

## Commander's Corner



**Russell Stafford**  
Commander  
Dept. of Wyoming

Over the past year, I've had the distinct honor of serving as Department Commander for the American Legion Department of Wyoming. It is a role I have never taken lightly, and one that has given me a deep appreciation for the strength, character, and dedication of our Legionnaires across this great state.

What stands out most to me is our membership—not simply in numbers, but in the quality of individuals

who continue to step up, serve, and lead. I have seen firsthand the commitment within our Posts, the pride in our communities, and the unwavering support shown to our fellow veterans. Because of you, our department is not only strong—it is thriving.

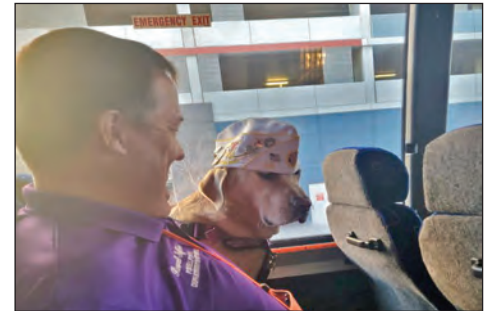
I want to personally thank each and every member for allowing me the privilege to serve as your Department Commander. Your trust, support, and hard work have made this tenure both successful and meaningful. None of what we have accomplished would have been possible without the collective effort of Legionnaires who truly believe in what we stand for and the mission we continue to uphold.

What excites me most is the momentum we have built together. There is an energy within the Department of Wyoming that cannot be ignored. We are growing, we are engaged, and we are making a difference in communities across the state. My hope—and my challenge to all of us—is that we continue carrying that momentum forward. Keep reaching out. Keep building membership. Keep serving veterans and communities with the same passion and dedication that has brought us this far.

One of the greatest ways to strengthen our organization is through participation and education. Attendance at the Wyoming American Legion Leadership Training held each September, along with Department Convention, Fall Workshop, Midwinter, and District Spring Meetings, provides members valuable opportunities to expand their knowledge of the organization, share ideas, and learn from one another. These events help prepare future leaders and ensure our Posts continue operating effectively and successfully.

It is important to remember that the American Legion is, and always has been, a bottom-up organization. Real change begins at the "blue hat" level—with the individual members and local Posts. The direction of our department and our national organization is shaped by the voices, resolutions, and actions of Legionnaires at the grassroots level. Every member has the opportunity to make a difference, and every Post has a role in shaping the future of the American Legion.

As we look ahead, we are also approaching a historic milestone—the 250th anniversary of the United States. This is more than a celebra-



*Courtesy Photo*

Kai says woof – translated to "thank you for the pets, love, and treats along the way."

tion; it is an opportunity to reflect on our nation's founding, honor those who have defended our freedoms, and recommit ourselves to the values that define us as Americans. The American Legion should and will play a vital role in commemorating this important occasion, and I encourage every Post to find ways to participate within their communities.

I could not be prouder of what we have accomplished together, and I remain confident that the very best is still ahead of us. Thank you again for your dedication, your service, and your continued belief in the American Legion.

*For God and Country,*  
**Russell Stafford**

## Adjutant's Corner



**Vanessa Stuart**  
Department Adjutant

**Greetings Legion family!**

I hope this finds you well. We observe many military holidays in May, including Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day, and Military Spouse Appreciation Day. There's also VE Day - May 8, Loyalty Day and Silver Star Service Banner Day, both on 1 May. And let's not forget Mother's Day, Cinco de Mayo, and my favorite holiday of the year aside from Christmas: Star Wars Day, May 4th. By the time you read this some of these events will have already passed but remember that the whole month

of May is National Military Appreciation Month. We appreciate the service, dedication, and sacrifice of all our veterans and current military members and their families. Serving in the military, we made friends, some of whom we considered family. One of my favorite things over the past year was attending the Spring Meetings last May in Indy where I reconnected with a battle buddy from basic training whom I probably never would have seen again if it hadn't been for The American Legion. We have since renewed our friendship and get together at every National Legion event we both attend. It reminds me how important this organization is for helping not just other veterans but also ourselves by reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. In other news, we will be making a department wide time capsule to be placed here at headquarters on July 8th. If you would like to submit a picture, short note, or small item, please bring it to the Department Convention and give it to Ben Glenn who is in charge of this project. I look forward to seeing everyone at Convention. Have a wonderful summer!

**Vanessa Stuart,**  
Department Adjutant.

## 1st Vice Commander's Corner



**Benjamin Glenn**  
1st Vice Commander  
Dept. of Wyoming

### Words from the 1st Vice Commander

With the spring district meetings now finished, our attention is turning to the upcoming State Convention, which will take place in Powell from 18-21 June 2026. We have had a successful legion year as our department has finally begun to climb out of the post-COVID slump we were stuck in! The department, districts, and posts in Wyoming have made leadership and operational

changes that boosted participation, growth, and communication within the American Legion family. It has been an absolute honor to serve alongside all of you, and I look forward to continuing to be an active part of this revival.

"Seize the opportunity" Get out and support these High School Rodeo and Legion Baseball kids if you are able. By-the-way! we have an outstanding Department of Wyoming High School Oratorical Champion from Jackson named Lara Haney headed to Hillsdale College in Michigan to compete at the National Level. We are so honored to have her representing Wyoming!

America's 250th is planned for July 8, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. across all six Districts. Please send an email to our Department Adjutant with a brief description of what is going on in your area.

Memorial Day is on the 25th, which is just around the corner, so the month of May is always a suitable time for Buddy Checks! I want to thank every one of my comrades for everything that you do. I look forward to seeing everyone at the State convention in Powell.

*"Service Before Self  
Not Self Service"*

**BE THE ONE**  
TO ASK VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.  
TO LISTEN WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.  
TO REACH OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.



# 2nd Vice Commander's Corner 2026 Legion Membership Message

**Wyoming Legion Members,**  
 The past year as your 2nd Vice Commander has gone by quickly. During this time I have gained further knowledge and insight regarding our organization. It is awesome to see Veterans helping Veterans in our great state. Such as, Veterans and Sons coming together last July at the Vets Home in Buffalo, working on a project for the betterment of the residents, or hearing about a Veteran needing assistance to get them on their way. I am always amazed at the amount of time and energy local Posts commit to Wyoming communities. Having local school students involved in Americanism projects and reports. Oratorical contests, local Post raffles and fundraisers for Veterans and community members and of course; American Legion members leading the way, getting the aforementioned items accomplished. Well done Wyoming American Legion! It has been a busy year and I am looking forward to next year



**Chuck Guilford**  
 2nd Vice Commander  
 Dept. of Wyoming

as your 1st Vice Commander and I thank all of you for your support this past year. As always, stay safe,  
**Chuck Guilford**

**The Membership Year**  
 District Conferences are complete. A big thanks to the District officers that put in the hard work to make this year successful. Congratulations to all the new officers that have stepped up to the challenge of guiding their Districts for the 2027 membership year. As for the membership year, let me clarify the dates:

- The membership year is the calendar year, 01 January to 31 December. Your 2026 card goes until the end of December when you need to have the 2027 card.
- Renewals start on 01 July preceding the membership year. This is important because The American Legion's Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4, require that a member's dues be paid by the renewal date (01 January) or they shall be classed as delinquent. If the member is still delinquent 30 days after expiration, they shall be suspended from all privileges. A member will return to good standing by simply paying their dues. After 120 days of suspension, membership shall be forfeited. Memberships may be reinstated after that point by approval of the Post and payment of dues.

In order to keep our members in good standing, it is incumbent on all leadership to ensure our members understand these dates and the subsequent outcomes. If the Post has members they honor by paying their dues, it should be taken care of at the start of renewals to prevent possible suspension.

Now that the dates are clear, here are three reasons why renewing as early as possible benefits the member and the Legion:

- Fiscally responsible: The American Legion budgets in excess of \$2 million annually to provide mailings to all members reminding them about renewals. The first goes out in July and then about every 2 months thereafter. Once you renew, you are removed from the mailing list. Renewing early will save the Legion money that would be better spent on our programs.



**Chip Kossow**  
 Wyoming Membership  
 Coordinator

- Save manpower: The Legion has people at all levels working on membership recruitment and renewals. Their workload will be dramatically reduced if all members renewed early. That would leave them some time for working on our programs.



- Pride: Awards and recognition are given to Posts, Districts, and Departments for getting membership to 100% sooner than others. By renewing early, you show pride in your Post which may result in awards and honors. Everybody likes bragging rights!

The individual members can make renewals easier by signing up for automatic renewals, multiyear, or Paid Up For Life (PUFL). The most efficient way for Posts to process membership is through mylegion.org.

I look forward to working with all of you during the 2027 membership year. I am always at your service to answer questions, train and advise individuals, Posts, and Districts on how to achieve your goals.

**Respectfully**  
**Chip Kossow**  
 Wyoming Membership Coordinator  
 719 332-2793  
 greenberetveteran@gmail.com

**BE THE ONE**  
 TO ASK VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.  
 TO LISTEN WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.  
 TO REACH OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.

**WYOMING**  
**Legionnaire - Auxiliare**  
**Department of Wyoming**  
 Official Publication of  
**The American Legion, Dept of Wyoming**




**Editors: Legion - 1320 Hugur Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82001**  
**Telephone: (307) 634-3035**

**Auxiliary - Peg Sillivan, PO Box 186, Buffalo, WY 82834**  
**Telephone: (307) 620-5697**  
**Email - deptaux@wylegionaux.org**

WYOMING LEGIONNAIRE - AUXILIARE (USPS 574-210) is published for the months of September, December, March, June by the American Legion, Dept. of Wyoming 1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001 and printed by Wyoming Tribune Eagle, 702 W. Lincolnway, Cheyenne, WY 82001. Periodical postage paid at Cheyenne, WY and additional offices. Subscription for members (\$2.00) is included in the annual membership dues. Non-members subscription price is \$5 per year. Postmaster: Send address changes to The American Legion, Dept. of Wyoming PO Box 20172, Cheyenne, WY 82003

**See you at**  
**Convention**  
**June 18th-21st**

## Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business






**Happy Hour Daily 10-12am 4-6pm**

**Open 7 Days a Week!  
 10-10 Su-Th  
 10-Midnight Fri/Sat**

**Francis E. Self, Post #6**  
 2001 E. Lincolnway  
 Cheyenne, WY

On Facebook and at: ALPWY6@GMAIL.COM



**Bryan "Alf" Grzegorzcyk**  
 1622 E. 19th St. Cheyenne, WY 82001  
 C 307-421-5714; W 307-635-3171  
 alfspubcheyenne@aol.com



**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**DEPARTMENT**  
**SERVICE OFFICER**

**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
**Friday by appointment Closed all Holidays**

**2360 E. Pershing Blvd D107**  
**Cheyenne, WY 82001**  
**w 307-433-2751 Fax 307-433-2790**





# Post Everlasting 2026



**District 1**  
 Post 24 Rock Springs  
 George W. Nelson  
 David W. Gilman  
 Mark Parsons  
 Sean Dixon  
 Post 28 Green River  
 Stephan L. Rennells  
 Post 36 Ft. Bridger  
 Sam Johnson  
 Tamara Taylor  
 Post 43 Jackson  
 Edgar L. Munson Jr.  
 Post 55 Kemmerer

**Jerry Hess**  
**District 2**  
 Post 5 Travis Snow  
 James O. Brown  
 Post 8 Douglas  
 Jack L. Showalter  
 Jay B. Downs  
 David Lindmier  
 Donald B. Wagoner  
 Richard B. Jackson  
 Harry H. Sanford  
 Post 9 Glenrock  
 James R. Magee  
 Post 10 Wheatland

**Robert L. Lauck**  
**Donald P. Chase**  
**George D. Garland**  
**District 3**  
 Post 19 Riverton  
 Robert A. Langevin  
 William Swanson  
**District 4**  
 Post 44 Worland  
 Daniel D. Rohn Jr.  
 Guy Shipley  
**District 5**  
 Post 7 Sheridan  
 John B. Woslager

**Post 13 Buffalo**  
 Joseph Michel  
 Nels Lofgren  
**Post 42 Gillette**  
 Robert J. Willis  
 John R. Nulle  
 George D. Riddle  
**Post 90 Kaycee**  
 Larry R. Smith  
**District 6**  
**Post 6 Cheyenne**  
 ARobert X. Seligman  
 Robert L. Racette  
 Larry E. Romberger

**Leonard E. Thornton**  
**Jess Fresquez**  
**Thomas E. Russell**  
**Donald L. Farris**  
**Post 14 Laramie**  
 Frank J. Smith  
 Howard N. Wolfe  
 Frank R. Seifert  
 Stanley N. Lang  
 Thomas A. Ries  
 Harold Heupel  
 Robert Maxwell  
**Post 21 Burns**  
 Martin "Marty" Berg



**Post 54 Saratoga**  
 Richard D. Thompson  
**Post 64 Medicine Bow**  
 Rex R. Rudd  
 Dario Soto



## Chaplain's Corner

## Service to God and Country

### Honoring the U.S Army Chaplain Corps

As long as armies have existed, military chaplains have served alongside soldiers, providing for their spiritual needs, working to improve morale, and aiding the wounded. The Bible tells of the early Israelites bringing their priests into battle with them. Pagan priests accompanied the Roman legions during their conquests; as Christianity became the predominant religion of the Roman Empire, Christian chaplains administered to Roman soldiers. In fact, the word chaplain is derived from cappa, the Latin word for cloak.

The U.S. Army Chaplain Corps is one of the oldest and smallest

branches of the Army. The Chaplain Corps dates back to 29 July 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized one chaplain for each regiment of the Continental Army, with pay equaling that of a captain. In addition to chaplains serving in Continental regiments, many militia regiments counted chaplains among their ranks.

Since the War for Independence, chaplains have served in every American war. Over that period, the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps has evolved, with the addition of Roman Catholic chaplains in the Mexican War, and Jewish and African American chaplains during the Civil War.

The position of chaplain assistant was created to support the work of chaplains. In January 1979, the Army commissioned its first female chaplain. Today, some 1,300 active duty Army chaplains and 1,200 in the reserve components, representing five major faiths groups (Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist) and over 120 denominations, administer to soldiers and their families.

While their duties are primarily focused on spiritual and moral issues, many chaplains have also demonstrated tremendous bravery. Stories abound of chaplains administering the last rites to fallen sol-

diers, oblivious to the fire around them, or dashing out into the open to rescue the wounded without regard to their own lives. Five chaplains earned the Medal of Honor for their bravery, the most recent award made posthumously to Chaplain (MAJ) Charles J. Watters in November 1969. Dozens of other have made the ultimate sacrifice, living up the Chaplain Corps motto, Pro Deo Et Patria (For God and Country).

The Chaplains Corps is celebrating its 251st year this July.

Thank you to the U.S. Army.

## In the Spotlight

### Spotlight on a Veteran



Vietnam veteran Don Sullivan, pictured on the National Mall, was one of 15 Wyoming veterans who recently traveled to Washington D.C. The group of veterans and their companions visited iconic landmarks and memorials, including the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Photo courtesy of Stephanie Horton/ Wish of a Lifetime from AARP.

### At the wall, a veteran finds peace

By Jen Sieve-Hicks - Buffalo Bulletin

**BUFFALO** — U.S. Army veteran Don Sullivan deployed to Vietnam in 1970, serving for a year as a helicopter crew chief in Vietnam, surviving two shoot-downs and the loss of close comrades.

Earlier this month, Sullivan, along with 14 additional Vietnam-era veterans from Wyoming, walked the stone path to Washington, D.C.'s iconic Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The black granite memorial bears the names of more than 58,000 soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen who died in the war.

Among those 58,000 names, Sullivan found Robert Levine.

"He was one of my crew chiefs, and I lost contact with him and everything, so I didn't know if he made it home or

what happened," Sullivan said. "We were good buddies. Basically, he saved my butt."

Now 76, Sullivan recalled Levine as a very good crew chief, and someone he has wondered about for more than 50 years.

"I prayed every so often, someday I thought maybe I would find out what happened to him," Sullivan said.

Despite his buddy not making it home from Vietnam, Sullivan said knowing what happened has put his mind at ease.

"I feel better about it," he said.

In April, Sullivan and 14 other Vietnam War-era veterans from Wyoming and their companions took part in a four-day "Voyage of Valor," an all-expenses-paid trip made possible by Wish of a Lifetime and AARP.

"The program gives veterans an opportunity to visit Washington, D.C., many for the first time, and especially for our Vietnam-era veterans, it's really getting to be able to receive that welcome home that they might not have received over 50 years ago," said Caitlin Shepherd of Wish of Lifetime.

This is the second time that the group has conducted a trip exclusively for veterans from Wyoming.

Sullivan was drafted when he was 20 years old. After watching high school classmates "get stuck wherever they wanted them," Sullivan approached the Army recruiter to attempt to control some of his fate. He'd been studying mechanics at WyoTech in Laramie and had wondered whether those skills could be of use.

The recruiter told him the Army was in fact looking for crew chiefs. The

crew chiefs were responsible for maintaining the "Loaches" – the nickname for the Hughes OH-6 Cayuse, a light helicopter used by the U.S. Army, primarily in the Vietnam War.

In addition to maintaining the helicopters, crew chiefs flew with their crew. The Loaches were primarily a scouting helicopter and flew very low and drew fire – to set up the shots for the Cobra helicopters circling above. According to the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum, these "hunter-killer missions" were among the most hazardous of the Vietnam War.

"I kind of joke about it, but we got shot down south," he said. "They were always shooting our tail rotors and tail booms off and stuff. But up north, they knew they knew how to lead us. So they were shooting through our bubble."

On one such flight, Sullivan was taking pictures when a bullet came through the front of the aircraft and hit him in the chest, and Sullivan was certain he'd been wounded.

"My pilot said, 'Oh God, you're hit,'" Sullivan said. "And I just knew that I'd be bleeding fiercely."

He took off his "chicken plate" – a Vietnam War-era ceramic-composite body armor, primarily used by helicopter air crewmen – and to his surprise, there was no blood.

"I pulled my shirt up and looked, and boy, I had a great, big old bruise right in the center of my chest," he said. "It was from the shattering of the chicken plate when the bullet hit it."

Though Sullivan can "joke about" that close call now, when he returned home in 1971, it was hard.

His father, a veteran himself, took Sullivan with him to the local VFW in Big Timber, Montana.

"But those guys looked down their noses at us and said, 'You weren't in no war. You were just in a conflict,'" he said. "Of course, then my dad stood up and told all of them where to go, and we walked out."

While his service was not taken seriously by WWII and Korean War veterans, Sullivan said he also experienced anti-war sentiment directed at returning service members.

"You know it was like you were trash before," he said. "They called us baby killers and you name it, they told us that."

In addition to touring all of the major Washington, D.C., sites, Voyages of Valor also holds a welcome home ceremony for the veterans when they return from their trip. At the welcome home celebration in Cheyenne, the veterans each received a tote bag filled with thank you letters from school children around the state – a gesture that Sullivan found particularly touching.

"I'm glad that there's these outfits that's doing this, welcoming us home, because that is something that we didn't get before," he said. "It made me feel really happy and thankful for everything."

Sullivan has been active in the American Legion for five decades, creating such community events as "Christmas in July" at the Veterans' Home of Wyoming. Now he's got another cause to pursue.

"In the back of my mind, I was thinking maybe there's something the Legion could do for a program to help with being able to send more veterans," he said.

## DISTRICT AND POST NEWS

## District 1

Jackson Hole Post 43



### News from Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43

Our Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43 has continued to hold our monthly meetings in-person and on Zoom, and we have continued to participate in our support of the veterans and members in Jackson and our surrounding communities. Our Post membership is currently 140 TAL members, and 30 SAL members. We stand at 103% of our Department goal for the year, and are still working to get more members. Our SAL Squadron is at 93.75%, and we need only two more members to reach the 100% goal. Wyoming Veterans Commission: Our Wyoming Veterans Commission Service Officer, Ellen Rejda, has continued meeting with veterans at our Post building each month. Any veteran with questions or needing advice on veterans benefits, healthcare, or other related topics, can make an appointment to see Ellen during one of her monthly visits. Her number is 307-438-2101. Speaker Presentations: At our February Post meeting, Kevin Olson, who is the current President of Teton Media Works and is the Publisher of the Jackson Hole News & Guide and the Jackson Hole Daily was our guest speaker. He has been a resident of Jackson since 2001, when he began his involvement with the Jackson Hole Dai-

ly. He described his own background, the history of the two newspapers in Jackson, and the state of the papers. For our March meeting, our newest Post member, Mark Haney, was the guest speaker. Mark recently retired from the Navy after serving for more than 28 years. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, and served in many assignments, including command of several types of ships. Our April meeting featured a talk by the new deputy Jackson Town Manager, David Garcia. David is an Army veteran of over 20 years, and has only recently moved to Jackson to take on his new role for the town. Oratorical Contest Winner: Our Post is celebrating the victories of our Post Oratorical winner, Lara Haney, at both the District 1 Contest and the Wyoming Department Contest. We wish Lara good luck for the National Competition in May at Hillsdale. Honor Guard and Color Guard Activity: Our Post provided an Honor Guard on March 14 for the funeral of Brandon King, a former member of our Post. We will also provide an Honor Guard for the funeral of the late Harold Turner, another Post member, on May 16 at the Triangle X Ranch in Grand Teton Park. We will be the lead unit in the "Best of the West" Parade in Jackson on May 23, and will conduct a Memorial Day Ceremony on the Town Square

on May 25, followed by Honor Guard salutes at three Jackson Cemeteries, and the Snake River Bridge. Wyoming District 1 Meeting in Jackson: The District 1 meeting of the twelve Posts, four SAL Squadrons, and all the Auxiliary Units took place in Jackson on April 25. This was the first such meeting in Jackson in many years. Jackson Hole Post 43 Giants: Our Post 43 Giants are ready for the season with a new Coach, Chris Jones. We will be providing Color Guards for many of the home team games this season. Post 43 Scholarship Program: Our Post has established a "Jackson Hole American Legion Post 43 Scholarship Fund" with the Central Wyoming College Foundation Office. The College has agreed to administer the fund at no cost as a part of its on-going scholarship efforts. Under the terms, the College selects scholarship students based on the guidelines our Post has established. These include giving preference to veteran students and immediate family members of veterans or active-duty military personnel. America 250 Celebration: On July 8 at 4 PM, our Post has arranged for the reading of the Declaration of Independence on the Jackson Hole Town Square as a part of the America 250 Celebration.

*Dave Hill, Post 43 Adjutant*

## District 1



**David W. Hill**  
District 1 Commander

125%. The next goal as I write this is 100% by May 13. I am counting on the six Posts that are still below that number to make a special effort to drive up their membership before that date.

Our District 1 Oratorical Contest was held on March 14 in Big Piney. The District 1 winner was Lara Haney, who was also the Jackson Post 43 Oratorical Contest winner. She then went on to win the Wyoming Department Contest on March 21 in Casper. Lara will be representing Wyoming at the National Finals Competition in May at Hillsdale.

The District 1 Annual Meeting is on April 25 in Jackson, and we hope many Post, SAL, and Auxiliary members can attend. This is the first time to hold the District 1 meeting in Jackson in many years.

Our Posts should now be working on plans for the America 250 Celebration, Memorial Day activities, July 4 programs, as well as recruiting students for the Boys' State program. Please consider sending members who are interested in potential Legion leadership positions to the annual WALLT Training program from September 25-27 in Laramie. The Department Annual Convention will be held on June 18-21, 2026 in Powell. Please encourage your Post members and Officers to attend.

*Dave Hill, Commander, Wyoming American Legion District 1.*



*Courtesy Photo*  
Above: Tom Niemiec 14+ years as District 1 Adjutant. Below: Ron Wood NATCOM Dan Wiley Kai, Russell Stafford, Richard Dansereau

Archie Hay Post 24

Archie Hay Post 24 has remained active and engaged throughout the past several months, continuing its mission of supporting veterans and strengthening community involvement across the region.

Among the highlights was hosting the Wyoming National Guard for its annual dinner and participating in the evening's festivities. Post leadership continues to focus on creating opportunities for members and the community to connect through a variety of events and programs.

Club Manager Dana Cooke has played a key role in expanding member participation by organizing activities ranging from dances featuring local DJs to partnerships with organizations such as the Miracle League, Legion Baseball, and local JROTC programs. On Saturday, May 9, veterans from Post 24 will join JROTC cadets during their dinner event to share stories of military service and personal experiences.

Post 24's Veterans Service Officer, Doug Uhrig, has also been recognized for his dedication to assisting

veterans in need. Recently, Uhrig helped secure a mobility scooter for a disabled Marine veteran after his scooter was stolen in Salt Lake City. Members expressed their appreciation for Uhrig's continued commitment to serving fellow veterans.

The post will also host a breakfast for participants in the National Veterans Awareness Ride (NVAR) as riders travel through Wyoming. The annual ride begins in Auburn, California, and concludes at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, Virginia, where participants help lay a wreath on Memorial Day. Members say one of the event's most anticipated traditions is the cooking of SAL member Joel Jessen, whose bacon has become a favorite among returning riders.

Looking ahead, the Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion (SAL), Legion Riders, and Post 24 members will participate in the organization's 13th Annual Veterans Awareness Walk on May 16. Organizers say the event continues to receive strong support from the local community each year.



### THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING

Headquarters Office Hours  
Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Closed all Holidays  
1320 Hugur Ave.  
Cheyenne, WY 82001  
307-634-3035

Email: [adjutant@wyolegion.org](mailto:adjutant@wyolegion.org) web: [wyolegion.org](http://wyolegion.org)

**Don't  
Forget  
Our  
Buddies in  
Business**

# DISTRICT AND POST NEWS

## District 5

Powder River Post 13

Hello from Post 13,

We just got back from our District meeting. We had 6 members attend. It was well attended and informative. We continue serving breakfast to the public. The honor guard has performed honors for a handful of veterans this spring. We are preparing for Memorial Day activities also. We updated our bylaws and constitution.

I hope everyone has a great summer.

**Cecil Benner**

*Post 13 commander*



*Penny Merryfield Post 21*

*Above: Department Adjutant Vanessa Stuart talks with Dominic Sansone Post 93, while Tim Dreyer Post 6 and Elbert Smith Post 64 converse. Below: Department of Wyoming American Legion Commander Russell Stafford presents Sons Derek Mancinho with an award to the Saratoga Sons Squadron for the Four Pillars.*



**Garcia-Castaneda Post 93**

Post 93 hosted the District 6 meeting at Forum 619 on 11 April 26. 6 posts were in attendance. The post currently hosts a 50/50 raffle every Friday and Karaoke from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Forum 619. Elections were recently held and the new officers are Scott Mayo (Commander), Vanessa Stuart (Chaplain), Teddy Olivias (Sergeant-At-Arms), and Dominic Sansone was appointed Adjutant.

### Department Service Officer Offers Post Service Officer Training

Our Department Service Officer is offering Post Service Officer Training from 8-11 June 2026 in Cheyenne. Attending the class is free, but students are responsible for their lodging and meals. The class is limited to 10 - registration is through the Department Adjutant office. All posts with emails have received notification of the class. If you are interested in attending, please contact your Post leadership.

**POST SERVICE OFFICER CURRICULUM 8-11 June 2026**

**LESSON**

**LESSON TITLE**

1. VA FORMS
2. MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY
3. PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE CONNECTION
4. CHRONIC CONDITIONS
5. INDIVIDUAL UNEMPLOYABILITY
6. DISABILITY RATING FUNDAMENTALS

7. PACT ACT VA CLAIMS
8. FUNDAMENTALS AND DIRECT SERVICE CONNECTION
9. AMA OVERVIEW
10. CLAIM SCENARIOS
11. CLAIM SUBMISSION EXERCISE

Please bring a laptop and any note taking material you may need.

The are many hotels in Cheyenne to choose from. Among those are:

Historic Plains Hotel \$129/night 307-638-3311

Little America \$145/night 307-775-8400

Microtel Inn & Suites \$147/night 307-274-4593

Red Lion \$175/night 307-638-4466

These are all midrange prices and may change depending on how you book. The prices are from a google search using the dates of the course so do not reflect any discounts.

PLEASE RSVP to Department by 31 May 2026

## District 6



Greetings from District 6! My name is Walt Schaefer and I am honored to have been elected as the district commander for the up-coming term. My home post is Robert Hogan Post 21 located in Burns. I look forward to visiting the posts of District 6 and supporting the goals of the department with good communication to post commanders. Please reach out to me with any suggestions, comments or concerns you have for our district.

I would like to thank District 6 Commander Travis Jones for his service to District 6, and hope all is well with his family.

**Robert Hogan Post 21**



**Walt Schaefer**  
*Dist. 6 Commander Elect*



*Penny Merryfield Post 21*

*Above: Chris Strong winner of the AR-15 is presented his rifle from Post 21 Commander Walt Schaefer.*



*Darlene Alvarez*

*Above: Newly elected officers for Robert Hogan Post 21 are sworn in by Department Adjutant Vanessa Stuart - Commander, Jim Merryfield; Vice Commander, Bob Brostoski, Adjutant, Penny Merryfield; Finance Officer, Heather Rudd.*

*Hello from Robert Hogan Post 21.*

Our gun raffle was a great success. Chris Strong, winner of the AR-15 made for our Post with the Wyoming Department of American Legion coin inset was present at our April meeting to receive the rifle. We will be having a new raffle with three guns.

We are officially in our new year, with almost a total new set of officers. We would like to announce the new officers for the new year. Commander - Jim Merryfield, Vice Commander - Bob Brostoski, Adjutant Penny Merryfield, Finance Officer Heather Rudd, Sargeant at Arms - John Goldfuss, Chaplain - Jerry Merryfield, Service Officer - Chuck Radcliffe, and Judge Advocate Chip Kossow.

We are looking forward to be a big presence at Burns Day on June 13th, and do so community service for the town of Burns.





# In Memoriam Sons of the American Legion

Wyoming Squadron 5  
Kevin C. Watson  
Wayne C. Korell

Wyoming Squadron 36  
Stephan Rennells

Wyoming Squadron 54  
Richard D. Thompson  
Richard Thompson



## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

### Detachment Of Wyoming News Letter

Allow me to remind every squadron about a few upcoming events and provide some valuable information.

The American Legion Family Annual Convention will be on the 19 and 20th of June in Powell. All meetings will be held at the Park County Fairgrounds in the Heart Mt Hall. SAL meetings will begin at 0900. Registration forms should be mailed to Hughes-Pittinger Post 26.

The Detachment met the Apr goal of 90% but have the 100% goal looming ahead of us. Please continue to

work your membership lists, we can do this! We have met every National goal this year thanks to all of you, let's not falter to meet the last one!

The Department and Detachment are initiating a Membership Award Mallet for one SAL squadron this year. The criteria for the award will be: 100% membership by the May goal date; fulfillment of the National Commanders goal for the year (4 Pillars Challenge this year); and Post participation. Endorsement and recommendation from associated

Post Commander along with completed Award form must be received by Department Adjutant by 31 May. If more than one Squadron meets the requirements, final adjudication will be accomplished by the Department Commander, Vice Commander and Adjutant; and Detachment Commander and Adjutant. I appreciate your time,

Keith Trouwborst  
WY Detachment Commander  
Squadron 33 Commander  
719-650-6761



**Keith Trouwborst**  
Commander - Sons

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY  
DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING  
ANNUAL CONVENTION  
June 18-21, 2026  
Hosted by:  
Hughes-Pittinger Post 26  
143 S Clark Street Powell WY 82435

The Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Wyoming  
1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne Wyoming 82001  
[adjutant@wvoleon.org](mailto:adjutant@wvoleon.org)  
"For God and Country"

#### Detachment Of Wyoming 2026 Membership as of 4/16/26

Including Encumbered HQ Transfers

##### WY Dist 0001 SAL

Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0024	Archie Hay	Rock Springs	18	0	197	0	215	224	95.98
WY-0028	Tom Whitmore	Green River	9	0	58	0	67	75	89.33
WY-0036	Fort Bridger	Fort Bridger	0	0	0	0	0	15	0.00
WY-0043	Jackson Hole	Jackson	1	0	27	0	28	32	87.50
SUM:			28	0	282	0	310	346	89.595

##### WY Dist 0002 SAL

Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0005	Travis Snow	Torrington	1	0	49	0	50	70	71.43
WY-0008	Samuel Mares	Douglas	5	0	48	0	53	58	91.38
SUM:			6	0	97	0	103	128	80.469

##### WY Dist 0003 SAL

Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0002	George W Vroman	Casper	2	0	18	0	20	20	100.00
WY-0033	Don Stough	Lander	8	0	38	0	46	42	109.52
SUM:			10	0	56	0	66	62	106.45

##### WY Dist 0004 SAL

Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0026	Hughes-Pittinger	Powell	5	0	40	0	45	45	100.00
WY-0044	Floyd Minch	Worland	4	0	97	0	101	120	84.17
SUM:			9	0	137	0	146	165	88.485

##### WY Dist 0005 SAL

Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0007	John Donald Garbutt	Sheridan	8	0	29	0	37	42	88.10
WY-0013	Powder River	Buffalo	3	0	23	0	26	28	92.86
WY-0042	Campbell County	Gillette	19	0	154	0	173	185	93.51
WY-0080	Roy Montgomery	Hulett	0	0	15	0	15	14	107.14
SUM:			30	0	221	0	251	269	93.309

##### WY Dist 0006 SAL

Squadron	Name	Location	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Tran	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
WY-0006	Francis E Self	Cheyenne	27	0	146	0	173	190	91.05
WY-0014	Husted-Pendleton	Laramie	9	0	34	0	43	50	86.00
WY-0054	Angus England	Saratoga	9	0	58	0	67	70	95.71
WY-0122	Hittner-Engstrom-Duncan	Rawlins	1	0	9	0	10	14	71.43
SUM:			46	0	247	0	293	324	90.432

#### Detachment of Wyoming Totals

Sum:	New	PUFL	Renewal	HQ Transfers	Totals	Goal	% of Goal
	129	0	1040	0	1169	1294	90.34

Registration & ALL Meetings held at Park County Fairgrounds in Heart Mountain Hall unless otherwise noted

EVENT	HOW MANY	TOTAL
PRE-REGISTRATION (includes chip and t-shirt) * Deadline April 15, 2026 T-Shirt (size S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL) (only available during preregistration)	\$20.00 Size:	
REGISTRATION at the DOOR CHIP	\$20.00 \$ 5.00	
FRIDAY - JUNE 19, 2025 07:00 - 8:30 AM REGISTRATION at Heart Mountain Hall 07:00 AM COMANDERS AND ADJUTANTS BREAKFAST 09:00 AM CALL TO ORDER 12:00 PM LUNCH (on your own) 06:00 PM SEMI-FORMAL BANQUET \$36.00 Chicken or \$40.00 Beef		
SATURDAY - JUNE 20, 2025 07:00 AM PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS BREAKFAST 09:00 AM CALL TO ORDER 12:00 PM LUNCH (on your own) RAFFLE DRAWING / SILENT AUCTION at Closing of Convention		
SUNDAY - JUNE 21, 2025 09:00 AM WALRUS MEETING at Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 - WALRUS Ride immediately after the meeting. TAKE TIME TO ENJOY		

\*\*MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO Hughes-Pittinger Post 26\*\* TOTAL ENCLOSED  
Check One

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ POST/UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ prime rib \_\_\_\_\_ or chicken \_\_\_\_\_ for Banquet;

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ POST/UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ prime rib \_\_\_\_\_ or chicken \_\_\_\_\_ for Banquet;

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ POST/UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ prime rib \_\_\_\_\_ or chicken \_\_\_\_\_ for Banquet;

MAIL REGISTRATION & CHECK TO: Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 143 S Clark St Powell WY 82435

#### HOTEL/MOTEL INFORMATION

Travel Lodge 777 E 2nd St Powell WY 307-754-5117 Starting at \$80	Lamplighter 234 E 1st ST Powell WY 307-754-2226 Starting \$109
Travel Lodge 595 E Main ST Lovell WY 307-548-2725 Starting \$80	Fairground RV Park 655 E 5th ST Powell WY 307-754-8855 First come first serve-- \$35

#### The Sons of the American Legion Mallet of the Year Award

With the introduction of the National American Legion "4 Rules for a program of The American Legion", the Department of Wyoming, along with the Detachment of Wyoming, will be selecting the Sons of the American Legion Mallet of the Year award annually.

The rules governing the selection are as follows:

- (1) Each Squadron will be considered under the following criteria: membership, completion of the National SAL Commanders' challenge, and Post participation.
- (2) Each Post Commander is encouraged to submit a written report on the participation of their SAL Squadron and their participation in Post activities.
- (3) Detachment Commander, Adjutant, Department Commander, Adjutant, and Vice Commander shall review all Squadron data and any recommendations from Post Commanders.
- (4) Forms are due to Department NLT 31 MAY.

Squadron Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Detachment (State): \_\_\_\_\_ District/Area: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership total as of May target date provided by National: \_\_\_\_\_

SAL National Commander's Challenge support performed by the Squadron: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander description of participation at the Post level with Legion Family events:

(Use backside or additional sheets if more space is needed)

Detachment Commander Approval \_\_\_\_\_ Detachment Adjutant Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Department Commander Approval \_\_\_\_\_ Department Adjutant Approval \_\_\_\_\_

## Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business

**OAK TREE ANTIQUES**  
WE BUY AND SELL OLD AND UNIQUE ITEMS

BILL TILLMAN  
THEA CURLESS

205 MAIN STREET  
PINE BLUFFS, WY 82082

1-307-640-1830  
1-307-640-1828

Veteran Owned

**RANGE**

800.647.9841  
range.net

**State Farm**

Ida Snead Insurance Agency Inc  
Ida Snead, Agent, LUTCF

201 E 3rd Street, Gillette, WY 82716 (Location)  
PO Box 367, Gillette, WY 82717 (Mailing)  
Bus 307-682-3481 Toll Free 877-682-3481  
Fax 307-682-8341  
Email - ida@idasnead.com  
Website - www.idasnead.com

The greatest compliment you can give is a referral.



# SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



### Butch's Bullet Points – April 2026

I was fortunate enough to have had the opportunity to attend the homecoming of the SAL National Commander Bill Clancy this past weekend. I had a wonderful time full of good friends and catching some of New York City's sights and sounds. Our hotel was just a few blocks from the Times Square district that most see only once a year via television on New Year's Eve. So, as they say... "When in the neighborhood..." I walked down to take a look.

The first thing that hits you in Times Square isn't the crowd—it's the glow. Screens stacked on screens, flashing ads layered like a digital fireworks show over New York City. I stood there thinking, "If hope and enthusiasm had a zip code, this would be it."

Everywhere you look, something is competing for your attention. Billboards practically shouting, "Buy this product!", "See this show!", "Wear these jeans!" and all this in 4K LED wonder!

And just when you think you've seen it all, another classic ad seems to echo through the lights: "Just do it." No hesitation, no overthinking—just action. Times Square doesn't wait for permission to be noticed, and neither should we.

And that's when it hit me: Times Square isn't just about advertising—it's about presence. If you're not visible, you're invisible.

Now, stay with me—because oddly enough, that same lesson applies to the Sons of the American Legion.

According to our 90% goal date membership report; the Sons are anything but invisible. Sitting at 91.41% of our goal and at 82.60% in retention, we are CERTAINLY VISIBLE! We are a short, very manageable 35,169 members away from reaching another all-time high in membership.

No, we don't have neon towers (yet), but we do have something even more powerful: purpose,

history, and community. Still, in a world full of distractions, even the best missions need to be seen and heard. Otherwise, we risk blending into the background like yesterday's ad slogan or current fad. Still, even the strongest mission needs to be shared. It needs to be seen, repeated, and remembered.

Think about it—our message should stick just like "The Real Thing." When people hear about what we do—supporting veterans, mentoring youth, strengthening communities—it should resonate as authentic and essential. And when it comes to reconnecting with former members, maybe we lean into a little nostalgia and fun:

"My Legion has a first name... it's F-A-M-I-L-Y!"

Earlier I mentioned retention because retention isn't just a goal—it's a responsibility. Every former member is someone who once believed in what we do. That connection doesn't disappear; sometimes it just needs a reminder, a friendly nudge, or a simple invitation back. If Times Square teaches us anything, it's that repetition works. Visibility works. Energy works.

Maybe our version of a Times Square billboard is a phone call. Maybe our flashing lights are community events. Maybe our "ad campaign" is a handshake, a smile, and a sincere "We'd love to have you back."

And let's not forget another timeless line: "I'd like to buy the world a Coke." It wasn't really about soda—it was about connection, unity, and shared experiences. That's exactly what we offer. A place where people come together, not because they have to, but because they want to.

As we look ahead to the United States Semi-quintennial, the timing couldn't be better. Two hundred and fifty years of American history—built on courage, sacrifice, and a deep sense of belonging. That's our story to tell, and it deserves to be front and center.

Picture it: flags waving proudly, communities



gathering in celebration, veterans honored, and members—new and returning—standing side by side. It's not just about looking back; it's about building forward. It's about making sure the next generation understands what it means to serve and to belong.

So maybe the takeaway from Times Square is simple: don't be afraid to shine a little brighter. Share the message more often. Make it memorable. Add a touch of humor. Be bold enough to say, "We're here— and we matter."

Because if a catchy line like "Where's the Beef?" can echo for decades, imagine what a meaningful mission can do when we keep it alive in conversations, in communities, and in the hearts of our members.

At the end of the day, retaining our members isn't about chasing them down—it's about reminding them they're part of something enduring, something patriotic, something worth coming back to.

And that, in every sense of the phrase, is "The Real Thing."

*Yours in Service,  
Butch Ray, Chairman  
SAL Nat'l Membership & Squadron Activities  
"I'm the ONE, You're the ONE, BE the ONE!"*



Courtesy Photos

Winner of the 2026 Wyoming Oratorical is Lara Haney with her mom, Dept. Commander Russell Stafford, and Nicolle Laffin -Oratorical Chairman. Right: Two of the contestants - Lara Haney and Samantha Elliot.

This year's oratorical contest, held in Casper, WY at the Army National Guard armory, featured 3 contestants from around the state. Lara Haney Post 43 Jackson, Samantha Elliot Post 8 Douglas, Jacob Thomas Post 11 Lovell. The youth were well prepared and amazed the judges with their knowledge of the constitution and their prepared topics. Lara Haney, a 9th grader, won the contest and will be traveling in May to compete at the National contest. Samantha Elliot took 2nd place and Jacob Thomas who also attended Boy's State last year, took 3rd place.

This year, the oratorical committee would like

to increase the scholarship funds for students. To achieve this, a raffle is being held now through September 19 which marks the end of Constitution Week and is also Fall Workshop. Each post should have received tickets at the district meetings. If you need tickets-please contact the Department Adjutant to send you some.

First prize is a framed Constitution; second prize is a 250th Anniversary Commemorative \$2 bill and coin set. 3rd prize: 6 prizes - 1 for each district - an American Legion edition Red Ryder BB gun. Tickets are \$10. Thank you all for your support of Wyoming's Oratorical program.

## High School Oratorical

### The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DETACHMENT OF WYOMING**

**Commander: Keith Trouwborst  
Adjutant: Doug Johnson**

**1320 Hugur Ave.  
Cheyenne, WY 82001**

**CHUGWATER CHILI**  
"The Gourmet Spice of Western Life"  
Karen Guidice, Owner  
kareng@ChugwaterChili.com  
(307)422-3345-Office  
(307)331-5761-Mobile  
210 1st Street  
Chugwater, WY 82210  
www.chugwaterchili.com

**TRI-COUNTY**  
**MERCANTILE**  
CHUGWATER, WY  
EST. 2021

*Jesse & Arden Miller*  
Address: 315 1st Street  
Chugwater, WY 82210  
Phone: (307) 422-3454  
Email: jessmiller@tricitymercantile.com  
ardenmiller@tricitymercantile.com  
Website: tricitymercantile.com

**VETERANS' ROCK**

307-514-0035

# THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING DEPARTMENT CONVENTION JUNE 18-21, 2026, POWELL, WYOMING

The American Legion Department of Wyoming  
2026 Department Convention Agenda  
Thursday June 18, 2026

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING  
OFFICIAL CALL FOR THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION  
JUNE 18-21, 2026, POWELL, WYOMING

The Annual Convention of The American Legion, Department of Wyoming at Powell, WY on June 18<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026. is hereby called:

- 1700 – 1900 Registration at Post 26, Powell
- 1730 – 1830 Post Adjutant Training (Prime Opportunity to get training for Post adjutants both new and experienced adjutants)
- 1800 – 1830 Personnel Committee Meeting
- 1830 - 1900 Finance Meeting
- 1900 – UTC Department Executive Committee Meeting

Friday June 19, 2026

- 0700 Past Commanders and Adjutants Club Breakfast (This is for all Commanders and Adjutants from post level and up.)
- 0800 - 0900 Registration at Fairgrounds
- 0900 Department Convention

Opening Ceremony

Post Colors – Post 26 Honor Guard  
Call to Order/Welcome by Post 26 Commander  
Initiation Ceremony of new members (ALL NEW MEMBERS INVITED)  
Turn meeting over to Department Commander  
Invocation – Department Chaplain Jim Wilkinson  
POW/MIA Ceremony – Department Chaplain Jim Wilkinson / Department Sgt at Arms Walt Schaefer  
Pledge of Allegiance – Vice Commander Ben Glenn  
Preamble to The American Legion – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Chuck Guilford  
Call to Convention – Department Adjutant Vanessa Stuart  
Report of Rules Committee – Sgt at Arms Bobby Werner  
Roll Call of Posts – Department Adjutant Vanessa Stuart – Voting Strength  
Introduction of Guests – Department Commander Russell Stafford  
Introduction of Past Department Commanders – DC Russell Stafford  
Report of Credentials Committee  
0930 – Report of Resolution Committee Ben Glenn 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander, •0935 – Constitution and Bylaws Changes 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Committee Chair PDC Kenneth Persson Sr.

- 1005 – Break
- 1005 – Greetings to the Auxiliary – Vice Commander Ben Glenn/2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Chuck Guilford
- 1020 – National Committee and Commission Reports (5 minutes each)
- Americanism Commission – Ken Persson Jr.
- Americanism Council – PDC Ken Persson Sr., PDC Rick Dansereau
- Emblem Sales Committee – PDA Jim Lish
- National Security Commission – ANEC Mike Cooke
- Employment and Veterans Committee – 1VC Ben Glenn
- Veterans Benefit Committee – DFO Deanna Hurless
- Finance Report – DFO Deanna Hurless, ADFO Danielle Rempfer
- 1055 - Legislative Report – NEC Keith Davidson
- National Executive Committee Member Report – NEC Ron Wood
- 1105 – Department Officers Reports (5 minutes each)
- Department Chaplain – DC Jim Wilkinson: Department Historian – DH Linzi Barenz:
- Department Adjutant – DA Vanessa Stuart: Department Service Officer – DSO Ted McAuslin: Judge Advocate – D1C David Hill: Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander – 2<sup>nd</sup> VC Chuck Guilford: Department 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander – 1<sup>st</sup> VC Ben Glenn: Department Commander – Russell Stafford
- 1200-1330 LUNCH Town Hall Meeting with National Trailing Candidate Matt Shuman
- 1330 – 1500 - Guest Speakers – Matt Schuman - CHAP - Boulder Crest PTSD to PTSD
- 1500 – BREAK
- 1515 – District Officer Reports (5 minutes each max)
- District 1 – DC David Hill: District 2 – DC Steve Anderson: District 3 – DC Nancy Eustice: District 4 – DSA Bobby Werner: District 5 – DC Kirk Will: District 6 – DC Travis Jones
- 1545 – Candidates for Department Offices

Finance Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Commander: \_\_\_\_\_ Commander: \_\_\_\_\_ •1600 – CAUCUS

•1615 – Bids for 2027/2028/2029 Conventions Roll Call of Posts  
2027 - \_\_\_\_\_ 2028 – Post 6 Cheyenne; 2029 - \_\_\_\_\_

- 16:30 – RECESS
- 1830 – Outgoing Commander/President Banquet (guest speaker)
- Post Commander of the Year\* Post Adjutant of the Year\* Legionnaire of the Year\*
- Citizen Soldier of the Year\* and other awards (Regional winner)

SATURDAY 20 June 2026

0700 – Past Department Commanders Breakfast  
0830 – Post Everlasting (DCH Jim Wilkinson and Post 26 Honor Guard)  
0900 – SAL Detachment Convention (LOCATION)  
0900 – Department Convention Reconvenes  
Pledge – VC Ben Glenn  
Roll Call of Posts – DA Vanessa Stuart  
Report of Credentials Committee – \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ 0915 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Constitution and Bylaws changes  
and vote – PDC Ken Persson SR.  
0945 – WALRUS REPORT – Director  
Wyoming Veterans Commission – Director Tim Sheppard • Wyoming Senator – John Barrasso • Oratorical Winner – Lara Haney  
Boys State Governor and/or Boys Nation Senator - • Wyoming H.S. Rodeo Queen -

- 1015 – Break
- 1030 – Department Committee Reports (5 minutes each)
- Oratorical – 1<sup>st</sup> VC Ben Glenn: Boys State – Brett Kahler, PDC Bill Frye (Godfather of Boys State): Junior Shooting Sports – Steve Olsen: Baseball/Women's Fast Pitch – Jason Huggins/NEC Ron Wood: Wyoming H. S. Rodeo – PDC Ken Persson Sr.: E.A. Blackmore Memorial Foundation/Committee – PDC Ken Persson SR: Scouting – Ed Morrow Jr.: Newspaper Committee – DC Penny Merryfield, DA Vanessa Stuart: Ways and Means Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> VC Ben Glenn: Department Legion Leadership Training – Dean: Ray Simms
- 1100 – Distinguished Guests Senator Barrasso and Senator Lummis
- 1200 – 1315 – LUNCH
- 1315 – Reconvene – Final Report of Credentials Committee
- 1320 – Report on National Convention – DA Vanessa Stuart
- 1330 – SAL Detachment Report – Detachment Commander Keith Trouwborst
- 1345 – Department Awards - Those not presented at the Banquet Friday night • Lawman of the Year • Firefighter of the Year • Educator of the Year • EMT of the Year • Healthcare Worker of the Year • Membership Worker of the Year • Outstanding Club Manager of the Year • Youth Services Award • District Commander of the Year

The following awards are judged through information submitted by the Post Activities Report.  
Lloyd Seaman Athletic Trophy • Americanism Award • Community Service – Large Post • Community Service – Small Post • Mallet Awards  
•1430 – New Business - Resolutions Committee Report •1445 – Caucus • 1500 – Election of Department Officers: PDC votes one vote each • Department Finance Officer • Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander • Department Vice Commander  
Department Commander • Election of Delegates to the 107<sup>th</sup> National Convention Louisville  
Appointments to National Committees – NEC/ANEC Ron Wood and Richard Dansereau • 1545 – Confirmation of Future  
Department Conventions and dates 2027 Convention  
2028 Convention – Cheyenne Post 6 – June 16-18, 2028  
1600 – Good of The American Legion

Confirmation/Installation of District Officers • Installation of Department Officers • 1630 – New Department Commander Remarks • Benediction – Department Chaplain Steve Anderson • Retrieval of POW/MIA • Retire the Colors

• Post 26 Honor Guard • Close Convention  
1700 – DEC Meeting  
Sunday 21 June 2026  
0900 – WALRUS meeting and Ride

NOTE: All reports must be typed or neatly handwritten and turned into the Department of Wyoming Adjutant.

**PURPOSE:**

1. To receive the reports of the Department Officers and Chairman.
2. To receive the reports of National Commission and Committee members.
3. To elect Department Officers for the ensuing year.
4. To confirm the District Officers for the coming year.
5. To consider amendments to the Department Constitution and By-laws, if needed.
6. To elect Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention.
7. To select the next Department Convention Site.
8. To transact such other business as may be brought before the convention.

**REPRESENTATION and REGISTRATION:**

The Department Convention shall be composed of two delegates and two alternates from each Post, and each Post shall be entitled in addition to one delegate and one alternate for each fifteen (15) members or fraction thereof, as disclosed by the official records of Department Headquarters thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Convening of the Convention.

Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted, and the vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of delegates present from their Post. Alternates shall have all the privileges of delegates, except the right to vote when the delegates for whom they are alternates are present.

Each Post shall elect its delegates and alternates in such a manner as its Constitution or By-Laws prescribe, and the names of the delegates and alternates shall be furnished to the Department Adjutant or Credentials Committee prior to the seating of the delegates. If any Post fails to furnish the Department Adjutant or Credentials Committee with names as herein required or shall fail to furnish the Department Adjutant with certification of its officers, a copy of the Post's CPR, the Annual Post Data report, and Annual Activities Report, its delegates shall not be seated at the Department Convention.

Each Past Department Commander of The American Legion, Department of Wyoming, provided they are a member in good standing of a Post of the Department, shall be a delegate to the Department Convention with votes to be exercised aside from their Post. All delegates are required to register.

**RESOLUTIONS**

All resolutions requiring action by Department Convention must be submitted as provided for in Article IV of the By-Laws of the Department of Wyoming.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. All reports of the Department Officers and Committees may be submitted at any time, subject only to the will of the Department Commander.
2. Five minutes of time will be granted for presentation of committee reports and minority committee reports.
3. In debate, each member has the right to speak twice on the same subject on the same day, except on an appeal, but cannot make a second speech on the same question, as long as any member who has not spoken on the question desires the floor. No one may speak longer than five minutes at a time without permission of the assembly.
4. Nominating speeches for election of officers shall be limited to five minutes, and seconding speeches to three minutes.
5. Any special business not hereinafter provided for may be taken up after first obtaining the Department Commander's permission.
6. The consumption of alcoholic beverages on the Convention floor, while the Department Convention is in session, will not be permitted.
7. When balloting, the unit rule shall not prevail. The Chairman of each delegation shall cast the ballot of his delegation as instructed by the individual members thereof.

**ROBERT RULES OF ORDER GOVERN THIS CONVENTION**

The order of business will be as follows:

1. Report of Committee on Rules and Order of Business
2. Report of Credentials Committee.
3. Consideration of Special Business.
4. Consideration of New Business.
5. Report of Resolution Committee, followed by discussion and disposition of each resolution as read.
6. Unfinished Business.
7. Caucus
8. Election of following officers:  
Commander  
Vice Commander  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander  
Finance Officer
9. Delegates and Alternates to the 107th National Convention to be held in Tampa Bay 28 Aug – 3 September 2026
- Each Department is entitled to 5 delegates and alternates and one additional delegate and alternate for each 1,000 members or major fraction thereof. The Department of Wyoming is entitled to 9 delegates and 9 alternates.
- As provided for in the Department By-Laws Article III, the outgoing and incoming Department Commanders and Department Adjutant are automatically delegates to the National Convention and provided further, that at each District Convention one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate to the National Convention shall be elected.
- The National Executive Committeemen is a delegate to the National Convention per National Constitution Article VII Section 3 and does not factor in the department allocation.
10. Confirmation of the 2027 Convention City
11. Good of the Order
12. Installation of 2026/27 Department and Conformation of 2026/27 District Officers
13. Adjournment



**BUG, Inc.**  
Ranching Company

PO Box 72,  
Elk Mountain, WY  
82324-0072

307-348-7003

Samuel Mares American Legion Post 8  
600 Oak Street Douglas, WY 82633  
307-358-9981  
wyopost08@gmail.com



In Support of Our Veterans

**TRAVIS SNOW POST #5  
COUNTY FAIR STAND**



Join us at the  
Goshen County Fair!

# Endorsements For Commander



**Benjamin Glenn**  
1st Vice Commander  
Dept. of Wyoming

With the endorsement of McDonald and Voight Post #75 in Chugwater, I am announcing my candidacy for the Department of Wyoming Commander for the 2026-2027 Legion year. The American Legion has given me the opportunity to give back, and I want to continue to serve Wyoming Veterans as well as being a voice for our current Wyoming sons and daughters who are protecting us around the world. I served in the United States Navy from December 1988 to February 2015. I served as a US Navy Special Warfare Combat Crewman (SWCC) operating High Speed Boats on rivers and oceans around the globe while finally retiring after 27 years as a Chief Warrant

Officer in Guam.

My American Legion journey began while on R&R at "Allen Pop Reeves" Post # 123 in Angeles City Philippines. After I retired from the Navy my wife, and I moved back to Chugwater to help my uncle with his place. I attended a Veterans Day Observance at the Chugwater Veterans Park and subsequently became a member of Post #75. After I missed a meeting, the Post appointed me as the new Adjutant of Post #75 one year later. A few years afterward, the district #2 Commander named me Chaplain. I was subsequently appointed to the Internal Affairs Committee by the Department Commander to represent Wyoming at the National Convention, a role I filled for two years. During my tenure as Commander of Post #75, I was elected at the State Convention in Worland in June 2024 to serve as Wyoming's 2nd Vice Commander for the 2024-2025 Legion year. October of 2024 the National Commander appointed me to serve on his Employment and Veterans Preference Committee in Indianapolis. I graduated from the National American Legion College in Indianapolis, Indiana on November 22, 2024. For the 2025-2026 Legion year, I was elected as the Vice Commander of the Department of Wyoming.

It would be both an honor and a privilege to earn your support and serve as the 2026-2027 Commander for the American Legion Department of Wyoming.  
"Service Before Self - Not Self Service"

# For Second Vice Commander



**James A. Lish**  
Candidate for 2nd Vice  
Commander

Francis E. Self proudly endorses James A. (Jim) Lish for the office of Department Second Vice Commander. Jim has been a member of

The American Legion for 19 years in 4 departments. He has served as Post Commander 3 times, District Commander 2 times, District Adjutant, Kentucky Area Vice Commander, Membership Director for Montana, Department Adjutant for Colorado and Wyoming, and Internal Affairs National Employee. He has helped Montana, Colorado, and Wyoming achieve 100% membership while serving in these respective departments. He is a member of Ye Steivos, ANAVICUS, DGS, and a 2012 graduate of National American Legion College. Jim has served on several National level committees such as Americanism and M&PA as the Western Region Liaison and is currently the Emblem Sales consultant for Wyoming.

Jim is eligible for membership in the American Legion through his honorable service as an Airborne 88M and later a 12B Combat Engineer where he deployed to the Iraq theater twice. He retired in 2006. Jim and his wife, April, have lived in Cheyenne, Wyoming since 2019.

# For Department Finance Officer

The Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 proudly endorses Danielle Rempfer for the position of Department Finance Officer for The American Legion Department of Wyoming.

Danielle is eligible for membership in The American Legion through honorable service in the United States Navy as a Machinist Mate from 2000 to 2004. Since joining The American Legion in May 2022, Danielle has demonstrated exceptional dedication and leadership. Danielle was elected 2nd Vice Commander of Post 26 later that year and advanced to 1st Vice Commander in 2025. Danielle also serves as Director of the

Big Horn Basin Riders, District 4 Vice Commander, and Vice Director of WALRUS. In May 2025, Danielle became an instructor for Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM), a suicide-prevention program, and is deeply committed to educating the community on suicide-prevention practices. Prior to joining The American Legion, Danielle held multiple leadership roles in the Boy Scouts, including serving as treasurer. Danielle is also a graduate of the Wyoming American Legion Leadership Training Program and intends to apply for National Legion College.

In the role of Assistant Finance Of-

# For First Vice Commander



**Chuck Guilford**  
2nd Vice Commander  
Dept. of Wyoming

With the endorsement of Powder River Post #13, Buffalo, Wyoming I am announcing my candidacy for Department of Wyoming 1st Vice Commander. Since being appointed to 2nd Vice in December of 2024 and then elected to 2nd Vice at our last annual convention in Newcastle, Wyoming it has been a pleasure to serve the Veterans of Wyoming. I served in the U.S. Army beginning in June of 1975 thru January of 1981. I was stationed

in Miesau and Pirmasens Germany. The last seven months of my enlistment were at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

I joined the American Legion, Powder River Post 13, in 2015. I sat on the side-lines for a few months and then quickly became involved with Post activities. I was asked if I would help out in the kitchen with the twice monthly breakfasts and other opportunities to serve the Post as they came up, IE. color guard, Boy's and Girl's State recruitment and Memorial and Veterans Day observances to name a few.

In 2019 I was elected Commander of Powder River Post 13 and in June of 2019, I attended my first State Convention in Laramie. A few years later I was elected to District 5 Commander, the following year District 5 Vice Commander and then once again District 5 Commander in 2024. I really enjoyed my time in those roles as I learned more about the Legion and continue to learn more about the organization.

As 2nd Vice Commander I was appointed to the National Security Counsel and the Wyoming Security Committee.

It would be my honor and privilege to have your support to serve as your Department of Wyoming 1st Vice Commander for 2026-2027.

# For Department Finance Officer



**Deanna Hurless**  
Department Finance Officer

Husted-Pendleton Post 14 Endorses Deanna Hurless for the Department of Wyoming Finance Officer

Deanna became a member of the American Legion in 2009. She was eligible for membership in the American Legion through her service in the U.S. Air Force. She has spent 30 years working for a credit union, holding various positions, and is currently the Loan Processing Manager.

Her leadership within the American Legion is exemplary. She served as Post 14's 2nd Vice-Commander (appointed, Dec 2010-2011; elected, 2011-2012), and Post 14 Commander (2012-2014). During her tenure as Commander, she was honored with the Department Post Commander Award. Deanna's commitment continued as Post 14 Finance Officer (2014-2016), District 6 Vice-Commander (2015-2016), and she has served as the Department Finance Officer since 2016.

Deanna's dedication to veterans is further reflected in her role as Post 14's Adjutant since 2017, a position in which she has earned the Department Post Adjutant of the Year Award twice. She is also a proud graduate of The American Legion National College, Class of 2018, representing the Department of Wyoming.

At the national level, Deanna has served on several different committees and is currently a member of the Veterans Benefit Committee.

In 2020, she was appointed by the governor to the Wyoming Veterans Commission as the Albany & Carbon County Commissioner, where she continues to advocate for veterans in the region.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT



**Danielle Rempfer for  
Department Finance Officer**

ficer, Danielle has developed a strong command of the responsibilities essential to maintaining the financial health of the Department. Danielle's active involvement at both the Post and Riders levels has provided valuable experience in budgeting, fundraising, and supporting vital programs statewide.

Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 is confident that Danielle Rempfer possesses the integrity, dedication, and professionalism required to excel as Department Finance Officer and is honored to offer full endorsement for this position.



## American Legion Auxiliary News

### Department President's Report



**Robin Ruff**  
President

What can I say about Marvelous May? It is definitely a month for change! The weather is iffy, the leaves are trying to pop out, flowers are shivering under snow! We never know how to dress properly or how to behave! And how about our Auxiliary life?

For many Units and Districts, it is also a time for change. New officers are being elected. Committees are undergoing changes! and we still are recruiting new members.

At this time, we need to really examine how we support and encourage our new leadership. First of all, be kind to them! It may be their first time in their new role. Use kind words, give them the tools they need to succeed, support them by attending meetings and activities. Share all resources available at local, Department, and National levels. Give them the benefit of the doubt and NEVER, NEVER say "we have tried that and it didn't work...or We have always done it this

*Robin Ruff, Department President*

way!" Give them the thanks they deserve! Remember Flower in Bambi? "If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all!" Make your words work in a positive way! Stand together and truly be a Unit!

We want our Units to grow in numbers, enthusiasm and activities. We want to make our Unit so interesting and fun that people want to join and share! So get out there and talk to people, share your story, advertise by newspaper, FaceBook, web sites, radio, be visible in your community, wear the brand! Together we will continue to grow our membership, Units and ourselves!

"If you have Joy, remember to tell your face!" (overheard at District 3 Spring Conference! Until Department Convention, embrace May!

Department President Robin Ruff  
*Hope to see you all soon*

### Department Vice President/Americanism Report

#### AMERICANISM END OF YEAR REPORT

Thank you to the 10 units that submitted their Year End Reports, highlighting their dedication to promoting Americanism within their communities.

Units across the state participate in numerous ceremonies and tributes at their cemeteries for Memorial Day by placing flags to honor the veterans that are at rest there. The LaGrange Unit hosts the carry-in luncheon that follows their tribute. The Moorcroft Unit places flags on every fence post that surrounds their cemetery. These flags are on display until after Labor Day. The Glendo, LaGrange and Pinedale units have an Avenue of Flags on display in their communities.

Auxiliary members support and participate in flag disposal ceremonies in June for Flag Day.

All the Wyoming Units work hard to contribute to our amazing Girls State program. Before attending Girls State, the delegates receive instruction on properly folding both the U.S. flag and the Wyoming state flag and flag etiquette.

The Glenrock and Basin Auxiliary members purchased Auxiliary coloring books to promote patriotism in their schools and headstart program within their community.

The theme for the Americanism Essay contest was "Celebrating America's 250th Birthday and the Veterans Who Fought for Our Freedom". Buffalo, Sheridan, Glenrock, Alpine and Basin submitted essays this year.

The Pinedale unit purchases 87 booklets of the Declaration of Independence/ U.S. Constitution for the Junior class at their high school.

The Auxiliary members step up to support their Legion Americanism programs, like the Oratorical Contest and the Legion Baseball league.

The Lander Unit assembled 100 Star Spangled Kids Kits and distributed them during their annual bake sale in November.

All our Auxiliary Units continue to actively promote Americanism within their communities and consistently lead by example.

Serving as the Americanism Chair has been an honor and a privilege.

Respectfully submitted  
**Cathey Raymer**  
Americanism Chair



**Cathey Raymer**  
Vice President/  
Americanism  
Chairman

### News from your Department Office

#### Department Office Ramblings Peg Sullivan

As I finish my 14th year as your Department Secretary/Treasurer, there have been many changes. We moved into with the Department Webpage, emails and American Legion Auxiliary Member Information System (ALA MIS). I am trying to get our District Presidents to interact more with their District Units. Invite them to a meeting or function. They have

Department information to

share. District Presidents will be forwarding information via email to their units. Make sure you mark their email address as "good".

Your 2026-2027 forms will be mailed to units unable to attend no later than June 30th.

Please fill out your Poppy Order Form and return with your money by September 15th.

Any change in your dues MUST be in the Office no later than May 22, 2026. Deadlines from National are earlier than

last year. If you haven't sent in your Officer Form for 2026-2027 please do so no later than June 30th.

I hope to have the Department Webpage current by August 1st. Let the Office know if you have any suggestions or questions.

I thank you for working with me and we will work again this year.

**Legion Auxiliary.**  
**Peg Sullivan**  
Department Secretary  
Treasurer



**Peg Sullivan**  
Department  
Secretary

## Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business

#### FLOYD MINCH AMERICAN LEGION POST 44

Serving Veterans in the  
Southern Big Horn Basin since 1920  
Club 44 Hours 4 p.m. - 12 a.m.  
Monday through Saturday

Legion Family members welcome

129 South 7th Street, Worland, Wyoming



Private Floyd Minch  
Killed in Action 10-8-1918

Introducing Unlimited 55+ for just \$30/month!

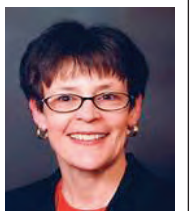
- Unlimited Voice Calling
- Unlimited Text and Multimedia Messaging
- Unlimited Data
- Unlimited Roaming across the US and Canada
- Unlimited Long Distance within the voice roaming area

Union

**State Farm**

Lynda Lenz CLU® ChFC® CASL®  
Agent

1309 9th Street, PO Box 458  
Wheatland, WY 82201  
Bus 307 322 3244 FAX 307-322-3249  
lynda@lyndalenz.com





**Vicki Paddock**  
Membership Chairman

DISTRICT 1				DISTRICT 4					
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	Percent	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
24	ROCK SPRINGS	255	231	88%	26	POWELL	123	107	81%
28	GREEN RIVER	114	85	71%	29	BASIN	51	47	90%
36	FT. BRIDGER	51	45	88%	44	WORLAND	91	77	85%
40	COKEVILLE	27	21	78%		TOTAL	265	231	84%
43	JACKSON	29	23	62%	DISTRICT 5				
46	ALPINE	27	21	78%	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
47	PINEDALE	31	26	84%	3	NEW CASTLE	18	17	94%
78	BIG PINEY	23	25	109%	7	SHERIDAN	88	86	95%
88	LaBARGE	14	0	0%	13	BUFFALO	134	120	85%
	TOTAL	571	477	81%	25	MOORCROFT	78	77	96%
DISTRICT 2				DISTRICT 6					
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
1	VAN TASSEL	16	12	75%	6	CHEYENNE	237	156	65%
5	TORRINGTON	88	31	35%	14	LARAMIE	101	95	92%
8	DOUGLAS	73	61	84%	54	SARATOGA	60	45	75%
9	GLENROCK	49	52	106%	60	PINE BLUFFS	35	7	20%
10	WHEATLAND	40	35	88%	64	MEDICINE BOW	26	31	104%
15	GLENDO	83	68	64%	77	ALBIN	24	21	88%
70	LaGRANGE	35	33	94%		TOTAL	483	355	72%
75	CHUGWATER	15	15	100%					
95	GUERNSEY	36	34	94%	17	HEADQUARTERS	20	20	95%
	TOTAL	435	341	75%		DEPARTMENT	2440	2027	81%
DISTRICT 3				DISTRICT 5					
UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT	UNIT	CITY	GOAL	PAID	PERCENT
16	POWDER RIVER	6	4	67%					
19	RIVERTON	14	11	71%					
33	LANDER	71	58	82%					
81	FT. WASHAKIE	17	14	82%					
	TOTAL	108	87	80%					
5/3/2026									

# Historian Report

Thank you to the 8 Units who turned in a Unit History Report. And thank you to all of the Unit Chairman who CC'd me on their other Year-End reports. I have found on a History report you will say what projects you did, but the details on those projects in the other reports. For example, you will state you baked cookies for the VA, but the VA&R report will say how many cookies you baked. I like to be able to include those details in my History report I turn into National.

Also, thank you to everyone who turned in their Impact Reports.

The complete report of the impact we made will be given at Department Convention, so make sure you're there to see what we did this year. I will also be giving my report and announcing who won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for their History Report.



**Jessica York**  
Historian

# Children and Youth

Our units this year contributed a lot to our children in many ways.

Hours totaled 1952.

Money spent totaled \$ 4,415.00

Donations to Child Wellness totaled \$386.08

Activities our Units aided in or hosted were:

Boys and Girls Clubs, 4H, FFA, Legion Baseball, school sports, County fairs, Meals for Youths, cemetery poppy wreaths, Month of the Military Child, High School scholarships, American Legion Oratorical, presentation of the Military Child table, a start on America's 250th birthday. Classroom supplies, grooming supplies, winter clothing, daily wear clothing, food supplies in classrooms, nutritional snacks for 200 kids, whiteboards, Units bought Light of Liberty, Poppy, Safe Halloween, Veterans Day, America the Beautiful coloring books and pages for local schools and Head Start. Units helped with mini fairs, parades, Easter Egg hunts and Summer Reading Programs.



**Sonja Wright**  
Children and Youth Chairman

A total of 10 units reported this year and are to be commended for all of their hard work helping our community children and Military children.

Sonja Wright

# Community Service

Thank you to the 10 Units who turned in a Community Service Year-End Report. Some highlights from those reports: Donating to school lunches and local food pantries in support of President Robin's project, as well as members donating time at local food banks and food distribution centers; Participating in community Trunk or Treat events; Donating baby gift baskets; Supporting community flag retirement ceremonies; Helping with blood drives; Cooking Christmas dinner for the community; Sponsoring participates in local Turkey Trots; Volunteering at local rodeos; Participating in local parades; Donating Christmas gift; And helping other community organizations with their projects. Please remember that while it seems like a lot of work to write a Year-End report, it doesn't have to be fancy. Use it as an excuse to toot your own horn. We want to know what your Unit has done this year. I would rather received 37 reports and struggle to pick a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner than to only receive 9 reports and feel like I am missing information to write my report to National on what our Department has done this year. Remember, Community Service is what we do for our communities outside of what falls under any of the other programs we have. For a complete report of what our Units have done in their communities this year, please attend Convention for my full report.

**Jessica York Community Service**

**Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business**



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING**

Headquarters Office Hours  
Monday-Wednesday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Tuesday 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Closed Friday, Saturday, Sunday and all Holidays

PO Box 186  
Buffalo, WY 82834  
307-620-5697

Email: [deptaux@wylegionaux.org](mailto:deptaux@wylegionaux.org)

# Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Nine units donated \$1,988.65 this year. I had been the AEF Program Chairman for several years and wanted to do something else. I begged a relatively new member to take the chairmanship. I didn't follow up so The Auxiliary Emergency Fund was on its own.

Peg Sullivan, acting Chairman



# Education

I was really bummed this year as Wyoming did not have a single application for a national scholarship. It is sad to see that no one applied when we all know that the cost of secondary schooling is so high and even a couple of hundred dollars can make a big difference.

Please look at getting the word out to your schools that scholarships are available through the American Legion Auxiliary. A good idea is to let your local National Guard know that the Non-Traditional Student Scholarship is available. All requirements and exactly what these scholarships entail are listed on the National ALA web site with links available on our Department site.

Linda Orr, Chair



**Linda Orr**  
Education Chairman

## Department Poppy Report



**B-Jo Laing**  
Poppy Chairman

First, thank you to each Unit and District that sent in Poppy Posters. I cannot do this without your help, and I am grateful for it. Second, I hope if you aren't already done you are working on your hat for Department Convention. I have already seen a couple of hats decorated with poppies and they are looking amazing. Finally, I hope you all had a productive Poppy Day. If you didn't hold a specific Poppy Day event on the Friday prior to Memorial Day, that's okay. You truly can have a Poppy Day any and every day. Just remember Poppy Funds are restricted. Check the National Website for more information, or feel free to contact me.

B-Jo Laing—Department Poppy Chair

## Leadership Year End Report

"True empowerment means raising your membership so high that, in any room, you can't tell who the leaders are – they all shine equally, taking initiative and responsibility." Anonymous. This quote truly embodies the spirit of the Wyoming Auxiliary Units. They step up to welcome new members and to encourage everyone to embrace leadership roles.

All Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend Mission Training meetings and tune in to informative webinars promoted by National. Additionally, they are encouraged to attend the American Legion Auxiliary Academy available on National's website. These excellent training opportunities allow everyone to deepen their understanding of the Auxiliary and its programs. They are also encouraged to attend Department meetings and their District Spring Conferences.

Sheridan Unit 7 began the year by providing each chairperson with folders containing information and guidance on where to find their programs on the ALA website.

While many Units face challenges



**Cathey Raymer**  
Leadership Chairman

in finding members willing to take on leadership positions, these same members consistently demonstrate a strong commitment to supporting their unit's programs and projects.

Thank you to the 7 units that submitted their Year End Reports.

*Respectfully submitted*  
**Cathey Raymer**  
Leadership Chairman

## Public Relations

I would like to send an S O S to all members of the Wyoming Auxiliary!

**Share Our Story:** Every unit involves Public Relation whether you recognize it or not or send a report! Facebook Page, Web Sites are all used by many units! Newspaper articles, advertising events and activities are widely used! Some Units use those thumb tack posters on the Community BulletinBoards which is probably the best in small towns. Most effective for every member is good ole fashion word of mouth!

**Show Our Story:** Paint and Sip community events (thank you Unit 28). As painting is done, the Unit is advertising their Unit and how to become a member. Parades are popular! The Department President led the parade at Dayton Days and had a rock painting event while sharing information. Leila was in the Auxiliary magazine concerning her parade involvement. Units also participate in local Veteran Day activities. Plenty of Units host halloween, Christmas and school events in their communities. Units also participate in local Veterans Day activities.

**Speak Our Story!** Many members attend local meetings and share who



**Robin Ruff**  
Public Relations Chairman

we are and what we stand for. Proclamations are issued in many communities to highlight our actions.

**Salute Our Selves:** We wear our pin with pride! We wear our brand anywhere and everywhere we go.

This is what Public Relations is! Everything we do, everything we say proclaims our service and commitment to standing for our Veterans, so recognize your value and **STRUT OUR STUFF.**

**Robin Ruff**

## Legislative

"The American Legion Auxiliary supports the public policy positions of The American Legion. The American Legion regularly adopts and renews legislative intent resolutions. The resolutions reflect the will of the membership and serve as instructions to Legion family officers and staff as to which legislative issues to monitor and what positions to take".

Of the five units reporting for Legislative, three sent in reports and 2 sent "No Report". Do we know what falls under Legislative? Has your unit been on a Teleconference Town Meeting with Senator Barasso or Representative Hageman? Did you write a letter to your local Senator or Representative regarding the "Tax Break" Wyomingites who have owned a home in our State for 30 years?

Other Legislative Actions is Suicide Prevention, Community Care for Veterans, how about helping Veterans by ending veteran homelessness. Your projects fall under than one program. Report on several but only count your hours one



**Peg Sullivan**  
Department Secretary  
Treasurer

time. Come to Department Convention and learn more about the Legislative Program and hear what the units did.



# WE NEED YOU!

The ALA Department of Wyoming encourages Units to send a representative to Department Meetings.

Every meeting provides sharing ideas, information and renewing friendships

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY**

Visit our Department Webpage! [www.wylegionaux.org](http://www.wylegionaux.org)

Where you will find the latest news, up coming events, contact information, forms and publications



## Veteran's Affairs & Rehabilitation Report



**Tammy Harris**  
Chairman

I've been reading through the reports from Units throughout the Department and I just have to say WOW, and you are all rock stars! Over the past year, members in Units throughout the Department have worked the VA & R Program in big and small ways—from things as simple as placing flags or wreaths at cemeteries, to providing meals for veterans. You showed up and made a difference in the lives of the veterans you touched.

Units continue to participate in Memorial Day activities and ceremonies. From preparing the cemeteries to placing flags to attending/participating in ceremonies you honored the service and sacrifice of those who died in service to our country. On Veterans day, you participated in school programs, provided meals, delivered cookies and attended parades.

At the beginning of her year, President Robin challenged us all to help combat food insecurity in our communities. When it comes to our veterans you answered the call—pro-

viding meals at restaurants, grocery gift cards and helping pass out food on Food Bank delivery days, members all across the state stepped up and ensured that one of the most basic needs of our veterans was met. Of course, we can't forget the food Units brought to Fall Workshop for food pantries. You helped to make a difference in the lives of veterans one bite at a time and together we made a difference.

Units also participated in wreath laying ceremonies on Wreaths Across America Day. The Veterans sections of cemeteries in our communities were decorated with evergreen wreaths and veterans were honored for their service.

Units supported the Sheridan and Cheyenne VAs and the Buffalo Home by providing volunteers to play BINGO, put on birthday parties, and serve milkshakes and of course by providing cookies during your designated cookie month. Members participated in the Stand-down in Cheyenne where they handed out hoodies, non-perishable food, socks, hats and gloves.

Several Units have provided financial support to all three facilities. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Unit members have also embraced the Be The One initiative from the American Legion. From holding suicide awareness rallies to learning how to talk to veterans in crisis, you make a difference. Your work is helping to reduce the stigma around talking about mental health issues and normalizing the idea that it is ok to not be ok sometimes. Together we can continue to work toward reducing the number of veteran suicides.

Thank you all for showing up for the veterans in your communities, at the VAs and everywhere in between. Your work makes a difference.

## "Constitution & Bylaws

### 2025 – 2026 CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS REPORT

There were 9 Units that took time out of their busy schedule to send a Constitution & Bylaws report to Department.

Sheridan #7– Our Constitution & Bylaws and Standing Rules were reviewed, and no changes were deemed necessary. The Constitution & Bylaws and Standing Rules were sent via e-mail to several Unit members.

Douglas #8 – Our Constitution & Bylaws were reviewed this year. There were no changes made.

Buffalo #13 – Constitution and Bylaws – Unit follows Robert's Rules of Order at our meetings.

Glendo #15 – The Constitution & Bylaws and Standing Rules were updated to include new terminology and filed. Each Unit member was presented updated copies of all three documents for their personal files.

Riverton #19 – We keep our Constitution & Bylaws and Standing Rules updated and it was sent the Department Chairman when we changed our dues. We have a budget we operate on and stick close to it. We go over our Standing Rules occasionally and update when needed.

Moorcroft #25 – Unit met three times during meetings to review and make changes to the Constitution & Bylaws. After it was approved, a signed copy was sent to the Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman. A copy is being given to every member when they attend a meeting.

Basin #29 – Our Constitution & Bylaws are up to date. We recently increased our award money for the Americanism Essay Contest winners and updated our Standing Rules to reflect this change.

Lander Unit #33 – Unit governing documents have been reviewed, and the updated documents were distributed to the Unit members in January for their review and input. The plan is to vote to approve during our April meeting.



**Shareen Johnson**  
Constitution & Bylaws  
Chairman

Pinedale #47 – At the March 5, 2026, meeting, the Unit voted to sign off on the Constitution and Bylaws with no changes. The newly-signed version has been mailed to the Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman.

Two Units sent their updated governing documents into the Department to be placed on file.

The National Organization dues increase in 2024 affected all Auxiliary members and most Units increased their dues at that time. If a Unit increased their dues, then their governing documents would have needed to be updated to reflect this. Did your Unit do this?

Upon review of the Department files, which currently has 38 Units, the following statistics might be of interest to our members. Three Units currently do not have governing documents on file at the Department. One Unit last updated in 1989 while six Units updated in 2000s, 11 Units in 2010s, and 17 Units in the 2020s. Do you know which group your Unit is in?

*Respectfully submitted,*  
**Shareen Johnson,**  
Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

## National Security



**Trudy Zaffarano**  
National Security  
Chairman

As Department of Wyoming Chairman for 2025-2026, I received 10 Unit National Security reports out of a total of 39 units in the state.

One of the goals of the American Legion Auxiliary's National Security program is to provide for the needs of our military families on the home front. This includes auxiliary members reaching out and helping support emotional and social needs of active, reserve, and transitioning military and their families. As a soldier and family readiness specialist for the Wyoming

National Guard it makes sense for me to volunteer for this chairmanship.

Some of the things that stuck out to me from the reports was the continued support of willingness to put together care packages. Units helped other units with the cost of sending care packages. Glendo unit 15 continues to make and send pocket prayers to active members. Glendo has 8 enthusiasts of 82 members who send greeting cards, holiday cards, and thinking of you cards and letters are sent to veterans and those serving overseas each month. They have two active members that are also EMT's. There is a mobile clinic that goes to Wheatland every Wednesday to cut down on the travel to healthcare providers. All the reporting units help military families of deployed service members by assisting in childcare needs, lawn care in summer and driveways in winter. They also collaborate with FEMA to act as an emergency response resource during manmade or natural disasters. Standdowns were assisted by the units by supplying socks, toiletries, oral hygiene aids, baby items that were gathered along with handmade blankets for newborn babies. Honor Guards formally performed ceremonial duties at funerals with auxiliaries hosting or helping with food. Yellow ribbons were placed on trees in their hometown to honor all that returned from deployment. Grocery gift cards were given out in the amounts of \$50 and \$100 to families of deployed by

two different auxiliaries. Commodities were handed out to families of active and non-active servicemen and families. Units reported that they displayed the MIA/POW table at each meeting and activity. Powell unit takes care of families before, during and after deployment with delivery of commodities when there is a service member or family in need of groceries. They also get a special holiday basket during Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Powell, Worland, and Basin units recognized April as Month of the Military Child supporting military kids and wearing purple at their District meeting in April. All the units proudly wear RED on Fridays to bring awareness to active-duty service members and wears them every Friday. It stands for "Remember Everyone Deployed." Gold Star Banners were presented or sent to families of deployed to be placed in their windows at home representing that they have a member of their family serving.

A POW/MIA table remains set up daily to recognize our POW's and MIA's. Attention is called to this small table which occupies a place of dignity and honor. It is set for one, symbolizing the fact that members of our armed forces are missing from our ranks. The missing man table also known as the Fallen Comrade Table. It is a semi-official place of honor in our dining facility in memory of fallen and missing in action or prisoners of war.

> The chair is empty they are not here.  
>The table is round showing ever-

lasting concern for our POW/MIA's.

>The cloth is white symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms.

> The single rose signifies the blood they shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved United States of America. The rose also reminds us of our missing comrades who keep the faith while awaiting their return.

> The yellow ribbon stands for the yellow ribbons worn on the lapels of the thousands who are not among us.

> A slice of lemon reminding us of the bitter fate of those missing, captured and held as prisoners in foreign lands.

> A pinch of salt denoting the tears of our missing and their families who long for answers after decades of uncertainty.

> The Holy Bible represents the strength gained through faith in our country, founded as one nation under God and to sustain those lost from our midst.

> The lighted candle reflects the light of hope which lives in our heart to illuminate their way home, away from their captors to the open arms of a grateful nation.

> The inverted glass symbolizing their inability to share the evening's toast.

We will never forget their sacrifices. May God forever watch over them and protect them and their families.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Trudy Zaffarano**

# American Legion Auxiliary Girls State



*Alyssa Hinckley*  
Wyoming Girls State Director

ment ensures that Wyoming Girls State continues to provide meaningful leadership and civic engagement opportunities for delegates across the state.

We are proud to highlight Emma Pehringer's exceptional achievement at Girls Nation, where she represented Wyoming as a Junior Counselor. During her time there, Emma distinguished herself among her peers and was selected as the top Junior Counselor—an honor that reflects her leadership, professionalism, and commitment to mentoring the next generation. Her recognition at the national level brings great credit to Wyoming Girls State and serves as a powerful example of the impact of this program.

We are also proud to report that, for the second biennium in a row, Wyoming Girls State has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Wyoming Department of Education. These funds are being strategically invested to expand and enhance program offerings, with a focus on deepening delegates' understanding of state and local government. Additionally, a portion of the grant is supporting increased marketing outreach—both digital and print—to ensure more eligible young women across Wyoming are aware of and encouraged to apply for this opportunity.

Thank you to all who continue to champion and support this vital program. The collective impact of these efforts is both meaningful and enduring, helping to shape the next generation of informed and engaged leaders.

Alyssa Hinckley  
WY Girls State Director  
307-630-6263  
wygsdirector@gmail.com

Wyoming Girls State Chairman Report

This year's session of Wyoming Girls State highlights our sustained commitment to developing the next generation of leaders through meaningful civic education and engagement. In June 2025, we proudly graduated 96 delegates, and we are on track to match that strong participation for the 2026 session.

This continued success is a direct result of the dedication of our local unit chairmen and the strength of our community partnerships. Their outreach and support have been instrumental in maintaining a consistently high level of student interest and participation across the state.

This update reflects the continued and reliable support of our local American Legion Auxiliary units, whose commitment to empowering young women remains central to the success of this transformative program. Their sustained involve-

## VAVS - Cheyenne



*Vicki Paddock*  
VAVS Representative for Cheyenne

delivered and used. Each resident in the CLC also receives a birthday card with money in it.

Memorial services are quarterly with the Department of Wyoming providing water and snacks for 200. Members of Unit 6 and 14 were gracious and helped.

They did not hold a stand down this year. I attended an event sponsored by the VFW Auxiliary. Robin Ruff, Kenzie Allen, Cynthia Ivaniszek and I handed out items that were collected for President Robin's project.

Recently I was asked for notebooks and decaf coffee. The notebooks are for the patients to take notes during doctor visits.

Cookies are still being donated by the units. I am not sure who all has donated. A donation form needs to be filled out every time and cookies delivered to Building 6. This is the only way we can get credit for what we are doing.

Please fill out donation sheet for everything you do at the VA's or the CBOC's.

Vicki Paddock  
VAVS representative for Cheyenne.

A request was made to purchase the sim cards to update the phones they are already using. Fourteen sim cards and 14-minute cards were delivered with a cost of \$704. A birthday party is held every month for the CLC residents. Most months there is a unit who will provide the cake and serve it. If not, we order cupcakes to be delivered. Cookies are still being

**THANK YOU**  
For  
**SUPPORTING THE WY VETERAN FACILITIES**

Unit 09	Glenrock	Buffalo, Cheyenne, Sheridan
Unit 13	Buffalo	Buffalo, Cheyenne, Sheridan
Unit 15	Glendo	Buffalo, Cheyenne, Sheridan
Unit 19	Riverton	Buffalo, Cheyenne, Sheridan
Unit 24	Rock Springs	Cheyenne
Unit 25	Moorcroft	Buffalo Sheridan
Unit 29	Basin	Buffalo Sheridan
Unit 33	Lander	Buffalo Sheridan
Unit 36	Ft. Bridger	Sheridan
Unit 40	Cokeville	Cheyenne
Unit 47	Pinedale	Sheridan
Unit 54	Saratoga	Buffalo, Cheyenne, Sheridan
Unit 75	Chugwater	Cheyenne
Unit 78	Big Piney	Sheridan
Unit 80	Hulett	Buffalo
Unit 90	Kaycee	Buffalo
Post 06	Cheyenne	Cheyenne
TAL		Buffalo

**Total Donations: \$5,201.40**

## HONOR YOUR VIETNAM VETERAN WHO RETURNED HOME AND LATER DIED THROUGH THE IN MEMORY PROGRAM



**The Wall That Heals will be in Afton, WY from July 9 - 12, 2026**

**To have your veteran included as part of the mobile Education Center display when The Wall That Heals is on display in Afton, apply by June 9, 2026**



For more information, visit [www.vvmf.org/In-Memory-Program/](http://www.vvmf.org/In-Memory-Program/) or scan the following QR code:



## District 2 Report



**B-Jo Laing**  
**District 2 President**

Thanks to those of you who came to the District 2 Spring Conference in Chugwater. We had a great lunch and a productive meeting. We were able to judge Poppy Posters for the District. We had some amazing entries. If you weren't there, you can see some of them at Department Convention. Others will be sent along to Division after being judged at the Department level.

I want to highlight a Unit in our District that has been doing some great things. Jesse Martin, Unit 9 in Glenrock has several members who work in the thrift shop in the basement of their Senior Center (which is also where they hold their meetings). They take in items left as donations for the thrift shop. They sort and

price items, they keep the store organized and neat. They also keep an ear to the ground when they know someone is in need and could use something specific. If they can thrift it, they do. Many of their service hours come from these members working at the Thrift Store. They are able to put out the American Legion Auxiliare message and brand through their work.

This is not the beginning nor the end of what they do either. The Auxiliare donates time and money in the community as well. They donated money to the local schools (elementary, middle, and high schools) for supplies. They donated supplies to the library to use in some of their programs. They decided to use 250 as inspiration for some of these as well. As in the 250th birthday of these United States of America. They participated in Wreaths Across America. They've donated to veterans' families in need, especially during times of treatment and health challenges. They came forward when a veteran had no family to offer a celebration of life on his behalf. The community knows they do these things and the community really counts on their help. Tying veterans and patriotism into all they do. They should be and are an inspiration to each of us. If you see one of these members be certain to thank them for their service and their good works.

**District 2**  
**B-Jo Laing President**

## Sheridan VA Healthcare Network



**Linda Orr**  
**Rep**

First and most importantly, thank you for everything you do for our hospitalized veterans and those who are homeless and need our help. Your cookies are appreciated as it gives them a homey feeling. There are approximately 14 of you who volunteer throughout the year with hands on activities. The Buffalo Unit comes over and makes root beer floats and the Sheridan Unit makes milkshakes and plays bingo monthly. The Vets love to see you.

There is a food pantry just opening in Building 7, Room 213 for those veterans who have food insecurity. Please think about donating non-perishables as everyone needs to eat.

The Women's Clinic has hired new staff and they have projects for the pregnant veteran and her child through the child's first year. They would love to have a group "adopt"



**Melba Bennet**  
**Rep**

their program. They are requesting items for both the new mothers and for the newborns.

The hospital system needs drivers to go between clinics and the Sheridan hospital

Upcoming activities are the Rock Springs Clinic Open House on June 6, the Annual KARZ Club Show (all types of cars) with booths for veterans and organizations on June 27, POW held in conjunction with the Cheyenne VA on Saturday, August 15 in Cheyenne and an AARP sponsored Golf Tournament at Kendrick Golf Course in Sheridan.

Your time, financial donations and support are invaluable to the comfort factors at the Sheridan VA Healthcare Network. You have a special place in the veteran's and our hearts. **Thank you again.**

**Linda Orr and Melba Bennett, Reps**

## District 4 Report



**Susan Sironen**  
**District 4**

Following is a short highlight of each unit:

Powell – they sponsor Wreaths Across America and laid 701 wreaths (with the help of community volunteers) on veteran graves at the Powell cemetery (and then had to pick them up again!) An annual Halloween party for children is a great community service project and several members are active in the American Legion food program.

Basin – they continue to hold their suicide awareness rally several

times during the year. For Veterans Day, they paid for breakfast or lunch for 34 veterans at the local café. The unit sent "thank you for your service" cards to the various veterans. The Americanism Chairman works closely with the 5th grade teacher regarding patriotism by handing out patriotism comic books. She also requested a flag be flown over the US Capitol in Washington D.C. in the teacher's name. The flag will be presented at the school awards ceremony in May to thank her for all she does with the students.

Worland – they donated snacks and resources to firefighters temporarily housed in Worland while battling wildfires. One of their Junior members prepares the soda birthday cake-in-a-pan kits which were donated to the local food bank. The unit supports veterans throughout the year but especially around Memorial Day and Veterans Day by providing food and decorations at various events

All three units are very active with the Girls State program. The three units cover 11 schools in the Big Horn Basin.

**DISTRICT 4**  
**Susan Sironen, President**

## District 5 Report



**Gloria Taylor**  
**District 5 President**

Newcastle/Upton Unit 3 is always bustling with activity, regularly participating in parades, car shows, and other events where selling cotton candy serves as their main fundraising method to support local veterans.

Sheridan Unit 7, my home unit, recently hosted our Spring Conference. I was delighted with both the turnout and our guests. Our team continually finds innovative ways to support the community and veterans, dedicating much of our time at the town's VA facility.

Buffalo Unit 13 can almost always be found at the Veterans Home, baking, serving, or simply spending time playing games or gardening

with the veterans. Before meetings, Buffalo offers a fantastic light supper, which coincides with the post's gathering. The collaboration between these groups is truly impressive.

Moorcroft Unit 25 has created an ongoing display project featuring photos and write-ups of their local veterans. This initiative will continue until they've honored every veteran in their community. As you drive down the highway, their cemetery stands out, and "Soldier Dude" now sits beside a beautiful planter, having found the perfect spot.

Gillette Unit 42 invests significant effort into cooking for both the local community and veterans, frequently hosting dinners and fundraisers each month. Their continuous fundraising efforts support numerous scholarships awarded throughout the year.

Kaycee Unit 90, though small with just four members, is a true powerhouse! Every year, these dedicated women achieve remarkable things, such as providing senior meals for veterans and the community five days a week. In partnership with the local fire department, they also line the streets with American, POW, and other military flags during the summer—a truly amazing sight!

**DISTRICT 5**  
**Gloria Taylor, President**



American Legion Auxiliary Convention
Department of Wyoming
June 19 - 21, 2026
Powell, Wyoming
Park County Fairgrounds - 655 E 5th St.

Wednesday, June 11, 2026

7:00 p.m. Department Finance Committee by ZOOM

Thursday, June 19, 2026

3:00-7:00 p.m. Registration - Heart Mountain Hall
7:00 p.m. Department Executive Committee

Friday, June 20, 2026-

8:00 a.m. Registration - Heart Mountain Hall
9:00 a.m. TBA
Opening of Convention - Ruth Ross, Powell President
Introduction of District, Department and National Officers
Call to Order: Department President Robin Ruff
Invocation - Chaplain Susan Dansereau
Pledge of Allegiance - Americanism Chair Cathey Raymer
Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion Auxiliary
Constitution and Bylaws Chair Shareen Johnson
Reading of the Call to Convention: Secretary Peg Sillivan
Welcome - Wendy Stovall
Response to Welcome - District 6
Introduction of Sgt. At Arms - B-Jo Laing & Barbie Chaffin
Recognition of Unit 26 - Convention Committee - Ruth Ross
Roll Call of Officers and Units - Secretary Peg Sillivan
Appointment of Convention Committees
Credentials - Sunny Hobbs and Susan Dansereau
Rules and Courtesy Resolution - Sunny Hobbs and Susan Dansereau
Election Judges and Tellers:
Unit 13-Elizabeth Miura; Unit 08-Linda York, Unit 44-Cynthia Pfeiffer
Reading of the Rules of Convention - C & B Chair Shareen Johnson
Report of the Pre-Convention Finance Committee - FC Vicki Paddock
Report of the Pre-Convention DEC - Peg Sillivan
Reading of the Rules for Electing Dept Officers C & B Shareen Johnson

9:50 a.m. Military Child Table - Trudy Zaffarano

10:15 a.m. Break-Greetings to the Legion

10:25 a.m. Call back to Order

OFFICIAL CALL TO CONVENTION

Powell, Wyoming June 19th thru June 21st 2026

The 106th Annual Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Wyoming is hereby called to be held in Powell, Wyoming June 19th, 20th and 21st of 2026.

PURPOSE

To receive reports of Department Officers and Chairmen;
To elect Department Officers for the ensuing year;
To receive and take action on proposed changes to the Department Constitution and Bylaws;
To transact such other business as may come before the Department Convention.

PRESENTATION and REGISTRATION

Representation in the Department Convention shall be by Units. Each Unit shall be entitled to one delegate for each 15 members or major fraction thereof and one delegate-at-large, whose current dues shall have been received by the Department Secretary-Treasurer by June 1st, 2026 prior to the meeting of said convention. Delegates and alternates shall be elected by a majority vote of those present at a meeting called for that purpose not later than June 1st, 2026 prior to the Department Convention. Certification of delegates should be made promptly to the Department Secretary-Treasurer after their election.

All Past Department Presidents of Wyoming in good standing in a Unit in the Department of Wyoming shall be life delegates-at-large to the Department Convention with votes to be exercised with or aside from their Units. One delegate from each Unit will cast the entire vote of her Unit on all ballots. The voting strength will be based upon the total membership on the books of the Department Executive Secretary-Treasurer as of May 18th. All delegates are required to register. The registration fee will be \$20.00.

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION

A meeting of the Department Executive Committee is hereby called, as provided by Article IV, Section 1, of the Department Bylaws and will be held at 7:00 pm at Powell, WY, on June 18, 2026. All Executive Committee members as provided in Section 1 of Article IV are expected to attend. Failure to attend will prevent them from collecting convention expenses, as allowed.

Susan Dansereau, Department President

Peg Sillivan, Department Executive Secretary-Treasurer



The American Legion, Department of Wyoming

1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
(307) 634-3035 Fax (307) 635-7093 adjutant@wyolegion.net

107th Annual National Convention Registration Form

Louisville, KY - August 28th thru September 3rd

\*Must be completed by all Delegates, Alternates, and Guests\*

Legionnaire [ ] S.A.L. [ ] Auxiliary [ ]

Name Phone # Name for Badge

Address City, WY Zip

email address Membership (TAL/SAL only)

Legionnaire/SAL Registration \$35.00
Guest Registration \$35.00
NATCOM Banquet \$75.00 (tentative)

(Registration Fee is Non-Refundable)

Must register to have access to the Convention Center and Exhibits

Hotel - 1 night's room deposit is required

Marriott Louisville Downtown, 280 West Jefferson Street Phone: 502-627-5045
Website: https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/sdfm-louisville-marriott-downtown/overview/

I will be sharing a room with \* Phone#

I will arrive on at (time) am/pm
Date

I will depart on at (time) am/pm
Date

Non-Smoking Hotel

Single Room, King bed 1 or 2 persons \$178.84 (includes tax and fees)

Double Room, 2 queen beds 2-4 people\* \$178.84 (includes tax and fees)

TOTAL \$

\* Due to the new National registration process, each attendee MUST fill out a form
Make check or money order payable to The American Legion, Department of Wyoming

RETURN FORM AND FUNDS BY 01 July 2026

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING

ANNUAL CONVENTION

June 18-21, 2026

Hosted by:

Hughes-Pittinger Post 26

143 S Clark Street Powell WY 82435

Registration & ALL Meetings held at Park County Fairgrounds in Heart Mountain Hall unless otherwise noted

Table with columns: EVENT, HOW MANY, TOTAL. Rows include PRE-REGISTRATION, REGISTRATION at the DOOR, CHIP, FRIDAY - JUNE 19, 2026, SATURDAY - JUNE 20, 2026, SUNDAY - JUNE 21, 2026.

\*\*MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO Hughes-Pittinger Post 26\*\* TOTAL ENCLOSED

Check One

NAME POST/UNIT prime rib or chicken for Banquet;

NAME POST/UNIT prime rib or chicken for Banquet;

NAME POST/UNIT prime rib or chicken for Banquet;

MAIL REGISTRATION & CHECK TO: Hughes-Pittinger Post 26 143 S Clark St Powell WY 82435

HOTEL/MOTEL INFORMATION

Travel Lodge 777 E 2nd St Powell Wy 307-754-5117 Starting at \$80
Lampighter 234 E 1st ST Powell WY 307-754-2226 Starting \$109
Fairground RV Park 655 E 5th ST Powell WY 307-754-8855 First come first serve-- \$35