at Cassity Plaza
Great Falls, MT 59401
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Whitehall Truck & Towing Repair
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24-hour Towing 7-Days-a-Week

The Montana Flag and Pole, LLC
Phone 406-393-5599 or 406-442-3339
E-mail freddie@flagandpole.com
829 N. Last Chance Gulch in Helena 59601
U.S.A. Flags, State, Military Service, POW-MAA and custom flags, Inground Flagpoles, Flagpole accessories and parts, Indoor Flagpoles sets and Veteran Memorial Flagpole displays.

The New Montana License Plate Available at the DMV
For more information visit?
www.montanadmv.com