



***DISTRICT THREE***  
***AMERICAN LEGION***  
***DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI***

Summer Edition

May 2015

**COMMANDER**

*John F. Kopp*  
 5121 NE 47<sup>th</sup> Ter  
 Kansas City MO 64117  
 (816) 699-8719  
 E-mail: jfkopp@att.net

**FIRST VICE**

*Calvin Bumgarner*  
 5212 Cody  
 Shawnee KS 66203  
 (913) 522-1103  
 E-mail: cbumgar522@aol.com

**SECOND VICE**

*Ed Schmidt*  
 ed@maysvillemo.com

**ADJUTANT**

*Robert Emery*  
 (816) 833-7285  
 E-mail: remery18@comcast.net

**FINANCE OFFICER**

*Judith "Judi" Samborski*  
 148 Cardinal Cir  
 Lawson MO 64062  
 (816) 392-7960

**CHAPLAIN**

*R. E. Holtz*  
 33797 N Reynolds Rd  
 Rayville MO 64084  
 (816) 506-8077

**SGT. AT ARMS**

*Gary Nichols*  
 3433 Drury  
 Kansas City Mo 64117  
 (816) 455-2648

**JUDGE ADVOCATE**

*Gary Reno*  
 (816) 628-5773

**COMMANDER'S CORNER**

By  
**John F. Kopp**

Summer is almost here. Right now the flowers are blooming, the air is fresh and warming up. Spring is definitely in the air.

What this means, of course, is that it is election time. Elections in the posts, district, and department. All positions are open for election. The positions are for two years, and, while there is work involved, with only four meetings a year, it is nothing like a post position. Plus, you get to wear the two colored cap. All of the offices are listed on the left side of this page.

Please note the date of our next meeting – **JUNE 7, 2015**. This is the first Sunday in June instead of the second. It is an important meeting. Please try to be there or send a representative from your post.

To everyone in the district, I want to express my appreciation for all the work you have done over the past two year and the support you have given me. It has been an honor to have served these past two years for and with you. And I would ask that all of you continue this support for whoever assumes the Commandership.  
 John

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I believe that if life gives you lemons, you should make lemonade... And try to find somebody whose life has given them vodka, and have a party.

Ron White

By  
John F. Kopp, District Chairman

**DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE**

Mark your calendars for the next district meetings:

Date: June 7, 2014  
Place: Robert H. Baker Post 95  
Our Lady of Mercy Country Home  
2115 Maturana Dr.  
Liberty MO 64068  
Time: 1200 PM Lunch  
1300 PM Meeting

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**MEMBERSHIP**

By  
John F. Kopp, Commander  
District Three

Membership, membership, membership – seems like that is all we talk about any more. You all have done a great job this year. As of May 1, 2015 District Three is sitting in fourth place in the department. We are coming to the end of the membership year. But, there is still time to increase the rolls of you post. If you have not already done so, hit the post 1000 list and see about transferring members off that list into your post.

It would be nice to see our district rise a couple of more places on the list. **THANK YOU ALL FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK!!!!**

I know it is getting late in the year to sign up new members, but there are always transfers from Post 1000. Also, how many of your members from last year have not paid up for this year? Why not contact them and ask? Some may have financial problems. Why not pay this year for them? It is only \$22.50. Others may have just forgotten. Pay it for them and ask them to pay the post back. You never know, It just might work. My post did that and when we called the members, a couple of the members were in financial trouble, so we just paid their dues for them. **Veterans helping veterans.** To pay for four members is only \$100.

I have already submitted dates or next year's district revitalization. Of all the dates that I had submitted in January, the only date that was available was October 1 – 3. So, mark your calendar. Lots of help will be needed. Time and place will be sent out when it is finalized.

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**My definition of an intellectual is someone who can listen to the William Tell Overture without thinking of the Lone Ranger.**  
**Billy Connolly**

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The numbers are in. The Posts in District Three have sent seventy-two (72) applications to Missouri Boys State, ten of which are alternates. Last year we sent seventy-nine (79) applications in with eight alternates.

As you can see from above we were not far from last year's totals. Another fine job. Thanks to all.

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**Veteran Benefit Fair**  
**by John F. Kopp**

On April 25, 2015 Miss Ann Roberts, Service Officer for District Four, and I presented a Veteran Benefit Fair in Tarkio, Missouri. We had around 30 participating agencies, a barber providing free haircuts, and The American Legion Band of Greater Kansas City. The Fair was 100% free of any charges. And over one hundred people attended the fair, and many received new information concerning benefits.

Among the visitors who attended were Dennis L. Woeltje, Commander of the Department of Missouri, George Scarborough, Senior Vice Commander, and Calvin Bumgarner, Zone II Vice Commander.

Miss Roberts and I feel as though it was a success. Thanks to the generosity of several Legion Posts, SAL Squadrons, and Legion Riders groups, all expenses were paid and we were able to donate one hundred dollars to Operation Comfort Warrior.

We are beginning to plan for next year's fair. We already have a hall available to us in Liberty, Missouri, and are planning to hold the fair in May or June of 2016. Over the next few months we hope to create several committees to spread out the many tasks involved in the presentation of such a venture. With it being held closer to Kansas City proper, we can expect a much larger crowd and many more participating agencies. Some of the needed committees that will be needed consist of: Fund Raising, Publicity Set up and clean up, refreshments, transportation for Veterans need rides to and from the fair, and so on. If you would be interested in any of these committees or would just like to volunteer, contact me.

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**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT  
OF MISSOURI SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

**COMMANDER'S SCHOLARSHIP**

If you know of a veteran presently attending or has been accepted by an accredited vocational technical college, college or university in the State of Missouri and who has served a minimum of 90 days and honorably discharged and is a resident of Missouri, the or she eligible to apply for Commander's Scholarship.

The scholarship is for \$1000. If you know of anyone interested contact me for an application or contact the department headquarters.

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**DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL EVENTS TO  
REMEMBER**

**National Convention**

**2015-August 28-Sept. 3, Baltimore, MD**

**2016-August 26-Sept. 1, Cincinnati, OH**

**2017-August 24-30, Louisville, KY**

**2018-August 24-30, Minneapolis, MN**

**2019-August 23-29, Indianapolis, IN**

**Department Schedule**

**2015 Convention 7/09-7/13**

**Springfield, MO**

**2015 Fall Conference 10/23-10/25**

**All at Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO**

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**I no doubt deserved my enemies, but I don't  
believe I deserved my friends.**

**Walt Whitman**

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**Be thankful we're not getting all the government  
we're paying for.**

**Will Rogers**

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**You can lead a man to Congress, but you can't  
make him think.**

**Milton Berle**

**O Lord, help me to be pure, but not yet.**

**Saint Augustine**

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**CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT**

Every post adjutant should have received the CPR form by now, You should start asking members for their hours of service, functions, and any other activity they may have been involved in that can be recorded on the form..

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**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

One of the American Legion's four pillars, as you know, is Children and Youth. And, there are several programs within the Legion that supports this pillar. But, serving our children and youth is not limited to just these programs. Take for instance Missouri Special Olympics.

We have probably all heard of the Special Olympics through the news and, maybe we are either personally involved or know someone who is. Or maybe you have a child, or know someone who has a child, participating in the Olympics.

But, have you ever thought about volunteering yourself? You don't have to be a coach, but can be. There are all sorts of ways to assist. Funding is one way. Since the Special Olympics operates strictly through donations, there is always a need for money. And, all funds are for the athletes. So, if you or your post wishes to support this very worthwhile project, or would like more information, contact:

For Clay County: Sarah Bachand  
9001 W. 67<sup>th</sup> St.  
Merriam KS 66202  
(913) 789-0330

For all other counties in District Three  
Alyssa Humphreys  
2300 Frederick Ave. Suite 209  
St. Joseph MO 64506  
(816) 233-6232

These two ladies can give you all the information you want from funding to just moral support for the athletes.

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No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.  
Abraham Lincoln

**2014 - 2015 NATIONAL  
MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES**

**CHILDREN & YOUTH                      APRIL 8, 2015**  
**ARMED FORCES DAY                      MAY 13, 2015**  
**Delegate Strength 30 days prior to National  
Convention**

\*\*This date is also a renewal notice cutoff date.

**Miss Ann Roberts, district service officer for District Four is setting up training sessions for post service officers. She has invited all post service officers from our district to attend. The training will be provided by Mr. Ron McBee, the American Legion Assistant DSO for the Department of Missouri.**

**Notice that there are two possible locations, one in Maryville MO. to accommodate the northern posts and one in Edgerton MO for the southern posts.**

**Date: 5/18, 2015**

**American Legion Department of Missouri District 4-Service Officers Training Goals, Dates & Times.**

**To: All Posts in District 4 AND 3-Service Officers, Commanders and/or Adjutants**

**From: Ann Marie Roberts, District 4 Service Officer & VA & R Chairman**

**Event: Training Service Officer Session**

**Instructor/Presenter: Mr. Ron McBee-Kansas City Office, Asst. DSO**

**Goals: 1. Empower and Train duties of Post Service Officer**

**2. Post Service Officer role in a Post.**

**3. Identify local and state community resources, agencies, and military organizations that have support services for veterans and active duty military personnel.**

**3. Identify different roles of Veterans Administration Department of Missouri Service Officers, Missouri Veteran's Commission, other.**

**4. Where and how to access VA and Department of Missouri of the American Legion resources for veterans and post members.**

**Dates: (District will be divided up between Posts-Atchison, Holt, & Nodaway County AND Andrew Buchanan and Platte County).**

**Date/Time: June 6th- 8:30 to 11:30 am.**

**June 6th – 12:30 to 3:30 pm.**

**June 21st- 1:30 to 4:30 pm.**

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**July 5th - 1:30 to 4:30 pm.-(Post 445 can host place for the training-Time-11:30 am to 2:30 pm).**

**July 18th – 8:30 to 11:30 am**

**July 19th – 1:30 to 4:30 pm.**

**July 25th- 8:30 to 11:30 am.**

**Location: Post 445- Morning and/or afternoon. (BROWN BAG LUNCH)**

**Post-POSSIBLE Post 100**

**Post 445 – 503 Bell St. Edgerton MO**

**Post 100 – 1104 E. 5th St. Maryville MO**