



The Post Journal

Quarterly Newsletter of The American Legion Post 76, "The Spirit of Freedom"

ISSUE 16 July 2016 — September 2016

Commanders Message

First, I wish to thank the entire Post for allowing me the Honor and Privilege of being your Commander for the 2016 - 2017. Our past Legion year was enormously successful. Beginning with the Summerlin July 4th Patriotic Parade up to and including our Post's 14th Memorial Day Ceremony at the Lakes. Second, we have several events that we are involved in for the remainder of June, such as volunteering on PBS during their pledge week, the Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Ceremony at the Mirage and the PBS Veterans Job Fair.

Those of you who have not yet early voted, remember Primary day is Flag Day, 14 June. I look forward to another successful year for Post 76 and with all your help and support we will be able to help our fellow Veterans and aid the other Pillars of the American Legion.

Please come to a meeting and meet your fellow Post 76 members.

Joel Forman, Commander

Veterans Care Fair

Post 76 participated in the Veterans Care Fair held at the Las Vegas VA Medical Center on 23 April 2016. Sponsored by Congressman Crescent Hardy in cooperation with the VA, the forum scheduled a series of classroom presentations on subjects such as suicide prevention, recognizing PTSD, opioids treatments, and dietary programs. There was also a VA Town Hall meeting chaired by Congressman



Steve Daugherty, Adjutant; Joel Forman, Commander

Hardy, with panelists from the VA Medical Center and the Nevada Department of Veteran Services. Post 76 provided an information table with several other vendors from the health care community.

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UPCOMING MEETING DATES :

Patriotic Parade — July 4, 2016 See pg. 8 for information

E Board Meeting — July 14, 2016, 4:30 pm .

GENERAL MEETING — July 17, 2016 1:30 pm at Durango Hills YMCA

E Board Meeting — August 11, 2016, 4:30 pm .

GENERAL MEETING — August 21, 2016 1:30 pm at Durango Hills YMCA

E Board Meeting — September 8, 2016 4:30 pm .

GENERAL MEETING — September 18, 2016 1:30 pm at Durango Hills YMCA

E Board Meeting — October 13, 2016, 4:30 pm

GENERAL MEETING — October 16, 2016, 1:30 pm at Durango Hills YMCA

Veterans Day Parade — November 11, 2016 See pg. 8 for information

General Election Results of Officers

Post 76 elected its new slate of officers during its General Meeting on 17 April. The normal meeting protocol was diverted to the election process, led by Judge Advocate Bob Jagemann. He introduced the slate of new officers presented by the Election Committee and approved by the Executive Board: Joel Forman, Commander; Mike Percival, 1st Vice Commander; Larry Eisenberg, 2nd Vice Commander; Andy Agan, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Marvin Morgenthal, Trustee. A motion declaring each candidate to be duly elected per the Post 76 Constitution and By-Laws was made, seconded, discussed, and passed vote by the membership.

All Post 76 staff officers appointed by the Commander, and subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee, were introduced: Stephen Daugherty, Adjutant; Stu Cohen, Finance Officer; Frank Timbers, Service Officer; Daniel McDonald, Chaplain; John McClenahan, Historian, and Bob Jagemann, Judge Advocate.

American Legion National Executive Committeeman (NEC) Ron Michalski administered the oath for installation of all the elected and appointed officers before turning the podium over to the newly installed Post 76 Commander, Joel Forman, to continue the normal business meeting.

There are openings for Legionnaires willing to volunteer to chair or serve on the following committees: Membership, Americanism, Children & Youth, Nominations, Finance, Public Relations, Service, and Ways & Means.

Creech AFB Information Fair

Your Post 76 was invited again to participate the Creech AFB Community Support Information Fair held in conjunction with the Creech AFB Bring-Our-Kids-to-Work-Day on Thursday, April 28. The Post 76 entourage manned a table to make available American Legion information to the active-duty service members and their families attending the event. The Fair is an effort to inform all the active duty military, civilian employees, and family members associated with Creech all the support agencies' capabilities to assist them in times of need. Organizations representing capabilities from medical, legal, and fun family activities to base facilities were present advertising their roles in supporting the base personnel. It was a successful day for advertising American Legion's role to many Air Force members and sewing recruiting seeds.



Mike Percival, 1st Vice Commander; Larry Eisenberg, 2nd Vice Commander; Steve Daugherty, Adjutant; John McClenahan, Historian; Stu Cohen, Finance Officer; Frank Timbers, Service Officer; Daniel McDonald, Chaplain; Joel Forman, Commander; Judge Advocate Bob Jagemann presiding



Jim Lenz, Daniel McDonald, Steve Daugherty, Marvin Morgenthal, Joel Forman, George Curcio

Adjutant's Pen



Get ready for 2017 dues sticker shock! The American Legion Headquarters passed a resolution at its National Convention last year to increase the per-capita dues for all American Legion members nationwide by \$5, beginning 16 January 2016--the first dues increase for nearly a decade. Your Post 76 Executive Board, however, voted not to increase member dues until the beginning of the 2017 dues year.

Remember that the 2017 dues year is 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017. But invoices for the 2017 membership year will be mailed from Headquarters beginning 1 July 2016 and will reflect that your Post 76 dues for the 2017 dues year is \$40. We hope this slight increase will not deter you from renewing your membership and continuing to receive the benefits of belonging to The American Legion. By paying your dues early and being an "Early Bird" you help our Post have the resources to pay bills that come in during the remainder of the year.



Just a reminder that all Post 76 Legionnaires who renew their membership, online or by mail, receive a Welcome Letter from the Post 76 Commander with their new Member ID Card. It sometimes happens that invoice mailings from Headquarters may cross in the mail with renewal applications, and members can receive another renewal request, even though they know they've paid. But your ID Card is your receipt for payment of dues, and you know you can ignore any subsequent dues invoices from HQ. Know that you can always contact your Adjutant to help you clarify any issues.

It not too late to pay your 2016 membership dues A number of Post 76 members have expired membership, not having paid 2016 membership dues yet. But it's not too late! To keep your Continuous Years streak intact, you can renew now and suffer no penalty—still \$35 for 2016. Pay online or mail your payment to American Legion Post 76, PO Box 34012, Las Vegas, NV 89133.

Come and join us at our monthly General Meetings These have become the monthly gathering point for many Post 76 members as they are finding the meetings to be full of interesting activities and lots of camaraderie.

Every month we strive to have a guest speaker who has an area of expertise unique in the world of Veterans Benefits, and we always hope it will help many of our members get to the root of their particular issues. Representatives from Agent Orange awareness, Horses for Heroes, Nevada Department of Veterans Services, VA Medical Center, Clark County Veterans Court, Nevada Veterans Advocates, and Henderson Vet Center have recently shared details on how they are poised to help veterans. Come to the meetings every 3rd Sunday of the month at the Durango Hills YMCA, and you will continue to hear topics presented that you will find helpful. Be aware, though, that the **June meeting is 4th Sunday, 26 June** (need to avoid Fathers Day conflict on 19 June), and we are scheduled to hear from the Las Vegas Urban League.



Share your email address We use email for sending meeting reminders and other information to keep members updated on important issues. If you haven't received an email recently, but you want to be on the mailing list, you can call the Adjutant at (253) 691-0617 to update your correct email address or to add it to our database.

Post 76 Adjutant is the person to whom you can turn for answers on any questions you may have regarding your membership status, or any other issues, concerns, or suggestions you have with Post 76 operations. He is the person who can get you answers and help make your membership in Post 76 a more rewarding experience. Contact Steve Daugherty, (253) 691-0617 any time 24/7.

Memorial Day Ceremony 2016

The American Legion Post 76 sponsored its 14th annual Memorial Day Ceremony at The Lakes South Park in Summerlin on 30 May 2016. The solemn ceremony was held under a sunny sky and attracted nearly 200 Nevada residents to the park. Guest speakers for the occasion were Rear Admiral Kathleen Dussault, USN (Ret.), Deputy Director of Nevada Department of Veterans Services, and Major Jonathan Ard, Commander of 57th Adversary Tactics Support Squadron at Nellis AFB. Both paid tribute to those veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom and our way of life.



Chaplain Daniel McDonald; Master of Ceremonies Mike Shephard; Rear Admiral Kathleen Dussault USN (Ret.), Nevada Department of Veterans Services; Major Jonathan Ard, Commander, 57th Adversary Tactics Support Squadron



Daniel McDonald, Joel Forman, Mike Shephard, Major Jonathan Ard, Centennial High School JROTC Color Guard

Master of Ceremonies, Mike Shephard, presided over the emotionally moving ceremony that included a Musical Prelude by Ms Cynthia Man and students of her Suzuki Institute; beautiful trumpet music (Taps, First Call, To the Colors) by Juanpablo Macias, UNLV School of Music; an impressive Presentation of Colors by Centennial High School Navy JROTC students; outstanding rendition of the National Anthem sung by Taylor See from Faith Lutheran High School; the Pledge of Allegiance by The American Legion "L.D. Lockhart Auxiliary Unit 14; a powerful POW/MIA Ceremony by American Legion Post 14; a striking Flag Folding Ceremony by Palo Verde Air Force JROTC Honor Guard students; a Wreath of Remembrance Service featuring a veteran representing each of the US war eras since WWII; and a Tolling of the Bell service, where the Wreath was placed in the water, for



Palo Verde JROTC Honor Guard

a final tribute to the fallen. Commander Joel Foreman closed the ceremony by asking the audience to "As a tribute to their sacrifice, let us renew our resolve to remain strong enough to deter aggression, wise enough to preserve and protect our freedom, and thoughtful enough to promote lasting peace throughout the world".



Palo Verde High School Air Force JROTC 2016-17 Corps Commander - Cadet Captain Victoria Furutani and Centennial High School Navy JROTC Cadet Battalion Commander Laura Rebar laying the wreath from the boat operated by Retired USAF Thunderbird member and Lakes resident Fred Simone.

Helldorado Parade Sees Post 76 Color Guard



Marvin Morgenthal, Mike Shephard, Larry Eisenberg, Karen Beck, JP Harvey, Joel Forman

Saturday, May 14 saw Post 76's Color Guard marching proudly in the annual Helldorado Days Parade. The parade, along 4th Street in downtown Las Vegas, has a proud history dating back to the Valley's frontier roots and the Wild West in 1935. The Color Guard was followed by 2 WWII and Vietnam era military vehicles from the Oasis Chapter of Southern Nevada Military Vehicles Association, and many Post 76 members rode the parade route aboard the vehicles. The crowds cheered enthusiastically as the Color Guard passed by, encouraging the flag-holders to stay marching in unison. This was the second year for Post 76 to participate in the parade.



Joel Forman, Steve Daugherty, JP Harvey, Karen Beck, Larry Eisenberg, Marvin Morgenthal

Post 76 Activities Accomplished by Legionnaires March through June of 2016

1. Set up an information table at the Air Force Wounded Warrior CARE event at the Renaissance Hotel on 4 March 2016.
2. Passed out gloves and socks at US Vets Stand down on 17-18 March.
3. Attended 3 Nevada Veterans Coalition meetings during the quarter at Grant Sawyer Bldg.
4. Set up a table at Denny's on Craig Road March 19-20 to raise funds for Boys State.
5. Set up information table at Vets Job Fair April 5th at PBS Channel 10.
6. Provided a Flag Posting April 6th at Sands for ISCW Convention.
7. Attended formal Dining Out dinner for UNLV's AF ROTC program on Friday, April 8 on the UNLV campus.
8. Attended Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) Vets Legislative Symposium April 16th at Cannery Casino.
9. Gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Sun City Alliant Veterans Club on Tuesday, April 19.
10. Attended Veterans Service Fair (Winter Stand Down) planning meetings at Cambridge Center.
11. Set up an information table at Vets Care Fair at VA Medical Center on Saturday, April 23, hosted by Crescent Hardy.
12. Welcomed Nevada Honor Flight arrivals at McCarran Sunday, April 24th.
13. Manned an information table at Creech AFB Family Day event on Thursday, April 28.
14. Attended UNLV Air Force ROTC Awards Ceremony Friday, 6 May at the UNLV campus.
15. Marched with Color Guard in the Helldorado parade on Saturday, May 14.
16. Provided Flag Posting detail for USS Ticonderoga 45 Reunion at Gold Coast Hotel/Casino Sunday, 22 May.
17. Attended dedication of Vets Memorial at Grant Sawyer Building is Friday, May 27.
18. Planned and implemented annual Memorial Day Ceremony at The Lakes South Park on Monday, May 30.
19. Manned an Information Table at the Veterans Care Fair at the VA Medical Center on Sat. April 2
20. Set up an Information table on Thursday, 28 April 2016 at Creech AFV for Bring-Your-Child-to-Work Day family event.
21. Attended Patriot Fest at Craig Ranch Park on W Craig Saturday, 21 May.
22. Participated in Boys Scout coordination and activities on 23 April.
23. Joined other Legionnaires and the NV Patriot Guard Riders to attend Southern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery for the No Veteran Alone services on Thursday mornings.
24. Supported Patriotism vigil outside Creech AFB main gate.
25. Participated in Fisher House and VA Medical Center activities and meetings.
26. Attended planning meetings for the annual Fall Veterans Stand Down.
27. Coordinated and implemented School Awards program at 20 schools.
28. Gave blood at local blood banks.
29. Participated in American Legion's System worth saving activities.
30. Planned and implemented Post and District Oratorical Contest details.
31. Planned and implemented Post and District Boys State details.
32. Attended Post 76 Executive Board and General Meetings.

Boys State Committee

We are just about a week away from Boys State in Reno. Post 76 has 22 young men representing our Post. The program has 171 total for the entire State of Nevada. Post 76 should be proud of the schools and councilors in our area of responsibility. And a huge thank you for all that you as Legionnaires have done.

The Boys State Committee is always talking about the need for donations and you have been doing your best as always. The monies that have been donated is very much appreciated. There is a flier on page 7 about Boys State and tickets that we have for the 2016 NATIONAL FINALS RODEO. As many of you know, these are one of the hardest tickets to get in Las Vegas. They are usually sold out at least 2 years in advance. Please contact Mike Shephard for all of the information about the tickets and how you can win them. (p) 702-256-3106 or email shephardsparks@aol.com Your help with this project will be greatly appreciated.

Mike Shephard -- Chairman, The Boys State Committee -- Spirit of Freedom, Post #76

2016 School Awards Program

Each year, during the month of May, Post 76 sends out many volunteers to descend upon 19 different schools to award their deserving students the American Legion School Awards. There are two types of awards presented. For JROTC programs at three high schools there are awards for both Military, as well as, Scholastic excellence. In the three high schools without JROTC programs along with the 13 Middle Schools, there are American Legion School Awards given to a male and female from each school. The Middle school recipients are eighth graders.

Each year beginning in February, the schools are all contacted to find out who the point-of-contact will be for the current year. The schools are provided the American Legion criteria for the awards and asked to provide the Post with the names of the winners by April 15th. We also ask the schools to provide the date and time for their ceremonies. This gives us time to print out the appropriate certificates for each student. The medals, ribbons, folders, and certificates had been ordered during the fall so they will be ready in the spring. During the March general meeting the schools-award coordinator announces the need for volunteers during May to be available to “hang” some medals. The process should be quite simple, but is usually not. First of all, the dates and times must be locked in to ensure everybody’s calendar can be solidified. Next, comes the duty of assigning a “new” member with the more experienced volunteers to “Learn the ropes” for hanging medals. After the schedule is nearly finalized, there is the problems of last minute changes due to school schedules changing or volunteers “emergencies”.



This year went pretty smooth because we had over 13 volunteers stepping up to answer the call. One difficulty was that 4 schools had ceremonies on May 18, while five other schools had their ceremonies all on May 19th. There was some last minutes made but every school was serviced on time.

So, if you are reading this, and you have wanted to serve, but didn’t know where you might fit in, this is a great opportunity to show students that hard work does matter. The smiles on their faces and the appreciation from school staff and parents, makes it all worthwhile. We are starting next meeting taking interested veteran volunteers, so see the First Vice Commander for all the details.



The American Legion

SPIRIT OF FREEDOM — POST 76

P.O. Box 34012, Las Vegas, NV 89133-4012

NATIONAL FINALS RODEO TICKETS

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE BOYS STATE PROGRAM

We have 4 tickets for the 2016 NFR. They have been provided for the fundraiser we are holding. You will have two chances to get these tickets. A drawing will be held at the November 20, 2016 General Meeting of Post #76. Two drawings will be held. **The first place prize is; 2ea. 1 night only, reserved seats during the 2nd week of the NFR, and 1ea. Autographed poster of Steven Peebles, The NFR 2015 World Champion Bareback Rider**

The second place prize is; 2ea. 1 night only, reserved seats during the 2nd week of the NFR.

FOR ALL DETAILS CONTACT

Mike Shepherd either by phone or email.
(p) 702-256-3106 or shepherdsparks@aol.com



American Legion Post 76
P.O. Box 34012
Las Vegas, Nevada 89133-4012

Upcoming Post 76 Parades

Post 76 participates in many local parades every year. We just completed the Helldorado Parade [pg. 6] and are looking forward to even more participation in the upcoming parades.

PATRIOTIC PARADE — JULY 4, 2016

Post 76 has been invited to show their colors at The Summerlin Council Patriotic Parade taking place Friday, July 4. We will feature our Color Guard [volunteers always welcome] as well as

have many of you riding in Model T Fords from the Las Vegas Model T Club. The escort division steps-off at 8:30 am so we need to be in place by 8:00 am. The parade travels along flag-lined streets from Hillpointe Road and Hills Center, then south on Hills Center Drive concluding on Trailwood Drive at the entrance of the Trails Village Shopping Center.

VETERANS DAY PARADE — NOVEMBER 11, 2016

The parade begins at Charleston Boulevard and Fourth Street at 10 am. We need to be in place at least an hour before that. Plans are still being made, but we will certainly need volunteers for the color guard and hope to again have Model Ts for those that want to ride. so contact the Adjutant at (253) 691-0617 or steve-daugherty@aol.com to show interest.

