

# Alaska



# Legionnaire

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

VOL. 2022 No. 1

Alaska Department of the American Legion

January/February 2022

**MEMBERSHIP dues to Department CHANGES effective 1 JULY 2022 for the 2023 Membership Year. Amount to be sent to Department Headquarters will be \$40 (INCREASE OF \$2 - \$18.50 goes to National, \$21.50 to Department Headquarters). This increase was approved at the 101st/102nd Department Convention in April 2021.**

**Please plan accordingly. Department will need to know if your Post dues will change NO LATER THAN Tuesday, 5 APRIL 2022. This information will be required prior to membership cards being printed by National.**

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



## FOUR CHAPLAINS SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6TH, 2022

### ADJUTANT'S CORNER

By Sharon Cherrette

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Michael Downs

**Farewell 2021** (which was a bit better than 2020, but not by much); **Greetings to 2022!** Some meetings are still being conducted by Zoom or other online source, and some are now being held in-person. For your 2022 scheduling calendar please include these events: Detachment's (SAL) Annual Steak Feed (proceeds split between Girls State and Boys State) Saturday, 29 January 2022, Spenard Post 28 Anchorage; Oratorical contest Saturday, 26 February, Anchorage Baptist Temple, Anchorage; Department Convention 21-23 April, Spenard Post 28 (registration/other events start Wednesday afternoon 20 April); Girls State 4-10 June, and Boys State 12-18 June.

If you have a local firefighter or law enforcement officer you think should be considered for a National award, the application package needs to be received at Department Headquarters by 24 January 2022.

January should be your "**first call**" for your Post election of officers; post elections need to be completed **prior to the first of April** (Department's *Articles of Incorporation*).

Department of Convention packages will be sent out to the posts by mid-January. For planning purposes adult early registration fee is \$160 (information will be provided in Convention package with cut-off dates).

If you are interested in running for a **Department Officer** position, you must complete the Legion's online Basic Training Course (if you haven't already done so) and print your certificate of completion as part of the nomination package; other required documents: Post endorsement letter for the position you are considering (on Post letterhead), 5" x 7" colour photo with Legion cover, proof of military service document (DD214, etc.), and resume of your American Legion career.

Training is available through [www.legion.org/training](http://www.legion.org/training) – Basic Course done online (replaced the Extension Course done through booklets), different subjects covered with Power Point or YouTube videos, and "Training Tuesdays" (held the last Tuesday of each month 3 PM Alaska Time/7 PM ET; sessions are recorded and placed on the website under [www.legion.org/training/training-tuesdays](http://www.legion.org/training/training-tuesdays)). There are many publications on the Legion's website available for download to include the Officer's Guide [www.legion.org/publications](http://www.legion.org/publications). The American Legion Media Alliance (TALMA) conducts training the third Wednesday of each month at 3 PM Alaska time/7 PM ET.

Our founding principle of Veteran and Community service is as critical to the success of this organization as it was in 1919. In the daily operational chaos of running a post, we forget our guiding mission, and let every other thing become our priority. **The American Legion's success depends entirely on membership, participation, and volunteerism.** The organization belongs to us (the people it serves) and the communities in which it thrives.

STAY SAFE. I hope 2022 is a brighter year than 2020 and 2021 were. Have a super fantastic year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and happy whatever holiday you celebrate. This is the time when posts step up for the community, whether it's a holiday meal at the post or delivered to those in need, donating 1,000's of cookies for active-duty soldiers living in the barracks, toy for tots, or the many other great things The American Legion Posts are doing in Alaska, it makes me proud to be a legionnaire.

We want to capture all the great work done by our Posts and membership. The Consolidated Post Report (CPR) is the way the Legion reports to Congress all the good things we have done, this helps to show the importance of The American Legion nationally which makes advocating for veteran issues that much easier. We want to make it beneficial to us in Alaska as well and plan to do an end of year report based on the CPR that will help with recruitment and advocacy in Alaska. If you volunteer or work on any programs at your Post let you Adjutant or Commander know and tell them, you would like it to be part of the CPR. Getting 33 reports to make 100% has not been easy the last few years, we hope to accomplish it this year, so that we can share our accomplishments with pride.

It's that time of year, to reach into your wallet or handbag and look at your membership card. If it says anything other than 2022 at the very top it's time to renew your membership, go online or go to the Post and renew. Retention is down, we could easily blame the pandemic, however my guess is we are not doing buddy checks or simply asking members to renew. Also look to the right of your card under Post, if it says 077 then you are still at the MEP station, find the nearest Post to you and ask them to transfer you in. The Post is where the magic happens, if you really want to stay at large, that's fine we appreciate your membership.

Consider yourself invited to The Department Commanders Homecoming at Jack Henry Post 1 840 W. Fireweed Ln on Wednesday December 29th. This will also serve as my 50th birthday party, going away party (moving to Hoonah Alaska to be a USFS District Ranger) and fund raiser for a legionnaire and dear friend who is rehabbing from a serious illness. That is a lot to put into one day, but there will be food and an open bar till the tab runs out.

This time of year, Remember Everyone Deployed and keep them and their families in your prayers. "*Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause.*" ~ [Abraham Lincoln](#)



From The  
American  
Legion,  
Department of  
Alaska

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For more information on the products and services provided by the Legionnaire Insurance Trust,

Call: 1-800-235-6943 Or visit our web site at:  
www.theLIT.com

**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2019-2020**

- Commander.....Mike Downs.....1550 Charter Circle, Anch., AK 99508
- First Vice Commander.....Deb Davis.....1550 Charter Circle, Anch., AK 99508
- Second Vice Commander....Mike Hayward.....1550 Charter Circle, Anch., AK 99508
- Adjutant Officer .....Sharon Cherrette.....1550 Charter Circle, Anch., AK 99508
- Service Officer.....Jamie Carlson..1201 N Muldoon Rm 2A 215, Anch., AK 99504
- Sergeant-At-Arms.....Pam Cawley.....1550 Charter Cir, Anch., AK 99508
- Chaplain.....Tyrone Chales.....1550 Charter Cir, Anch., AK 99508
- Historian..... Jeff Corey. ....1550 Charter Cir. Anch., AK 99508
- Judge Advocate.....Ken Jacobus.....1550 Charter Cir. Anch., AK 99508
- Executive Committeeman...Dale Chubin.....1550 Charter Cir., Anch., AK 99508
- Executive Committeeman....Jeremiah (Joe) Sullivan.....1550 Charter Cir. Anch., AK 99508
- Executive Committeeman...Don (DJ) Jones.....1550 Charter Cir. Anch., Ak 99508

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMEN**

- NEC.....Jim Pisa.....1550 Charter Cir. Anch., AK 99508
- Alt. NEC.....Steve Huisman.....1550 Charter Cir. Anch., AK 99508

**DEPARTMENT COMMANDER AIDES**

- Alvin Diaz.....1550 Charter Cir. Anch., AK 99508
- Justin Mills.....1550 Charter Cir. Anch., AK 99508

**The Department of Alaska is located at 1550 Charter Circle Anchorage, Alaska 99508  
Phone #907-278-8598**



**The Department of Alaska likes to share news about our members and what they are doing in our community.**

Our very own Kevin Robinson, currently the commander of Peters Creek Squadron 33, and the husband of Ann Robinson, Department Auxiliary 1st Vice President and President of Unit 22, has been appointed Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA) for Alaska (South).

Congratulation Kevin, we are all very proud of you.



The Department would also like to share the news of Department 2nd Vice Commander and Commander of Spenard Post 28, Mike Hayward has been appointed to The Municipality of Anchorage Military and Veterans Affairs Commission.

Way to go Mike! We are very proud of you

If your Post has news about members you want to share, PLEASE, let us know!

**Introducing the newest Alaska Bear Pin**

Along with the famous "Happy Bear Pin" we want to share with you our Mama and Baby Polar Bear pin.

They sell for \$5.00 each and can be purchased from The Department headquarters. Feel free to call or send an email.

(p.s. We have a new supply of "Happy Bear Pins too. \$5.00 each)



**THE ALASKA LEGIONNAIRE**  
(USPS 012-100)  
OFFICIAL BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF  
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1550 Charter Circle, Anchorage, Alaska 99508  
Member of The National American Legion Press Association  
Sharon Cherrette  
**Managing Editor**

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Members of The American Legion, Department of Alaska subscription included in payment of annual dues.

**Postmaster:**  
Send address changes to The Alaska Legionnaire, 1550 Charter Circle, Anchorage, Alaska 99508.

**January Happenings**

New Year's Day - Jan 1, 2022

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
Jan 17, 2022

Vietnam Cease-Fire (1973) Jan 27, 2022

**February Happenings  
(AMERICANISM MONTH)**

Four Chaplains Sunday - Feb 6, 2022

Valentine's Day - Feb 14, 2022

Presidents Day - Feb 21, 2022

Start of Operation Desert Storm (1991)  
Feb 24, 2022

End of Operation Desert Storm (1991)  
Feb 28, 2022

**SERVICE OFFICE HOURS**

The Department of Alaska Service Office phone number is  
907-257-4802.

They are primarily in the office in the mornings but still closed to public per VBA regulations.

To reach Phil Templin at the Kenai Peninsula area please call  
907-741-9997.

They are located in the Capstone Clinic at 10543 Kenai Spur Highway Kenai, AK

The Service Office is located in the VA at 1201

## From Sons Adjutant, Kevin Collier

Fellow S.A.L. members,

Hopefully the New Years was good to you and re-instilled a shining new vision to you and yours in the belief of this great organization and everything we do for God and Country.

Remember the **Detachment** will be doing their **32 oz. T-bone Steak Dinner!**

This will be our **26<sup>th</sup> year** doing this event. This years STEAK FEED will be held on **Saturday, January 29, 2022 at Spenard Post #28**, in Anchorage, Alaska. This fantastic dinner will be held **from 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm**. The price this year will be **\$30**, with the proceeds going toward The American Legion Alaska Boys State and the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs. **See one of your Detachment Officers for tickets.**

There will be a **Detachment Executive Committee Meeting at 12:00 pm** on the day of the Steak Feed at Spenard Post #28.

**February** is the month that The American Legion Family has dedicated as **Americanism Month**. Be sure to start planning your Americanism activities for your Post, Unit and Squadron.

Several American Legion Posts will be having a Four Chaplains Ceremony. This solemn ceremony pays tribute to the World War II Heroes. For more information on this go to [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) and look under Americanism – Publications for “**Saga of Four Chaplains**”

The **Four Chaplains Ceremony** is normally held on the **first Sunday in February** although I have heard that some of the Post may postpone the Ceremony until the second Sunday due to not wanting to compete with the events around the Super Bowl. Be sure to check with your local American Legion Post to find out when it is scheduled.

February also is when **The American Legion Oratorical Contest** is usually held (If you are in Anchorage the local level will be held at Jack Henry Post #1 on **February 5<sup>th</sup>**). This Contest is a great event in which High School Students give an 8-10 minute speech on some aspect of the Constitution of the United States, which also gives emphasis to the duties and obligation of citizenship. Then each of the Contestants will present a speech from an assigned topic that usually tests their knowledge of that topic which is also on some phase of the Constitution of the United States. **Check with your local Post, District and Department Oratorical Chairmen to see how you might be able to assist them with the program.**

Another one of the Americanism programs is The American Legion National Emergency Fund. The National Emergency Fund (NEF) has provided over \$3,000,000 in direct financial assistance to Legion family members and posts. The National Emergency Fund has kept posts from closing and enabled Legion family members to begin to rebuild their homes and their lives. Eligibility is open to Legionnaires, Auxiliary \*\* and Sons members, Legion Posts. (\*\* If Auxiliary membership is less than 5 years continuous. Otherwise, the request will be forwarded to the National American Legion Auxiliary for consideration.). The Legion Family member has to be in good standing – in other words they have to be current with their membership and it has to have been processed at National Headquarters – yet another reason to transmit your membership timely. There were Legion Family members in California that did not receive assistance from the National Emergency Fund because their membership was still at their Post/ Squadron or Unit – thus it had not been sent into their Detachment or Department to be processed and sent to National – they were not members in good standing.

Remember that if you have a nomination for Eagle Scout of the Year, their application needs to be into The American Legion Department Headquarters before March 1<sup>st</sup>.

The second Membership Postcard Renewal Notice for the 2022 Membership year will be sent out by National Headquarters in January and our members should be sending in their membership dues.

The **challenge for you** is to **send in** a transmittal with as many **members** as possible **prior to** the 60% goal on **January 20<sup>th</sup>** and the 75% goal on **February 9<sup>th</sup>**.

**We need your cards** into Detachment Headquarters about **1 week prior to the Target Dates** in order to get them processed at National in time to count as reaching the goal.

The National Membership Goal is 400,000 Members. The National Membership theme this year is “**S.A.L Strong**” – Keep bringing the membership in and sending it into Detachment weekly!

**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.

We all need to work on being a top recruiter. This will assist us succeed in reaching all our goals and the 105% challenge that National Commander Michael Fox has given to Detachment Commander Dale Toenies and the rest of the Detachment Commanders across the nation. National Commander Michael Fox has also challenged all members of the Son of The American Legion to be a - Hero and reach the 100% by the Legion’s Birthday.

National Commander Michael Fox has asked every Detachment to work on what is still being called the “**Triple Nickel**” – to push membership to **retain at least 85% of their current members, reach 105% by National Convention** next year (2022) and **charter at least 5 new Squadrons**.

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 I in having points of contact at your Squadron so we may arrange official visits or send important information from the Detachment and from National to your Squadron.

Again this year we will have a Consolidated Squadron Report Form, there will be some changes on the form from last year and will be coming out somewhere around February or March. As soon as I receive them I will be sending them out to the Squadrons. In the meantime remember to **keep track and record everything that you do so it can all be put on the Consolidated Squadron Report Form by Detachment Convention**.

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.**

We need to do better in reporting what we do on the “**Consolidated Squadron Report Form**”. **This is perhaps the most important document your Squadron can complete.** We only had about 6 of the 18 active Squadrons fill out the Consolidated Squadron Report Form.

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.**

Let’s see if the **Detachment of Alaska can get 100% reporting** this year.

As you prepare to go into elections for this upcoming year and select your Squadron Officers it would be greatly appreciated if you would take the opportunity to **turn in your Certification of Officers. Please do so as soon as possible after your elections!** This helps the Detachment Commander and myself in having points of contact at your Squadron.

It is also time to start thinking about **running for an Office at the Detachment level**. If you are interested in running, please be sure to get the support of your Squadron and Post and send a copy of your **letter of intent** and support to the Detachment Headquarter as soon as possible. The address is 1550 Charter Circle Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99508. The **letters of intent for Detachment Officers** need to be **received no later than 5:00 pm Monday March 07, 2022.**

**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.**

Yours in Service for God and Country,

### From 1st Vice Commander, Deb Davis

Happy New Year Alaska Legionnaires! Hopefully the holidays were good and now we are starting a new year. I am not going to make any comments about getting back to “normal” but hoping our 2022 is a truly ‘new’ year. In this article, where I would normally focus on membership,

I am going instead to talk about enrollment of veterans into the VA system. Recently Hunter and I were asked by the wife of a Korean war vet in Ketchikan for help getting VA services for her husband (who is 92 and in the later stage of Alzheimer’s’ Dementia). She had his wartime service records (not medical and no injury during the war) but he had never applied for VA services. We helped her submit paperwork through our VSO in Anchorage, but it is likely he will get no help at this point (too little-too late) despite some of the new programs available to support veterans who need assistance at home. This is just one example of the many times we have heard of veterans who might have been eligible for assistance if records could be found, or the system worked a little faster. Contrast that with a veteran who just left active service a month ago and applied for VA during their Transition period. That veteran already has their rating and VA access card.

So, with those 2 contrasting stories, how can we help veterans not get caught without assistance when they need it? At the root cause of this disparity is that not all veterans get into the VA system upon their exit from active duty when their service and medical records are generally easily available. There is no requirement to do so and some commands don’t make sure the service member can apply before they exit the service. In addition, some servicemembers don’t think they will ever want or need those benefits. However, things change over the years and they may change their mind but the records are lost, witnesses lost and memory fails.

So, what can we do? For now, any time you talk to a service member who is exiting the service... talk about why they need to apply before they leave active duty. Veterans who are already out but not enrolled .. let’s help them start that paperwork and get enrolled now. Your post SO and our Department VSO’s can help them with the paperwork.

In the future, let’s make that happen during their Transition processing. There should be automatic enrollment into the VA system. Then it becomes the responsibility of the Veteran to use the VA or not; but they are enrolled and in the system. That will certainly make it easier to get help when they want it...now or in the future.



### From 2nd Vice Commander, Mike Hayward

Greetings to my Department of Alaska Legion Family! I hope everyone had a warm, safe, and Merry Christmas! I wanted to extend a huge THANK YOU to you all for your support in enabling me to attend the National American Legion College in November. I have learned a lot and am excited to use that training over the years to support and grow our Legion family and its impact in Alaska. This training program is invaluable and is so jam packed full of knowledge that I just wanted to speak here to make SURE that Department of Alaska is identifying and sending its current and future leaders to this every year it is offered. Look around you at your members in your Posts, you will see those that have the drive, help them get the tools!

Department will be sure to let everyone know once the application period is open for 2022.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Steak Feed at Post 28 on Jan. 29. Always a great time and opportunity to support the Detachment of Alaska in all that they do for our community. Stay safe, stay healthy and see you there!

## TAPS



**POST 1**  
Barry Matteson - Vietnam  
Harry Shelton - WWII

**POST 11**  
Walter Gelinas - Vietnam

**POST 15**  
Roger Anderson - Vietnam

**POST 28**  
Laurance Marshburn - Vietnam

**POST 34**  
Keith Hamilton - Persian Gulf

**POST 35**  
Sammy Davis - Vietnam  
Terry Glisan - Vietnam  
Don McKenzie - Vietnam  
Owen Miller - Korea

**POST 77**  
Earl Metier - Vietnam

The American Legion Alaska Boys State is an objective citizenship training program which includes individual responsibility to the community, state and nation. American Legion Alaska Boys State is easily classified as a Leadership Action Program where High school juniors participate in a practical government course designed to develop in the young citizens a working knowledge of the structure of government and to impress upon them the fact that their government is just what THEY MAKE IT.

It is our goal that each young man attending American Legion Alaska Boys State sessions will return to his community a better citizen. Part of our goal is that this experience will have stimulated in him a desire to become an active citizen and leader to make contributions which will help to make his community a better place in which to live. American Legion Alaska Boys State is not a recreational camp but a leadership training camp. The American Legion Alaska Boys State Program is open to qualified male High School Juniors (**those who will be seniors during the 2022-2023 school year.**) and are at least 16 years of age. We are asking all American Legion posts consult with area high school principals/guidance counselors and ask them to recommend a group of boys as possible candidates. The American Legion Post Committees interview each candidate and select those best qualified. Remember this is an investment in the future of your community, the state and quite possibly the nation. This will be our **56<sup>th</sup> 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 year’s program will be held at Alaska State Elks Camp near Sutton. **The Tuition remains \$300 per student. Please get the information into your Schools and Invest in our future leaders of tomorrow!!**



Our very own Mike Hayward, Department. 2nd Vice, receiving his 2021 diploma from The American Legion College. The 2021 Legion College was postponed for a year due to COVID.

## 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

### Spnard Post 28

Monday, Karaoke 7 pm  
 Tuesday, Tacos 3 - 8pm; Open Mic 6:30pm  
 Thursday, Pizza 4pm- 8pm; Trivia 7pm (2nd, 4th Thurs)  
 Friday, Steak Night 6pm - 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

## “From the Doghouse” Jim Pisa, NEC / PNVC 2018-2019

**LET’S TALK MEMBERSHIP. The 2022 membership year is upon us. If you have renewed for 2022, The American Legion and your Post Thank You.**

**If you have not or do not have a current 2022-year membership card, you are now delinquent and no longer have access to your Legion Post and no longer considered an American Legion member. All post should be checking all their members for current year membership cards. If you do not have a current card, you no longer have access to your post or any other American Legion Post. You lose all your privileges, for many that includes entry to the club hospitality room, meetings, all post activities, and many other functions your post made hold. If you hold an elected Post Officer position you no longer can hold that position.**

**For American Legion riders, this is even more important. If you are not current, you CAN NOT be a Legion rider. This includes Legion, Auxiliary and Sons members. As mentioned above, you will lose you privileges at the Post and many American Legion functions.**

**Post Elections will be starting soon at many posts. If you feel that you have what it takes to be a Post Officer, now is the time to talk to the Post Commander, Adjutant and Senior Legionnaires at the post to help you make that decision. A description of each office may be found in the Officers Guide. Ask you Adjutant for a copy or go online and look up the office you are interested running for.**

**REMEMBER to Renew your membership and support all the American Legion programs.**

Mission Development Training 201 will be face-to-face this year.

This training will help members overcome common hurdles in mission delivery. The underlying belief in this training is that improving the member engagement experience will also drive membership.

During this one-day training, learn how to:

- Identify and engage volunteers — members *and* non-members
- Determine the needs in your community
- Solve roadblocks
- Construct specific volunteer menu opportunities in your community Active members looking to welcome and engage other ALA members and supporters in our mission will greatly benefit from this session. Attendees should have a basic concept of mission delivery.

In conjunction with Mission Development Training, Junior members ages 8 and over may attend the national Junior meetings. They will enjoy fun and interactive activities during this one-day event while learning more about the American Legion Auxiliary’s mission.

Is the meeting right for my Junior?

- Yes - if they are interested in meeting other Junior members and national leaders outside of their local area who share their passion for helping veterans!
- Yes - if they want to share great ideas with other Junior members across the country and learn more about what it means to be a member of the American Legion Auxiliary!

DATES AND LOCATIONS:

(These National Junior Meetings are being held at the same time as the above Mission Development Training 201 events.)

- Las Vegas, NV - Jan. 29
- Orlando, FL - Feb. 12
- Indianapolis, IN - Feb. 19
- Baltimore, MD - March 26
- Omaha, NB - April 2



## News from SAL Department Commander Dale Toenies

Good Day All!

As I'm writing this newsletter on Pearl Harbor Day, I want to thank all veterans and family members of veterans, for keeping us safe in this world that we live in. I also hope that everyone had a fun and safe holiday season.

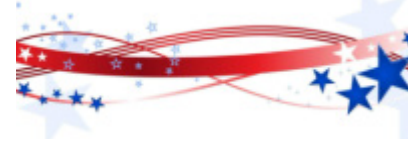
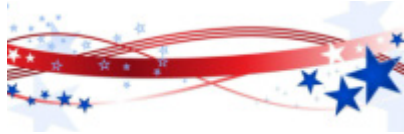
I want to thank Kenai, Post 20, Squadron 20, and Auxiliary Unit 20 for inviting me into their Legion Family early bird dinner. The food was awesome with great conversation. Also, while I was in Kenai they invited me to the fallen Nikiski First Responder, Matthew Quiner grave site, as part of the Legion / VFW honor guard. I was also part of their firing party, what an honor!

Membership, Detachment of Alaska is in 49<sup>th</sup> place out of 55 as of December 6<sup>th</sup>. We can do better. Please make this a priority at your squadron. Start contacting your unpaid members. All squadrons should be at 45% target, we are at 34%. The system is working better for electronic filing. However, if you are having trouble filing online, please send all your correspondence to Kevin, he will get it taking care of.

Don't forget about the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Sons of the American Legion 32 oz Steak Feed on January 29, 2022, at Post 28 in Anchorage. The cost is only \$30.00. If you can't make it, you can preorder steaks only, threw Kevin. However, you will be responsible for picking them up at Post 28, on the 29<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing you there.

Friendly reminder, that our Detachment convention is coming up in April 2022 in Anchorage. All Squadrons should have reputation there. Good reputation keeps us "SAL STRONG".

For God and Country



## From Lori Fruhwirth, Girls State Director

Just a reminder, it is that time of year again to get the word out about our Girls and Boys State Program.

With Co-vid having a profound effect on getting information out to the youths in our state and into the schools, it is imperative for the whole American Legion family to work together to make these premier programs a success this coming summer. These are wonderful programs where we teach our youth the workings of government on the local, county and state level by creating a mythical state. They learn the process of voting, how to write bills and resolutions, debate, citizenship, the duties of elected officials, etc. and are given scholarship opportunities. We are looking for youth who will be completing their Junior year of high school this coming May.

Girls State will be held June 4 -10, 2022 with Boys State following June 12-18, 2022, at the Elks Camp in Sutton, Alaska. Application for Girls State can be found on-line at [www.alaskalegionauxiliary.org](http://www.alaskalegionauxiliary.org) or you can e-mail Lori Fruhwirth at [alaalaskagirlsstate@gmail.com](mailto:alaalaskagirlsstate@gmail.com), for Boys State on-line at [www.alaskalegion.org](http://www.alaskalegion.org) or you can e-mail Kevin Collier at [kcollier@alaska.net](mailto:kcollier@alaska.net).

If you have any questions about the program or would like to be a volunteer for the programs (we are always looking for volunteers), please do not hesitate to contact us.

Lori Fruhwirth

ALA Alaska Girls State Director

[alaalaskagirlsstate@gmail.com](mailto:alaalaskagirlsstate@gmail.com)

(907)590-0320

Kevin Collier

Alaska Boys State Director

[kcollier@alaska.net](mailto:kcollier@alaska.net)

(907)317-8029

Commander David Segura of Post 20 welcomes Commander Mike to George H. Plumley Memorial Post 20 in Kenai, Alaska.



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

Hello, Riders!

I hope this letter finds you well. We do need to send out some prayers to Tim Campbell and Clair Blom - our heartfelt strength and prayers to you both. Prayers to Lynette Schroeder-Eirwiller, one of the strongest women I know. To DJ, you go guy! You've got this, proud of you. Andrea Huyck is starting to get her life back, what an inspiration she has been to each of us. The smile that lights up a room. To all others that i don't know about that need any extra prayer, you got it, and with love.

We lost a couple of our comrades since my last letter. Eric G. Wright, SFC Ret. US Army was a long-time rider in Wisconsin and Commander of post 15. He will be missed by all. A big lug of a man. Also, we lost Barry Matterson. A true legend in Alaska rider's world, a member of post 28. Our continued thoughts and prayers to these families.

I was able to attend fall workshop in Ketchikan (my first time there). Two sunnydays! I thank post 35 for the raffle to pay my expenses. You know who you are, thank you. I learned more of the functioning to department positions. A great learning opportunity.

I all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. Lets all hope for a safe and prosperous New Year.

For God and Country



## From the desk of Jane Larson, Department Auxiliary President



Happy New Year! Hope everyone had a joyous Christmas and brought in the New Year with a bang! During the Christmas holiday the ALA Department of Alaska was busy delivering Christmas bags to our veterans at the Anchorage Pioneer Home, the Palmer Home on Palmer, the Chugiak Nursing Home and the VA center. We also delivered new fleece jackets along with a few other items to our veterans at the domiciliary.

With saying this, now is a suitable time to remind all of you to be documenting all your Unit's volunteer hours and/or monetary donations to our veterans, military, their families and your communities. It is important to report this information to your department chairs. We only have end of year reports BUT, that does not mean that you can not forward any events as they happen to the department chairs. Let us make 2022's goal of 100% for reporting. Talking about 100%. We all need to be working on membership. With the New Year here, we need to reach out to our members and let them know how important their membership is to us and our mission. Reach out to those lost members, thank the members that renewed or have rejoined and talk to those perspective members that want to be a part of our great organization. While all of us believe in honoring veterans and servicemembers every day. The beginning of the New Year is a good time to look ahead at important military and veterans holiday dates. One of our upcoming dates is on February 3, 2022 – Four Chaplains Day. A day to remember the four U.S. Army chaplains who made the ultimate sacrifice when the USAT Dorchester sank during World War II. If, you have never attended a Four Chaplains ceremony, I would highly encourage you to do so.

In closing, a quote:

“For Veterans, who served to keep the dream alive, for those serving who keep the door of freedom open and the gates of doom closed and for our children and youth who provide the glow and sunshine of a promising future.”

For God and Country,



### 2021 Cookie Caper for the troops was a HUGE success!

## From the desk of Barb Nath, Department Auxiliary Secretary

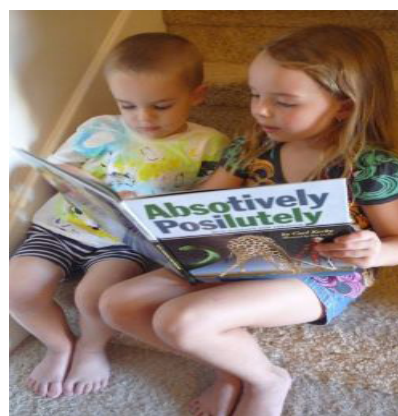


Here it is a new year. I trust you all had a good holiday season. As we begin this New Year, put your best foot forward and show the world how marvelous it is to be an American Legion Auxiliary Member. Be proud of your involvement. Share the excitement with others and don't forget to ask if they want to be a member. .. Show your fellow members that you love them and that you will treat them with respect. Remember, we don't always have to agree, but we should always be respectful.

We have so many things to think about for this year.

- Valentine's Day is coming. Be sure to let someone you know that you love them. I believe that the words "I love you" are very, very powerful.
- Beginning the process for our Department Convention. Call to Convention will come out in January.
- Impact Reports – start compiling your records so it's not a strain as the due date approaches. Remind you members to turn in their numbers.
- ALASKA'S 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration – Plans are underway to make our Department Convention a time of celebration. Don't forget your birthday hats.
- Poppy Day in May – We can have a marvelous outreach to our communities, especially since we aren't in major lockdown. Spread out and see what you can do.
- We loved seeing our name on the screen at National for 100% membership – let's make it happen again this year!!
- Alaska Girls State – start spreading the news in your school and see who might be interested. A good point of contact could be the government teachers as I'm sure they will know students who might be interested. Get in touch with Lori Fruhwirth if you need more information.
- Scholarships – be sure to let your members and their families know about the available scholarships that we have. It would be great to have a lot of applications this year.
- And so many, many more!!

Be prepared for an



wonderful year!

**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 Laura Sturdevant  
 Finance Officer Ray Untiet  
 Chaplain Laura Sturdevant  
 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

**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

**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 JROTC  
 Service High Shooting Sports  
 Post 28 Scholarship Program  
 7001 Brayton Drive  
 Anchorage, AK 99507  
 907-344-3841

**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

**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

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

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

**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

**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

**JOSEPH T. CRAIG POST 3**  
 Meets every Monday, 7pm  
 Potluck every 3rd Saturday  
**Commander Dan Jones**  
 Adjutant Deb Davis  
 Service Officer Hunter Davis  
 225-2021, P.O. Box 5121  
 Ketchikan, AK 99901

**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

**SEWARD POST 5**  
 Meets 2<sup>ND</sup> 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

**GEORGE H. PLUMLEY MEMORIAL POST 20**  
**Commander David Segura**  
 Adjutant Jeffery Klemisch  
 Service Officer Patrick Russell  
 283-3222, 902 Cook St.  
 Kenai, Ak

**DORMAN H. BAKER POST 11**  
**Commander**  
 Adjutant  
 Service Officer  
 Pull tab sales at the club  
 452-2228, 129 First Ave.  
 Fairbanks, AK 99701

**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

**LYNN CANAL POST 12**  
**Commander Chuck Mitman**  
 Adjutant Ralph Strong  
 Service Office Terry Pardee  
 907-766-2530  
 www.lynncanalpost12.org  
 amerlegion@aptalaska.net

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

**MATANUSKA VALLEY POST 15**  
**Commander Michael Collins**  
 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!

**GLADYS M. HEINTZ MEMORIAL POST 27**  
 Located @ Mile 187 Glenn  
 Highway  
**Commander Terry Keizer**  
 Adjutant Ray Craig  
 Meets 1st Wednesday @ 7pm

**ALASKA LEGIONNAIRE**  
**ARTICLES ARE DUE**  
**TO THE DEPARTMENT**  
**NO LATER THEN**  
**February 10, 2022**

**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**

**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)	Aluminium foil
K-cups (variety)	Hand sanitizer
Individuality packed snacks	
Disinfectant spray	

Please contact the Fisher House at  
[jberalaskafisherhouse@gmail.com](mailto:jberalaskafisherhouse@gmail.com)  
 OR call 907-222-1673 for more details.



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

I would like to view the Legionnaire online  NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 http://www.alaskalegion.org Membership No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Instead of receiving it through the mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please permanently remove me from the Legionnaire mailing list. This option will City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 not effect any of the Legion mailings State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_