



DISTRICT THREE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

Summer Edition

June 2014

COMMANDER

John F. Kopp
5121 NE 47th 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
E-mail: greno001@kc.rr.com

COMMANDER'S CORNER

By
John F. Kopp

Let me start off by thanking all of you for your hard work and dedication in serving our country, our communities, and our youth. Our district has done really good this year with membership. Several posts have reached or exceeded their 100% goal and many more are very close. I would urge, though, that every post adjutant look at your membership printout for this year and see how many members have not renewed and to contact them before our membership year is over.

Once again I ask that every post submit this year's consolidated report. The data from this report are vital for the Legion. So, please complete your report and submit it on time. Thank you, in advance.

As you know, in just five short years The American Legion will be celebrating its 100th anniversary. National Headquarters has established a web site where each and every post can place their history and activities. There is a place for your own website. Go to www.legion.org/centennial and follow the directions. The history of your post is very important! It is important especially to your own community. There are so many communities in our district that a person can see American Legion and its post written all over it. Give the website a try.

June is the usual month for post elections. After your election be sure to fill out your officer certification form and submit it to the Department. Remember, without this certification your post WILL NOT receive its 2014-2015 membership cards. Please fill out the form making sure all data are correct, especially the address, phone numbers, and email addresses of all officers.

DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

Mark your calendars for the next district meetings:

Date: June 8, 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

Date: April 13, 2014
Place: To be announced
Time: 1200 PM Lunch
1300 PM Meeting

QUILTS OF VALOR

The Smithville Patriotic Stitchers hosted by American Legion Post 58 completed eleven quilts this past winter and awarded the quilts to local veterans. The Smithville group was organized in 2012 by Iraq War Veteran Christine Knott in support of the National Quilts of Valor Program. Christine was a nurse in a combat hospital and remembered the need for comfort as soldiers were brought in for treatment. When she became aware of the Quilts of Valor Project, she went into action and "recruited" sewing machines, thread, fabric and volunteers to begin the effort here in Smithville. In 2013 the Patriotic Stitchers produced seven quilts. The members include Smithville Post 58 American Legion members, Sons of the American Legion, Chapter 58 of the Legion Women's Auxiliary, the Legion Riders and members of the community.

The beginning of Quilts of Valor began in 2003 with the making of a quilt by the Mother of a son in uniform. After realizing how much comfort the quilt provided her son, she wondered if there might be a need for quilts for other veterans and active duty servicemen and women. The rest is history. Over 98,000 quilts have been awarded in the past 10 years.

The Smithville Patriotic Stitchers meet at the American Legion once a week starting in the fall and quilts throughout the winter months until spring beckons everyone to the garden. All are welcome to join the quilters and design, stitch and bind quilts for our Veterans. Anyone having questions or wishing to donate fabric for quilts to be made next winter can contact Christine Knott at: (816) 868-9347.

Speaking of District meetings, it is that time of year again when those running for election for Department Offices visit the various districts. I would expect a couple of people to show up at our meeting on April 13th and June 8th meetings. Try to attend if at all possible, or send a post member. Remember the meeting begins at 1:00 PM, that's 1300 hrs for non-Navy vets. Lunch is at noon. Bring a covered dish; ² also. The April meeting is in Smithville at Post 58.

**2013-2014 NATIONAL
MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES**
ARMED FORCES DAY MAY 14, 2014 100%
**Delegate Strength 30 days prior to National
Convention**

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

THE NAVY CLUB OF MISSOURI

We are in the process of forming a new ship in the Navy Club of Missouri. Presently there are only three ships in the club, the Mother Ship, Ship 4 and Ship 5. Ships 4 and 5 are on the eastern side of the state and the Mother Ship sort of covers the entire state. We would like to start up a new ship on our western side of the state.

Eligibility: Membership is made up solely of members who are in good standing in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, American Veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon/Grenada, Panama, Gulf War/ War on Terrorism, having a membership card for the current year, and having served in the Navy, Seabees, Marines, Coast Guard, or Merchant Marines.

If anyone is interested in being a charter member of the new ship (number to be determined at first meeting) please contact me either by phone (816 699 8719) or by email (jfkopp@att.net).

No Roses

**No crosses mark the ocean waves,
No monument of stone.
No roses grow on sailor's graves,
The Sailor rests alone**

**His tributes are the sea gull's sweeps
Forever wild and free.
And teardrops that his sweetheart weeps
To mingle with the sea.**

**On this Memorial Day let us all remember
all our fellow veterans, who have gone
before us to protect us all from on high**

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

COMMANDER'S SCHOLARSHIP

If you know of a veteran presently attending 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.

.....

DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL EVENTS TO REMEMBER

- National Convention**
- 2014 – August 22-28, Charlotte, N.C.
- 2015-August 28-Sept. 3, Baltimore, MD
- 2015-August 26-Sept. 1, Cincinnati, OH
- 2017-August 24-30, Louisville, KY
- 2018-August 24-30, Minneapolis, MN
- 2019-Augus 23-29, Indianapolis, IN

Department Schedule
2014 Convention 7/10-7/12
2014 Fall Conference 10/24-10/26
All at Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO

GARAGE SALE

**June 6th and 7th
Friday 9 to 5
Saturday 9 to 2:30
American Legion Post 61
5125 N. Bellaire
Kansas City MO**

**Sponsored by
Ladies Auxiliary**

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

We all know that the American Legion Family consists of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, The Sons of The American Legion, and The Legion Riders. District three is honored to have two posts with the complete family, Post 61 in Kansas City North and Post 58 in Smithville. These two posts consist of all three elements.

If your post does not have a Sons Squadron and you wish to join or know someone who is eligible you can join any squadron. If you are a member in good standing in your post and would like to be a Rider, you can join any Riders chapter. Just contact the Post Commander or me and we will get the ball rolling. I personally belong to the SAL and Legion, my son belongs to all three at Post 61.

Both programs can do wonders for any post and assist in increasing membership. Just ask any post with SAL and/or Riders.

.....

CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT

It is getting close to that time of year, the time for filling out the Post Consolidated Report. Every post does something. These reports are extremely important for the Legion and for our fellow veterans. So, please, every post fill out your report and send them in to department.

If you have internet access you can fill out the form on line and send it that way.

