



The American Legion's 3rd District, Department of Missouri "Third Herd"



Commander Douglas W. Millison
7001 N. Highland Ct., Gladstone MO. 64118
816-509-5247 commander.third.district@gmail.com

Adjutant Robert C. Emery
16001 E 31st St. Independence MO 64055
816-313-5109 remery18@comcast.net

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

1 April 2020

Web Site Address
www.mo3rdherd.com

Facebook Address
www.facebook.com/ThirdHerdMissouri/

This newsletter is available to
view on our website

Upcoming Meetings

Meetings are held Quarterly on
the second Sunday of the month
at Posts throughout the District.

14 Jun, Post 216, Bethany

13 Sep, Post 393, Gower

13 Dec, Post 236, Exc. Springs

Submit articles and pictures
for the Newsletter by email to
[the Cdr. \(Subject: Newsletter\)](mailto:the.Cdr. (Subject: Newsletter)@mo3rdherd.com)
two weeks prior to Quarterly
publishing. All submissions
subject to editing.

Commander Says:

Legionnaires;

I normally begin with an upbeat, positive attitude. This is not a normal situation. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our families and friends, causing the loss of life and livelihoods' in our community. Let us first and foremost think of and pray for those who are hurting more than ourselves, as we hope others do for us.

The impact will be greater for those in the southern part of the District, Clay and Ray Counties, strictly due to population density. Activities at those Posts have been curtailed for the most part with Bingo and Bars closed. Smithville Post 58 which has food service, had to cut its operations down to carry-out only. A member of Post 626 has lost a close friend and has a couple more ill. But a lot of Posts across the District have felt the impact and have adjusted to the situation.

If there was any time to do Buddy Checks, it's now. Please reach out to ALL of your members, see how they are doing, let them know that you can help. Your Department Commander has reached out to all of his Commanders, I will be calling all of you to see how this has impacted your Post. Post 626 is endeavoring to reach all of our members by phone, and if that fails email, and if that fails letter. This has resulted in a couple requests for assistance, new contact information, and being able to let our membership know that we are there for them. If 626 can do that for 250 members...

And while not upbeat, I do still have a positive attitude that we will recover and be able to move forward. We haven't yet gotten through the worst part of the pandemic, but the actions we have taken have certainly reduced the severity of its impact. Pay attention to the recommendations of your area, and if you travel at all, the area you are going into.

This IS serious. Stay Safe, Stay Protected.

Even now we must be thinking of ways we can contribute to the recovery of our community, and our nation. There are stimulus payments coming, and I hope that we will be able to use those funds to actually stimulate the local economy and get people back to work.

Membership

I am not all that worried about not making the March cutoff as a District. I don't think the arbitrary goals for growth are set well or are achievable in many instances. National and Department have the big picture worries where when these areas don't do well enough, the over achievement in other areas can fill in the hole. And that may work for them, but when some Posts have to gain 9, 18 or even 22 new members without losing any, and others just stay the same, that can get discouraging.

Growth is good, and even necessary, but not all of us will be able to do that. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't do membership.

I am worried that if we can't stop moving backwards The American Legion will lose all influence to get legislation passed to help the Veteran or protect our national security, to run programs that influence our youth in positive ways, to watch out for the health of our veterans. I am asking you to reach your membership numbers for last year. Let's worry more about that and then work on growth.

Try to find out why your members are not renewing, and to change their minds. Reach out to every veteran in your area and let them know what your Post, the Department and National are doing for them. Advertise your presence in your community and ONLINE so that you can be found and seen. Don't ignore your current members who are not active, convince them that they are also an important part of your Post.

Over this year I have offered and provided as much as I could from MyLegion, and I hope it has helped those that used it. It is up to you in the long run to figure out what works in your area, to find the veterans who may be there, to get them in and to engage your current members.

I can't speak to your situation. At 626 we are sitting in the most Veteran rich county in the District. I can tell you what we do for Membership Retention and Recruitment, and you can figure out if it is right for you or not.

- Cdr calls every member after they renew to thank them ("If you only talk to your inactive members when it is time to ask them to renew, you are wrong")
- Post provides a Newsletter that is emailed to those with emails as well as posted on the website and MyLegion for download
- Meeting Minutes are also distributed by email
- Post has a website with current activity calendar
- Post has a Facebook page for engaging members and non-members alike and posting meeting and event reminders
- Post has a free voicemail and email account to be easily reachable at all times
- Members are active in the community volunteering in a Legion shirt, attending city events, posting articles in the local paper

- Post publishes a “Why 626?” tri-fold to let prospective members know everything that the Post does (Example included in inserts)
- Part of the membership dues collected can be used to pay the membership renewal of those that are having temporary financial hardship
- Call/email/write (all 3) members who are slow to renew just before or after National sends out renewal reminders as a way to coordinate the two efforts
- Uses online membership processing
- Utilizes all of the tools available at mylegion.org
- Conducted Buddy Checks during the COVID-19 pandemic and offered assistance

District Membership Data is inserted after events.

Let's stop the slide!

Conference/Convention Notes

I attended the Spring DEC Meeting as on the 22nd of February in Ashland MO. There are no more “Spring Conference’s” as a money saving measure by Department, driven by loss of membership.

The information that your Post members might be interested in is:

- Membership renewals at Department are processed within 24 hours, the backlog is at National.
- National recommends that Posts do Buddy Checks in March and November to coincide with the Legion’s Birthday and Veterans Day.
- Department finance officer projects a \$150,000 shortfall on revenue for this year due to loss in membership.
- The American Legion Foundation of MO has a goal of \$1.2M which would produce income of \$36K annually to support Department Scholarships. They have been averaging 5% over 5 years in an account managed by Wells Fargo and currently have \$830K but are looking for donations. Go to <https://www.missourilegion.org/foundation-of-missouri>
- There is an amendment to the By-Laws in the works that would require Adjutants to process dues received from members within 30 days. See inserts after events...
- The NEC is (was?) expecting a decision on the 2025 National Convention location in May. If either KC or St. Louis is selected it could lead to as much as \$80K in the Departments coffers. If it is KC there will be a lot of work to do!
- Department and National is encouraging those going to conventions to use the facilities on site. Prices are going up because we cannot deliver as many room reservations and other profits for the hotels. Saving \$10 a night on another hotel can cost the organization sponsoring the event much more than that.
- The Departments golf tournament which benefits the Temporary Financial Assistance program, supporting minor children of Legionnaire’s and Active Duty Service personnel

will be on July 9th. Participants and Sponsors are needed. Details here:
<https://www.missourilegion.org/ppcc-golf>

- Cut-off for reserving a room at Department Convention is 17 Jun. Here:
https://secure3.hilton.com/en_US/hi/reservation/book.htm?execution=e1s1

District Meeting Notes

A District Meeting was held on the 8th of March at Post 95 in Liberty. A reminder that anyone can come to these meetings, meet other Legionnaire's, learn something new, and have a good meal and comradery afterwards. Post 95 supplied the ham/bread/drinks and we brought the rest. Good eats!

Brad Gibson from Advocate Health Advisors was there to talk about health insurance and how maximize VA and Medicare benefits. See inserts for contact details.

The District Commander (me) reported on his activities over the last quarter, the need to communicate and participate across the area, not just at the home Post, and the importance of being online. Other Posts reported on their activities to include Boys/Girls State, and fundraising activities. Cadet Patrol Chair reported NO applications were submitted from any of the Posts in the District. Commander noted that this program that supports Law Enforcement through youth education and possible recruitment **IS GOING TO DIE** from lack of support at the school and Post level.

The Commander also expressed appreciation to Jeff Benes, Post 626, Post 95 and 3rd District Aux President for their participation in, and support of, the American Legion Oratorical Contest. Because they cared, this program exists.

High School Oratorical Contest

Gladstone Post 626 and Liberty Post 95 assisted in the **Zone II Oratorical Contest** on January 26th, one contestant coming from Post 626. The District Auxiliary President assisted by providing snacks.

Cadet Patrol

Missouri Cadet Patrol Academy June 7 - 12 2020 \$450

Chairperson Calvin Bumgarner had been talking to Schools, Posts and Law Enforcement about getting students enrolled but there were no participants from the District.

Boys State

Missouri Boys State June 13 - 20 2020 \$500

Chairperson RE Holtz submitted 43 Boys State applications for delegates and 9 applications for alternates. Betty Rusher said all applications would be processed together.

Baseball

Chairperson RE Holtz has begun coordinating for this season's games. 3rd District has 3 Posts participating; Gladstone, Lathrop and Bethany.

Misc.

Officer and Committee Chair nominations are coming up at the next meeting. If you currently have a position that you can no longer fill please let me know NOW so we can work on that. At this point **we do need** a Finance Officer and SGT-at-Arms. Again, if you are interested please let me know.

We will also vote on the By-Law changes that the Adjutant sent you. Please check them out.

The next target date and cutoff for renewal notices is April 8th. Please have all 2020-dues-payments submitted by close-of-business (4:30pm 4/8/20) to prevent unnecessary renewal notices.

The VAVS Representative (also me) has submitted a quarterly report. It is in the attachments.

The Missouri Veterans' Hall of Fame (MVHOF) is accepting nominations to the Hall of Fame. MVHOF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit established to honor military veterans in the State of Missouri and increase awareness of the lifetime contributions of veterans to Missouri. Criteria and Guidelines as well as the Nomination Form can be found at: <https://mvhof.wordpress.com/missouri-veterans-hall-of-fame>

If you have any questions, please contact Cassie Strom at cstrom126@gmail.com or Cary Kellett at cdk9320@aol.com.

A message about the upcoming Department Elections from Rose Noonan:

“I was wanting to touch base with all the District Commanders, and Adjutants serving the State of Missouri. Due to current events around the country, I will be unable to attend your District meetings as I had previously planned.

As you may already know, I am a candidate running for the office of Senior Vice Commander for the Department of Missouri. Hopefully this crisis that our great country is in at the present will pass quickly and allow me to travel to your meetings and discuss membership strategy for the upcoming year.

I am asking for your support and vote in the upcoming election. This is not an ‘I’ organization, this is a ‘we’ organization. We can work together to get new members, as well as retain our current members. My plan is to be available to assist in your endeavors to get the job done. Hopefully I will still be able to attend meetings in May and June prior to Department Convention in July.”

Sincerely,
Rose Noonan
Zone 3 Vice Commander
Candidate for Senior Vice Commander
Department of Missouri

Read and share the District Newsletter. It is also available on the District website at <http://www.mo3rdherd.com/> In the last NL there was information on:

Fall Conference, Oratorical Program, Post activities, VAVS Board, VA Urgent Care, 3rd District Meeting Schedule, Legion Act, Dept. Convention, Jobs, DPAA and last Dist Cdr’s report to Dept.

For Posts with a Facebook account, please use and SHARE our Districts Facebook page as a way to advertise directly to other Legionnaire’s. www.facebook.com/ThirdHerdMissouri There is a lot of good information posted there on COVID responses across the services and at the VA, access to Leavenworth during this time and more. If you have something going on, I WILL SHARE IT. If you see a post there that your followers need to know, SHARE it.

As I travel around the District, I am creating Facebook Albums of pictures of your Posts and events. Please feel free to share these.

Please share your activities with us so that they may be posted on the District website and Facebook page. If you have a flyer please send it in jpeg format. The more we communicate online, the larger of a presence we have, the easier we are to find and the more influence we will have. Ignore it and we fade out...

Officers and Committee Chairs, this Newsletter is an excellent way to reach the Posts, especially those who do not attend meetings (which is most Posts!). **I encourage you to use it!!**

Post Activities

I know there were a few more that I missed. You can't tell me in passing, make sure I write it down. *But the best way* is to just send me an email, "we have this going on this day". Three things will happen. I will try to come, and all I have to do is copy and paste from your email into the newsletter, and forward the same to the Adj. to put on our website. Far enough in advance I can get it in the Newsletter.

PLEASE communicate your activities with me, no matter how mundane they may seem to you! Look at what some of the other Posts submitted, that would give you an idea of what you do that should be reported. I think I missed a pancake fundraiser that I would have attended...

Bethany Post 216 hosted a Suicide Prevention and PTSD seminar which saw almost 20 participants. They are hosting the next District Meeting in June.

Eagleville Post 56 has called some of their older members for wellbeing checks and everyone is doing good. Their activities have all been cancelled until further notice. Sent out 5 letters to members that had not renewed yet and got 1 back. Haven't had any transfers yet.

Excelsior Springs Post 236 has conducted numerous Honor Guard details and are planning a Memorial Day Ceremony and also their annual Car Show in September.

Gladstone Post 626 has conducted over 19 Funeral Details, recommended Post 626 Oratorical Chair Jeff Benes for Department Distinguished Legionnaire, assisted with the Districts Sponsorship of the Zone Oratorical Contest, attended the Rotary "Stacks for Students" scholarship fundraiser in uniform, is sponsoring 7 Boys and 3 Girls to MBS and MGS, sent a total of 13 applications to District Chair which includes stand-by's or alternates. They are currently planning a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Clay County Veterans Memorial and will decorate historic Big Shoal Cemetery for the city that weekend, will have a display at the Antioch Branch of the MCPL for the month of May, and they also conduct an Initiation & Induction ceremony in July.

For membership recruitment they sent 65 Post 1000 Transfer letters & 5 stay Active letters resulting in 8 transfers of current members. Those actions along with a deliberate recruiting campaign resulted in 27 new members. For member retention the SR Vice organized a Team of 5 volunteers who called 78 members twice bringing unrenewed to 40. Sent 40 unrenewed letters bringing unrenewed to 24 so far, 4 are now confirmed Post Everlasting

member. The Post paid for 2 members under financial hardship. The Post Commander is making monthly "Thank You" calls to every member who renews.

Buddy Checks. With the COVID-19 threat Post 626 has recruited 5 members under the SR Vice to call every member that we have a good phone number for to offer assistance and comfort. The Commander emailed or mailed as necessary every member without an accurate phone number. These actions have resulted in corrected phone numbers and emails, a Post everlasting notification along with assistance to the widow and a request for a shopping run for a 90+ year old Veteran couple. Efforts to reach every member (250) are ongoing.

Hamilton Post 285's Honor Detail participated in 8 Funerals. The Commander and his wife attended Zone and Department Oratorical Competitions. Commander Weaverling also assisted with Post 140's revitalization and volunteered to assist the neighboring Post as necessary. He also attended both District Meetings this Quarter. Eight requests for transfer letters resulted in one transfer.

Kansas City Post 61 started off in January helping their Christmas Family getting a donated car repaired so they could have transportation. In February they had a taco dinner fund raiser and raised \$200.00 To help with Boys State. They also started a Queen of Hearts fund raiser which will be back in progress when we start back up. In March they processed 3 boys from North Kansas City high school for Boys State. Currently they have shut down the post until KCMO lets them open back up. For Membership they sent about 30 some transfer letters and received 3 back.

Kidder Post 140 has been working to get the post revitalized. Currently developing the By-laws and constitution documents. They will be recruiting new members and working to help those in their area to transfer in. They will be having election of officers during the next quarter. Post 140 also plans to hold Memorial Day ceremony at the local cemetery, and plan to make their post much more visible to the community when the city has a celebration in late June. Post 140 is back from the dead.

King City Post 132 Held a Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast February 15; Enrolled a junior student for Boys State 2020; Provided military rites for funerals for two veterans; Formulated plans for Community Memorial Day Service. They have applied for Tax Exemption status from the IRS and submitted their PDR to Dept. In the next quarter they will be presenting student citizenship awards and conducting a Memorial Day Ceremony in the next Quarter.

Liberty Post 95 has done 10 Honor Guard details and was planning a Fundraiser Dinner for April which had to be cancelled. They are sending 21 students to Boys State and assisted with the Districts Sponsorship of the Zone Oratorical Contest.

Smithville Post 58 has held their Sunday bingo which has been very promising despite the virus threat. They also had a blood drive the beginning of the year with a fairly good turnout. The legion riders have conducted a weekend ride to veteran homes raising funds for them. On

Friday nights the legion held music bingo which draws a decent crowd. With the stay-at-home order, the Post has only call-in take-out food. Sadly their bingo is shut down.

The transfer letter results to date is 101 sent out. The return was 26 responses. One approach that may have contributed to their success was sending letters to rural areas surrounding Smithville. These areas did not have a post or their post closed. They targeted members whom had a good continuous membership with recent renewals. They sent out 76 renewals letters to delinquent post members and received 25 to date renewed.

Stanberry Post 260 sponsored 2 students to Boys State and has conducted Buddy Checks on the older members. Following up on 2 members who didn't renew found that they had lost interest. They did get one new member.

Upcoming Events

No specific events reported for April, most cancelled due to COVID-19.

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 9 May | Post 58 Mental Health Stand Down
Details TBD or could be cancelled, check Dist, calendar |
| 25 May | Post 626 Memorial Day Ceremony , 1000 Hrs.
Clay County Veterans Memorial
Annita B. Goreman Park on Vivian and N. Oak. |
| 14 Jun | District Meeting , 1500, potluck meal follows
Post 216, 32932 w Hwy 13, Bethany, 64424
Presentation by R. ADM. Penfield (RET), Director of Friends of Fisher House for the new Fisher House being constructed at the KCVA
<i><u>Nominations for Officers & Committee Chairs</u></i> |
| 26 Sep | Car Show, 1000 – 1600, Excelsior Springs
Post 236, 208 Veterans Memorial Dr., Excelsior Springs, MO 64024-2009 |

Suspense's

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Apr | Post Data Form due to Dept. |
| May | Membership Recruiter Awards due to Dept. |
| May/Jun | Officer Certification Form due to Dept (Immediately after elections) |
| Jun | Department Convention Delegates Certification, Consolidated Post Report, Toot Our Horns Award due to Dept. |

Inserts - Attachments

Inserts

Membership Data
Post 626 Tri-Fold
Dept. By-Laws Change
Advocate Health & VA
COVID-19 Flyer
VA Parking Garage
Upcoming Auxiliary events
HISA Grant

Attachments

Dist. Cdr.'s Report
VAVS Report
Dist. Meeting Schedule
MO Veterans Hall of Fame criteria
MO Veterans Hall of Fame nomination

(Attachments not available online, ask
Cdr or Adj for copy if not in your email)

Inserts Below...

03/26/2020

District Membership 2020 LGN Department of MO

Utilized MyLegion.org
in March.

District # 3

County	Post	Name	City	2019 Total	2020 Total	2020 Goal	2020 NEW	2020 Transfers	% Goal
Clinton	Post 0033	- Elmer Ellis	Cameron	75	67	80	1	4	83.75
Harrison	Post 0056	- Eagleville Memorial	Eagleville	25	20	27	0	0	74.07
Clay	Post 0058	- Smithville	Smithville	314	308	336	16	32	91.67
Clay	Post 0061	- Jarchow-Schroeder	N. Kansas City	139	133	148	6	8	89.86
Daviess	Post 0068	- McAfee-Stephens	Gallatin	7	7	7	0	0	100.00
Worth	Post 0092	- John Edgar Barnes	Grant City	23	22	25	0	0	88.00
Clay	Post 0095	- Robert H. Baker	Liberty	211	204	225	9	16	90.67
Clinton	Post 0097	- John Callahan	Plattsburg	43	43	46	0	2	93.48
Gentry	Post 0106	- Donald Holden	Albany	26	21	28	0	0	75.00
Caldwell	Post 0117	- Tweedie-Murray	Braymer	61	59	65	2	2	90.77
Gentry	Post 0132	- King City	King City	41	40	44	0	0	90.91
Caldwell	Post 0140	- Ed J. Kenney	Kidder	7	5	7	0	0	71.43 - Reorganized
De Kalb	Post 0169	- Lincoln-Anderson	Osborn	10	9	11	0	0	81.82
Harrison	Post 0176	- Opdyke	Ridgeway	12	11	13	0	0	84.62
Clay	Post 0194	- Marsh-Seuall-Dykes	Holt	3	1	3	0	0	33.33 - closed
Harrison	Post 0216	- Wilson-Axline	Bethany	71	76	76	5	3	100.00
Clay	Post 0236	- Clyde Gustine	Excelsior Springs	20	114	128	4	0	89.06
Ray	Post 0237	- Griffith-Skiles	Richmond	143	138	153	5	1	90.20
Harrison	Post 0257	- Cainsville	Cainsville	19	16	20	0	0	80.00
Gentry	Post 0260	- Raymond Sager	Stanberry	73	75	78	1	1	96.15
Caldwell	Post 0285	- Boutwell-Clark-Craven-Eads	Hamilton	54	51	58	0	1	87.93
Clinton	Post 0393	- Gower Memorial	Gower	49	46	52	2	0	88.46
Clinton	Post 0467	- Kirby Stapleton	Lathrop	35	33	37	0	1	89.19
Ray	Post 0487	- Hardin	Hardin	17	17	18	0	0	94.44
De Kalb	Post 0508	- Robinson-Beeching	Stewartsville	62	49	66	0	2	74.24
Worth	Post 0515	- Floyd Ray Ames	Sheridan	5	0	5	0	0	0.00 - closed
Caldwell	Post 0557	- Polo Memorial	Polo	55	52	59	1	0	88.14
Clay	Post 0626	- Bennett and Dennis	Gladstone	249	245	267	19	8	91.76

District Totals # Posts % District Goal

28 89.43 %

1949 1862 2082 71 81

Recruite - Advertise
what the Post/National
Does.

3 Posts have met the Apr 8
goal of 95%

Renew - Communicate
with your members &
keep them in the loop

8 Posts have met the Mar 11
goal of 90%

Revitalize - Use Post
1000 roster & invitations.
Use project stay active
listings.

17 Posts have not yet met
the last goal of 90%

Get Online !!!

Listed below are just a few of the many programs The American Legion sponsors. Please check the one(s) that are of interest to you. If the program you like is not listed, please indicate it in the "other" area.

- ☐ Volunteer work at VA Hospital.
- ☐ Work with youth.
- ☐ Help/participate in Post's social activities ... dances, dinners, etc.
- ☐ Participate in educational activities ... (essay contests, oratorical contests, scholarships)
- ☐ Work with sports teams.
- ☐ Supervise groups (drill team, drum & bugle, scouts, etc.).
- ☐ Post improvement projects.
- ☐ Membership drives.
- ☐ Community projects.
- ☐ Other: _____
- ☐ Spouse would be interested in the Auxiliary.
- ☐ Son would be interested in the Sons of The American Legion.

Contact us and we will arrange to have one of our members meet you if at all possible.
Dues are \$40 .



American Legion Post 626
Still Serving America

Contact us at:
PO Box 10613
Gladstone, MO 64188
(816) 787-1548 (voicemail)
bennetherrick626@gmail.com
www.al626mo.com

WHY POST 626?

Veteran Services

The post has :

- A Veteran Service Officer
- A Military Funeral Honors Team
- Rendered financial aid
- Volunteered at local veteran activities
- Donated financial support to the VA programs
- Volunteers working in the VA system
- Visited the Veterans Home in Cameron for bingo and treats.

Community Services

The post:

- Attends and/or assists with community events
- Logs thousands of community service hours
- Participates as a member of the Chamber of Commerce
- Participated in Friday Fright Night
- Donated \$7,200 for the city to put a flagpole at Hobby Hill Park.

Youth Programs High School

The post :

- Sponsors boys to American Legion Boys State
- Sponsors girls to American Legion Auxiliary's Girls State
- Sponsors a team on The American Legion Baseball circuit
- Sponsors the American Legion Oratorical Contest

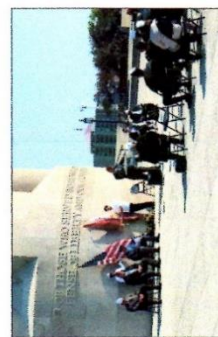
Middle School

The post has:

- Participates in the School Awards Program
- Participates in the Vets in the Classroom Program
- Attends the Veterans Day Program.

Supports City Wide Veteran Programs

- Post 626 participated during the Memorial Brick laying ceremony at the WWI Memorial.



Bennett & Dennis Herrick
Memorial American Legion
Post 626



Bennett Herrick



Dennis Herrick

**Why You Should Be
A Member of The
American Legion
Post 626
There Are Several**



Email us at [bennetherrick626@gmail.com]

or

contact us through Facebook.

Meeting Location

7010 N Cherry St, Gladstone MO

Post 626 Supports the Veterans in Community, State and Nation

Honor Guard

Post 626 is proud to have an Honor Guard to represent our Post at public ceremonies, parades and other formal events where we represent the American Legion in the public's eye. However, our most important function is to render



Full Military Honors at the funerals of veterans. Not all American Legion Posts have this privilege. The only asset we are currently in need of is YOU! We would be pleased to have you join us.

Big Shoal Historical Cemetery

Post 626 has an agreement with the City of Gladstone where we will decorate the cemetery in a patriotic manner three times a year. Memorial Day, The 4th of July and Veteran's Day. In 2014 Post 626 along with VFW Post 10906 purchased and dedicated a flag pole for the Cemetery which was installed by the city.



Veterans Memorial

Anita B. Gorman Park was dedicated Oct 30, 2005. The memorial was built with private funds from generous donors and recognizes and honors



county veterans from all branches of service weather they served in peace time or in war. Names of county residents who gave their lives in the service of their country are etched in granite monoliths surrounding a bronze sculpture of a bald eagle, "Sovereign Wings" by artist Sandy Scott.

Boys and Girls State

Boys and Girls State are independent programs of the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. They are intensive week long training sessions in June that revolve around our system of government and civic responsibilities. Our Post has participated in many Boys State sessions and assists American Legion Auxiliary Units in sending students to Girls State.



Cadet Patrol Academy Law Enforcement

Every year the American Legion sponsors the Missouri Cadet Patrol Academy conducted at the Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy in Jefferson

City. The program provides firsthand experiences and insight into the operations of law enforcement agencies. This program also affords these highly motivated young people an opportunity to consider law enforcement as a potential career choice. Recruitment of high school students, both male and female, representing all communities and backgrounds in the state, is one goal of the program.



High School Oratorical Scholarship

The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students.

Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership quali-



ties, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

The American Legion Membership Application

(Name)			(Phone)
(Mailing Address)			(Date)
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	0626 (Post #)
(E-mail)			\$40.00 (Dues)

☐ I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below

<input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army
<input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy
<input type="checkbox"/> Panama	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force
<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines
<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard
<input type="checkbox"/> Korea	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only)
<input type="checkbox"/> WWII	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Signature of applicant	Date	Name of recruiter
------------------------	------	-------------------

Cut Here - Mail Check for \$40 to Post Address on reverse Side

Receipt of Dues (Please Print)

From	\$ 40.00	for 20	Post # 0626
Recruiter's Name			
Recruiter's Signature			
Recruiter's Phone #			

Cut Here - Mail Check for \$40 to Post Address on reverse Side or contact us info on reverse

Department By-Law change

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI**
3341 American Avenue
Jefferson City, Missouri 65109

22 January 2020

TO: District Commanders, District Adjutants, Post Commanders and Post Adjutants
FROM: Department of Missouri Judge Advocate *CHS*
SUBJ: Policy Letter Concerning Remittance of Post Member Dues to Department

1. ISSUE: When must a Post remit to Department that portion of a member's annual dues that is allocated to National and Department?
2. BLUF: The Department Constitution and Bylaws Committee has recommended to the Department Executive Committee (DEC) a change to the Department Constitution and Bylaws requiring Posts to remit the portion of Post member annual dues allocated to the Department and National within 30 days of receipt.
3. DISCUSSION: The American Legion Constitution, Article X, Section 3.2, states that the period transpiring between the receipt of annual dues by a Department and the remittance thereof to National may not exceed 30 days. Department Constitution and Bylaws should be aligned with the National Constitutions and Bylaws. As a result, Posts, like the Department, will be required to remit the portion of its member annual dues allocated to the Department and National within 30 days.
4. This change to the Department Constitution will be voted on at a DEC meeting scheduled for the Department Convention in July 2020. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at cstrom126@gmail.com.

cc: Department Executive Committee

ARE YOU A VETERAN? ARE YOU PAYING TOO MUCH FOR YOUR HEALTHCARE?

VETERANS HELPING VETERANS.

At Advocate Health Advisors our experts are fellow Veterans like you. Together, we will discover all the VA and Medicare benefits you're eligible for and coordinate them to maximize your level of care and minimize your costs.

BETTER CARE. LOWER COSTS.

Go to our website www.advocateforveterans.com and take the Quiz. See if there is a better way to combine your VA benefits with your Medicare benefits.

HAVE QUESTIONS?



Brad Gibson
(515) 777-6782
brad.gibson@advocatehealthllc.com
Monday – Friday | 8 AM - 6 PM



ADVOCATE
| HEALTH
ADVISORS



By calling this number, you agree to speak with an independent health insurance agent about Medicare Advantage products. Medicare has neither reviewed nor endorsed this information. This is an advertisement.





VETERAN OWNED. VETERAN OPERATED.

As Veterans, we founded our company because we saw too many of our seniors and fellow Veterans struggling with the complexity of both Medicare and VA benefits. We knew those who served our country deserved something better, so we built a company on that principle.

BENEFITS.

You've earned them, but it can be complicated to access the care you need. Advocate Health Advisor's Veterans Initiative Program can help!

ALLOW US TO HELP YOU IN TWO COMPLEX AREAS:

VA Insight

- Get help enrolling for VA benefits
- Find a VA facility
- Discover VA resources

Medicare Help

- Turning 65
- Relocating to a new area
- New plans after retirement

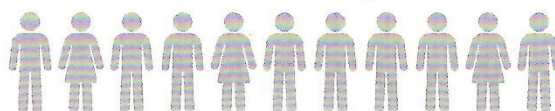
TRUST THE EXPERTS.

Across the country, Veterans just like you who've chosen to work with Advocate Health Advisors are now enjoying the peace of mind that comes from receiving the care they need at rates they can afford. We've helped many others save hundreds and in some cases thousands of dollars through our Veterans Initiative Program. We would like to help you too!



ONLY 9.11 MILLION

out of 22 million Veterans are currently enrolled for the VA




CALL BRAD GIBSON TODAY! (515) 777-6782

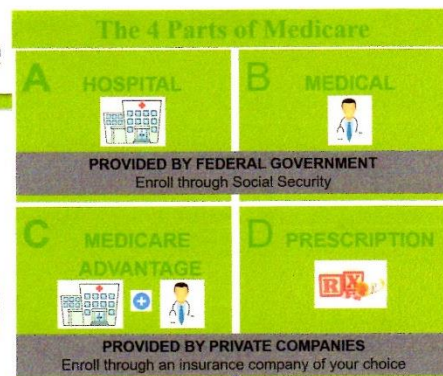


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www.advocateforveterans.com

Find us on 

Veterans and Medicare



Important Questions



for VA Benefits



COST

How much will you pay for premiums, deductibles, coinsurance and copayments?

BENEFITS

Are additional benefits included, such as prescription drug coverage?

CONVENIENCE

Are the plan's in-network providers conveniently located?

NEEDS

Have you needed care in the past few years? Do you anticipate your medicine needs will increase?

PROVIDERS

Do your doctors and preferred healthcare facilities accept the plan?

Where do I go?

- Veterans Service Organizations (VSO) in all 50 states and Washington D.C., including:
 - The VFW
 - AMVETS
 - The American Legion
 - DAV
- The National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (not in all 50 states)
- Your state's Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)—most have a representative in each county

Not all veterans are eligible for VA coverage.
Consult a nationally accredited service officer.

For information regarding veteran benefits

Phone

Website

VA Health Care Benefits

1-877-222-8387

www.va.gov

National Association of County Veterans Service Officers

www.nacvso.org

For information regarding Medicare and other benefits

Medicare

1-800-MEDICARE
(1-800-633-4227)

www.medicare.gov

Your state Medicaid office

TTY: 1-877-486-2048
(24 hours day/7 days a week)

www.medicaid.gov

Social Security Administration

1-800-772-1213

www.ssa.gov

Protect Yourself From COVID-19

Access VA Care From Home

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is committed to providing high-quality care while keeping Veterans safe from COVID-19. Here are some ways to prevent COVID-19 exposure or transmission by accessing VA care from home:



Video or Telephone Appointments

Rather than going to a VA facility, you can receive care at home with a video or phone appointment. To set up a VA Video Connect or phone appointment, send your provider a secure message on My Health^eVet. To learn more about VA Video Connect, visit mobile.va.gov/app/va-video-connect.



Prescription Refills

Request prescription refills and order and ship medications to your home using My Health^eVet or the Rx Refill mobile app. Download the app at mobile.va.gov/app/rx-refill.



Text Message Reminders

Annie's Coronavirus Precautions protocol sends you automated text messages with information about COVID-19, helps you monitor for symptoms, and can assist you if you need to contact your VA facility for care. Enroll at mobile.va.gov/annie.



Secure Messaging

With My Health^eVet, VA's online patient portal, you can send online secure messages to your VA health care team to ask them nonurgent health questions. Register at myhealth.va.gov.



Home Telehealth

For Veterans recommended for home isolation or quarantine, your provider may use remote monitoring devices to assess your condition while you're at home. Learn more about home telehealth at telehealth.va.gov/type/home.

If you're **experiencing a fever, a cough, or shortness of breath**, contact your VA facility as soon as possible.

Find contact information for your VA facility at va.gov/find-locations.

For the most up-to-date information on COVID-19, please visit:

cdc.gov/coronavirus | va.gov/coronavirus



KANSAS CITY VA MEDICAL CENTER

KCVA



OUR NEW PATIENT PARKING GARAGE IS
NOW OPEN!

PLEASE PARK IN THE GARAGE
LOCATED NEXT TO FREEDOM TOWER.

THIS WILL GIVE YOU EASY ACCESS TO
THE MAIN MEDICAL CENTER.



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration

Department of Missouri
Welcomes National President
Nicole Clapp



National President Nicole Clapp will visit
Missouri April 27-29th

April 27th volunteers needed to pack meal boxes for Veterans. Time is TBD

Basic pantry items needed:

Canned Meat (Chicken, Tuna, Spam)
Pasta/Noodles
Spaghetti Sauce
Mac & Cheese
Canned Vegetables
Canned/Dried Beans
Rice

Instant Potatoes
Canned Fruit/Applesauce
Peanut Butter
Canned Soup/Ramen Noodles
Breakfast Bars
Instant Oatmeal

You may bring your donations to the department office if you can not make it.
No time for shopping-Home Depot Gift Cards are needed.
Mail gift cards to Department office.

April 28th 10:00AM - Tour Veterans Community Tiny Homes
8900 Troost Ave, Kansas City, MO

2:00PM Tour—KCVMC
3:30PM visit St Michaels Veterans Center Apartments
Dinner at Post 21-Time & Cost to be Determined

April 29th 10:00AM Tour and Activities at MVH-Warrensburg
Post 131 will host a dinner in the evening.
Doors open at 5:00PM Cash Bar
Dinner at 6:00PM Cost \$15 per ticket
RSVP Deadline April 20th to Belva Farnsworth at
209 Seliman St, Warrensburg, MO 64093
660-422-1147

For more information contact Rosemarie W. Hauck at 314-355-4675
Or Department Office at 573-636-9133



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
INVITES ALL
THE LEGION FAMILY
TO JOIN US IN DANCING THROUGH
THE DECADES AS WE CELEBRATE
100 YEARS OF
SERVICE NOT SELF

50'S

20'S

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
WILL HOST A 100 YEAR CELEBRATION GALA

FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 10, 2020

HILTON ST. LOUIS AIRPORT

CASH BAR

Social Hour 5:30pm; Dinner 6:00pm; Ceremony 7:00pm

Dress in your favorite decade outfit

Cash prize for best female and male decade outfit.

70's

100 YEAR CELEBRATION GALA

ENTERTAINMENT: Jeffery Hardin

TICKETS \$50:00 PER PERSON

80's & UP

Number of tickets: _____ Amount \$ _____

Names of attendees _____

Mail check and form to: American Legion Auxiliary
600 Ellis Blvd.
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Deadline is June 30, 2020

HISA Grants (Home Improvement and Structural Alterations)

Details:

These are total lifetime amount grants of either \$2,000 or \$6,800 to any veteran who qualifies for modifying the home for disability. They are awarded through the local Regional Medical Center Prosthetics Department. The veteran must be enrolled in VA health care and receive a prescription from the VA primary health care provider for this grant. The grant money comes from the veteran's local regional medical center budget.

HISA Grant Amounts

Total lifetime amount HISA benefit up to \$6,800 may be provided for veterans and service members who have a service connected condition rated 50% or more service connected

Lifetime benefit up to \$2,000 may be provided for Veterans who have a non-service connected condition under certain criteria or who are eligible for aid and attendance or housebound benefits

Applying for a HISA Grant

The veteran must be registered with VA health care. In order to receive a HISA grant, the Veteran must first have a prescription from a VA physician in the VA health care system. This must include:

- The diagnosis with medical justification
- The Veteran's name, address, SSN, and phone number(s)

To apply, the Veteran must first provide:

- A completed VA Form 10-0103
- If a leased or rented property, written permission from the owner
- Quotes from at least 1 licensed contractor (if required by state law), to include:
 - The contractors name, address, telephone, and Federal tax ID number or social security number
 - The Veteran's name, address, and telephone number
 - Plans and drawings
 - An itemized list of estimated materials, cost, and labor cost
 - All permits required (it is the contractors responsibility to obtain these)
 - A picture of the work site prior to construction

Following are the types of projects that HISA grants will pay for. This is not all inclusive and other appropriate projects may be approved.

- (1) Roll-in showers

- (2) Construction of wooden or concrete, permanent ramping to provide access to the home
- (3) Widening doorways to bedroom, bathroom, etc., to achieve wheelchair access
- (4) Lowering of kitchen or bathroom counters and sinks
- (5) Improving entrance paths and driveways in immediate area of home to facilitate access to the home
- (6) Construction of concrete pads and installation of exterior types of wheelchair lift mechanisms if the installation cost exceeds \$500.00
- (7) Interior and exterior railing deemed necessary for patients with ambulatory capability or for veterans rated legally blind if the installation cost is over \$500.00
- (8) Improvements to plumbing or electrical systems made necessary due to the installation of dialysis equipment in the home
- (9) Any cost associated with permits, inspection fees, etc., that are required by local ordinances.

HISA will not pay for:

- Walkways to exterior buildings
- Widening of driveways (in excess of a 7ft x 6ft area)
- Spa, hot tub, or Jacuzzi
- Exterior decking (in excess of 8ft x 8ft)

Sincerely,

The Staff at the Senior Veterans Service Alliance