Alaska Legionnaire

The American Legion ~
Today's Voice for Today's Veterans
& Military

VOL. 2021 No. 5 Alaska Department of the American Legion September/October 2021

The American Legion
Department of Alaska
1550 Charter Circle
Anchorage, Ak 99508

PDC Elexzanderi "Dolly" Carr
Grand Marshall of the 4th of July Parade
Anchorage, Alaska

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

By Sharon Cherrette

Can't believe we are now going into Autumn (22 September; thought we it was Autumn since July). Schools around the state have started and are in the classroom; what a wild year and a half for the school kids. Boys/Girls Nation was the first live event to be held at the National level in July. National Convention was held in Phoenix, Arizona the end of August. Virtual meetings may not be a thing of the past as funds were saved by limiting travel costs at all levels. National's Membership Workshop was held virtually this year and the information covered can be found at www.legion.org/training/membership (held last week of July).

Now is the time for us to pass on information to our high school students about Oratorical (state level competition is in late February 2022) and Boys and Girls State (June 2022). This includes public, private, charter, home-schooled students. Also reach out to youth groups such as Boys/Girls Scouts, Campfire, etc. For more information about these programs, go to www.legion.org. A post can only send one (1) contestant to the State-level **Oratorical** competition. Boys and Girls States for 2021 had very few Alaska students who were interested in attending within Alaska; these few attended virtual sessions with Utah and Hawaii.

The Department of Alaska's **Fall Conference** is Saturday and Sunday (morning), **16-17 October** 2021 at Joseph T. Craig Post 3 in **Ketchikan** with the Auxiliary and SAL.

Many things can change by the time you receive your issue of the Legionnaire. Please check Department's Facebook page for upcoming events at www.facebook.com under The American Legion, Department of Alaska. We send quite a bit of information by email with events and other information which includes Tele-Townhall meetings with the VA (National and State). Please make sure your email address is current. Please share the information.

STAY SAFE. HAPPY GHOULING

Happenings: SEPTEMBER - Labour Day 6th (Department offices **closed** - Service Offices and Headquarters Federal Holiday), Patriot Day 11th, National POW/MIA Recognition Day 17th, Air Force Birthday 18th, Autumn Equinox 22nd, OCTOBER - Columbus Day 11th (observed; Department offices **closed** -Service Offices and Headquarters Federal Holiday), Halloween 31st.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Michael Downs

Alaskan summers are busy and always seem to go way too fast. Robyn and I most recently did an unofficial trip to Kodiak with Department Sergeant @ Arms Pam Cawley. Pam is currently a Post 1 member, but she is also a Past Commander at Post 17, and expert tour guide. Post 17 is very active, they have daily lunches and Sunday breakfast, the Commander Cindy Sweeney, Service Officer Robert and Beverly Eads Post Auxiliary President and a past Department President were extremely welcoming, certainly worth a visit if you have never been to Kodiak. I was very impressed by the coffee club at the Post they have raised enough money and had members help to purchase 26 new bar stools for the Post.

What a great visit I had to Fairbanks the last week in July. I arrived in Moose Creek at Post 30 to see my name on the billboard out front, what a welcome. They have done an amazing job at that Post, the new deck out back is very nice and when they finish the rest of the yard, the recent event they held for the ALR will be even better. The weekend finished with a hearty breakfast at Post 57 with Auxiliary National President Candidate Lisa Williamson, Auxiliary President Jane Larson, SAL Commander Dale Toenies and several officers from Post 11, Post 30, Post 57 and we even got Post Commander Clutch from Arctic Post #9 the furthest northern Post in the world to join us. Thank you all so much I learned a great deal that weekend. Thanks Terry and Steve for the ride.

I was also impressed with the community event at Palmer Post 15. They had fire trucks, EMT's, police, water rescue and several other local groups. What a great idea to have a family event with the other groups that serve the community. Thanks to the Commander and Don Maupin for the invite, the classes on the internet security from the police officer from the school was very informative, and the water rescue even did a live event were they rescued the Posts, floating dock, making several young members very happy.

The Arctic Post 9 visit to Wiseman AK was an adventure for sure. It was a 13 hour drive that we broke up with stops in Fairbanks. The road is bumpy but doable, the members, miners, locals, and instrument players were all very welcoming. We were so glad to share a fire with about 20 people all playing the same song on a variety of instruments, they even drug a piano out there. Clutch taught Robyn to play the wash board tub base and now she thinks she is a rockstar! If you ever make it up on a 4th of July Post 9 meeting make sure you get a ride on the 1940's Jeep. A big thanks to Arlene for helping to recruit new members.

It is my personal belief that the American Legion is not buildings and bars but people. It is the incredible veterans and supporters of veterans that make up the Department of Alaska. I think the way to grow the Legion in Alaska is by highlighting our people and the great things they do for veterans. "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual." - Vince Lombardi.

From The American Legion, Department of Alaska

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DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2019-2020

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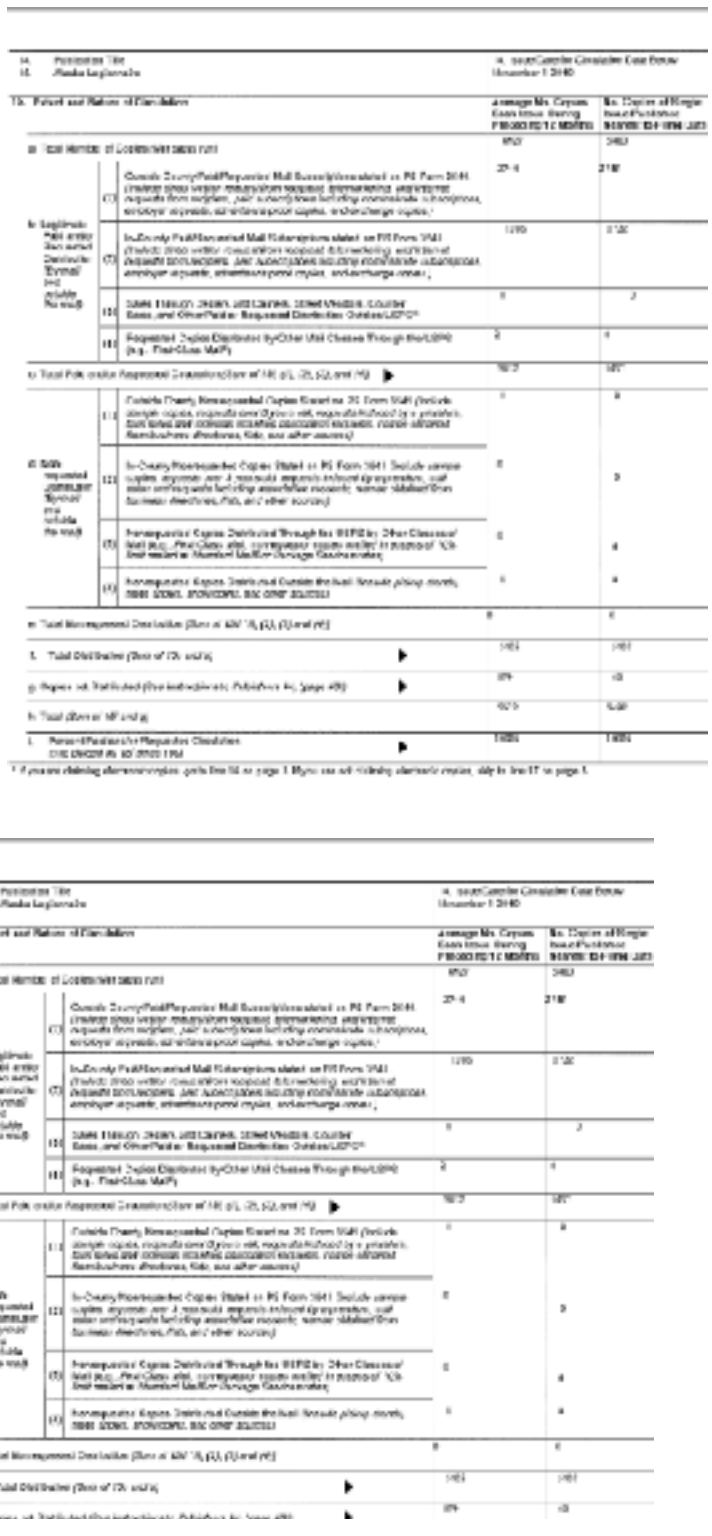

Happy 246th Birthday U.S. Navy

Congratulations to the West High School Baseball Team (sponsored by Post 1) on being awarded the Trajan Langdon Award for their Sportsmanship and Leadership during the year. The Award was presented by the Alaska Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors.

SERVICE OFFICE HOURS

The Department of Alaska Service Office phone number is 907-257-4802. The cell phone number is 907-250-5779. They are primarily in the office in the mornings but still closed to public per VBA regulations.
To reach Derek in the Kenai Peninsula area please call 907-741-9997.
The Service Office is located in the VA at 1201 N. Muldoon Rd Rm 2A 215, Anchorage, AK

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BOYS STATE NEWS

Welcome Home to our two 2021 Boys National Senators!!

Jonathan Ford (sponsored by North Pole Post 30) and
Connor Hayward (sponsored by Spendard Post 28)!

Both Jonathan and Connor report back to say what a sensational opportunity it was to attend American Legion Boys Nation Program! According to the two Boys Nation Senators the motto - "A week that changes a lifetime"- was not an understatement by any stretch of the imagination. They went on to say that they learned a lot and that the program effected their view of how politics are supposed to operate and the difference that each citizen can make.

As the American Legion Alaska Boys State director, I have challenged both Boys Nation Senators to share their experiences with as many as they can and to help recruit for next year! They both stated that they are looking forward to sharing their experiences with their sponsoring Post and with their Junior classmates for next year's program. This coming up year will be our **56th Annual American Legion Alaska Boys State program** and it will be held starting at **5:30 p.m. on Sunday June 12, 2022 through Saturday June 18, 2022. This years's program will be held at All Elks Camp near Palmer. The tuition remains $300 per student.**

My Challenge now to every American Legion Post is to help recruit students for next years program! Please send me the contact information for your Boys State Chairman - I would like their phone number and email so that we can keep in communication as we get the information out to the schools, students, parents, counselors, ROTC, scouts, and any other student leadership groups that we can!

If you are the Chairman for American Legion Alaska Boys State at your Post - please let me know so that I can send you updates throughout the year and can follow up with you to check the progress or help with any questions that you might have! The Boys State program is open to all qualified male High School Juniors (those who will be seniors during the 2021-2022 school year) and are at least 16 years of age. They also have to have at least one semester left in their senior year.

We are asking all American Legion post consult with area high school principals/guidance counselors and ask them to recommend a group of boys as possible candidates. That personal connection from someone from the Legion Post in that community is key to successful recruiting candidates for the Boys State Program!! Lets shoot for at least 50 candidates for this year's program!!! The Post Committees interviews each candidate and selects those best qualified.

Please get the information into your schools and invest in our future leaders of tomorrow!!!

If you have any questions or need additional information - please call or email me.

Kevin Collier, Director
kcollier@alaska.net
(907)317-8029

ALA Alaska Girls State 2021

Due to the pandemic and the schools being closed, there was a lack of participants to hold this year's ALA Alaska Girls State in person. Fortunately, for the first time in history, National allowed states to join their programs together allowing our delegates to participate in the program virtually. After a lot of consideration and research, Alaska's ALA Girls State program chose to join with the great state of Hawaii and their wonderful Director Brister Thomas.

Even though the program was run as 1 state, both states were able to elect their own Governor/Lt. Governor and choose their own Senators to represent them at Girls Nation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

ALA Alaska Girls State Governor - Isabella Kershaw out of Ketchikan sponsored by Unit #35.
ALA Girls State Lt. Governor – Sabrina Warren out of Anchorage sponsored by Unit #1.
ALA Girls Nation Senator – Sarah Price out of Eagle River sponsored by Unit #33
ALA Girls Nation Senator – Isabella Kershaw
Alt. ALA Girls Nation Senator – Lauren Olson out of Ketchikan sponsored by Unit #18
Alt. ALA Girls Nation Senator – Sabina Warren

Lori Fruhwirth - Director
alaalaskagirlsstate@gmail.coim
(907)590-0320

Sarah Price and Isabella Kershaw were also recipients of a $2,000.00 scholarship each, while Lauren Olson and Sabrina Warren were the recipients of a $1,000.00 scholarship each.

I would like to extend my Thanks to the hard-working staff (Jane Larson, Matt Larson, Barb Nath and Sheryl Howe) and all of the American Legion family who helped make this year's program possible. This could not have been the success it was without your help and support.

Recruiting for the 2022 ALA Alaska Girls State program starts in October and it looks like we might have the same problem this year getting the word out. I am asking everyone in our American Legion Family to help spread the word in getting the information out into our communities about this wonderful program with scholarship opportunities. If anyone would like more information about this program, please do not hesitate to contact me at alaalaskagirlsstate@gmail.com or (907)590-0320.

Isabella Kershaw

Lauren Olsen

Sabina Warren

Sarah Price

Connor Hayward

Jonathan Ford

Brady Kline, (son of PDC Scott Kline), charter member of Joseph T. Craig SAL. Showing his stuff on the mound where he pitched 6 1/3 innings with 18 strikeouts on top of going 2 for 3 at the plate with 3 RBI's.
Brady's effort along with his teammates secured their championship victory, in the City League Tournament with a score of 8-3.
Brady plays for the Ketchikan Little League 11-13 year old's.

From the desk of 1st Vice Commander, Deb Davis

As usual, by the time you read this some things will have changed. Since membership is my primary responsibility, one change will be the question of our post membership goals for 2022. We already have the Department overall goal (5233) but the individual post goals are not yet set. Expect to see them after National Convention. As of August 6, our 2021 total was 5295 (96.24% of our goal) which puts us 5th across all states for membership success. 6 Posts are over 100% of their goal. There are 2 areas where we can achieve our goals, retaining members we already have, and bringing in new members. While it is great for the organization's future to bring in new members, keeping them is super important. We already know how to do that…keep them involved. All members have different strengths and interests. Reach out to members you don't see often and ask for their help. As for getting new members, it is true that getting new members when a post is located near a military base is a little easier as long as the post has a presence at the base. But, we also have veterans in our communities that are not members. Usually that is because we don't even know about their service time, or they don't know who we are and what we do. Increasing our presence in the community can lead to veterans stepping up to join us. Of note in this article, I am talking a lot to posts and post leadership but here is a note to members… Reach out to your post and ask where you can help or if you have an idea for a project, bring it up. We are a great organization, and it is our members who make that happen!

The travels of Commander Mike
Dept. Commander Mike in Kodiak with Post 17 Commander Cynthia Sweeney and Dept. Sgt-at-Arms Pam Cawley.
The crazy crew having a snack with members from Post 57 and Post 11.
Helping out our members at Post 57.

TAPS

Post 1
Robert Gilliland
Harold Hoffman
Eugene Leavens
Donald Macdonald
Wilbur O'Brien
Herman Schmidt

Post 3
Ronald Balzer

Post 5
Rodney Pilch
Larry Snider
Donald Sutherland

Post 6
William Churchill

Post 20
James Burton
Tim Heikkila
Stanley Rhamy

Post 21
Elaine Base

Post 28
Jackie Harris
Ralph Jokela
Jack Shockley

Post 29
Leroy Norup
Ronald Engebretson

Post 30
Larry Stephens

Post 33
Brian Anderson
Galen Hemenway
Thomas Ripp

Post 35
Gareth Foerster
Michael McGinty
Arthur Reekie
Post 77
Richard Blanchard
Denton Chambers
William Morris
Jack St Denis
William Bishop
David Nichols
Stephen Smuck

Oratorical News by John Whitlock

It is still summer, but the American Legion Oratorical Contest will be happening before we know it. The oratorical contest is for high school students and requires them to speak on subjects related to some aspect of the U.S. Constitution, with some emphasis on the duties and obligations of citizens to our government. Speeches are eight to 10 minutes long; 3-5 minute speeches on an assigned topic are also part of the contest. The State Finals for the Department of Alaska's oratorical contest will happen in late February of 2022 in Anchorage. The National Finals will be held in Indianapolis from April 22-24 of 2022.

There are 32 posts in the Department of Alaska. This means that there are 32 spots in the state competition for competitors from across the state. However, we have never had 32 contestants for our state competition. With this being the case, we have allowed local posts to send more than one contestant to the State competition. Prior to conducting a local contest, please consult the Oratorical Contest Rules (the oratorical contest rules brochure can be found at this web page: https://www.legion.org/oratorical/resources).

Even if you have only one person in your community that is interested, it is the best practice to have your contestant give his or her oration at your local post to ensure that their speech conforms to the contest rules.

There should be two goals for a local contest: Goal #1: **Make sure your local contestants understand the rules**. One reason we have local contestants is to make sure that the participants have prepared for the contest correctly. For example, if a contestant gives a prepared oration that goes 5 minutes over the time limit and did not discuss the constitution, you would not want to send that person to the State completion. Goal #2: **Send your best**. If you have two great local contestants that gave awesome orations that comply with the Legion's oratorical contest rules, you would probably want to send both of these individuals to the State competition. If you have four people at your local contest and you have one contestant who is heads and shoulders above the rest, you may want to only send one contestant.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the oratorical contest. My email is jgroverwhitlock@gmail.com. My phone number is 907-227-5662.

Happenings at your Post

Jack Henry Post 1
Monday - Wings and Fries $7
Tuesday - Rib Night!!! $12
Wednesday - Taco Night CHEAP
Thursday - Burgers & Brew $10
Friday - Steak Night $17
Saturday - Spaghetti $5
Sunday - Smoked BBQ $15
5-8pm except Sunday Starts at 2pm

Seward Post 5
Taco Tuesday
Friday Night Steaks
Food Served every night

Matanuska Valley Post 15
Tuesday Pool League / Taco Tuesday
Thursday Night Darts League
Friday Prime Rib and Live Band
Saturday Cajun Food and Karaoke

General Buckner Post 16 Family
2nd Saturday Auxiliary Dinner 6:00pm
Friday Burger & Brew 6:00pm - 8:00pm
1st Friday of the month Special
3rd Friday Steak Night 6:00pm

George H. Plumley Memorial Post 20
Every Friday is Steak Night 6:00pm-8:00pm with an added Special Dish
Every Sunday Breakfast Menu Dishes 10:00am -1:00pm
Every Friday Aux Unit 20 Sponsors
The Friday Night Raffle 12:00pm - 8:00pm

Spenard Post 28
Monday, Karaoke 7pm
Tuesday, Tacos 3-8pm; Open Mic 6:30pm
Thursday, Pizza 4 - 8pm
Trivia night 7pm 2nd & 4th Thursday
Friday, Steak Night 6-8pm - Karaoke 9pm
Saturday, Karaoke 9pm
Sunday, Brunch 11:30am - 2pm - Porker, 3pm

Muldoon Post 29
Queen of Hearts Thursday

Peters Creek Post 33
Thursday Taco Nite - 4:30pm - 8:30pm
1st & 3rd Friday
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Chappie James Post 34
Thursday night - Wings
Friday night - steak night
Saturday is the full menu

Susitna Valley Post 35
Open Daily @1:00pm
Daily lunch specials - eat in or take out. Noon to 5
Wednesday: Taco Night 6:00pm - 8:00pm Texas Hold'em 7:00pm - ?
Thursday night Cribbage @ 7:00pm
Fridays: Steak Night 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Pool Tournament Sundays @ 1:00pm

C.R. Huber Post 57
Meetings 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00pm
Sunday Breakfast 10-2
Thursday Burger Night 5:30-9:00 PM

SAL NEWS by Kevin Collier

Congratulations!!! According to the Barometer from National – we are #6 in the Nation with 1526 for membership and 106.64% - Great Job by everyone!! Let's keep it up!

Honor our Veteran's Service whom our membership eligibility came under by renewing your dues or if you are eligible to become a member of the Sons of The American Legion and have not joined – join the SONS and honor the service of the veteran who has sacrificed so much to protect this great country. Remember it's Cool to be Dual!!!

Who will be our Top Recruiter for the 2022 Membership Year??? Blue Brigade Recruiter Award – enroll 30 or more New Members into the Sons of the American Legion by July 31st! (Reactivated members do not count). Get recognized and receive a jacket from National!

We all need to work on being a top recruiter. This will assist, as we will succeed in reaching all our goals and the 105% challenge that Detachment Commander Dale Toenies has posted.

The first Membership Postcard Renewal Notice for the 2022 Membership year will be sent out by National Headquarters on September 11, 2021.

The challenge for you is to send in a transmittal with as many members as possible prior to the 10% goal on September 10th and beat the renewal notice.

If you are not using MyLegion to process membership - We need your cards into Detachment Headquarters about 2 weeks prior to the Target Dates in order to get them processed at National in time to count as reaching the goal.

Or better yet sign up for MyLegion to process your membership online! (If you are the Squadron Adjutant - simply go to MyLegion.org to sign up or set up an account for your Squadron). Those signed up so far are Squadrons: 1, 3, 5, 11, 15, 35, 57 and Detachment!

Let's meet or beat each and every one of our Membership goals this year – let us show everyone what the SONS from Alaska can do – Lets once again beat the 105% membership goal.

We are requesting a focus on the Consolidated Squadron Report Form (CSR) this year. The information that you enter on the "Consolidated Squadron Report Form" is combined with that of all of the other Squadrons and reported to The American Legion to show what we as the Sons of The American Legion have done and accomplished throughout the year. The American Legion subsequently sends this on to Congress to show what the American Legion Family has done throughout our Communities, our State and the Nation. All this information of what we do as a Family helps maintain our non-profit status.

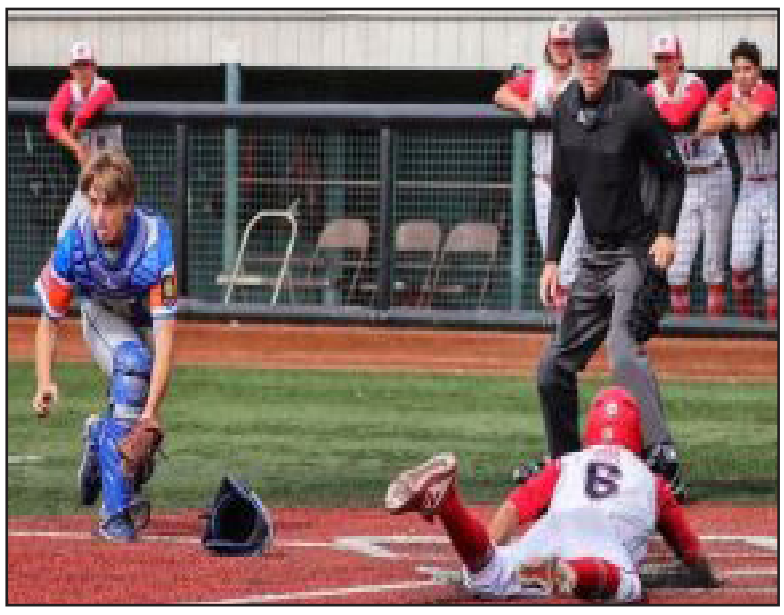
As we start out a new year remember to gather all of the information from the appropriate sources such as from your membership for hours, returned checks or bank statements for the donations so that next year's Consolidated Squadron Report Form is easier to fill out and perhaps more detailed on what you actually accomplished throughout the year.

Remember that September is National Disaster Preparedness Month – go to www.legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/disaster_07.pdf for a booklet on how your Squadron/Post/Unit can be prepared for an emergency.

.....cont. on page 6 SAL News

That's a wrap on the 2021 season! Road Warriors finish 3rd in the Northwest Class A Regional Tournament as they fell to Idaho. We couldn't be more proud of our program.

Our JV team finished 3rd in the State.
Our Varsity finished;
1st in the Midnight Sun Tournament
2nd in the Todd Ryan Tournament
1st in the Matson Tournament
3rd in the NWCART (Regions)
Thank you to all the players, coaches, parents, fans and especially American Legion Post 35.



The Pioneers baseball team sponsored by Palmer Post 15 catcher Dylan Garrettson faces off aganist the Road Warriors 1st base Wyatt Walling sponsored by Post 35.

Most NWCART wins by Alaska coaches since 2011

6 Ken Ottinger	**Wasilla**
3 Andy Maculey	**Juneau**
2 Russ Baker	**South**
1 Willie Paul	**Service**

News from SAL Department Detachment Adjutant, Kevin Collier

Did you know that **Labor Day** (the first Monday in September) has been celebrated as a National Holiday since 1894? We should remember that it was created and dedicated to the social and economic achievements of the American Workers and the contributions they have made to the strength and prosperity of our country. Labor Day is on September 7th this year.

September 11th - Patriot Day is observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks against the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001. Please remember that everyone should display their flags at Half-Staff.

September 17th - Citizenship Day - The roots of this holiday go back to *I Am an American Day,* which was established in 1940 by Congress as the third Sunday in May. In 1952 President Harry Truman moved and renamed this day to Citizenship Day to coincide with the signing of the U.S. Constitution of September 17, 1787. Citizenship Day celebrates being a citizen of the United States of America, the greatest country the world has ever seen. Our great country (and it's people) is something every American should be proud of, America is filled with outstanding citizens, many of whom have played a direct or indirect role in making this country and what it stands for, a beacon of hope, promise and success! This special day is for all citizens, to appreciate being a citizen of this country and the rights and promise and success! This special day is for all citizens, to appreciate being a citizen of this country and the rights and freedoms it brings.

National POW/MIA Recognition is September 20th - is a day to remind the nation of those Americans who have sacrificed so much for their country. Observances are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. It is traditionally observed on the third Friday in September each year.

The last Sunday in September is designated as **Gold Star Mother's Day** (September 28th this year). On Gold Star Mother's Day we should all show our expression of the love, sorrow, and reverence for the Mothers and the sacrifices their loved ones have made in keeping the United States of American as the Greatest Country there is.

The Fall Conference is scheduled for October 16th - 17th. The Joint Opening Ceremony will be on Saturday October 16, 2021 at 9:00am. There will be a Detachment Executive Committee Meeting held shortly after the Joint Opening, followed by educational/informational sessions. The Workshop is open to all members - please plan on attending this vital and important meeting. (If there is an educational or informational subject that you would like us to cover - please contact Kevin Collier, Detachment Adjutant at kcollier@alaska.net).

If you still have not taken the opportunity to turn in your Certification of Officers, please do so as soon as possible. This helps the Detachment Commander, Dale Toenies and myself in having points of contact at your Squadron so we may arrange official visits or send information from the Detachment and from National to your Squadron.

Keep up the great job you are doing in membership. **Remember the three "R's" "Renew", "Recruit" and "Reinstate".** Do not just sit on it! Keep it rolling in.

I would like to personally thank each and every one of the veterans for their service and sacrifices that they made. God Bless you and God Bless America.

If there is anything that any of your Detachment Officers can do to assist you or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours in Service for God and Country

News from SAL Department Commander Dale Toenies

Good Day All!

I hope all are well, after battling round 2 of the COVID-19 Virus!!!

As new policies are coming at us again, please keep in mind that we need to keep all of us safe, Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members. As much as these rules suck, they are important in keeping us healthy as an organization that meets regularly across the US.

SAL Detachment membership hit 105.3% in overall members and still climbing slowly. With Squadron 35, being the largest at 174 total members. Squadrons that made 105% are 20, 29, 18, 1, 16, 3, and 35. **Excellent** job by all Squadrons. It is nice to see that our membership keeps growing in Alaska.

Also coming up is our Fall workshop in Ketchikan in October at Post 3, Please attend, if possible, if you have any questions, please get a hold of Kevin or I. I'm looking forward to that event, after returning from the National Convention.

Friendly reminder with summer coming to an end and before it gets to cold outside, yes, the white cap is coming, please inspect your flags, to include all organizations, business, and personal. Replace and retire as needed.

Everyone, have an enjoying and safe Labor Day weekend and very scary and safe Halloween.

For God and Country

From the bike of Carrie (Chunkz) Hintz, Director of the ALR

Greetings from Maryland! I'm on vacation, so here is a short note.

The weekend of Salute to Vets was a huge success. Thank you ABAT Southern Peninsula. A special thank you to the Johnson's. Their hospitality is 2nd to none.

Also a shout out to the women of Quilts of Valor. These quilts are a godsend and precious hands, make them. A huge Thank You!

We had a very special treat of 2 WWII veterans who attended the ceremony. The fly over to honor them was amazing. I don't know if there was a dry eye in attendance.

Thank you to Chapter 35 for the retirment of the flag.

Just a spotlight of only 1 event that has taken place month. So many riders do so many acts of service, thank you.

I'm so proud to say I am an American Legion rider. Keep up the great work. Always represent this great organization and the wonderful country.

For God and Country

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER 2021

Labor Day 9/6
Rosh Hashanah 9/7
Patriot Day 9/11
National Emergency Responders Day 9/11
U.S. Air Force Birthday 9/11
Grandparents Day 9/12
The American Legion Day 9/16
Yom Kippur 9/16
Citizenship Day 9/17
POW/MIA Recognition Day 9/17
First Day of Fall 9/22
Gold Star Mother's Day 9/26

OCTOBER 2021

Columbus Day 10/11
U.S. Navy Birthday 10/13
Alaska Day 10/18
Halloween 10/31

From the desk of Jane Larson, Department Auxiliary President

We did it!! No words can express how proud I am of all our American Legion Auxiliary Alaska members. To reach our goal of 100% membership for the ALA Department of Alaska is fantastic. I thank each and everyone of you for your dedication and support for making this happen. Now, we need to remember to work on our skills on retaining our members. Needing some help with ideas? Well, there is a great article in the August 2021 American Legion Auxiliary magazine on Membership Retainment: Back to the Basics or visit www.ALAforVeterans.org for any help or ideas. As it states in the article – Remember: More members mean more opportunities to help our nation's veterans, military and their families. We are stronger together!

Would like to also take the time to congratulate our two girls that were chosen for ALA Girls Nation. Isabella Kershaw from Ketchikan, Alaska and Sarah Price from Eagle River, Alaska. Our attendance for Girls State was small this year, so we had a joint virtual session with the Hawaii Girls State. It was a learning experience for all of us. All our Alaska citizens did fantastic, and they sure helped and educated us (the staff) in understanding the computer world. Lastly, I genuinely want to thank Brister Thomas, Hawaii Girls State director and her staff for welcoming us into the joint session. It was an interesting and wonderful experience.

Fall conference is right around the corner. It is going to be in Ketchikan this year, October 16th and 17th, hosted by American Legion Family #3. Looking forward to seeing you there, to learn and share our ideas for the upcoming year. Will have had attended the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ and attended a Department Presidents Retreat in Kentucky, October 10,11 and 12, so will be bringing information from that to fall conference.
For God and Country,

Our ALA checking out the new outdoor seating and equipment at the Palmer Pioneer and Veterans home. Ann Robinson, Vonn Lamm, Pat Francois, Colleen Newman, Penny Mazonna, Sue Caswell, Martine Linder, Robin Quisenberry. A couple of residents also wanted to hang with the group, David Brown and T. Diane Smith.

Happy Birthday United States Air Force

From the desk of Barb Nath, Department Auxiliary

As many of you may know or heard, in 2019 (pre-pandemic) the American Legion Auxiliary applied for funds from the ALA Foundation Grants to purchase seating and outdoor equipment for the Palmer Pioneer and Veterans Home. Approximately 35 veterans live here. They relies on the generosity of individuals and organizations in order to fulfill their own mission and to help provide opportunities for their residents.

In February 2020, we were notified that we received the award. It was used for a variety of small seating areas (small benches, chairs, etc), tables and even an umbrella for shade. After many, many months of searching for the right stuff (with the help of their staff), we got the items ordered. Because of the pandemic, many items were not in stock and so it took us a number of months to get things. However, we were successful. The home staff put together furniture, with the help of residents, and it has been used a lot. One of the big success stories is that it allowed for visitors to come see their family members, while allowing for social distancing. This, in turn, helped with the emotional and mental wellbeing for those living in the home.

Because of the pandemic, the home was on lock down and only family members and staff were allowed in the facility. With the lessening of the pandemic, we were finally able to go visit and see what they received and how it was utilized. In July, we made arrangements to come to their ice cream social on a Friday night and do a small dedication ceremony for them. When we arrived, it was a delight to two people just outside the doors sitting around the table and chairs we had purchased for them through the ALA Foundation.

There were nine people present representing the American Legion Auxiliary as well as the staff and residents of the home. Since President Jane Larson had to be out of town, 1st Vice-President Anarene Robinson stepped in to talk a little bit about the Auxiliary. Von Lamm talked about the ALA Foundation and the process of getting the grant. Finally, Department Chaplain Colleen Newman led everyone present in a prayer of dedication.

A special thank you to Celia Conrad (Recreation) and her staff who were involved in selecting the furniture and other items. In addition, a thank you to those who helped emcee the afternoon's dedication.

Also, we want to thank the folks from Keller-Williams who brought an arm load of people to the home one day and did an awesome job painting the pavilion so it looked fresh and clean.

Providing support to our veterans and military, as well as their families is truly a community-wide commitment. It is not something we can do alone. If you get a chance, contact the Palmer Pioneer and Veterans Home (talk to Celia) and make arrangements to see some of the items purchased. They are spread throughout the facility.

Finally a huge thanks to the residents and staff of the Alaska Pioneer and Veterans Home for allowing us the privilege of serving them in this way. What a blessing it was to us!

Jack Henry Post 1
Meets 1st Thursday
@ 7 PM
Commander
Robert (Bob) Price
1st Vice Commander
Justin Mills
2nd Vice Commander
Julie Spradling
Sgt-At-Arms
Sandra (Sandy) Alred
Adjutant
DJ Jones
Finance Officer
Ray Untiet
Chaplain
Laura Sturddevant
Historian
Bob Price
Service Officer
William Campbell
Executive Committeeman
Jim Sartin
Mark Crabtree
Ian Fryer
272-5242, FAX 272-5792
P.O. Box 91285
Anchorage, AK 99509

JOSEPH T. CRAIG POST 3
Meets every Monday, 7pm
Potluck every 3rd Saturday
Commander
Mathias Whaley
Adjutant
Deb Davis
Service Officer
Hunter Davis

225-2021, P.O. Box 5121
Ketchikan, AK 99901

SEWARD POST 5
Meets 2ND Tuesday 7p.m.

Commander
Clare Sullivan
Adjutant
Mike Calhoon
Service Officer
John Moline

Taco Tuesday ~ 4p.m.
Steak Night Friday ~ 4p.m.
P.O. Box 306
Seward, Alaska 99664

DORMAN H. BAKER POST 11
Commander
Walter Crary
Adjutant
Darrell Walker
Service Officer
Vicky L. Paddock
Pull tab sales at the club

452-2228, 129 First Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701

LYNN CANAL POST 12
Commander
Chuck Mitman
Adjutant
Ralph Strong
Service Office
Terry Pardee

907-766-2530
www.lynncanalpost12.org
amerlegion@aptalaska.net

MATANUSKA VALLEY POST 15
Commander
Eric Wright
Adjutant
Don Meany
Service Officer
Bill Kennedy Jr.

Meets 1st & 3rd Mon., 6 p.m.
1550 Mystic Cr
P.O. Box 1146, Palmer, AK 99646
745-4440
www.facebook.com/aklegion15
aklegion15@gmail.com

RV's can hook up to electrical and enjoy a lake front VIEW!

General Buckner Post 16 Family
Commander
Eileen Faulkner
Adjutant
Bill Sheldon
SAL Commander
Chip Dugan
Meetings - 6 PM
SAL - 2nd Monday
Legion - 3rd Wednesday
Aux - 3rd Thursday

ROBERT G. BLAIR POST 17
Commander
Cynthia Sweeney
Adjutant
Robert Cloke
Service Officer
Robert Lachowsky

318 Center Ave.,
Kodiak, AK 99615
Office: 486-3258 / Bar: 486-5757

NINILCHIK POST & UNIT 18
Commander
Tony Rea
Adjutant
David Behm
President
Kathy Bowen
Secretary
Catherine Laky
Tres/Tandy Wallace
Mile 136.5 Sterling Hwy
Phone 567-3918

GEORGE H. PLUMLEY MEMORIAL POST 20
Commander
David Segura
Adjutant
Jeffery Klemisch
Service Officer
Patrick Russell

283-3222, 902 Cook St.
Kenai, Ak

AURORA BOREALIS POST 21
All Female Post
Commander -
Phyllis Cunningham
Adjutant
Ayanna Santiago
Service Officer -
Elexzanderia Carr
Meeting 3rd Saturday @ 2 pm
Sept - May
P.O. Box 91116
Anchorage, AK 99509
Sponsors Dimond Baseball Team

MULDOON POST 29
Meeting 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm
Commander
Jeff Corey
1st Vice
Ernest King
Adjutant
Sharon Cherrette
1467 Muldoon Rd
Anchorage, AK 99504
907-338-3550
Fax 907-338-0756
muldoon29@gci.net

JACK HENRY UNIT 1
President
Karen Wolter
1st Vice
Jan Madson
2nd Vice
Jeanne Ostnes
Secretary
Susan Stepsics

Meetings:
1st Thursdays @ 7 p.m.
Mailing Address:
840 W. Fireweed Lane
Anchorage, AK 99509

Spenard Post 28
Commander
Mike Hayward
1st Vice Commander
Dale Chubin
2nd Vice Commander
David Todd
Chaplain
Jason Ott
Historian
Nancy Ott
Service Officer
Galen Rick
Sgt-At-Arms
Nate McKay
Executive Committeeman
Todd Held
Lansford Welsh
James Davis
Annual Sponsors of
Boys & Girls State
Service High AL Baseball
Service High N JROTC
Service High Shooting Sports
Post 28 Scholarship Program

7001 Brayton Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507
907-344-3841

Con Miller Post 30
Commander
Steve Huisman
Adjutant
Harry Schuster
Canteen Manager
Harry Schuster

3614 Old Richardson
Highway - Moose Creek
907-490-6830
P O Box 56615
North Pole AK 99705

PETERS CREEK POST 33
Commander
Herman Staschke
Adjutant
Alison Humphrey
Service Officer
Fred Richardson
907-688-2354
21426 Old Glenn Hwy
Chugiak, Ak 99567

SUSITNA VALLEY POST 35
Commander
Ron Travis
Adjutant
Jim Pisa
Service Officer
Richard Stevenson
Monthly Meetings
Legion & Aux - 1st & 3rd
Tues @ 7pm
ALR - 1st Sat 6pm
SAL - 1st & 3rd Mon 7:30pm
4180 W Tweed
Wasilla, AK 99654
907-376-3500
Mile 46 Parks Hwy

GRANDE DU ALASKA
GRANDE CHEF DE GARE
Tom Schanrock
907-283-6192
GRANDE CHEF DE TRAIN
Walt Crary
(907)690-1951
GRANDE CONDUCTEUR
Dave Webster
907-376-8880
GRANDE CORRESPONDENT
Billy Smith

C. RUSSELL HUBER Post 57
Commander
Ruben Iorga
Adjutant
Maria Sutherland
Finance Officer
Francis Boisseau
Service Officer
Linda Boisseau
Meetings every 3rd Wednesday@7
Thursday Burger Night 5:30-9 PM
Sunday Breakfast 10am-2pm

C. RUSSELL HUBER SQUADRON 57
Commander
Dale Toenies
Adjutant
Cary Toenies
Finance Officer
Chris Bedel
1634 S. Cushman St.
Fairbanks, AK 99707

HEY
Happy Halloween

THE FISHER HOUSE NEEDS YOU!!
They are always in need of the following items..

Bottled water **Disposable coffee cups with lids**
Clorex wipes **Solo cups**
Plastic silverware **Napkins**
To-go containers (large & small)
K-cups (variety) **Aluminium foil**
Individuality packed snacks
Disinfectant spray **Hand sanitizer**

Please contact the Fisher House at
jberalaskafisherhouse@gmail.com
OR call 907-222-1673 for more details.

ALASKA LEGIONNAIRE ARTICLES ARE DUE TO THE DEPARTMENT NO LATER THEN October 10, 2021

Sons of the American Legion
2021 - 2022
Detachment of Alaska Officers
Commander
Dale Toenies
1st Vice
Jamie Weeks
2nd Vice
Chris Bedel
Adjutant/Finance
Kevin Collier
Chaplain
Bill Bolling
Sargent-at-Arms
Connor Hayward
Historian
Chip Duggan
Executive Committeemen
Norman Schneider
Carie Toenies
Rolf Aarseth
NEC
Howard Fruhwirth, Jr.
Alt. NEC
Loren Estrada, Sr.

SAL 2022 TARGET DATES

10%	September 9, 2021
25%	October 14, 2021
35%	November 10, 2021
45%	December 8, 2021
60%	January 20, 2022
75%	February 9, 2022
80%	March 9, 2022
90%	April 13, 2022
100%	May 11, 2022
105%	July 28, 2022*

* **Delegate Strength Target Date 2021-2021 MEMBERSHIP YEAR**

ALASKA LEGIONNAIRE

OPT OUT FORM - Please mail to 1550 Charter Cir. Anch. Ak. 99508

I would like to view the Legionnaire online http://www.alaskalegion.org Instead of receiving it through the mail Please permanently remove me from the Legionnaire mailing list. This option will not effect any of the Legion mailings

*NAME*_____
*Membership No:*_____
*Address:*_____
*City:*_____
*State:*_____ *Zip:*_____
*E-mail:*_____

Signature_____