

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES  
**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

the  
**Montana**  
**VETERAN**



Antelope



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 Aug/Sept/Oct/Nov



### Lifetime Achievement Award



Larry Troudt of VFW Post 4099 in Sidney was selected as this year's recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award. Larry has been a driving force in the success of the Department of Montana VFW for decades and is deserving of this prestigious award. Larry has not only been an intrigal part of his Post, District, the Department but also the Military Order of the Cooties (MOC). Congratulations to Larry Troudt for being selected for the Lifetime Achievement Award.

(L-R) State Commander Harold Wheeler and Larry Troudt

### Member of the Year Award

Rick and Melody Weldon of Eureka VFW Post 6786 were co-recipients of this year's Member of the Year Award. Rick (Post Commander) and Melody (Post Quartermaster) earned recognition for their efforts on standing up the first ATLAS site in a VFW Post in the world. They spent countless hours reconfiguring

their Post to accommodate the ATLAS booth and coordinating with contractors and members to have all the need modifications completed. They received much praise from Commander-in-Chief Doc Schmitz when he attended the grand opening of the site. Congratulations to both Rick and Melody, much deserved.



(L-R) Post 6786 Commander Rick Weldon, State Commander Harold Wheeler, Post Quartermaster Melody Weldon

### Deadlines

All articles and pictures have to be into Department Headquarters on or before the following dates for the next three issues of **The Montana Veteran**.

October 15, 2020 ..... Dec-Jan-Feb-Mar  
 February 15, 2021 ..... Apr-May-June-July  
 June 15, 2021 ..... Aug-Sept-Oct-Nov

### Coming Events

**MEETINGS:**  
**DISTRICT 6** | SEPT 12 | JORDAN, MT  
**DISTRICT 4** | SEPT 12 | BUTTE, MT  
**DISTRICT 5** | SEPT 19 | PLENTYWOOD, MT  
**DISTRICT 1** | SEPT 19 | RONAN, MT  
**DISTRICT 2** | SEPT 26 | GREAT FALLS, MT  
**DISTRICT 3** | OCT 3 | BILLINGS, MT



## COMMANDER'S REPORT



**HAROLD "BUSTER" WHEELER**

Greetings Comrades. Thank you for your support to allow me to have the honor of serving as your Department Commander for a second year. I am looking forward to a really great year. We started off the year with the Senior Vice Commander, Quartermaster/Adjutant, Chief of Staff, District One Commander and myself making a trip around the perimeter of the state. We visited 39 posts and spent 6 nights in hotels on this 7 day trip. We were really well received by everyone we contacted and I am happy to say that our post members are doing well despite the challenges we are facing with COVID-19.

I would like for all Post Officers to closely review my membership program. I have included provisions for several opportunities for chances to make a little cash for your post. My goal is to have the Department reach one hundred percent in membership prior to the end of December.

If we can help you with your membership efforts just let us know. Remember, we work for you. District meetings are about to begin so if you would like anything from the Department let us know what you need.

If you do not feel comfortable traveling to or attending your District meeting for whatever reason just do not go. I do not expect anyone to compromise your health or wellbeing just for the sake of attending a meeting.

Cheers and Good Health  
**Harold "Buster" Wheeler,**  
**State Commander**

## SENIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT



**RON MERWIN**

In the last Senior Vice report I talked about Spring District meetings, Department convention etc. Well as we all know now, so much changed! Only 1 district meeting was held normally, I didn't go to Kansas City for Sr. Vice Training, I didn't go to National Home, we replaced Lewistown with mini convention in Great Falls and we didn't go to Reno. At the meeting in Great Falls your Department officers were held over for another year. This was deemed the best thing to do by all of us. One change was Jack Hawley was elected to National Council of Administration member. Art, thank you for your work the past four years.

To reach out to the posts and check how things were going with all the confusion with the COVID-19 we decided to go on the road and visit as many posts as possible in a short period.

### THE COVID-19 TOUR

**Day 1: Sunday 19th** - I met Fred Hamilton, District 1 Commander, in Ronan where he and Post 5652 Commander Dave Obergwegner conducted the Post inspection. Fred and I went to Helena to QM/Adj.'s, Tim Peters, home where we would be staying with Tim and his gracious wife Barb. Barb just had her second knee replacement and was, she said, doing well. What a trooper she is.

Great Falls Post 1087 was having a weekend fund raiser with food, music, and silent auction so Tim, Fred and I boarded your new department truck and went to Great Falls. (See pictures and more about your new truck in separate article).

**Day 2: Monday 20th** - We are off on our whirlwind tour! Tim and I left in the 'truck' and Fred waited for Department Commander Harold Wheeler and Chief of Staff, and newly elected National Council member, Jack Hawley. Well you know

there are only two seasons in Montana. Winter and construction! Tim and I hit the latter season just before Three Forks but having left early in anticipation of the construction, we arrived in time for our first stop of the day at Three Forks Post 7621. District 4 Commander, Mel Kieninger met us there also. Our next stop was Belgrade Post 12112 where we were served burgers, fries and salad. Fred driving his truck and Harold and Jack met us there, having weathered the construction, and we were now a two vehicle convoy! Bozeman Post 903 joined us at Belgrade as well. We had to rush and get on track for our next stop in Livingston Post 2154, then on to Columbus Post 4762, where representatives from Absarokee Post 7311 and Red Lodge Post 4725 were also in attendance. The next visit was Laurel Post 3177 and then on to Billings. After checking into our first motel night, (and our first encounter with the varied interpretations of COVID-19 guidance), we visited Billings Post 1634. Then we went to the heights Post 6774 where we were met by Post Commander, and previous Department Commander Chuck Carroll. Post 12181 joined us there also. Ordered in pizza for dinner. Thus ended Day 2, we have now had contact with 12 posts.

**Day 3: Tuesday 21st** - We called ahead to Forsyth Post 1849 and made arrangement to meet as they weren't on the schedule sent out. Left Billings early so we could meet with Commander Earl Mortenson at the Speedway Diner, then on to Miles City Post 1579. Joe Murnion, Adj/Qm for District 6 as well as the Commander of Jordan Post 7886 was there as well. I always enjoy getting back to this part of the state. I grew up in Jordan until I joined the Navy. I might add at this point that Harold, Tim, Jack and Fred were all Air Force so I received a lot of good natured abuse! Bubblehead-2, seriously guys! We had lunch from the Brat and Dog wagon catering in front of the post. Thank you Miles City Post. Next we were off to our last stop for the day, Glendive Post 1125. More construction, but after checking into Motel were only a little off

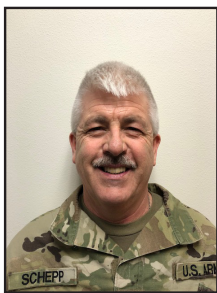
*Sr. Vice Commander's Report, continued on Page 3*

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<b>Trustees:</b> <b>By-Laws Committee:</b>	<b>John Harris and Ed Viig, Dave Johnson</b> <b>Art Widhalm, Jack Hawley, Tim Peters and Joe Murnion</b>	



## JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT



**JEFF SCHEPP**

Greetings to All Comrades,

As your newly elected Jr. Vice Commander, I would first like to once again thank all those who showed their confidence and support to me to serve one more year. It will be honor to serve the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the state of Montana.

Congratulations to all the VFW Comrades and Auxiliary brothers and sisters that were elected for the 2020-2021 term. I am looking forward to meeting, learning from you and working with you for the next year.

A winning TEAM of the VFW state of Montana. It all starts at the post level, you are the foundation of the team. From your monthly meetings to organizational and community projects, and of course reporting your activities.

Comrades we are going through rough times due to COVID 19 let's do what we can do to keep each other safe. And remember to practice safe six.

**Jeff Schepp**  
Junior Vice commander

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT



**JIM PORTER**

Fellow Officers, Comrades, and Auxiliary members,

Well, for any of you that don't know, the Dept. Officers will all serve another year, as was voted on at the one day, 2-hour convention that was held at V.F.W. Post 1087. I wish all of the officers the best of luck in the coming year. My prayers will definitely be in the hopes that all the Dept. officers, and all the District and Post officers as well, achieve all your goals, and the upcoming year is a total success.

This corona-virus has sure put a damper on a lot of things and activities. I don't know about the rest of you, but I am getting darn tired of wearing a mask any time you are out of your house or vehicle. I hate to say this, but, the best thing we can do is follow our Governor's request, and just do it. I don't like it any more than the next guy, but as long as the totals keep going up, Governor Bullock is not going to relax it a little. You all know that for a long time, Montana was trailing every other state almost, and then all of a sudden, it took off. This is strictly my opinion, but it all started to go wild when they opened the two national parks. When you have all the people from around the nation infiltrating Billings, Bozeman, and the surrounding area, what can you expect? I also realize that tourism is very important to Montana and the businesses involved. All I can say is, what is more important, tourism or the health of the residents?

Ok, now that I have spouted a little bit, which is no doubt any different than any of my other articles, please, try to live life safely. We would always rather talk to you than read about you.

I have really enjoyed being your Chaplain for the past two years, and as long as you want me, I will do the best job I can. That is a promise. Anyone that knows me knows that if I say something, you can take it to the bank, or the Commander.

So once again, I would like to remind all the District officers, and all the Post officers; if you have a sickness, death, or just someone that needs an extra prayer, PLEASE, get in touch with me. I am also on the "PRAYER CHAIN" here in Belt, and there is no limit to the power of prayer.

Until we meet again, please take care, drive careful, wear your masks and wash your hands, and may God Bless each of you & your families.

Sincerely,  
**Jim Porter, State Chaplain**

## NATIONAL COUNCIL REPORT



**JACK HAWLEY**

I hope all is well. I want to thank everyone for your vote of confidence in electing me

As your new National Council Member for Montana. I will do the best job I can. Because

Of the Corona virus they have grounded all National reps, so we will conduct business by

Computer, and phone. So I will need the expertise of Art Widhalm who did a great job as our

National Council member over these past 4 years until I get caught up on the business at hand.

I recently had the pleasure to ride around Montana visiting posts, and its post members.

I traveled with the State Commander Harold Wheeler, Senior Vice Commander Ron Merwin, State Quartermaster Tim Peters, and District 1 Commander Fred Hamilton and it was a very enjoyable trip Though it did wear on us a

### *National Council Member's Report continued*

bit at the end. We traveled over 1,800 miles, visited 40 posts and their post Members, and slept in 6 hotels along the way. The Commander has a really good membership program this year and it would behoove everyone to take a few minutes and read through it. There are a lot of membership incentives in the program for both the Post and District. I will be working as hard as Possible with you and your posts to achieve the 100% in membership by December 31st. Now is the Time to renew your members and work at getting as many annual members to become life members as you can. Everyone that we visited during our trip I gave you how many renewals, reinstates or new Members it will take to be 100% in membership. Let's throw this virus to the curb and have a great Year. If you need anything please contact me at [jack.hawley.1@us.af.mil](mailto:jack.hawley.1@us.af.mil) or [jack.hawley.1@icloud.com](mailto:jack.hawley.1@icloud.com)

Or Call me at 899-3973 cell phone or 731-6003 work.

**Jack Hawley**  
National Council Member

### *Sr. Vice Commander's Report, continued from Page 2*

schedule when we met Commander, Larry Walla who was also the chef and had some really great Bar B Qed chicken quarters for us. There was a good turnout there, thanks Larry. We are also seeing/feeling the heat now as we close out Day 3 bringing our tour total to 16 posts.

**Day 4: Wednesday 22nd** – Breakfast and on the road. Jack, you didn't do that short stack justice! (the cakes were huge). Our first stop was Sidney Post 4099. Lifetime Achievement award to Larry Troutd, 75 Year Anniversary Certificate to Post 4099 and All American award to Plentywood Post 4018. See Pictures elsewhere in this edition of Montana Veteran. Next we left for Circle, we are going through Richey but have not scheduled a stop there. Met with Circle Post 4813 and then changing our route a little we were off to the Northeast Montana Veterans Memorial Park near the Fort Peck Dam. This is a really nice Memorial and one you should visit if ever you have the opportunity. It was very hot and a hot wind blowing so we didn't linger and then we were off to our last stop for the day at Glasgow Post 3107. Met with Art and Marilyn, had Indian Tacos and then off to the motel. We have a long day tomorrow, 467 miles! Our tally is now 20 Posts contacted.

**Day 5: Thursday 23rd** – We left Glendive at 06:30 and stopped in Malta for breakfast. The help slept in but the cook/waitress/doitall did get us fed and we were off for Chinook Post 4620. Couldn't meet anyone but dropped off packet and back on the road for Havre Post 497. Ok, I've mentioned construction a couple times, but we got the full meal deal, flag person, pilot cars wait, rough slow road. I'm riding back seat driver, navigator, on the trip. Your new Department truck is a good ride. It is a quiet, smooth ride but this section of road challenged the comfort. We made it to Havre Post 497 on time then off to Sunburst Post 8952. We met there and visited about the demise of the small towns and the effects on the schools our Posts the economy and the COVID-19. Then backtracking to Shelby and finally finding the Shelby Post 2484 new location we met and were on road again for Whitefish. Checked in to motel and had snacks at Post 276. Uped the tally to 25 Posts.

**Day 6: Friday 24th** – Tim and I are up early and off to NAPA for a long handle window scrubber. The grasshoppers and other flying insects are out in full force. With a clean windshield we meet back at the motel and are now off for Eureka Post 6786 where Member of the year awards are made to Post Cdr, Richard Weldon and Post QM/Adj Melody Weldon. Next stop is Libby Post 1548. It is great to see the work that these posts have done while taking advantage of the COVID-19 shutdown time! Next stop was Troy Post 5514 where we had a great group waiting for us. Troy Post remains closed, workers are needed, also the Troy Picnic was cancelled! We leave for Kalispell Post 2252 and are met with a large contingency. Amazing how different the COVID-19 guidelines are enforced! Completing the loop, we arrive back at Whitefish Post 276. After socializing and enjoying the lunch provided we turn in. Have now been in contact with 29 Posts.

**Day 7: Saturday 25th** – first stop is in Big Fork Post 4042 then we are off down the east shore of Flathead Lake, destination Polson Post 2986. I had called ahead and when we arrived at our next stop Ronan Post 5652, my home Post, we had lunch waiting. Thank you Jessie. There was a good group waiting for us there. Moving on we left for Plains Post 3596 and following that we went to Missoula Post 209 ending our day having brought our tally to 34 Posts contacted.

**Day 8: Sunday 26th** – Left Missoula and are on our way to Maxville Post 8292. If you wonder as I did, Maxville is located between Drummond and Anaconda and off the road to Philipsburg. Neat Post and I really liked their 'penny' bar. Next stop was Anaconda Post 1876. I had contacted Deer Lodge Post 689 new QM, Mellisa Gallagher, and she and her husband met us in Anaconda. A table at the post had a unique top, it had been 'electrocuted' and looked like trees that had burnt. Left for Butte Post 1448 where we had good visit. While in Butte we visited, under construction, Southwest Montana Veterans Home. It is scheduled to open Veterans Day and will eventually have up to 60 rooms. Back to East Helena stopping at Post 10010 where we were met by Post Commander and Department Jr. Vice Cdr. Jeff Schepp. Jeff had to have his back tweaked the week we left and was unable to travel with us. Sitting and riding for eight days would have been painful! So as we closed out our trip we had gone over 2000 miles and visited or contacted 39 Posts. It was a good trip, worth the time, and I gained a lot of insight that will be helpful moving forward. Fred and I spent another Sunday night with Tim and Barb and then going back over the mountain we headed home. Thank you, Tim and Barb, for your hospitality and to you Tim and Fred for your driving the Montana Loop and getting us to our stops safely and on time.

**Ron Merwin**  
State Sr. Vice Commander



# What is a Legacy Life Member?

A Legacy Life member is another level of the VFW life membership program. It is intended to give our life members a way to leave a lasting legacy to the VFW. Future generations will know you not only for the sacrifices you made as a veteran but for the contributions you made as a member. **That's a legacy to be proud of.** When you become a Legacy Life Member, you are helping us strengthen the VFW where "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS". There are 3 prestigious levels of Legacy Life Membership available, (Gold, Silver, or Bronze). Each level offers generous benefits reserved exclusively for Legacy Life Members. Once your Legacy Life Membership begins, an annual endowment in your name will be made to your Post, Department, and the organization. You will feel confident knowing your contributions to our organization are helping not only today's veterans but the veterans of tomorrow. Future generations will know and remember you for the sacrifices you've made during your time in uniform in addition to the contributions you've made as a VFW Legacy Life Member. You will always be a member of your Post even after you're gone. Now Legacy Life memberships can be purchased for deceased life members, this is a great way to honor our past life members and keep them on the rolls of your post. If you are a life member and are interested in this program simply contact your Department Headquarters at (406)324-3992 for an application.

## LEGACY LIFE MEMBER EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS

MEMBER INCENTIVES	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
	\$400	\$800	\$1200
Plated Engraved Life Member Card	●	●	●
Lapel Pin	●	●	●
Hat Pin	●	●	●
Distinctive Emblem & Supply Line for Legacy Life Members	●	●	●
Framed Certificate for Legacy Life Membership	●	●	●
Recognition on Internet & Convention Program	●	●	●
Recognition at Kiosks at Memorial Building in Washington, D.C. and Museum at National Headquarters	●	●	●
Special Plaque	●	●	●
Hat Patch	●	●	●
Personalized Brick at Centennial Plaza	●	●	●
Emblem & Supply Discounts (For Personal Use Only)	5%	10%	15%
Increased Level of No-Cost AD&D Insurance	\$2000	\$3500	\$5000
Annual Endowment: Post	\$6	\$12	\$18
Annual Endowment: Dept.	\$6	\$12	\$18



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.**  
**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**  
**Become a Veterans' Advocate**

Join the VFW Action Corps here:

[www.vfw.org/weekly](http://www.vfw.org/weekly)

and receive the Washington Weekly e-newsletter  
 and All VFW Action Alerts.

# LEGACY LIFE HONOR ROLL

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John G. Pearse	Gold Post 276	Dennis G. Dreyer	Silver Post 276
Lawrence Cunningham*	Gold Post 1087	Roy P. Christenson*	Silver Post 3107
Bradley A. Damron	Gold Post 1087	Lee E. Erickson	Silver Post 3107
William A. Darby	Gold Post 1087	Kenneth K. Kautz	Silver Post 3107
Joe R. Fletcher	Gold Post 1087	Thomas R. Marron	Silver Post 3107
Jack A. Hawley	Gold Post 1087	William H. Sugg, Jr.*	Silver Post 3107
Arthur P. Marshall Jr.	Gold Post 1087	Felice H. Wilson	Silver Post 3107
Anthony G. Morris*	Gold Post 1087	Otto J. Otnes	Silver Post 3596
Fred D. Nester	Gold Post 1087	Donald R. Kendall	Silver Post 6774
William T. Rose	Gold Post 1087	George E. Boner	Silver Post 8292
Gerald E. Van Every	Gold Post 1087	Carl J. Graham	Silver Post 8292
Doug N. Brown	Gold Post 1116	William T. Winninghoff*	Silver Post 8292
Thomas A. Pouliot	Gold Post 1116	Thomas V. Johnson	Silver Post 10010
Daniel P. Antonietti*	Gold Post 1448	Eric Dunn	Silver Post 209
John R. Fish Jr.*	Gold Post 1448	Fred Hamilton	Bronze Post 276
Melvin W. Kieninger	Gold Post 1448	Kenneth A. Herrmann	Bronze Post 276
Michael L. Lawson	Gold Post 1448	Samuel L. House	Bronze Post 276
Richard M. McLeod	Gold Post 1448	Robert Sammon	Bronze Post 276
Ronald R. Peterson	Gold Post 1448	Joe D. Thomas	Bronze Post 276
Carrol D. Koenig	Gold Post 1634	Charles F. Davis	Bronze Post 1087
Robert P. Seely	Gold Post 2154	Harold D. Floyd*	Bronze Post 1087
James C. Aho*	Gold Post 2252	Laureen A. Hawley	Bronze Post 1087
Kelly W. Kwigne	Gold Post 2252	Paul T. Quinn*	Bronze Post 1087
Jeremy L. Mays	Gold Post 2252	Mark E. Colton	Bronze Post 1116
Duane Barrett*	Gold Post 3107	Eugene E. Olson*	Bronze Post 1116
Dale J. Bender	Gold Post 3107	Harold P. Goddland	Bronze Post 1448
Norman K. Dahl*	Gold Post 3107	Mark P. Gollinger	Bronze Post 1448
Albert Franzen*	Gold Post 3107	Earl M. Larvie*	Bronze Post 1448
George Kolstad	Gold Post 3107	Edward J. Powers	Bronze Post 1448
E.C. Buster Lenoir*	Gold Post 3107	Richard M. Skates	Bronze Post 1448
Russell O. Lenoir	Gold Post 3107	John W. Whelan	Bronze Post 1448
Steve A. Markle	Gold Post 3107	Troy A. McDowall	Bronze Post 1579
Gerald L. Murch	Gold Post 3107	Gordon L. Ewell	Bronze Post 1634
Edwin V. Swanson*	Gold Post 3107	James A. Ussin*	Bronze Post 1634
Walter E. Watts	Gold Post 3107	Kenneth C. Handl	Bronze Post 2154
Arthur J. Widhalm	Gold Post 3107	Michael J. Bennett, Jr.	Bronze Post 2252
Wilmer F. Zeller	Gold Post 3107	Carey F. Dill	Bronze Post 2252
Ian Kaufmann	Gold Post 3177	Robert Franczek*	Bronze Post 2252
Kenneth C. Williams*	Gold Post 3177	William J. Metteer	Bronze Post 2252
Joseph E. Eisenbrandt Sr.	Gold Post 3596	Jerry P. Stewart	Bronze Post 2252
Charles Oelschlagler	Gold Post 3596	James L. Amundson	Bronze Post 3107
Lonnie J. Johnson	Gold Post 4018	Lance A. Bender	Bronze Post 3107
James L. Layton	Gold Post 4067	Charles Bradford Jr.	Bronze Post 3107
Leslie L. Poland	Gold Post 4099	Reid B. Coldwell	Bronze Post 3107
James G. Porter	Gold Post 4669	Michael K. Corey	Bronze Post 3107
Robert W. Moran*	Gold Post 4725	Earl Fuhrman*	Bronze Post 3107
Gary L. Race	Gold Post 4725	Floyd R. Hopstad	Bronze Post 3107
Irwin D. Bangen	Gold Post 5159	Michael J. Lenoir	Bronze Post 3107
Orville M. Borge	Gold Post 5159	Byron M. Lindsay*	Bronze Post 3107
John C. Bras	Gold Post 5159	Gerald F. Myers*	Bronze Post 3107
Steven L. Buck	Gold Post 5159	Marvin J. Olson	Bronze Post 3107
Hugh R. Butler*	Gold Post 5159	Kenneth E. Page*	Bronze Post 3107
Russell J. Carey*	Gold Post 5159	Steve Page	Bronze Post 3107
Donald A. Carr	Gold Post 5159	Leon H. Pearce	Bronze Post 3107
Roy M. DeLong*	Gold Post 5159	Harold A. Potter*	Bronze Post 3107
Donald M. Decker*	Gold Post 5159	Marvin L. Potter*	Bronze Post 3107
Larry J. Douglass	Gold Post 5159	LeRoy R. Stein*	Bronze Post 3107
Lyle T. Fisher	Gold Post 5159	Manley L. Tiffany	Bronze Post 3107
Rachel R. Fisher	Gold Post 5159	Edwin M. Yohn	Bronze Post 3107
Randall E. Geise	Gold Post 5159	Adam R. Zamborowski	Bronze Post 3107
Derwin F. Halvorson Jr.	Gold Post 5159	Edwin M. Zamborowski	Bronze Post 3107
Henry F. Hanson	Gold Post 5159	Everett E. Crum Jr.	Bronze Post 4099
Lloyd G. Heinselman	Gold Post 5159	Troy H. Garza	Bronze Post 4099
Victor Holmberg	Gold Post 5159	Joe M. Halversen*	Bronze Post 4099
Robert L. Jackson II	Gold Post 5159	Louie A. Kuylen*	Bronze Post 4099
Howell K. Joiner	Gold Post 5159	Harold E. Lorenz*	Bronze Post 4099
Thomas W. Magera	Gold Post 5159	Eugene N. Ronningen	Bronze Post 4099
Zachary Malinak	Gold Post 5159	Stanley K. Rosaaen	Bronze Post 4099
Alan J. McCoy	Gold Post 5159	Lawrence R. Trout	Bronze Post 4099
Daniel M. Oberlander	Gold Post 5159	Vernon E. Wilson*	Bronze Post 4099
Stephen M. Sedladko	Gold Post 5159	Paul L. Holmgren*	Bronze Post 4762
Victor J. Stobie	Gold Post 5159	Alfred J. Adolph*	Bronze Post 4925
Jerry A. Sutton	Gold Post 5159	Daniel C. Barta	Bronze Post 4925
Charles B. Theademan	Gold Post 5159	Jack L. Burger*	Bronze Post 4925
Joel W. Thomas	Gold Post 5159	Loren R. Erbe*	Bronze Post 4925
Clifford S. Tolman	Gold Post 5159	John G. Leggett	Bronze Post 4925
James L. Wellington	Gold Post 5159	Paul R. Meged*	Bronze Post 4925
Clayton H. White	Gold Post 5159	Douglas H. Parrott	Bronze Post 4925
Ted H. Wilburn	Gold Post 5159	Henry A. Plott*	Bronze Post 4925
D. B. Zimmer	Gold Post 5159	Juan E. Santos, Jr.	Bronze Post 5514
John C. Fay	Gold Post 5652	Will D. Juhl	Bronze Post 6774
Ronald J. Merwin	Gold Post 5652	Clifford E. Schleusner*	Bronze Post 6774
John T. Freetly*	Gold Post 6774	Robert J. Sutton	Bronze Post 6774
Paul R. Harper	Gold Post 6774	Terry Beezley	Bronze Post 6786
John C. Lattimer*	Gold Post 6774	Stanley A. Burns	Bronze Post 6786
Russell H. Mobraaten	Gold Post 6774	James H. Follensbee	Bronze Post 6786
Howard J. Aemisegger	Gold Post 6786	Leo A. Howe	Bronze Post 6786
Francis E. Croucher	Gold Post 6786	J. P. Hume*	Bronze Post 6786
Ken R. Utter	Gold Post 6786	Patrick L. McKeever	Bronze Post 6786
Richard N. Weldon	Gold Post 6786	John C. Mueller	Bronze Post 6786
Gary O. Borland	Gold Post 7311	Thomas H. Price	Bronze Post 6786
Charles M. Handley*	Gold Post 7311	Francis L. Utter	Bronze Post 6786
Barton W. Lawson	Gold Post 7311	Dale F. Wassmann	Bronze Post 7311
Edward A. Viig	Gold Post 7311	Robert M. Stout	Bronze Post 7407
Corry Mordeaux	Gold Post 7407	Paul E. Coble*	Bronze Post 8292
Charles R. Noland	Gold Post 7407	Zane G. Murfitt	Bronze Post 8292
Thomas H. Armstrong	Gold Post 8292	Louis L. Polinsky	Bronze Post 8292
Carl M. Carver	Gold Post 8292	Charles R. Thompson	Bronze Post 9040
Leonard W. Eik	Gold Post 8292	Edward J. Boucher	Bronze Post 10010
Terry W. Lambert	Gold Post 8292	John R. Buckley*	Bronze Post 10010
William I. Mackley	Gold Post 8292	David F. Johnson	Bronze Post 10010
George F. Fryett, Jr.	Gold Post 9040	Melvin V. Johnson*	Bronze Post 10010
Elmer D. Bernard*	Gold Post 10010	Dale A. Person*	Bronze Post 10010
William R. Bovee*	Gold Post 10010	Robert J. Russ*	Bronze Post 10010
Michael C. Buckley	Gold Post 10010	George C. Stump Jr.*	Bronze Post 10010
LeRoy S. Johnson	Gold Post 10010	Art J. Alvarado	Bronze Post 12181
Lyle F. Pedersen*	Gold Post 10010	Vern L. McCants	Bronze Post 12181
Timothy C. Peters	Gold Post 10010	John M. Ward	Bronze Post 12181
Ludwig J. Rigler*	Gold Post 10010	Roy E. Jordan	Bronze Post 15027
Robert T. Schwegel	Gold Post 12177	* Deceased	
Richard L. Osborn	Gold Post 12181		Total 225

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**



# COMBAT CROSS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY VETERANS



The Combat Cross and Patriot's Path in Fort Benton Veterans Park has been completed after 4 years of hard work by VFW Post 4047. The bronze Combat Cross was placed on a pedestal overlooking a pathway of bricks engraved with service members' names from past wars, current wars and anyone who has served in the Armed Forces of the United States. It is a loving gift to all service men and women of Fort Benton, Chouteau County, Montana and America from VFW Post 4047. If you are ever in Fort Benton stop by and see it.

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## e-Edition

Same format as our printed edition.

You can view the current issue and other back issues of the *Montana Veteran* on our website at [mtvfw.org](http://mtvfw.org)

# DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA GETS NEW TRUCK

The Department Council of Administration voted at their last meeting to purchase a vehicle for the Department. We purchased a 2020 Chevy Silverado and had it wrapped with patriotic artwork. On a recent trip around the state the Department vehicle turned a lot of heads. It is in fact an eye catcher. All of the members that have seen it were quite pleased.

The vehicle is not a daily driver, it is to only be used for official business only. Your Department officers can sign it out at Fort Harrison when they need to travel.



**WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS**



# HEALTH AND WELFARE CHECK

Our state officer traveled around the state in July visiting 39 Posts in 7 days traveling over 2,000 miles. State Commander Harold Wheeler wanted our state officers to visit some of our Posts to find out how the Posts are coping after the COVID-19 shutdown this Spring. Since we didn't have a normal state convention this year and we didn't have the opportunity to visit with very many of our members he felt we need to go to them.

State Commander Harold Wheeler, Sr. Vice Commander Ron Merwin, State Quartermaster Tim Peters, Chief of Staff and National Council Member Jack Hawley and District #1 Commander Fred Hamilton were teamed up to visit Posts all over the state. Starting in Helena traveling all the way east to Miles City north to Sidney, West to Troy south to Anaconda and back to Helena. I must say it was difficult staying on schedule on this grueling 7-day trip. All in all it was a huge success and it was great to visit with our members in their own Post. The hospitality shown by our members

and our Posts was outstanding. Our members have recharged our batteries and we are ready for another successful year.

Our Posts for the most part have fared well even though some Posts were shut down for too long. We even have a Post that has not been able to reopen yet. We witnessed many renovations and Post cleanups. Our Posts are all dealing with different restrictions imposed by the Governor, county and local Health Departments. The reopening's range from still being shut down to almost back to normal. From 100% face covering requirements on and off VFW property to no face coverings required. From social distancing to no social distancing. However no matter the requirements at our Posts are every Post has suffered to some extent. Some of our Posts received stimulus loans/grants and some did not. Everyone we talked to had a positive attitude as did we and that just shows what a big family the VFW is. Thanks to everyone we met and talked to on our trip it made our trip a giant success and we truly appreciate it.

**Sidney Post 4099 Members**



**Circle Post 4813**



**Southwest Montana Veterans Home**



**Fort Peck Veterans Memorial  
Sr. Vice Commander Ron Merwin  
with Dept. Truck**



**Fort Peck Veterans Memorial**





# TAPS

Post	First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name	Sur Name
209	Thomas	J	Dillon	
276	Leroy	D	Judkins	
1087	John		Figarelle	
1087	George	D	Wheeler	
1116	Carl	T	Noll	
1507	Vernon	L	Beaver	
1595	Stanley	E	Damm	
1634	James	P	Ellis	
2252	Howard	A	Crawford	
2252	Randy	H	Lozeau	
3107	Glyn	W	Bamford	
3107	R	D	Watson, Jr.	
3648	John	A	Grace	
4042	P	M	Armstrong	
4067	Steven	T	Doney	
4067	Dennis	Z	Robinson	
4099	Dennis	F	Albrecht	
4669	Cle	L	Mann	
4744	Alphonsus		Stiffarm	
5652	Charles	L	Hahn	
5652	Shawnee	L	Marquez	
6774	Doyle	L	Hailey	
6774	Anton	L	Kadrmas	
6786	Francis	L	Utter	
7311	Art	A	Evans	
7311	Charles	M	Handley	
7407	Ronald	W	Anderson	
7655	Billy	G	Pate	
7885	David	A	Ferrel	
10010	Richard	V	Hausken	
10010	Rolland		Karlin	
10010	Rod	L	Kirschman	
10010	Stanley	R	Wolstein	



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<p><b>WHITEFISH POST 276</b> Meeting 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Post and Auxiliary Club Room open 9:00 a.m. to ? 7 days a week</p>	<p><b>BLACK EAGLE POST 4669</b> Post Meetings – 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Club open daily at 12:00 p.m. Mon-Sat Lounge – Banquet Hall – Meeting Room Bowling Center, 2332 Smelter Ave. 453-4736</p>	<p><b>DAN ARNOLD</b> <b>DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER</b> Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday 406-452-2265 600 Central Plaza, Suite 300 • Great Falls, MT 59401</p>
<p><b>GREAT FALLS POST 1087</b> Meeting 2nd Thursday each month 6:00 p.m. Chicken &amp; Steak Dinner – 3rd Sunday Breakfast Every Sunday – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>POLSON POST 2986</b> Post &amp; Auxiliary Meeting 3rd Monday 7:00 p.m. Club open daily from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. 5th and Main in Polson</p>	<p><b>PONY VFW POST 3831</b> <b>AND MOC PUP TENT #24</b> Post Meetings 2nd Saturday 1:00 p.m. at Pony Bar Members and Guests Welcome</p>
<p><b>LIBBY POST 1548</b> Meetings 1st Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Bingo every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Club open daily at 12:00 Noon to 2:00 a.m. 7 days a week</p>	<p><b>KALISPELL POST 2252</b> Post Meets 1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Breakfast available for purchase. 3rd Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Lounge open 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Daily <b>Come in and enjoy Flathead Camaraderie</b></p>	<p><b>BOZEMAN POST 903</b> 121 W. Main (406) 577-2155 Meeting 3rd Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Club House Open 12 Noon - 11 p.m. daily Members and Guests Welcome</p>
<p><b>BIGFORK POST 4042</b> <b>AND AUXILIARY</b> VFW Meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month/same time Auxiliary Meeting 1st Wednesday of the month Steak Night – 3rd Wednesday of the month</p>	<p><b>EUREKA POST 6786</b> Post Meeting 1st Tuesday – 6:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 1st Tuesday – 1:30 p.m. Club open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>MISSOULA POST 209</b> Post Meeting 2nd Wednesday – 7:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 2nd Tuesday – 2:00 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Visit the Montana Military Museum</b> At historic Fort Harrison, just west of Helena. Telling Montana's Military History and Recognizing Montanans For Their Service! For more information write to: <b>Fort William Henry Harrison Museum</b> <b>Foundation &amp; Montana Military Museum</b> ATTN: Museum Director/Curator P.O. Box 125, Fort Harrison, MT 59636-0125 E-mail: myfun51@msn.com – 406-324-3550</p>	<p><b>EAST HELENA POST 10010</b> Post Meeting, 1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meetings, 3rd Monday, 7:00 p.m. (April-Sept.) 2:00 p.m. (Oct.-March) Club Open from 11:00 a.m. to ? <b>Stop By and Enjoy Our Smoke Free Club</b></p>	<p><b>TROY VFW POST 5514</b> Post Meeting, 2nd Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. Auxiliary Meeting, 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Jr. Girls Meeting, 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.</p>
<p><b>GLASGOW POST 3107</b> <b>AND AUXILIARY</b> 1222 Highway 2 West Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Canteen open 2:00 p.m. to ?, Mon-Sat</p>	<p><b>PLENTYWOOD POST 4018</b> <b>AND VETERAN'S CLUB</b> Post Meeting 1st Tuesday – 7:00 p.m. American Legion Post 58 Meeting 2nd Monday – 8:00 p.m. Club Hours 1:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>e-Edition</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Same format as our printed edition. You can view current editions as well as back issues of the <i>Montana Veteran</i> on our website at <a href="http://vfwmt.org">vfwmt.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Montana Veteran</b> <b>Department of Montana VFW</b> c/o Tim Peters P.O. Box 4789 Fort Harrison, MT 59636</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Montana Veteran is produced at American Publishing LLC Jenny DeBack, Owner <a href="mailto:americanpublishing8482@gmail.com">americanpublishing8482@gmail.com</a></p> </div>
<p><b>PLAINS POST 3596</b> Post Meetings 1st &amp; 3rd Wednesdays Auxiliary Meetings 2nd &amp; 4th Mondays Club – Bowling Alley – Banquet Hall You Are Always Welcome</p>	<p><b>BILLINGS HEIGHTS POST 6774</b> Post Meeting 2nd Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 2nd Thursday - 6:00 p.m. Canteen Open Daily</p>	
<p><b>SIDNEY POST 4099</b> Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Club open daily 10:00 a.m. to Midnight Closed Sunday Phone: 433-9982</p>	<p><b>BILLINGS POST 1634</b> 4242 State Ave. Post Meeting 1st Monday at 7 p.m. Kitchen Open Tuesday-Sunday Canteen Open 10:00 a.m. - Close</p>	
	<p><b>LEWISTOWN POST 1703</b> Post Meeting 3rd Monday – 7:00 p.m. Basement – American Legion Club</p>	

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<p><b>Option #1</b> <b>Pharmacy</b> (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) 1. Refill 2. Renewal 3. Anticoag 4. Staff **Refill Option is available 24 hours.</p>	<p><b>Option #2</b> <b>Central Scheduling</b> (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)</p>	<p><b>Option #3</b> <b>Mental Health</b> (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) 1. Appointments 2. Crisis Nurse 3. Staff **If crisis nurse is needed after 4:30 p.m., call 406-442-6410</p>	<p><b>Option #4</b> <b>VA Clinics</b> (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) 1. Missoula, Kalispell, Cut Bank 2. Great Falls, Lewistown, Havre 3. Fort Harrison, Anaconda, Bozeman 4. Billings, Miles City, Glendive</p>
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