

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
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VETERAN



Antelope



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VFW MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2018-2019

Jack Hawley is a Gold Legacy Life member VFW Post 1087 Great Falls, Montana. Jack has dedicated countless hours this year working on the membership program. Even though he is the membership chairman for the Department we felt that he went well beyond what could have been expected of him. Jack was diligently working the membership numbers every day and once he developed a plan of action for that day he implemented it. He would send emails to members and officers keeping them informed on their Post or District status. He would encourage the members to extend their membership or ask the Post or District officers to contact them. He wrote and sent letters to the members of VFW Post 1087 (our largest

Post) asking them to extend their membership or better yet upgrade to life. As Post 1087 is over 115% this year his efforts have paid off.

Jack is also a very effective recruiter. Jack is a Certified National Recruiter and in this year alone he has recruited 75 members for our Department. He has lead several recruiting events around the state this year and trained many members to recruit too.

It needs to be said that without the efforts of Jack Hawley working membership every day the Department would not have been 100% in membership on December 21st. Though one person cannot do it alone, Jack Hawley was the driving force behind this membership this year. Helping to make Montana the first Department to make 100% is no small effort and justifies this award.

Jack continued to "Make it Happen" this year and the Department finished the year over 111% and number 1 in the world again. Our congratulations go out to Jack for all of his selfless efforts.



Congratulations Jack!

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, 2019..... Dec-Jan-Feb-Mar
 February 15, 2020..... Apr-May-June-July
 June 15, 2020..... Aug-Sept-Oct-Nov

Coming Events

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION, GREAT FALLS POST 1087, AUG. 9-10
DISTRICT #4 EAST HELENA | SEPT 7
DISTRICT #1 RONAN | SEPT 14
DISTRICT #5 GLASGOW | SEPT 21
DISTRICT #6 GLENDIVE | SEPT 22
DISTRICT #2 LEWISTOWN | SEPT 28
DISTRICT #3 ABSAROKEE | OCT 5

COMMANDER'S REPORT



HAROLD "BUSTER" WHEELER

Greetings Comrades. I would like to extend a big Thank You for all your support in my run for Department Commander. I can't put into words my appreciation for what the Libby and Troy Posts did for the convention and the Senior Vice picnic. I am looking forward to the upcoming year and working with and for you all.

I think we have a wonderful state raffle this year and I urge everyone to support it. I would also ask that every Post increase the number of Buddy Poppy events. It does not have to be any special day to distribute Buddy Poppies so please push them every chance you have.

Membership is the key to any successful organization, so let's start the year off with vigor and work on getting new members as well as reinstating members. The more members we have the bigger voice we have when we talk to our elected representatives. If you need any help with a recruiting event or anything else just let any of the state line officers know and we will be happy to assist. Again, Thank You for your support and I look forward to a rewarding year.

Yours in Comradeship,

Harold "Buster" Wheeler Jr., State Commander

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT



VIRGINIA "ROSE" ARNOLD

I want to express my sincere appreciation for your continued confidence in me as a member of your leadership team!

I had such an amazing experience at the VFW National Home for Children. Rob, the caretaker for not only our Farmstead house, but the entire campus took me around to anywhere that I wanted to go. In my opinion, he is doing a fine job keeping up on the place. The families that are there come there out of desperation and leave with self confidence and knowledge they didn't have. Believe me these people aren't living off government cheese while they're there. The children participate in Summer Enrichment through the Home and go on field trips to gain more knowledge and have fun. The older students are on a work party, they do service for the campus.

The parents are in school, in other training fir budgeting, relationship building, etc. and working towards amazing goals. Most of these families leave with enough saved up to have their degree and not owe on student loans or better, even with a down payment for a home. Thank you all for trusting me to go visit the National Home and learn more about it, plus to work on making better relationships with the other Junior Vice Commanders from around the world! One thing I learned that I didn't know before was about the National Home Helpline... 800-313-4200 is the current best way to reach them. The helpline doesn't simply find people to bring to the home, but they can help find resources across the country to help Veterans and their families because of their connection with local Posts. One more thing I'd like you all to be informed of is that everyone is taken to see our Farmstead during the tour. Honestly, I was kind of jealous because when a home is sponsored that is the main place that these families are making their new memories, but the Farmstead plays a valid role in all of their lives in one way or another!

The Department Raffle can be such an amazing fundraiser for us if our Posts participate and help sell these tickets! This year's raffle is for the "Trip of a Lifetime" The Grand Prize at Convention next year is a VTS travel voucher for \$5,000.00, plus there is \$3,000 more in prizes that will be drawn on holidays to keep the good luck flowing! \$8,000.00 needs to be raised to fund this, but I think our Posts will do so much better and make this a real money maker. I think it won't be as hard because the holiday drawings will keep the momentum going on ticket sales!

Last August, I went to the School of Instruction for my first time. I attended the Service Officer training on Friday. One of the first things Dan Arnold said was that he was surprised we had so many... I was sincerely in shock because I saw no more than 15 Posts represented at this training event for the entire weekend! My exact first thought when he said that was "WTF?!?! Really? He has got to be joking!" He wasn't. This year, we need to change that. The Commander's motto is Educate, Cooperate, Succeed! The School of Instruction is where the education will happen! Friday is the Service Officer training. Saturday the officer training will include this year's membership program, the Online Membership System, Post inspections and discussion on what the officers from your Post need to discuss. School of Instruction on of the 9th and 10th of August. There is money in the budget for Service Officer training, they will be reimbursed for their attendance, so if your Commander or Quartermaster chooses to room with the Service Officer, your expenses will be minimal! Please make attendance at School of Instruction a Priority for your Post!

Your Command team is looking forward to a great year Serving Veterans and your communities with you. If you need anything, please let us know. We'll be where you need us to be when you need us there, but we don't read minds, so let us know how you want us to work for you!

Rose Arnold, State Sr. Vice Commander

DEPARTMENT OF MONTANA VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

2019-2020 STATE OFFICERS

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Tim Peters Adjutant/Quartermaster	P.O. Box 4789 Fort Harrison 59636 montanavfw@gmail.com	324-3992 Fax 226-7463
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Jim Porter, Chaplain	P.O. Box 309 Belt 59412 pimannie@3rivers.net	277-4499
Jack Hawley, Chief of Staff/Inspector	413 Deerfield Ct. Great Falls 59405 jack.hawley.1@us.af.mil jack.hawley.1@icoud.com	899-3973
Joe Fletcher, Past Commander	3104 3rd Ave. S. Great Falls 59405 Joe.fletcher@bresnan.net	788-3151

DISTRICT OFFICERS AND CHAIRMAN

1 Fred Hamilton, Comdr Jerry Erickson, Adj/QM Joe Thomas, Patriot's Pen Rose Arnold, VOD Shelia Schwegel, Teacher Ryan Keeler, SO	71 Larry Ln Columbia Falls 59912 PO Box 614 Troy 59935 480 Bowdish Rd Kalispell 59901 PO Box 481 Libby 59923 2098 Old Reserve Dr Kalispell 59901 PO Box 45 Lakeside 59922	(253)988-9901 295-4086 249-6990 291-3805 270-0928 844-0620
2 Jack Hawley, Comdr Brad Damron, Adj/QM Phillip Stewart, Patriot's Pen Harold Wheeler, VOD Loren Drivdahl, Teacher Dan Arnold, SO	413 Deerfield Ct. Great Falls 59405 2821 5th Ave N. Great Falls 59405 2000 8th Ave. S. Great Falls 59405 5312 3rd Ave. S. Great Falls 59405 PO Box 283 Hobson 59452 1505 25th Ave S Great Falls 59405	899-3973 899-6136 899-1136 217-5194 423-5585 452-2265
3 Joe Welter, Comdr Tom Kelly, Qm Rick Osborn, Adj Rick Osborn, Patriot's Pen Ed Viig, VOD Dan Alberda, Teacher's Ed Viig, SO	PO Box 627 Absarokee 59001 1831 Rehberg Ln Billings 59102 121 N 23rd St #1 Billings 59101 121 N 23rd St #1 Billings 59101 241 C St Columbus 59019 PO Box 342 Columbus 59019 241 C St Columbus 59019	321-2624 656-7553 702-0378 702-0378 322-4791 321-7029 322-4791
4 Mel Kieninger, Comdr Dave Johnson, Adj/QM, Dave Johnson, Patriot's Pen Tim Peters, VOD Brian Rumsey, Teacher's Frank Belgarde, SO	565 Hobson Ave Butte 59701 5558 Canyon Ct Helena 59602 5558 Canyon Ct Helena 59602 PO Box 4789 Ft. Harrison 59636 PO Box 509 Pony 59747 400 E 6th Ave Helena 59601	565-5305 Cell 565-6668 202-2386 202-2386 438-1558 685-3488 465-0254
5 Jim Layton, Comdr Don Klanko, Adj/QM Lonnie Johnson, Patriot's Pen, VOD Jack Curtiss, Teacher Art Widhalm, SO	PO Box 676 Malta 59538 PO Box 83 Malta 59538 706 Glenwood Ave Plentywood 59254 54 Midby Rd Plentywood 59254 PO Box 182 St Marie 59231	250-5784 654-1759 765-7106 480-3887 524-3761
6 Stan Swiontek, Comdr Joe Murnion, Adj/QM Charlie Barbero, Patriot's Pen Tom Toomey, VOD, Teacher Bernard Crane, SO	4722 Valley Dr E Miles City 59301 HC 47 Box 269 Jordan 59337 PO Box 32 Boyes 59316 319 Juniper Ave Glendive 59330 PO Box 631 Broadus 59317	951-1269 557-6195 427-5261 377-3043 436-2708

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER

Art Widhalm	PO Box 182 St. Marie 59231 chiefhunter2u@yahoo.com	524-3761 Cell 942-0668
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STATE SERVICE OFFICER

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Community Activities	Tim Peters PO Box 4789 Fort Harrison 59636 montanavfw@gmail.com	324-3992
Disabled Warriors	Tim Sowa 2665 Colt Dr. E. Helena 59635 mtsniper89@hotmail.com	461-1073
Legislative	Tom Johnson PO Box 1421 E. Helena 59635 tompitsgt@hotmail.com	439-2564
Membership Chairman	Jack Hawley 413 Deerfield Ct. Great Falls 59405 jack.hawley.1@us.af.mil	899-3973
Montana Veteran	Tim Peters PO Box 4789 Fort Harrison 59636 montanavfw@gmail.com	324-3992
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Miles City Rep:	Bruce Banister 201 Arrowhead Dr. Miles City 59301 bbaniste@midrivers.com	853-2764
Billings Rep:	Jerry Hudson 11 Prairie View Dr Billings 59102 hudjer@bresnan.net	652-1635 Cell 591-4402
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Glendive	Tom Toomey 319 Juniper Ave Glendive 59301 trtoomey@midrivers.com	377-3043
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Tim Peters	P.O. Box 4789 Ft. Harrison 59636 montanavfw@gmail.com	324-3992
Art Widhalm	PO Box 182 St Marie 59231 Chiefhunter2u@yahoo.com	524-3761

Trustees:

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



JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT



RON MERWIN

By the time you are reading this the Montana VFW Department Convention in Libby is behind us as is the National Convention in Orlando Florida. As the new State Jr. Vice Commander, I want to thank all of you for your support and I pledge to you that I will conduct myself, and my efforts, with the best interests of you and our Department in mind.

Congratulations to all of you for your hard work in bringing our Department to the forefront once again. We were not only the first Department to reach 100%, but we held the first place at the end of the 2018-2019 membership year. The entire leadership team appreciates the hard work you have put forth in order to make this come about. However, we can't relax and rest on our laurels. We need to start now with the 2019-2020 membership year in mind and strive to maintain our 'Montana Standard' of 100%. In our new Commanders letter you will read about the Commander's plan for the new program to help membership retention. In your efforts to seek new members remember we have three Nationally Certified Recruiters. Jack Hawley, Tim Peters and Art Widhalm are ready to support you with their knowledge and skills.

Iraq, Afghanistan, Gulf War, etc. these Veterans are the ones we need to concentrate on **reaching out** to. They will not only bring freshness to our posts that will help us but they will bring new energy to help us continue to grow. They will make the difference we need to stand out so we can move into this next decade. As you **recruit** them to your Post make them welcome and support them in their ability to be a part of us. Search out their interests and encourage them. They in turn can reach out to their peers and **recruit** them to your posts. Remember the three R's: **Reach out, Recruit and Retain**. When you are out and about, wearing a service cap or jacket or other logo you will have people thanking you for your service. Find out if they too served. Most often they have. Reach out to them. Engage them in conversation. If they have served ask if they are a member of the VFW. Be prepared to give positive reasons why/how they can benefit themselves and your post as well as the greater VFW organization through the numbers.

I look forward to seeing you in Great Falls in August at the School of Instruction meeting. Remember the great raffle that Rose describes in her State Sr. Vice Commander letter and support your Department by participating in it. Also, remember that I work for you and I ask for your continued trust in me to help get the job done. Our success as a Department will only come to fruition if we work together! Thank you and God bless you for your service to our great country and your continued service to your community!

Ron Merwin, State Jr. Vice Commander

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CHAPLAIN'S REPORT



JIM PORTER

All I can say is "thank you, thank you, thank you"! I am so happy to be your Chaplain for another year. I love this job, being the Chaplain for the Dept. of MT VFW I promise all of you that I will do the very best job I can. You have put your faith in me, and **I will not** let you down.

I would like to congratulate Harold Wheeler, and all of the newly elected officers for the Dept. of Montana, as well as the newly elected officers in all the Districts, and in your posts as well. Your members have put their faith in you, don't let them down. I am sure under the Commander's leadership we are going to have another record-setting year. If we all could accomplish the goals we achieved during last year, then let's all make a goal to make this year even better. What do you say about your Chaplain making a challenge early in the game? Let's all try to have our posts and all the districts **100% by December 31st**. That way, we all could just kind of skate a little bit for the beginning of the new year. Now, don't get me wrong, I don't mean we are done working on membership. We are never done working on membership. Fortunately, that is a never ending job. The very best of luck to each & all of you.

As I have said many times before, PLEASE, remember my phone number & email address. When you have any sicknesses or deaths in your post or district, let me know. I cannot send an appropriate card if I don't know about it.

I want to thank you all one more time, for putting your faith & trust in me. I promise you, I will do my best to not let you down in any way. Commander Wheeler, I am at your service. Take care and May God Bless each of you & your families.

Jim Porter, State Chaplain

PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S REPORT



JOE FLETCHER

The word is in – Montana is Number 1 in the world for membership percentage. Absolutely fantastic – I am beyond happy. I am so proud of this department for "Making It Happen." We have truly had a fantastic year. Reaching 100% by December 21st. WOW! Then getting to where we are today over 112% is so remarkable. Thank You each and every one for all you did to make it happen. I can never begin to thank Jack Hawley, my Chief of Staff and Tim Peters, our State Adjutant and Quartermaster for their personal involvement in making this happen.

To our Auxiliary, a tremendous thank you for all that you do in support of your individual post and your communities. Please stay active and involved in the various VFW programs that you have been known to for so many years. I absolutely know that in many communities you are the Face of the VFW Family. You have touched the lives of so many veterans, and their families in so many ways that will never be known. I urge you to continue to stand tall in your post and communities serving my fellow veterans and their families. Thank you from the bottom of my heart and God Bless Each of You.

Finally, a very special thank you to my Auxiliary President – Jacki Poland. God truly knew that I needed someone like you and your staff to work by my side every step of this journey. Unfortunately, we encountered some roadblocks that were thrown in our way, but we still stood tall and succeeded. I forever will always be grateful for the support I received from you. I have gained a "sister" that I never had and God gave you to me.

To each VFW member and Auxiliary member, my prayer is that God will bless each of you and hold you in his hands.

Joe Fletcher, Past State Commander



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FORT PECK POST 3107

MAY 15, 2019

Veterans of Foreign Wars Fort Peck Post 3107 honored local area first responders, law enforcement and area youth at their yearly Mayday awards banquet. The event held at the local VFW hall featured a prime rib dinner to honor those receiving awards.

The awards included Eagle Scout of the Year, Fireman of the Year, EMT of the Year, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, K-5 Teacher of the Year, Voices of Democracy Essay contest winner, and Patriots Pen Essay award winner.

This year Garrett Lloyd received the Eagle Scout of the Year for his service with Troop 861; he was nominated by Scoutmaster Mike Carney. Fireman of the Year went to 34-year veteran of the Long Run Fire Department Tim Hide; he was nominated by Jeron Wesen. EMT of the Year went to Kalu Rogenes for her work as a first responder in Valley County; nominating her was Connie Wethern. Roosevelt County Chief

Deputy Corey Reum was honored as the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year; he was nominated by Roosevelt County Sheriff Jason Frederick. Grade School Teacher of the Year was Irle School teacher Denise Winchester, who had the distinction of being nominated by VFW Post Commander Art Widhelm.

Glasgow High School student Ellis McKean was recognized for his Voices of Democracy Oral Essay for which he placed in the state competition. Last but not least, middle school student Riley Smith was also recognized for his Patriots Pen Essay which earned him a podium place at State as well.

Each year the VFW honors members of the community who show exemplary service to others. The banquet is intended to publicly honor those people. Post 3107 would like to thank those who made the evening possible.

2019 AWARDS



Kalu Rogenes receives her award from VFW Post 3107 Quartermaster Jason Partridge. To Partridge's right is Commander Art Widhelm and pictured on the right is Jr. Vice Commander Jason Baker.



Tim Hide receives his Firefighter of the Year award from Post 3107 leaders Jason Partridge (l), Art Widhelm (c) and Jason Baker (r).



Eagle Scout Garrett Lloyd receives his award from Quartermaster Jason Partridge (l), Commander Art Widhelm (c) and Vice Commander Jason Baker.



Roosevelt County Chief Deputy Corey Reum receives his award from Quartermaster Jason Partridge (l), Commander Art Widhelm (c) and Vice Commander Jason Baker (r).



GHS student Ellis McKean (r) receives his award from Jason Partridge (l).



Denise Winchester receives her award from Jason Partridge (l), Art Widhelm (c) and Jason Baker.



Riley Smith receives his award for his Patriots Pen Essay from Jason Partridge (l), Art Widhelm (c) and Jason Baker (r).

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 are 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

POST 4042 MEMBERS PLANNING SPRING CHILI-FEED

VFW Post 4042 members LD Gross (3rd from left) and Michael Stone & John Wise (right side respectively) meeting with several members of the Flathead Valley Community College Veterans Group on campus for their Spring Chili-feed.



LEGACY LIFE HONOR ROLL

William J. Reneau	Gold Post 209	Robert T. Schwegel	Gold Post 12177
Dean House	Gold Post 276	Richard L. Osborn	Gold Post 12181
John G. Pearce	Gold Post 276	Ruthie M. Buttrick-Best	Gold Post 15027
Lawrence Cunningham*	Gold Post 1087	Ross A. Beagle	Silver Post 276
Bradley A. Damron	Gold Post 1087	Dennis G. Dreyer	Silver Post 276
William A. Darby	Gold Post 1087	Roy P. Christenson*	Silver Post 3107
Joe R. Fletcher	Gold Post 1087	Lee E. Erickson	Silver Post 3107
Jack A. Hawley	Gold Post 1087	Kenneth K. Kautz	Silver Post 3107
Arthur P. Marshall Jr.	Gold Post 1087	Thomas R. Mrron	Silver Post 3107
Anthony G. Morris*	Gold Post 1087	William H. Sugg, Jr.*	Silver Post 3107
Fred D. Nester	Gold Post 1087	Felice H. Wilson	Silver Post 3107
William T. Rose	Gold Post 1087	Otto J. Otnes	Silver Post 3596
Gerald E. Van Every	Gold Post 1087	Donald R. Kendall	Silver Post 6774
Thomas A. Pouliot	Gold Post 1116	George E. Boner	Silver Post 8292
Daniel P. Antonietti*	Gold Post 1448	Carl J. Graham	Silver Post 8292
John R. Fish Jr.*	Gold Post 1448	William T. Winninghoff*	Silver Post 8292
Melvin W. Kieninger	Gold Post 1448	Eric Dunn	Bronze Post 209
Michael L. Lawson	Gold Post 1448	Fred Hamilton	Bronze Post 276
Richard M. McLeod	Gold Post 1448	Kenneth A. Herrmann	Bronze Post 276
Ronald R. Peterson	Gold Post 1448	Samuel L. House	Bronze Post 276
Carroll D. Koenig	Gold Post 1634	Robert Sammon	Bronze Post 276
Robert P. Seely	Gold Post 2154	Joe D. Thomas	Bronze Post 276
James C. Aho	Gold Post 2252	Charles F. Davis	Bronze Post 1087
Kelly W. Kvigne	Gold Post 2252	Harold D. Floyd*	Bronze Post 1087
Duane Barrett*	Gold Post 3107	Lauren A. Hawley	Bronze Post 1087
Dale J. Bender	Gold Post 3107	Paul T. Quinn*	Bronze Post 1087
Norman K. Dahl*	Gold Post 3107	Eugene E. Olson	Bronze Post 1116
Albert Franzen	Gold Post 3107	Harold P. Godtland	Bronze Post 1448
George Kolstad	Gold Post 3107	Mark P. Gollinger	Bronze Post 1448
E.C. Buster Lenoir*	Gold Post 3107	Earl M. Larvie	Bronze Post 1448
Russell O. Lenoir	Gold Post 3107	Troy A. McDowall	Bronze Post 1579
Gerald L. Murch	Gold Post 3107	James A. Ussin	Bronze Post 1634
Edwin V. Swanson*	Gold Post 3107	Kenneth C. Handl	Bronze Post 2154
Walter E. Watts	Gold Post 3107	Michael J. Bennett, Jr.	Bronze Post 2252
Arthur J. Widhalm	Gold Post 3107	Carey F. Dill	Bronze Post 2252
Wilmer F. Zeller	Gold Post 3107	Robert Franczek	Bronze Post 2252
Iian Kaufmann	Gold Post 3177	William J. Metteer	Bronze Post 2252
Kenneth C. Williams*	Gold Post 3177	James L. Amundson	Bronze Post 3107
Charles Oelschlager	Gold Post 3596	Lance A. Bender	Bronze Post 3107
Lonnie J. Johnson	Gold Post 4018	Charles Bradford Jr.	Bronze Post 3107
James L. Layton	Gold Post 4067	Reid B. Coldwell	Bronze Post 3107
Leslie L. Poland	Gold Post 4099	Michael K. Corey	Bronze Post 3107
James G. Porter	Gold Post 4669	Earl Fuhrman*	Bronze Post 3107
Robert W. Moran*	Gold Post 4725	Floyd R. Hopstad	Bronze Post 3107
Gary L. Race	Gold Post 4725	Michael J. Lenoir	Bronze Post 3107
Irwin D. Bangen	Gold Post 5159	Byron M. Lindsay*	Bronze Post 3107
Orville M. Bjorge	Gold Post 5159	Gerald F. Myers*	Bronze Post 3107
John C. Bras	Gold Post 5159	Marvin J. Olson	Bronze Post 3107
Steven L. Buck	Gold Post 5159	Kenneth E. Page*	Bronze Post 3107
Hugh R. Butler*	Gold Post 5159	Steve Page	Bronze Post 3107
Russell J. Carey*	Gold Post 5159	Leon H. Pearce	Bronze Post 3107
Donald A. Carr	Gold Post 5159	Harold A. Potter*	Bronze Post 3107
Roy M. DeLong*	Gold Post 5159	Marvin L. Potter*	Bronze Post 3107
Donald M. Decker	Gold Post 5159	LeRoy R. Stein*	Bronze Post 3107
Larry J. Douglass	Gold Post 5159	Manley L. Tiffany	Bronze Post 3107
Lyle T. Fisher	Gold Post 5159	Edwin M. Yohn	Bronze Post 3107
Rachel R. Fisher	Gold Post 5159	Adam R. Zaborowski	Bronze Post 3107
Randall E. Geise	Gold Post 5159	Edwin M. Zaborowski	Bronze Post 3107
Derwin F. Halvorson Jr.	Gold Post 5159	Everett E. Crum Jr.	Bronze Post 4099
Henry F. Hanson	Gold Post 5159	Troy H. Garza	Bronze Post 4099
Lloyd G. Heinselman	Gold Post 5159	Joe M. Halverson*	Bronze Post 4099
Victor Holmberg	Gold Post 5159	Louie A. Kuylen*	Bronze Post 4099
Robert L. Jackson II	Gold Post 5159	Harold E. Lorenz	Bronze Post 4099
Howell K. Joiner	Gold Post 5159	Eugene N. Ronningen	Bronze Post 4099
Thomas W. Magera	Gold Post 5159	Stanley K. Rosaaen	Bronze Post 4099
Zachary Malinak	Gold Post 5159	Lawrence R. Troutd	Bronze Post 4099
Alan J. McCoy	Gold Post 5159	Vernon E. Wilson*	Bronze Post 4099
Daniel M. Oberlander	Gold Post 5159	Paul L. Holmgren*	Bronze Post 4762
Stephen M. Sedladko	Gold Post 5159	Alfred J. Adolph	Bronze Post 4925
Victor J. Stobie	Gold Post 5159	Daniel C. Barta	Bronze Post 4925
Jerry A. Sutton	Gold Post 5159	Jack L. Burger*	Bronze Post 4925
Charles B. Theademan	Gold Post 5159	Loren R. Erbe*	Bronze Post 4925
Joel W. Thomas	Gold Post 5159	John G. Leggett	Bronze Post 4925
Clifford S. Tolman	Gold Post 5159	Paul R. Megeed*	Bronze Post 4925
James L. Wellington	Gold Post 5159	Douglas H. Parrott	Bronze Post 4925
Clayton H. White	Gold Post 5159	Henry A. Plott*	Bronze Post 4925
Ted H. Wilburn	Gold Post 5159	Ronold J. Merwin	Bronze Post 6562
D. B. Zimmer	Gold Post 5159	Will D. Juhl	Bronze Post 6774
John C. Fay	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	Roy E. Jordan	Bronze Post 15027
Lyle F. Pedersen	Gold Post 10010		
Timothy C. Peters	Gold Post 10010		
Ludwig J. Rigler*	Gold Post 10010		

* Deceased

Total 209

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

State Convention Libby, MT June 12-15, 2019



This year's convention was a great success. Libby Post 1548 and Troy Post 5514 put on an outstanding convention this year and the meals were the best we have had in years. Our sincere thanks go out to both posts for all the effort put in to making this a memorable convention for all who attended.



State Convention Libby, MT June 12-15, 2019



GOD BLESS AMERICA!

BILLINGS POST 12181 BUILDS HANDICAP RAMP



Billings Post 12181 built a handicap ramp for a disabled veteran in the Billings area. This ramp was built by Art Alvarado, Commander and Rick Osborn, Quartermaster. It was an idea to build this ramp to support our veterans in need. The materials were donated by 12-Mile Mill from Shepherd and owned by an Auxiliary member, Mick Murnion. The veteran was extremely grateful that VFW Post 12181 was interested in helping him gain better access to his home. This project goes to show that even new VFW posts have time to help their neighbors.

BIGFORK YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE

Bigfork Post 4042 along with their sponsored Boy Scout Troop 1923, conducted opening ceremonies for the Bigfork Youth Baseball League on opening day on April 20, 2019.



RONAN AUXILIARY 5652 PRESENTS PATRIOTIC CITIZEN AWARD

On March 25, 2019, the Ronan VFW Auxiliary 5652 presented Jack & Ann Mitchell with a Patriotic Citizen Award for displaying the American Flag & the Marine Corps Flag along with 2 breakfast tickets from the VFW.

Submitted by Margaret Fay, Auxiliary President



(L-R): Ann & Jack Mitchell & Margaret Fay, Auxiliary President

LION MOUNTAIN POST 276



VFW Post 4042 - BIGFORK (QUESTION-PERSUADE-REFER)

The three of members of VFW Post 4042 have completed QPR (Question-Persuade-Refer) Train the Trainer Gatekeeper course for suicide prevention. The three members are also part of the Veterans Coalition of North West Montana made up of several military service organization that focuses on suicide prevention.



John Wise, LD Gross & Michael Stone

BOY SCOUT TROOP 1923 POST 4042 BIGFORK

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4042, Bigfork MT, charter organization of Boy Scout Troop 1923 supported the Scouts on their Annual Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast. Scoutmaster's Ron Wenzel and Robert Gambino are both members of the VFW Post 4042. Approximately 95-100 community members attended as well as several VFW members who volunteered to support the event.



TAPS

Post	First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name	Sur Name	Post	First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name	Sur Name
209	Eugene	W	Buchholtz		4042	Leland	K	Brue	
209	Robert	L	Kinney		4042	Joe	A	Delong	
209	Wilburn	C	Knutson		4042	Kenneth	E	Hardman	
209	Elmer	K	Moore		4042	Raymond		Kusch	
209	Duane	E	Steinke		4042	Terrance	L	Teich	
497	Don	R	Chase		4047	Theodore	F	Popiel	
497	Frank	M	Earl		4099	William	L	Hackley	
497	John	L	Gallagher		4099	Harold	E	Lorenz	
497	Thomas	A	Reese		4099	Harold	L	Sax	
497	Frank	A	Spinler		4099	Hubert	F	Suko	
903	Paul	A	Schofield		4109	Robert		Dellwo	
1087	Robert	J	Langevin		4198	Calvin	R	Mc Cafferty	
1087	James	E	Schuschke		4620	Earl		Bahr	
1116	Wayne	F	Born		5514	Harold		Stanton	
1116	Ernie		Dygert		5514	Otto	D	Williams	
1116	Francis	A	Giguere		5556	John	L	Thew	
1125	Laurence	J	Barthel		6774	Gordon	C	Brandes	
1125	Harry		Haas		6774	John	T	Freetly	
1125	Peter	J	Knoll		6774	Paul	P	Parent	
1448	Joseph	U	Berry		6774	James	M	Payne	
1448	Earl	F	Casagrande		6774	Everett	L	Peterson	
1448	Lawrence	M	Fiedler		6774	Ivory	L	Robinson	
1448	Frank		Lehmann		6786	Render	T	Fuller	
1448	George	R	Nevin		6786	Hubert	J	Mc Kenzie	
1543	Charles	G	Hansen		7407	Roy	E	Clause	
1548	Russell	A	Christopherson		7407	Gary	L	Jarrett	
1548	Raymond	F	Dedic		7621	Lawrence	K	Babcock	
1548	William	E	Kilgore		7655	Ralph	J	Lindberg	
1548	Marvin	H	Killam		7655	Richard	A	Long	
1548	Roger	L	Robertson		7655	John	H	Rowekamp	
1551	Harold		Hoem		7655	Leander	M	Schweitzer	
1595	Cecil	E	Kolka		9040	Bruce		Helming	
1634	Eddie	H	Kuch		10010	Irving	C	Boettger	
1723	Andrew	D	De Bona		10010	Dan	H	Mc Kinney	
1876	Gary	W	Jacobs		10010	Ralph	V	Morand	
2154	Charles L	M	Beers		10010	Thomas	H	Prouty	
2252	Terry	G	Brutscher		12181	Eladio		Valdez	
2252	Herman	P	Loff		15027	Horace	F	Borchert	
2252	Royce	G	Mikelson		15027	R	E	Decker	
2252	John	M	Sandor		15027	William	L	Dowden	
2252	Lindstrom	M	Smith		15027	George	G	Green	
2484	Albin	E	Neva		15027	Milton		Horne	
2484	Bruce	J	Sharp		15027	Elwin	D	Iwen	
2986	Joseph	J	Mark		15027	Billy	D	James	
2986	Lewis	A	Mc Leod		15027	Jack	R	Lane	
2986	Wesley	T	Vert		15027	Frank	L	Mayo	
3107	Tom	P	Lund		15027	Robert		Mc Carthy	
3107	Gordon	S	Olson		15027	Eddie	C	Olson	
3107	Corbin	F	See		15027	David		Smarker	
4042	Lawrence	J	Athorn		15027	William		Tourikis	

**WE
SUPPORT
OUR
VETERANS**



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<p>WHITEFISH POST 276 Meeting 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Post and Auxiliary Club Room open 9:00 a.m. to ? 7 days a week</p>	<p>BLACK EAGLE POST 4669 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>DAN ARNOLD DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER 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>GREAT FALLS POST 1087 Meeting 2nd Thursday each month 6:00 p.m. Chicken & Steak Dinner – 3rd Sunday Breakfast Every Sunday – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>POLSON POST 2986 Post & 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>PONY VFW POST 3831 AND MOC PUP TENT #24 Post Meetings 2nd Saturday 1:00 p.m. at Pony Bar Members and Guests Welcome</p>
<p>LIBBY POST 1548 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>KALISPELL POST 2252 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 Come in and enjoy Flathead Camaraderie</p>	<p>BOZEMAN POST 903 121 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>BIGFORK POST 4042 AND AUXILIARY 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>EUREKA POST 6786 Post Meeting 1st Tuesday – 7:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 1st Tuesday – 1:30 p.m. Club open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.</p>	<p>MISSOULA POST 209 Post Meeting 2nd Wednesday – 7:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 2nd Tuesday – 2:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Visit the Montana Military Museum At historic Fort Harrison, just west of Helena. Telling Montana's Military History and Recognizing Montanans For Their Service! For more information write to: Fort William Henry Harrison Museum Foundation & Montana Military Museum ATTN: Museum Director/Curator P.O. Box 125, Fort Harrison, MT 59636-0125 E-mail: myfun51@msn.com – 406-324-3550</p>	<p>EAST HELENA POST 10010 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 ? Stop By and Enjoy Our Smoke Free Club</p>	<p>TROY VFW POST 5514 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>GLASGOW POST 3107 AND AUXILIARY 1222 Highway 2 West Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Canteen open 2:00 p.m. to ?, Mon-Sat</p>	<p>PLENTYWOOD POST 4018 AND VETERAN'S CLUB 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>	<p style="text-align: center;">e-Edition</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 vfwmt.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Montana Veteran Department of Montana VFW 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 americanpublishing8482@gmail.com</p>
<p>PLAINS POST 3596 Post Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays Auxiliary Meetings 2nd & 4th Mondays Club – Bowling Alley – Banquet Hall You Are Always Welcome</p>	<p>BILLINGS HEIGHTS POST 6774 Post Meeting 2nd Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 2nd Thursday - 6:00 p.m. Canteen Open Daily</p>	
<p>SIDNEY POST 4099 Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Club open daily 10:00 a.m. to Midnight Closed Sunday Phone: 433-9982</p>	<p>BILLINGS POST 1634 4242 State Ave. Post Meeting 1st Monday at 7 p.m. Kitchen Open Tuesday-Sunday Canteen Open 10:00 a.m. - Close</p>	
	<p>LEWISTOWN POST 1703 Post Meeting 3rd Monday – 7:00 p.m. Basement – American Legion Club</p>	

VA Montana Health Care System
TOLL-FREE NUMBER
1-877-468-8387 (M-F: 8:00-4:30)

<p>Option #1 Pharmacy (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) 1. Refill 2. Renewal 3. Anticoag 4. Staff **Refill Option is available 24 hours.</p>	<p>Option #2 Central Scheduling (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)</p>	<p>Option #3 Mental Health (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>Option #4 VA Clinics (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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