

The Post Journal

Quarterly Newsletter of The American Legion Post 76, The Spirit of Freedom ISSUE 09 September 2014 — November 2014

Commander's Message

Your VOTE Counts!

These are not good times for veterans. One only has to read the paper or turn on the radio or TV. It is so important to be ready to voice your vote in the upcoming elections, later this year and especially in 2016. It has come to our attention that many of our members are unable to exercise their very important right...the right to Vote. If you cannot physically get to the polls, you can access the Clark County Voter Registration website at <u>clarkcountynv.gov</u> and request an absentee or mail-in ballot. If you do not have computer access, you can pick up the form at one of our general meetings. Just fill it out and mail it. You can call the Election Department at 702-455-6552.

Having done 2 Flag Postings for conventions on the Strip and participating in The Summerlin 4th of July Parade, we now look forward to more Postings in the fall, the 150th Nevada Birthday Parade and Veterans Day Parade downtown and several events at Nellis and Creech Air Force Bases. If you feel up to participating, give me or any of your officers a call and let us know. You are always welcome.





Post 76"Spirit of Freedom"; Department of Nevada; The American Legion participated in the Summerlin Patriotic parade on July 4th. Post 76 Legionnaires were proud to provide a Color Guard unit. We were honored to have the American Legion, Department of Nevada Commander, Mitchell Roach participate in the Color Guard.

The Post 76 entry in the parade also included a Korean-era military Jeep and 5 Model T autos from the Nevada Model T Club; Mrs. Pranava Moody, who is a Post 76 Legionnaire and was recently crowned Mrs. Nevada-Global Nations, rode in the Jeep.

Vegas PBS Invites You to Share Your Stories of Service

Coming back to civilian life brings new challenges, new opportunities and new stories of remarkable courage and accomplishment. Vegas PBS invites veterans and service members throughout Nevada to share your stories of service to help our community understand the veteran experience. Interviews will be conducted and recorded at the new USO Center at McCarran International Airport Terminal 3. Schedule your interview today. Contact them for more information at [702] 799-2020 x 5446 or aemprima@VegasPBS.org.

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SICK CALL:

Past Commander **Ted Pugh** has been hospitalized and is recovering at Las Ventanas Skilled Nursing Facility Room 205. He would love visitors.

Recent Transfers: Post Everlasting — DAVID W TURNBULL JR., WWII, USAF RICHARD W GAMMON, Korea, USAF

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST VICE COMMANDER—WE NEED YOU!

The American Legion Nationwide serves many veterans. Our Post 76 serves a lot of veterans right here in the northwest and western Las Vegas area. Unfortunately it takes a lot of man-hours to be able to serve a lot of veterans.

According to National Headquarters, we have over 500 members. Accordingly, in order to accomplish all the tasks we are involved in, we need to rely on at least half of those 500 members. We only seem to get participation from 20-40 members at our monthly meetings. At other events we still only get about 10% involvement at most.



As chairman of the membership committee, my job is to try and recruit as many new members as possible. I have a team that works with me. Our largest target for new members is from Post 100 list in our area. Post 100 members are those that are American Legion members in Nevada, but not attached to any specific Post. We call members on that list to see if they would be willing to transfer their membership to Post 76. We are having some success but we could always use more members to make those calls. Some of our most active prospective members that later take on leadership roles in our Post have come





Another gratifying project I head up is the school awards program. We currently award two medals for deserving students at each of the 7 high schools and 13 middle schools in our geographical area. It is always important that at least two legionnaires attend each ceremony. Although we had some minor last-minute changes for some of school ceremonies was attended. The schools appreciate what we do. The students are very proud to win these medals.

So, come on guys and gals, roll up your sleeves and give us a hand. Please try to come to our meetings and get involved in a program of your choice.

ON BECOMING AN ACTING TRUSTEE

Having been a member of Post 76 for several years I always endeavored to participate in Post activities and to be available to assist where and when needed. I made a sincere effort to attend monthly meetings, participated in July 4th and Veterans Day parades, honored my fellow post members when they transferred to Post Everlasting, helped out as acting Sergeant At Arms during the absence of our Sergeant At Arms, Paul Hemsley, during his lengthy illness, and always made an effort to attend funerals at the Boulder City Veterans Cemetery on Thursday mornings so that no Veteran who does not have family or friends to attend his funeral, is sent to Post Everlasting without anyone at their funerals – No Veteran Alone!

Sadly, our colleague, Ted Pugh, is not doing very well and is unable to fulfill his duties as Trustee. When asked if I would consider helping out as acting Trustee, I considered it an honor and offered my services. At this point there is not much I could offer on the duties and responsibilities of Trustee as it has been so short a period of time since I commenced my tour. I recently completed the American Legion Extension Institute and learned much about the Legion, its missions, and its history. I will continue to learn as I fill this position. I just hope I can fulfill my responsibilities in the same honorable manner my predecessor has always performed.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at future events and meetings, and willing to bring issues of interest to you to the Executive Committee on your behalf as your Trustee.

Marvin Morgenthal, Acting 2nd Year Trustee

Adjutant's Pen

You've heard us say it before, and we remind you again, that Post 76 needs a copy of your military service discharge papers in our records. This is a requirement from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for all American Legion posts to keep their tax-exempt status. For most members, the discharge document is Form DD-214. If you don't have a copy in your possession already, you can apply for a new copy online at http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/.

Once you have a copy available, get it to the Adjutant by (1) attaching it to an email and send to NVPost76@gmail.com; (2) sending via USPS mail to: NV Post 76, P.O. Box 34012, Las Vegas, NV 89133-4012; or (3) bringing your document along to a meeting and hand deliver it to the Adjutant or any other officer. Please call the Adjutant, Stephen Daugherty, at 253-691-0617 for any assistance you need to move this important task along.

Message from the 2nd Vice Commander

We encourage you to come to our regular monthly meetings to enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow Legionnaires. We have a guest speaker at every meeting and he/she is sure to capture your interest with the varied topics they present. As always, we meet the 3rd Sunday of every month at 1:30 PM, at Durango Hills YMCA, 3521 Durango Dr., Las Vegas, 89129.

New Regulations Automate Burial Payments for Veterans' Survivors

New burial regulations, which went into effect July 7, will enable the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to automatically pay the maximum amount allowable under law to most eligible survivors without the need for a written application. Under former regulations, VA paid burial benefits on a reimbursement basis, which required survivors to submit receipts for relatively small, one-time payments that VA generally paid at the maximum amount permitted by law. Surviving spouses will now be paid upon notice of the veteran's death, using information already in VA systems. The burial allowance for a non-service-connected death is \$300, and \$2,000 for a death connected to military service.

Honor Flight Southern Nevada Scheduled for October 3 to 5.

Are you a WWII Veteran that has not yet been on an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. to visit the WWII Memorial and other memorials? There is an upcoming Honor Flight Oct 3-5, 2014. As of August 5th, they only have 15 of 35 spaces filled. Apply online at:

www.honorflightsouthernnevada.org or call at 702-749-5912 to get an

www.honorflightsouthernnevada.org or call at 702-749-5912 to get an application. It is free to WWII Veterans to honor the Greatest Generation!



UPCOMING POST 76 MEETING DATES:



DISTRICT 2 Meeting hosted by Post 76 at Post 8 Hall 10:00 am on Saturday September 6, 2014 E Board Meeting — September 11, 2014, 4:30 pm at the Summerlin Trails Center.

GENERAL MEETING — September 21, 2014, 1:30 pm at Durango Hills YMCA

E Board Meeting — October 9, 2014, 4:30 pm at the Summerlin Trails Center.

GENERAL MEETING — October 19, 2014, 1:30 pm at Durango Hills YMCA

Nevada Day Parade — Friday October 30, 2014,

Legionnaires step off at 10:00 am on Fourth Street, Downtown Las Vegas

Veteran's Day Parade — Tuesday, November 11, 2014,

Legionnaires step off at 8:00 am on Fourth Street, Downtown Las Vegas

E Board Meeting — November 13, 2014, 4:30 pm at the Summerlin Trails Center.

GENERAL MEETING — November 16, 2014, 1:30 pm at Durango Hills YMCA

DISTRICT 2 Meeting 10:00 am on Saturday December 6, 2014

E Board Meeting — December 11, 2014, 4:30 pm at the Summerlin Trails Center.





MEMBERSHIP is OUR Most Important Asset

It is time for YOU to Recruit new members.

To Help YOU Recruit New Members

To OUR Post, Copy and Use

The Form Below ↓

	THE AMERICA	AN LEGION -	MEMBERSHIP	APPLICATIO	N
lame	(First)	(Initial)	(Last)	(Phone)	
Address	(Street)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)	DUES RECEIPT (Please Print)
	(Membership ID# Former Member)	(Email)	(Post #)	(Date)	
	Please check appropriate eligibilit WWI (4/6/17-11/11/18) WWII (12/7/41-12/81/46) Korea (6/25/50-1/31/55) Vietnam (2/28/61-5/775) Lebanon/Grenada (8/24/82-7/31/84) Panama (12/20/89-1/31/80) Gulf War/War on Terrorism (8/2/90 until cq	U.S. Army U.S. Navy U.S. Air Force U.S. Marines U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Marines (12/7/41-12/31/46			Date
ertify that I s	served at least one day of active military duty du	,	rably discharged or am still serving honorabl	у.	Recruiter's Name
Signed By Applicant		Nar	Name of Recruiter		
l with	\$35.00 to: American	Legion Post 76 PC) Box 34012 Las Ve	gas, NV 89133-4	012 Recruiter's Phone #