

Commander's Corner



Benjamin V. Glenn Jr.
Commander
Dept. of Wyoming

Let me begin by thanking everyone for granting me the opportunity to continue to serve! I am excited to be your new Department of Wyoming Commander for the 2026-2027 legion year. It is truly an honor, and I will do my best to rep-

resent Wyoming.
Department of Wyoming had a great convention in Powell back in June. Hughes-Pittinger Post # 26 did an excellent job hosting this year's convention. Thank you for all your hard work.
To start, Adjutant Stuart has sent out my Mission Statement for 2026-2027. This will give everyone a snapshot of what my priorities are as Commander. I encourage open dialogue from all our legionnaires. The newest members in our Posts may produce some of the best ideas so let us ensure that every member has a voice from bottom to top. We have many new District and Post Commanders this year and I encourage you to reach out to Past Commanders in your area if you have questions. "The only dumb question is the one that goes unasked!" We have a lot of experience across our department, and I personally am not embarrassed to

pick up the phone when I need to ask a question.
The 45-Day Department Executive meeting was held in Sheridan on 18 July 2026. *"Big Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Ron Wood for hosting it again this year."* We had an outstanding turnout which resulted in a large amount of work being completed. I believe that the results of this meeting have set our department on course for what is expected to be another very good year. We also conducted our first in person meeting of the State Convention Committee charged with the planning and execution of our 2027 Department Convention. We had great input from The Auxiliary, SAL, and the Legionnaires on the committee. Better Together!
I want to encourage everyone to get out and support all our Legion programs. I seized the opportunity to travel to Gillette on 24 July 2026 and support our Legion Baseball

teams from across the State. Wow! What an excellent opportunity to get out and see Wyoming American Legion Baseball at its very best! I want to thank the Legion Baseball Chairman Jason Huggins, Coaches, Umpires, Legionnaire's, Auxiliary, S.A.L. and all the Parents and Volunteers who work their tails off to support these players and the Legion Baseball program. **Bravo Zulu!**
We will be traveling early August to the National Headquarters for membership meetings followed up quickly by the American Legion National Convention. We also have Wyoming American Legion Leadership Training (WALLT) coming this September in Cheyenne following our Fall Workshop in Casper. I look forward to seeing everyone soon!
Service Before Self, Not Self Service

1st Vice Commander's Corner



Chuck Guilford
1st Vice Commander
Dept. of Wyoming

Greetings Wyoming Legionaries,
Well here I am the last day of July 2026 typing away! I want to thank everyone that attended the state convention last month and for your vote for me as your Vice Commander. It was great convention and, a shout out to the Powell Post 26 for your time and efforts with the convention, well done Post 26!
Since convention the DEC met for the required 45 day DEC meeting. The meeting was held in Sheridan at NEC Ron Woods place of business. Thank you Ron and Debbie for your continued support of our

organization and all that you do in the Sheridan community. Lunch was awesome and the meeting space was just right.
Christmas in July was the 24th and 25th. The Squadrons out did themselves this year! The Gazebo is a wonderful addition to the outdoor activity area of the Veterans Home. It was very warm on the 25th, consequently there were only a few fish caught by some of the Veterans. Lunch was also indoors this year. I had a great lunch with my friend Mr. Clarence Bishop!
Post membership goals were discussed and goals were tentatively set for the ensuing year. The DEC will know more about this at the conclusion of the membership conference next month in Indianapolis.
Your continued membership is the life blood of our organization. Membership renewals have been mailed out and many Legionaries have paid their dues for the 2027 year. For those who haven't mailed their dues, please consider doing so as soon as you are able. I think about paying now verses paying later as the holidays will be here before we know it. To the Adjutants across our great State, I thank you for all the hard work you do for your Post. Please continue processing membership renewals as soon as you can.
As always, stay safe, Chuck

Adjutant's Corner



Vanessa Stuart
Department Adjutant

Greetings Legion family!
Summer is almost over and hopefully the heat with it. Congratulations to the entire Department of Wyoming for achieving both the 100% membership goal and 100% CPRs. Thank you to each and everyone who helped us achieve these goals. Your involvement with your communities and posts is outstanding and very much appreciated. At this year's Department convention, we recognized 26 posts for achieving the 100% goal.
The following awards were presented:
Legionnaire of the Year Mike Cooke – Post 24 Rock Springs
Outstanding District Commander Kirk Will – District 5
Post Commander of the Year Dwight Null – Post 6 Cheyenne
Membership Worker of the Year Keith Trouwborst – Post 22 Lander
Outstanding Post Adjutant Ed Morrow Post 26 Powell
Club Manager/Bartender of the Year Melissa Swinyer Post 7 Sheridan
Citizen Soldier of the Year Daniel G Scott Post 24 Rock Springs
Educator of the Year Matt Conzelman Post 3 Newcastle
Emergency Medical Technician of the Year Seth Wilson Post 21 Burns
Firefighter of the Year John McCoy Post 60 Pine Bluffs
Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

James Rose Post 3 Newcastle
Healthcare Work of the Year Jinyu Yin Post 2 Casper
Lloyd Seaman Athletic Trophy Archie Hay Post 24 Rock Springs
Commanders Youth Service Award Preslee Fitzwater Newcastle
Americanism Plaque Francis E Self Post 6 Cheyenne
Community Service – Large Hughes-Pittinger Post 26
Community Service – Small Arapaho Warriors-CPL Billy Farris Post #96
Mallet Awards
Bantam Mallet Garcia-Castaneda Post #93 - 200%
Light Mallet Greybull Post #32 - 112.90%
Medium Mallet Angus Englund Post #54 - 108.33%
Heavy Mallet Jackson Hole Post #43 - 103.68%
Big Mallet Hughes-Pittinger Post #26 - 104.49%
We also presented the Bronze Brigade award to Eli Chavez from Post 14 and the Gold Brigade award to Dwight Null from Post 6 for outstanding achievement in recruiting new members.
We have two raffles happening right now. The first is for Oratorical and that will be drawn at Fall Workshop 19 Sept in Casper.
The second is our Ways and Means rifle raffle which will be drawn at Mid-Winter 16 January in Riverton. Please check with your District Commander for tickets or contact headquarters.
Finally, several members have requested to view the newspaper online at wyolegion.org rather than receiving a hard copy. If you would like to stop receiving the paper copy of the newspaper, please email adjutant@wyolegion.org with NEWSPAPER REQUEST in the subject line. You can change back at anytime. Also, if you are receiving duplicate newspapers still, please also send an email and I will get that fixed.
May the rest of your summer be full of joy. See you at Fall workshop!
Vanessa Stuart, Department Adjutant.

2nd Vice Commander's Corner 2026 Legion Membership Message

Greetings fellow Legionaries.
I am super excited for the department team we have this year. We are already off to a great start and the 2027 membership year has just begun. I would like to send out a heartfelt thank you for your support in electing me Vice Commander for The American Legion Department of Wyoming. I am excited to work and support Commander Ben and Vice Commander Chuck. I want to also thank Post 6 for their support as well. As we hit the new membership year it is very important to get those dues in early. If you pay early you could actually save the national organization a lot of money. It costs the national organization approximately \$250K+ per mailing to send renewals by mail so please get your dues paid up sooner rather than later. As Commander Ben and Vice Commander Chuck stated, we all met in Sheridan for our 45-day meeting. The meeting went amazing and a lot of great ideas were tossed around in how we move the Department forward. I am sure we will have another banner year like we did last year. Thank you everyone for their work on membership last year as we were able to obtain 100+ percent membership as a department. The American Legion baseball season just wrapped up and it was a good



Jim Lish
2nd Vice Commander
Dept. of Wyoming

turnout for Wyoming. Congratulations to all the teams that were part of the state tournament and a special congratulations to Post 6 Sixers for being the state champions. As we all know Oratorical is coming up on us soon. Get out to the schools and recruit recruit! If you have any questions contact our department Chairman Don York. I look forward to a great year and thanks for allowing me to be your Vice Commander.
For God and Country!
Jim Lish

100% Membership

Congratulations Wyoming American Legion! We exceeded our goal for membership year 2026. Wyoming is #2 of all 55 Departments throughout The American Legion. That is a great achievement. Wyoming was recognized at the recent National Membership Workshop for this momentous accomplishment. Thank you to all those that put in the work to keep our members informed and keep our Legion strong in the vital mission of supporting our veterans, their families, and the communities throughout the great state of Wyoming!

During the National Membership Workshop, your Department leaders met with the leading candidate for National Commander, Jay Bowen (CO). The main topic was our goal for the 2027 membership year. Membership Chairman, 1st Vice Commander Chuck Guilford with the support of the Commander Ben Glenn and Adjutant Vanessa Stuart, told Commander Bowen that we worked with all of our Districts and determined the 2027 goal should be 5035 members. After some discussion, Commander Bowen gave us his support and approved our goal. Commander Bowen's theme is Be Part Of The Solution (BPOTS). He believes strongly that when our members chose to be a part of the solution, we will continue to do great things. Just as our predecessors have done for the past 107 years.

So, our goal is set. We start now. Let's continue our excellence into the 2027 membership year. Renewals for 2027 are open. In the last Article, I explained The American Legion's Bylaws (Article IV, Section 4) require that a member's dues be paid by the start of the membership year to remain in good standing. Therefore, let's keep all of our members with full rights and privileges and get them



Chip Kossow
Wyoming Membership
Coordinator

renewed by this 31 December. For this to be successful, Districts must inform their Posts. Posts must contact all their members to ensure they understand the importance of their membership and to renew ASAP.

The American Legion is an advocate for active duty and veteran affairs as well as their families. That advocacy also extends to patriotism, National Defense, and our children and youth. We must have a vibrant membership to support these efforts. We are stronger together!

There are many ways to take care of your renewals. Each member with an email address has access to a mylegion account. Through that account, the individual member can pay their dues, sign up for automatic renewals, multiyear renewals, Paid Up For Life (PUFL), or they can pay the Post with cash or check. Then the Posts can process memberships through mylegion.org. That is the most efficient way.

Respectfully
Chip Kossow
Wyoming Membership Coordinator
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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 Sullivan, PO Box 186, Buffalo, WY 82834
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WYOMING LEGIONNAIRE - AUXILIARE (USPS 574-210) is published for 6 months of September, December, March, June by the American Legion, Dept. of Wyoming 1320 Hugur Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001 and printed by Douglas Budget, 310 Center Street (PO Box 109), Douglas, WY 82633. 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

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Fall Workshop
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American Legion Chaplains-Service to God and Country

The chaplaincy has many purposes. One of its major purposes is to help persons grow in their relationship with God and one another. Also, we serve as a reminder of the transcendent and seek to develop an environment within which Legionnaires are encouraged in their personal and collective moral and spiritual growth. We are to remind all Americans that God is the source of all rights and privileges.

The American Legion is comprehensive in nature embracing all religions, faiths, and denominations within its ranks. The chaplaincy being non-denominational and non-sectarian, wishes to minister to the spiritual needs of

all without regard to either affiliation or non-affiliation.

Chaplains seek to minister to people wherever there is a need. For many, chaplains are the only ministers they will ever know, as they have no affiliation with church, synagogue, or other religious institution. The role of the chaplain is ever increasing due to the aging of our membership. Each Legionnaire should be alert to the physical and spiritual needs of his/her comrades. The chaplain should be notified when there is death, illness, or special concern in the membership. At that point the chaplain should provide all ministry and service available.

U.S. Air Force Birthday
September 18, 1947

Known as the most recent branch of the U.S. military to be formed, the Air Force is also the largest and most technologically advanced air force in the world. Initially part of the United States Army, the USAF was formed as a separate branch of the military on 18 September 1947 under the National Security Act of 1947.

Happy Birthday!



Courtesy Photo

Above: Keith Trouwborst receiving Membership worker of the year at 45 day DEC



Special Awards



Department Commander Ben Glenn Receives National Aware

Department of Wyoming Commander Benjamin Glenn was the recipient of a National Award DAR Medal of Honor. He was nominated by Wyoming's Daughters of the American Revolution for this high honor. The criteria is a person who is a native born American Citizen who has displayed Leadership, Trustworthiness, Service and Patriotism. Congratulations Commander Glenn.



In the Spotlight



Courtesy Photo
Robert Wambeke now at 95.

Robert Wambeke: A Lifetime of Quiet Service

Some people leave a lasting impression not because they seek attention, but because they spend a lifetime quietly doing what needs to be done. Robert Wambeke of Powell is one of those people.

At 95 years old, Robert still exercises every day, enjoys “one beer and a smoke” each day, and carries the same work ethic that defined his life as a farmer, soldier, husband, and community member. Robert was born on June 30 in Deaver, Wyoming, to Alice and Ivo Wambeke. He grew up in the Deaver-Frannie area and graduated from Deaver-Frannie High School. Farming was always his goal. As a member of Future Farmers of America (FFA), he spent three years raising beans as his agricultural project, laying out the foundation for a lifetime devoted to agriculture. Growing up in a family of six brothers, autumn meant one thing—elk hunting. Every fall, the Wambeke brothers headed to the mountains together, a tradition that created memories lasting a lifetime.



Courtesy Photo
Robert Wambeke entering service 1953

Military service was already a part of the Wambeke family. Two of Robert’s older brothers served during World War II. William joined the U.S. Navy immediately after the attack on Pearl Harbor and did not return home for five years. Francis was drafted into the Army in 1944 and served in the Pacific Theater. Robert entered the U.S. Army in 1953. While attending Basic Training at Camp Roberts, California, the Korean Armistice was signed. Although active combat had ceased, the mission of protecting South Korea was far from over. Following Basic Training, Robert traveled to Camp Stoneman before beginning the long journey across the Pacific. His route took him through Yokohama and Sasebo, Japan, before arriving in Inchon, Korea—a trip that lasted nearly two weeks.

Assigned to A Battery, 40th Field Artillery, 7th Infantry Division, Robert served as a deuce-and-a-half truck driver. Because his artillery unit was permanently stationed on the front line, he spent his entire tour living in a tent. One of the first memories that stayed with him was seeing the devastation left behind by the war. “When we traveled from Inchon to Camp Casey, I couldn’t believe how completely ruined Seoul and Inchon were,” Robert recalled. “The cities had been devastated.” His duties kept him constantly moving artillery, equipment, and troops throughout the region. While transporting American soldiers was routine, Robert also remembers hauling Ethiopian and Filipino troops serving alongside United Nations forces.

Truck drivers often carry additional responsibilities. Besides driving, Robert regularly stood nighttime radio watch and guard duty. Looking across the front lines, he remembers watching Chinese forces moving in the distance. “It looked like an anthill with them moving around as much as they did,” he said. During early morning radio watches, another experience left a lasting impression. “Sometimes the North Koreans would come over the radio giving the American password and challenge codes,” he remembered. “That always amazed me.” The Korean winters were unforgiving. “It was cold as hell,” Robert said with a smile. Many mornings began by thawing frozen truck engines with a blowtorch before the day’s work could begin.

One of the most demanding as-

signments of his deployment was a lengthy road march from Camp Casey to southern South Korea. The exercise was designed to prepare American forces for a rapid withdrawal if North Korean and Chinese forces ever launched another major invasion. Grueling as it was, Robert understood the importance of being prepared.



Courtesy Photo
Robert with one of his trucks in Korea.

He served in Korea for fourteen months. His return trip lasted seventeen days, taking a different route than when he came to Korea, around the southern coast of Japan before arriving in Seattle. Robert was honorably discharged from Fort Lewis, Washington. Like many veterans of his generation, Robert quietly returned to work. Back home in Deaver, he first worked at a local gas station because his brother had hired farm hands to keep the family operation running during Robert’s military service. Before long, Robert returned to the farm where he spent the remainder of his working life until retirement.

Just two months after leaving the



Rita Wambeke.

Courtesy Photo

Army, Robert married the love of

his life, Rita. Together they built a life centered on family, faith, and hard work. They were married for 67 years until Rita’s passing four years ago. Together they raised four daughters: Rochelle Garriña of Sheridan, Wyoming; Robyn Vine of Sheridan, Wyoming; Rhonda Bradish of Billings, Montana; and Rozalind Wells of Boise, Idaho. Their family has grown to include eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

For the past 63 years, Robert has also been a dedicated member of The American Legion. His membership began thanks to another generation of veterans. “Living in Frannie, a lot of the irrigation canal committee were World War I veterans,” Robert explained. “The committee started in the 1920s, so naturally most of the members were WWI vets. I joined the committee, and one of the veterans from the Frannie American Legion Post asked me to become a member.” More than six decades later, he remains proud to be part of the organization.

When asked about recognition for his military service, Robert is grateful simply to be remembered. “We were welcomed home better than the Vietnam veterans,” he reflected, “but not as warmly as the World War II veterans.”

Robert also wanted to recognize another member of the Wambeke family who continues the tradition of military service. Ivo Wambeke, the great-grandson of Robert’s father, has served multiple deployments with the Army National Guard in Iraq and attended the University of Wyoming. “Ivo has served multiple tours in Iraq,” Robert said proudly. “He’s a smart kid—actually making money while attending college.”

Asked how he believes people remember him, Robert answered with characteristic humility. “I’m just a quiet guy.” Perhaps that is exactly how many know Robert Wambeke. Yet behind those simple words is the story of a man who faithfully served his country on the Korean peninsula, devoted decades to farming the Wyoming soil, loved one wife for 67 years, raised a family that continues to grow, and has spent more than six decades supporting fellow veterans through The American Legion.

It is a life marked not by seeking recognition, but by quietly earning it.

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DISTRICT AND POST NEWS

District 1

Jackson Hole Post 43



August 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 at the end of June was 147 TAL members, and 32 SAL members. We have been able to reach or surpass 100% of our state goal for TAL members for the past five years. We also reached our goal again for SAL members for 2025-2026.

Speaker Presentations: At our May Post meeting, Post member Joe Albright, was the guest speaker. Joe shared his personal story about how early life experiences, including visiting his grandfather who served in World War I and spending summers at a ranch in Wyoming, influenced his later career interests in military affairs. He discussed his brief military service in the 1950s. He then described his long and successful career as a journalist, beginning in 1962 during the Cuban Missile Crisis and continuing through various assignments including Pentagon correspondent work, where he covered nuclear security issues. He was a foreign correspondent in the Europe, the Middle East and Africa, including coverage of the Beirut Marine barracks bombing and the bombing of Libya. He mentioned his experiences during the Gulf War when he was appointed as a pool coordinator to manage media access. He also described his assignments in Russia after the Soviet Union's collapse, and Europe during the Kosovo conflict. He then discussed his transition to ranching in Wyoming after retiring

from journalism in 1999, explaining how he and his wife took over and renovated the Flat Creek Ranch. He also is the author of several books.

Our June Post meeting featured two guest speakers, who discussed the July scheduled visit of "The Wall That Heals" to Afton and the plans for the display of that wall. In addition, the new Coach of our Jackson Hole Post 43 Giants Legion baseball team, Chris Jones, discussed the current team activities, described the importance of the program to the boys beyond baseball, and mentioned how he happened to become the coach for this season.

At our July meeting, our newest Post member, John Shelton described his background as a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and his service as a nuclear submarine officer. His concerns about veteran help eventually led him to form a group called the Military Wellness Initiative. This group or digital community has grown to over 30 million members and is focused on helping veterans obtain access to medical care and many other services.

Four Pillars Award - Our SAL Squadron 43 has qualified for the "Four Pillars Award" again this year.

Memorial Day, Best of the West Parade, July 4th Parade, and Color Guard Activities: Our Post was the lead unit again in the Jackson "Best of the West" parade. We also held Memorial Day ceremonies with rifle salutes on the Jackson town square, at three Jackson area cemeteries where we had placed flags on all veteran graves, and at the Snake River Bridge. Our Color Guard team marched first in the July 4th Jackson parade with a very large contingent of ten flag bearers, an added rank of member marchers, a third rank of the children of members Mark and Crystal Haney, and Don Perkins Army truck with Post, SAL, and Auxiliary members distributing candy to the crowds. We also provided Color Guards for our Jackson Post 43 Giants Legion Baseball Team, for the graduation ceremony of the Jackson Hole High School, and for the Grand Teton Music Festival's Annual Patriotic Concert. Our Post also provided Honor Guards for two veteran funerals during May and June.

Oratorical Contest Winner: Our Post 43 is happy to report that Lara Haney, our Post's entrant in the District 1 Oratorical Contest, went on the win that competition, as well as the Department contest in Casper. Lara represented the Wyoming Legion Department at the National Finals in Hillsdale, and she received several scholarship awards for her efforts. She also gave her contest speech during the Wyoming Department Convention in Powell, and received very positive comments from the audience there.

Post Officers & Chairs: The following Officers and Chairs were elected and appointed for the coming year: Post Commander & Chaplain-Eric Cole; Adjutant-Dave Hill; Finance Officer-Michele Voorhees; Vice Commander-Joe Burke; 2nd Vice Commander-Ray Pilgrim; Service Officer-Jim Hillman; Boys State Chair-Bob Fitton; Oratorical Chair-Crystal Haney; Sergeant At Arms-Erich Helgoth. Also, our Post Adjutant, Dave Hill, was installed as the Wyoming District 1 Commander for a second year at the Department Convention in Powell in June. Dave is also serves as the Department Judge Advocate.

Dave Hill, Post 43 Adjutant



Courtesy Photo
1st rank - Ron Kaminsky, Charles Gulotta, Joe Burke. 2nd rank - Crystal Haney, Jo Keeler, Kent Hobson, Dave Hill, Jim Hillman



Veteran Joe Albright reads the penultimate section of the Declaration of Independence during Jackson Hole American Legion Post No. 43's presentation of the historic document Wednesday afternoon on the Town Square. The event was held in celebration of the 250th anniversary of the foundational document's signing.

Our mayor attended and also spoke briefly. Army veteran, Joe Albright, is 89 years old. Seven members of Post 43 and Auxiliary Unit 43 read portions of the Declaration.

Dave Hill



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Wyoming American Legion District 1 Report for August 2026



David W. Hill
District 1 Commander

News from Wyoming American Legion District 1

District 1 Meeting: At the April 25th District 1 meeting in Jackson Hole, I was reelected as the District Commander for another year. Steve Greenwell of Post 78 in Big Piney also was reelected as Vice Commander. Tom Niemiec of Post 28 in Green River decided that 12 years was enough service as District 1 Adjutant, and he did not seek to continue in that role. Jim Hillman of Post 43 was appointed as the District 1 Adjutant.

The Department Convention was held in Powell from June 18-21. Four Posts from our District sent delegates. Those were Rock Springs Post 24, Green River Post 28, Ft. Bridger Post

36, and Jackson Hole Post 43. I hope more of our Posts can send delegates to the 2027 Convention. Our twelve Posts received a lot of membership related awards during the convention. I will be delivering some to the Posts that were not there, or mailing them to you. I congratulate the six District 1 Posts that reached or exceeded 100% of their membership goals. Those are Posts 28, 40, 41, 43, 49, and 78. Afton Post 49 topped the District 1 percentages at 133.33, and Jackson Hole Post 43 received the Department Large Mallet award for larger Posts, ending up the year at 108.09%. Also, two of our four SAL Squadrons, 24 and 43, reached 100%. The 2027 Department Convention will be held in Lander,

with dates to be determined.

Looking Forward: Most of our District 1 Posts participated in July 4th activities and parades celebrating America 250 and Independence Day. Also, many Posts arranged for the reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8 at 4 PM as part of the America 250 celebrations in towns and cities across the country. Packets were distributed at the convention with all the Post's membership cards for 2027. Packets for Posts who were not at the convention have been mailed, so please let me know if any Post has not yet received their packet. Remember that the 2027 **Dave Hill, Commander, Wyoming American Legion District 1.**

DISTRICT AND POST NEWS District 5

Riverton Post 19

Riverton Post 19 Present Colors at American Legion Baseball Class B 2026 State Championship



Courtesy Photos from Sandra Pickering and Ani Heikkila
Above: The Riverton Raiders Post 19 baseball team hosted the 2026 Class B State Championship at the Raiders- Roy Peck Field July 17- 20 2026 in Riverton Wyoming. American Legion Riverton Post 19 Presented the Colors to kick off the event. Post members who participated; Vice Commander Warren Hess, 2nd Vice Commander Charles Arndt, Trustee 3 Year Bret Thompson (presenting Wyoming Flag) and Scott Barrett (Presenting the American Flag).

Hulett Post 80



Courtesy Photo
Left: Keith Davidson, William Greer, Patrick Meehan, Department of Wyming Commander Ben Glenn, Legion Basball Chairman Justin Pfiffer.

This year's winner of the ALB scholarship is William Greer of Sheridan. He is the grandson of Patrick Meehan, joined the US Air Force as a Captain in 1962 and served as an active-duty dentist for two years. He then served as a dental officer in the WY Air Force Reserve from 1964-1973 and the WY Army National Guard from 1977-1988 and retired as a Colonel.

William's step-granddad, Keith Davidson, entered the US Air Force in 1969 and served in Vietnam and Guam as a munitions specialist, and as a firefighter at F.E. Warren AFB. H was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant in 1973. Keith is also a forty-nine-year member of the WY American Legion Roy Montgomery Post 80 in Hulett. Keith is also a PDC 2012-13 and PNEC for WY 2021-25.

District 6



Walt Schaefer
Dist. 6 Commander
Robert Hogan Post 21
U.S. Army Veteran

Let me start off and introduce myself, My name is Walt Schaefer, the newly elected District 6 Commander. My home post is Robert Hogan Post 21 Burns. The District Vice Commander is Penny Merryfield also from Post 21.

I want to stress how important communication is. Post Commanders, I have been sending out emails with information to pass on to your post members. Please get the information to your members, it is very important to keep caught up on what is going on, not only in our District but state wide.

Go to wyolegion.org to see the Department Of Wyoming web page. You can also go to the Wyoming face book page at: The American Legion - Department Of Wyoming for events happening.

I am available if anyone needs help or just has a question, don't hesitate to ask. If I don't have the answer I will find it. Remember the buddy system, check in on each other. It doesn't even have to be a Legion Member, if you know someone that is elder-

ly and or lives alone just stop in and check on them.
Thank you
Walt Schaefer
District 6 | Commander

Hello from Robert Hogan Post 21.
Post 21 is growing. We are running another gun raffle, however this time you have 3 chances of winning a gun. We have three guns we are raffling off to help raise our funds to eventually get a Post home.

The guns are 1. Henry Golden Boy .22 Magnum rifle. 2. Springfield Armory Saint 5.65 emi auto Rifle w/soft case and magazine. 3. Smith & Wesson M & P Shield 9MM Pistol. Drawing will be held when all 500 tickets are sold. Tickets are \$20 a piece or 6 for \$100.

Thank you
Penny Merryfield, Post 21 Adjutant



DISTRICT AND POST NEWS



Courtesy of Vanessa Stuart
Left: Guy Beaudoin, Devin Smith (SAL), Mark Pfenning.

District 6 Continued Cheyenne Post 93

The American Legion Post 93 is proud to announce the formation of American Legion Riders (ALR) Chapter 93 in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Charter members Devin Smith, Mark Pfenning, Mike McInerney, and Guy Beaudoin worked diligently to develop chapter bylaws and coordinate with Post 93 leadership to establish the new chapter, which officially became recognized on June 13. Following the proud tradition of the American Legion Riders program, Chapter 93 brings together members of the Legion Family who share a passion for motorcycling, patriotism, and service to veterans, military families, and the local community.

As Chapter 93 begins its inaugural year, members have identified three primary goals: recruiting new Riders to strengthen the chapter, supporting the grassroots mission and programs of The American Legion, and participating in rides that support the American Legion Legacy Run. Through these efforts, Chapter 93 hopes to raise awareness and critical funding for the Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF), which provides a vital safety net for veterans and military families facing unexpected hardship. The Riders of Post 93 look forward to serving Cheyenne and southeastern Wyoming while honoring those who have worn our nation's uniform and advancing the values of The American Legion.

Respectfully,
Guy Beaudoin
Post 93 ALR Vice Director



In Memoriam Sons of the American Legion

Wyoming Squadron 54- William E. Ewing



SONS OF THE
AMERICAN LEGION
Detachment Of Wyoming News Letter



Doug Johnson
Adjutant
Christmas in July.

The Sons have been very busy after the Department Convention. On June 26th and 27th we traveled to the Veterans home in Buffalo to start our improvement project at the fishing pond. This year we decided to erect a shelter to provide some shade for our Veterans at the home when they are fishing at the pond. Squadron 42 from Gillette formed a crew of the following men who provided the building skills for our shelter. And what a crew they were. They were not a bit shy about what had to be done. The crew consisted of Bill Kern, Mike Thomas, Phil Wagner, Rodney Walker, Bill Lanquemi, Steve Bickford, Josh

West, and Tony Hayworth. It took this crew 3 weekends to complete the shelter. They not only erected the shelter, but they also put 6 new picnic tables together. In the past Squadron 42 has helped build a bridge a fishing platform and help install a flagpole at the pond. We also had help from Squadron 13 in Buffalo from the project manager Don Sullivan and helper Jay Morrell. Also helping was Brent Bruger, Mark Laman, Tom Tysor and his wife Angie Tysor from Squadron 54 in Saratoga a BIG THANKYOU goes out to all the people who helped including Charlie Keith, Tim Johnson from Squadron 33 in Lander and Jim Andersen from Squadron 44 in Worland and also Gary Temple from Squadron 42 in Gillette. On July 24th and 25th we came back to the Veterans home and held our annual fishing derby and with it being so hot we only had 3 participants fishing on this day. We also handed out some cash to every Veteran at the home and the staff from the home had a very nice lunch waiting for us. So, thank you goes out to a very nice Veterans home staff. After we were done with our lunch, we went to Post 13 home and started planning for next year's project. We have some good ideas to include all the veterans at the home.

Adjutant Doug
Christmas in July.



Courtesy Photo
Above: Don Sullivan, Bill Kern Squadron 42, Phillip Wagner, Rodney Walker, Mike Thomas and Bill Languchi.

Don't
Forget
Our
Buddies
in
Business



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF WYOMING

Commander: Keith Trouwborst
Adjutant: Doug Johnson

1320 Hugur Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82001

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ardenmiller@tricountymercantile.com
Website: tricountymercantile.com

VETERANS' ROCK

307-514-0035

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





Dept. of Wyoming - Membership team at Indianapolis - National Membership Workshop - Dept. 1st Vice Commander Chuck Guilford, Dept. Membership Chairman - Chip Kossow, Dept. Commander Ben Glenn, Dept. Adjutant - Vanessa Stuart, and Dept. Finance Officer Assistant - Danielle Rempfer.



**DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING
2025 FALL WORKSHOP AGENDA**
19 SEPTEMBER 9AM RAMKOTA, CASPER WY

Department Workshop is going to be different this year. We will all be together in the morning and then breakout the adjutants and commanders in the afternoon for adjutants training.

Opening Prayer – Chaplain Stephen Anderson
POW/MIA – Sgt at Arms Aubrion Bloodworth, Chaplain Stephen Anderson, Commander Ben Glenn
Pledge of Allegiance – Vice Commander Chuck Guilford
Preamble of The American Legion – Ben Glenn
Roll Call – Adjutant Vanessa
Convention Minutes approval
Constitution and Bylaws Reading – If needed Ken Sr.
1st training session for workshop -
Effective Post & Passive recruitment/Post assessment/Recruitment tools – 30 min–Chip
Determining post training needs – 15 min Chuck and Chip
Break
2nd session
30 second elevator speech – Ben, Chip
Newsletters/social media/webpages - 15 min –Ray and Penny
Lunch
3rd session Breakout
MyLegion – 30 min – Chip and Vanessa
Side Bar - Adjutant Training – 30 min – Adjutants and Post Commanders attend training with Vanessa
MyLegion individual with Chip – 30 min
3rd Session Breakout
Membership engagement/ connecting with all members – 30 min – Ben and Chuck
Mentorship and Leadership – 30 min Ben, Chuck, Jim
Break – After break all join up again
4th Breakout -
National Commander Priorities B.P.O.T.S. – 10 min - Ben
Unfinished Business
Finance - Deanna
Mike Cooke Calendars
Oratorical Raffle Drawing
50/50 Raffle
New Business
RIFLE RAFFLE INFO - Ben
ROUNDTABLE
D1 , D2, D3, D4, D5, D6
Correspondence –
Good for the Legion
Adjourn





**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of WY
Fall Workshop
September 19, 2026**
Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center-Casper, WY
Finance Committee – By Zoom, Date and Time TBD

Friday, September 18, 2026 6:00p.m. District and Vice Presidents Meeting 7:00p.m. Department Executive Committee Meeting	Constitution & By Laws – Shareen Johnson Education – Bettina Kossow Historian – Linda York Legislative – Tracey Martini 10:30-10:45 Break Greeting to the Legion – to be determined 10:45 a.m. Resume Program Reports Membership – Jessica York National Security – Trudy Zaffarano Leadership – Robin Ruff Poppy – B-Jo Laing Public Relations – Debbie Alvarez VA&R – Tammy Harris Lunch Break – On your own 1:15 p.m. Welcome Back 1:30 p.m. Join the Legion for the guest DAR speaker 2:00 p.m. Service Project 2:45 p.m. Peg’s Tidbits/Challenges 3:00 p.m. Benediction - Susan Dansereau 3:15 p.m. Closing Remarks and Adjournment
Saturday, September 19, 2026 9:00 a.m. Call to Order Opening Prayer – Susan Dansereau, Chaplain Pledge of Allegiance – Donna Williams, Americanism Chair Preamble – Shareen Johnson, C&B Chairman POW/MIA Table – Susan Dansereau Welcome – TBD Response – TBD Roll Call – Peg Sullivan Audit Committee Report Finance Report – Tammy Harris, Finance Chairman Department Executive Committee Report – Peg Sullivan NEC Report – Vicki Paddock 9:30 a.m. Department of WY Programs Americanism – Donna Williams AEF – Cynthia Ivanisk Chaplain – Susan Dansereau Community Service – Gloria Taylor	



2027 Fall Workshop
September 18 & 19, 2026
Western Heritage – old Ramkota
800 N Poplar
Casper WY 82601

REGISTRATION

LEGION	Friday, September 18	AUXILIARY
6 p.m.	Department Finance Committee	Zoom – 9/16 @ 7 pm
	District Presidents Meeting	5 p.m.
7 p.m.	Department Executive Committee	7 p.m.
	Saturday, September 19	
9 a.m.	WORKSHOP	9 a.m.

	FEE	NUMBER	TOTAL
REGISTRATION	\$20.00		\$
		TOTAL	\$
LUNCH on your OWN			

Auxiliary _____ Unit # _____
Legion _____ Post # _____
SAL _____ Squadron # _____

Hotel – Western Heritage (307) 266-6000
\$98.00 + tax
A block of rooms will be held until _____
American Legion Auxiliary Block of Rooms





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!

American Legion Auxiliary News

Department President's Report



Cathey Raymer
President

BE THE ONE - BE THE LIGHT

Welcome to the 2026-2027 Auxiliary year. It was a great Department Convention in Powell. A heartfelt thank you goes to Powell for hosting a fantastic convention and providing a perfect facility for the meetings. It was a joy to see everyone and to welcome some new faces that joined us. I am looking forward to working with everyone this year.

My theme for this year is "BE THE ONE – BE THE LIGHT" for our veterans. When our veterans are struggling, they often find themselves in a dark and difficult place. As members of the Auxiliary, one of our goals is to be that light that can lead them out of that dark and into the light. Let's join together this year to be that light for so many of our veterans.

I believe that good communication is important to achieving our goals in life and within the American Legion Auxiliary and the Legion Family. Stronger communication among unit members, between units and

Cathey Raymer, Department President

District Presidents, between District Presidents and the Department, and between the Auxiliary and The Legion will help us work together. Clear communication is a sign of respect, and that respect will help everyone work together toward our shared goals.

As the new year begins, I encourage our members to take part, stay connected, and look for ways to be the Light in your communities. Together, we can continue our proud tradition of "Service - Not Self".

I look forward to meeting with you as I travel around to your units this year and see the great things you are doing. Thank you for all that you do.

Fall Workshop is scheduled for September 18-19 at the Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center in Casper. The main meeting is scheduled for Saturday, there will be a meeting for the District Presidents and District Vice Presidents, Friday evening from 6-7pm, before the DEC meeting. I look forward to seeing all of you in Casper!



Peg Sullivan
Department Secretary

News from your Department Office

Department Office
Ramblings
Peg Sullivan

Are you ready to start the new Auxiliary Year? Did I hear an "ugg"? I heard the "ugg" come out of my mouth! Summer has been rough all over Wyoming and I think of our members and pray you and your families are safe.

I am starting my fourteenth year as your Department Secretary/Treasurer. The years have been great with learning new

things, meeting members, challenging myself to take care of your Department \$ and learning what "Being an American Legion Auxiliary Member" really means. I'm ready, are you ready to continue learning?

The Office Hours are Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10 am to 2 pm; Tuesday 4 pm to 9 pm; closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday. If you email or call please leave a message. I'll answer when the Office is open.

The webpage will be updated by the time you get this newspaper.



Please remember to send your Poppy Order by September 16th. We will pack and send them home from Fall Workshop.

Have you submitted you "e-postcard" for the past year? It is important to do so to keep your Unit under the National ALA Group for non-profit,

Legion Auxiliary.
Peg Sullivan
Department Secretary
Treasurer

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Monday through Saturday

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2026 – 2027 Department Officers

President - Cathey Raymer, Unit 28
Vice President - Jessica York, Unit 8
Sec/Treasurer - Peg Sullivan, Unit 13
Nat'l Exec - Vicki Paddock, Unit 25
Appointed Chaplain - Susan Dansereau, Unit 28
Appointed Historian - Linda York, Unit 8
District 1 President - Cheryl Craig, Unit 24
Vice Ellen Markae Lester, Unit 24
District 2 President - B-Jo Laing, Unit 70
Vice Jane Simpson, Unit 9

District 3 President - Jessie Poire, Unit 81
Vice Ginger Fross, Unit 19
District 4 President - Trudy Zaffarano, Unit 26
Vice Debbie Cropanese, Unit 26
District 5 President - Gloria Taylor, Unit 7
Vice Tonya Dafoe, Unit 3
District 6 President - Fran Payne-Rogers, Unit 54
Vice Cynthia Ivaniszek, Unit 14



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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



Don't Forget Our Buddies in Business

DEPARTMENT OF WYOMING CHAIRPERSON’S FOR 2026 – 2027

Americanism Donna Williams – Unit 24 damngoodwoman@yahoo.com 307-705-7442	2027 Tammy Harris – Unit 28 tjharris@wyoming.com 307-389-2705 Finance Committee 2028 Sonja Wright – Unit 25 sonja@collinscom.net 307-689-3247 2029 Susan Dansereau – Unit 28 dansereau_r_f_@hotmail.com 775-790-3105 Cathey Raymer – Unit 28 catheyraymer55@gmail.com 307-677-0496 Jessica York – Unit 08 countrygirjdy@gmail.com 307-359-2077	Historian Linda York – Unit 08 lindayork2@yahoo.com 307-358-5421 Leadership Robin Ruff – Unit 07 robinruff@gmail.com 307-620-2086 Legislative Tracey Martini – Unit 46 amlegaux46alpine@gmail.com 907-854-6825 Membership Jessica York – Unit 08 countrygirjdy@gmail.com 307-359-2077 National Security Trudy Zaffarano – Unit 26 trudyzaff71@gmail.com 307-272-3495 Poppy B-Jo Laing – Unit 70 bjovfwaux@gmail.com 801-717-6783 Public Relations Debbie Alvarez – Unit 28 alvarezdeborahs@gmail.com 307-380-8260	Veterans’ Affairs & Rehabilitation Tammy Harris - Unit 28 tjharris@wyoming.com 307-389-2705 Veterans’ Facilities Representatives Buffalo – Edie Taffner – Unit 13 e.taffnerwo@outlook.com 307-620-1200 Cheyenne–Vicki Paddock–Unit 25 vickip@vcn.com 307-756-2433 Peg Sullivan – Unit 13 psullivan50@gmail.com 307-620-5697 Sheridan – Linda Orr – Unit 07 linda54.orr@gmail.com 307-655-9839 Melba Bennett – Unit 07 National Appointment Tammy Harris Northwest Division Vice Chairman of Community Service National Appointment Shareen Johnson Northwest Division Representative of Girls Nation 20
Chaplain Susan Dansereau – Unit 28 chaplain@wylegionaux.org 775-790-3105 Children & Youth Sunny Hobbs – Unit 28 sunnyc2hobbs@gmail.com 307-922-2712 Community Service Gloria Taylor – Unit 07 gloriajt1231@outlook.com 307-763-1547 Constitution & Bylaws Shareen Johnson – Unit 33 shareen.lander@gmail.com 307-349-9749 Education Bettina Kossow – Unit 17 berlingirl1708@gmail.com 719-440-3111	Girls State Director Alyssa Hinckley – Unit 6 wygsdirector@gmail.com 307-630-6263 Girls State Committee Susan Dansereau, Asst – Unit 28 dansereau_r_f_@hotmail.com 775-790-3105 2027 Shareen Johnson – Unit 33 shareen.lander@gmail.com 307-349-9749 2028 Jenn Braisted – Unit 06 jen_yack@hotmail.com 307-275-2404 2029Tammy Harris – Unit 28 tjharris@wyoming.com 307-389-2705		
Finance Chairman			



Cynthia Ivanisk
AEF Chairman



Shareen Johnson
Constitution & Bylaws
Chairman



Trudy Zaffarano
National Security



Bettina Kossow
Education



B-Jo Laing
Poppy Chairman



Linda York
Historian



Jesssica York
Membership Chairman



Robin Ruff
Leadership

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

Visit our Department Webpage! www.wylegionaux.org

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

"In the Clouds"

In lieu of the traditional report, I am instead reporting the deceased members that were honored at Department Convention. These members represent over 1058 membership years. Sixteen of these members had 25+ years of membership, with eight of these ladies having 50+ membership years.

26 Margaret Smith
26 Lydia Moore
26 Katherine Murphy
13 Zola Werle
75 Pat Ellis
8 Mamie Denson
24 Kathy Barden
54 Hope Miller

26 Joyce Marschman
26 Shirley Streck
26 Rhonda Lyman
24 Adele Bertagnolli
26 Ginger Langdon
36 Mary Peterson
19 Patricia Busch
33 Ruth Andrews
13 Virginia Rocket
13 Ramona Pickering
47 Janice Radosovich
47 Lynne Alexander
47 Annette Werbelow
40 Shirley Toomer
95 Alice Main
64 Vickie Scott
44 Christa Ley
44 Roxie Sheppperd
10 Helen Berger
15 Inez Todd

6 Diana Craft
29 Kitty Gipson
88 Anna Marie Alexander
70 Myrtle Howery
54 Susan Daniels
8 Nanette James
81 Audrey Ward
24 Jackie Blade
24 Bonnie Pinney
33 Shirley Smith
9 Bonita Hunt

Please take a moment to remember these fine ladies and strive to continue to serve as they did.

Sincerely,
Susan Dansereau
Department Chaplain



Chaplain Report

Please send the completed form to
Chaplain Susan Dansereau
2110 Wyoming Drive Green River WY 82935
chaplainwylegionaux@gmail.com

UNIT # _____

Circle the Month
Sept Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May June
July August

In Memoriam – Auxiliary members only	Address
Sympathy- Auxiliary members only; Card sent to "ONE" family member	
Get Well - Auxiliary member only	
Thinking of You – Auxiliary member only	
Congratulations Significant Birthday 90 year + - Auxiliary member only	

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.



Chaplain's Corner

Holy Cow! Summer is almost over, and another Auxiliary year is upon us. I hope that all is well, and everyone is ready to get back into the swing of things. I find that even though I no longer have any school aged kiddos, my timeline still seems to revolve around the school timeline. With that being said, it's time to turn in newspaper articles, reorganize my records for another year, and hit the ground limping (a new knee in July has slowed me down slightly, but I am bouncing back).

Thank you to President Cathey for asking me to serve as

Department Chaplain for the year.

Thank you to all the dedicated Unit Chaplains out there that have been so awesome at sending in monthly reports. I find myself looking forward to opening the envelope (or e-mail) and seeing the great work you all are doing. Please remember that the reports do not have to wait until the end of the month, a quick email or text message will get me the message as well. I try to get cards out in a timely fashion. If you do not hear back me, feel free to "nudge" me again, I am human.

The chaplain form is available on the



Susan Dansereau

Chaplain

website under Unit Forms. My contact info is there as well. And please remember that even a note scribbled on a post-it will do.

As always. Please let me know what I can do for you and your Unit, and please remember to take care of yourselves, so you can continue to help our Veterans.



Courtesy Photo
Above: Tione Wilcox, Unit 8 Samuel Mares, Douglas Department "Unit Member of the Year"

Americanism

It was a great Department Convention, and the Powell unit were fantastic hosts. It was great to see everyone and if you were unable to attend, we missed you.

There were 9 entries in the Grand Old Flag photo contest. It was quite a display, and it was hard to pick just one favorite. When all the votes were in, there was a tie for the winner. A 2027 membership was awarded to Nancy Shaffer, Unit 47 Pinedale and Trudy Zafferano, Unit 29 Powell.

The Americanism Essay Contest theme this year was “Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday and the Veterans Who Fought for Our Freedom”. Only 5 units submitted entries into the contest this year. The students’ essays were outstanding, and I enjoyed reading them all.

It has been an honor to serve as the Americanism Chairman this



Cathey Raymer
Americanism
Chairman

year.
Cathey Raymer
Americanism Chairman

District 5 News



Gloria Taylor
District 5 President

Hello from District 5.

First, I would like to thank Powell for hosting the State Convention in one of our great small towns. The ladies there did a wonderful job setting a great place for us to hold our meetings. From the delicious giant homemade cinnamon rolls to the

beautifully decorated hall, I believe everyone had a good time.

Even with many activities shutting down for the summer, the Auxiliary in District 5 has remained extremely busy. From car shows and carnivals to community events and rodeos, and many other events, we have been actively supporting our veterans and serving our communities. The ladies could be found everywhere handing out flags, sign-up sheets or selling cotton candy and other goods to raise money for our veterans. I want to thank all the ladies for working so hard all year supporting our veterans.

I have been selected as a delegate to attend the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. I look forward to meeting the national leaders of our auxiliary and learning all that I can while representing my district. I am hoping to be able to see some of the historical sights while I’m there as well. Until next time...

Respectfully,
Gloria Taylor
District 5 President



Courtesy Photo

Above: Mary Sue (Unit 13) painting crosses for Memorial Day 2027.

District 1 News



Courtesy Photo

Above: Auxillary members out for Veterans Walk Unit 24.
Below: Unit 47 and Memorial Day.



Courtesy Photo

Above: Unit 78 Golf Tournament in Big Piney

Way to go Units of District One. Unit 24 Rock Springs has been very active over the past few months. They hosted a booth at the county fair, attended the ribbon cutting at the new VA Clinic in Rock Springs. Distributed Poppies at the Rodeo, hosted National President Pam Ray for the Veterans Walk, assisted in flag distribution at the cemetaary for Memorial Day, and sent two girl to Girls State.

Unit 28, Green River hosted the Mask Hunger Ball honoring National President Pam Ray, donated a gift basket to the Summer Music for Vets, had a member attend Christmas in July, and continue s to help the Post supply prizes for weekly Music Bingo/ Trivia nights.

Unit 43, Jackson participated at the local fair, and took part in the July Fourth of July activities.

Unit 46, Alpine, provided support for “The Wall that Heals”, attended a Declaration of Independence Ceremony, attended a citizens Naturalization Ceremony, and continue to support the local food bank.

Unit 78, Big Piney co-hosted their annual Golf Tourney, raising an amazing amount of money for local Veterans, Girls State, and scholarships. A high point of the tournament was the participation by an 88 year old Navy veteran. What an amazing way to raise awareness for ‘Be The One’.

Thanks to all the units that provided info for me to share. Thanks for continuing to support the mission of the American Legion Auxiliary. I hope to see all of you in Casper for Fall Workshop.

Cheryl Craig



Alyssa Hinckley
Wyoming Girls State Director

2026 Wyoming Girls
State Governor
Meredith Walker
Unit 7 Sheridan
Senator
Stella Vilos
Unit 6 Cheyenne
Senator
Taylor Peters
Unit 26 Powell



American Legion Auxiliary Girls State

First Name	Last Name	City	Scholarship Award
University of Wyoming elected to not award a scholarship this year.			
Western Wyoming College elected to not award a scholarship this year.			
Aurora	Hollinger	Mills	Casper College - Alternate
Taylor	Peters	Powell	Casper College - Winner
There isn't an alternate for Central Wyoming College.			
Josie	Smith	Newcastle	Central Wyoming College - Winner
There isn't an alternate for Eastern Wyoming College.			
Addisyn	Saukkola	Guernsey	Eastern Wyoming College - Winner
Maria	Villegas	Sundance	Laramie County Community College - Alternate
Ryah	Easum	Powell	Laramie County Community College - Winner
Andrea	Zavala	Rock Springs	Northwest College - Alternate
Mackenzie	Legler	Powell	Northwest College - Winner
Alieyah	Morrison	Ranchester	Sheridan College - Alternate
Lillie	Morrill	Newcastle	Sheridan College - Winner
Mikaela	England	Carpenter	Wyoming Girls State Memorial - Alternate
Natalie	Nebeker	Mountain View	Wyoming Girls State Memorial - Winner
Samantha	Kelsay	Lusk	Samsung Scholarship - Alternate
Lilly	Keele	Lovell	Samsung Scholarship - Winner

2026 Award Winners

Poppy Awards

CLASS I
1st place Colby Mueller
Jesse Martin Unit 9 Glenrock
2nd place Alexie Bock
Powder River Unit 13 Buffalo
3rd place Thaxston Tobiasson
Powder River Unit 13 Buffalo
CLASS II
1st place Trapper Triplett
Marion Tanner Unit 29 Basin
2nd place Weston DeCroo
Powder River Unit 13 Buffalo
3rd place Theo Powell
Marion Tanner Unit 29 Basin
CLASS III
1st place Austin Mueller
Jesse Martin Unit 9 Glenrock
CLASS IV
1st place Olivia Michalsky
John Donald Garbutt Unit 7 Sheridan
2nd place Ainsley Stephens
John Donald Garbutt Unit 7 Sheridan
CLASS V
1st place Jacquelyn Jeske
Alpine Unit 46 Alpine
2nd place Bailey Mueller

Jesse Martin Unit 9 Glenrock
2026 Auxiliary Emergency Fund Report Award – Unit 9 Glenrock and Unit 33 Lander each received a travel bag for donating over \$500.
Education
1st Place Phillips Edwards, Unit 47 Pinedale – Nancy Schaffer, President
2nd Place Jessie Martin, Unit 09 Glenrock -Karla Lee, Chairman
3rd Place John Prince, Unit 15 Glendo – Connie Inman, Chairman
2026 History Awards
1st Place Samuel Mares Unit 8, Douglas
2nd Place Basin Unit 29, Basin
3rd Place John Prince Unit 15, Glendo
2026 Poppy Reports Awards
Class 1
1-Unit 47 Pinedale Phillips Edwards
2-Unit 19 Riverton
Class 2
1-13 Buffalo Powder River
2- 7 Sheridan John Donald Garbutt
3- 8 Douglas Samuel Mares
Class 3

1-24 Rock Springs Archie Hayes
Americanism
I 1st Roane Steele Pinedale Elem 3rd
Phillip Edwards #47 Pinedale I
2nd Reata Ward LaGrange Elem 2nd
John McGill #70 LaGrange I
3rd LilyLou Melnick Sagebrush 2nd
John Donald Garbutt #7 Sheridan
II 1st Yvette Medrano Pinedale Elem
5th Philip Edwards #47 Pinedale
II 2nd Emma Rosenlund Rozet Elem #25 Moorcroft
II 3rd Avery White Glenrock Intermediate 5th Jesse Martin #9 Glenrock
III 1st Piper Stephens Valor Academy 6th John Donald Garbutt #7 Sheridan
III 2nd Remington Arnold Big Piney Middle School 6th Dee Fox #78 Big Piney
III 3rd Mason Weber Glendo Jr High
7th John Prince #15 Glendo
IV 1st Roy Rosenlund Twin Spruce
8th #25 Moorcroft
IV 2nd Mitzi Byrd Guernsey 9th
JJ Webb #95 Guernsey

IV 3rd NONE
V 1st Tayra Mayne Glenrock Jr/Sr High 11th Jesse Martin #9 Glenrock
V 2nd Levi Watson Moorcroft HS 11th #25 Moorcroft
V 3rd NONE
VI 1st Bailey Mueller NCHS 12th Jesse Martin #9 Glenrock
VI 2nd NONE
VI 3rd NONE
VII 1st Natalie Murphy Valor Academy 10th John Donald Garbutt #7 Sheridan
VII 2nd NONE
VII 3rd NONE
-Only three of six districts participated in Poppy Posters, Districts 1, 2, & 5. Thank you!!!
Leadership Award -
2026 Member of the Year – Tione Wilcox, Samuel Mares Unit 08
VA & R
1st Place Powell
2nd Place Moorcroft
3rd Place Sheridan

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

Fall Workshop

September 18-19

DISTRICT 1	
PRESIDENT Cheryl Craig 5020 Springs Dr. Lot 66 Rock Springs WY 82901 212-2969 WyoD1President@outlook.com	VICE PRESIDENT Ellen Markae Lester 2088 Ponderosa Way Rock Springs WY 82901 389-9890 marlaeskids@hotmail.com
ARCHIE HAYS UNIT # 24 DUES: 551 BROADWAY ROCK SPRINGS WY 82901	M- 2nd Saturday 10 am POST Dues: \$40.00
Donna Williams, President 705-7442 damngoodwoman@yahoo.com	Donna Williams, Membership
TOM WHITMORE AUXUNIT # 28 DUES: 38 NORTH CENTER STREET GREEN RIVER WY 82935	M-1st Sunday 1:30 pm \$40.00 POST Dues:
Rotating	Tammy Harris, Membership 389-2705 tjharris@wyoming.com
FORT BRIDGER AUX UNIT # 36 DUES: PO BOX 301 FT. BRIDGER WY 82933	M – 2nd Wednesday – 5:30 pm POST Dues: \$ 36.00 SEPT-JUNE
Leila Dean, 780-7296	Leila Dean, Membership grandmaleila46@gmail.com
LAVOY-THORNCOCK AUX UNIT # 40 DUES: PO BOX 393 COKEVILLE WY 83114	M – 1st 6:00 pm TOWN HALL Jan, May, Aug, Dec Dues: \$31.00
Jan Moody, President 600-3628 moodymom@allwest.net	Barbara Sorensen, Membership 200-1212 barbs@allwest.net
AMERICAN LEGION AUX UNIT # 43 PO Box 4121 or 1808 JACKSON HOLE WY 83001	M – 2nd Tues 5:30 pm POST DUES: \$45.00 QUARTERLY
Elizabeth Hammons Carlson CarlsonEH307@gmail.com	Michele Voorhees, Membership
AMERICAN LEGION AUX UNIT # 46 DUES: PO BOX 3378 ALPINE WY 83128	M-1st Mon 3:30 pm Dues: \$31.00 DONN WOODEN CIVIC CENTER

DISTRICT 3	
PRESIDENT Jessie Poire PO Box 533 Ft. Washakie WY 82514 438-1294 auxunit81@gmail.com	VICE PRESIDENT Ginger Fross 55 Lost Cabin Rd Lysite WY 82642 851-2416 gingdo34@gmail.com
HENRY WHITEWAY UNIT # 16 DUES: PO BOX 862 MILLS WY 82644	M-3rd Sun. 1:30 pm Call President Dues: \$31.00
Linda Haines, President 235-0001	
RIVERTON UNIT # 19 DUES: 55 Lost Cabin Rd Lysite WY 82642	M-3rd Thurs. 6 pm Senior Center Dues: \$35.00
Ginger Fross, President 851-2416 gingdo34@gmail.com	Ginger Fross, Membership
DON STOUGH UNIT # 33 DUES: PO BOX 97 LANDER WY 82520	M-3rd Tue. 7 pm VFW Hall Dues: \$40.00
Shareen Johnson, President 332-4931 shareen.lander@gmail.com	Kathleen Ebert, Membership 349-6569 kebert240@gmail.com
RICHARD POGUE UNIT # 81 DUES: PO BOX 804 FT. WASHAKIE WY 82514	M-1st Tue 5:00 pm FRANK WISE BUSINESS CENTER Dues: \$31.00
Nola Weeks, President 349-6250	Jessie Poire, Membership 438-1294 auxunit81@gmail.com

DISTRICT 5	
PRESIDENT Gloria Taylor 625 W Loucks Sheridan WY 82801 763-1547 gloriajt1231@outlook.com	VICE PRESIDENT Tonya Dafoe 780 Wrong Way Lane Newcastle WY 82701 746-2603 dtdafoe@rtconnect.net
GEORGE MONROE UNIT # 3 DUES: PO Box 403 Upton WY 82730 Newcastle WY 82701	M-1st Thursday 1 pm Senior Center Dues: \$40.00
Tonya Dafoe, President 780 Wrong Way Lane 307-746-2603 dtdafoe@rtconnect.net	Tonya Dafoe, Membership
JOHN DONALD GARBUTT UNIT # 7 DUES: PO BOX 345 SHERIDAN WY 82801	M-3rd Tue 6:30 pm Perkins – no host dinner @5:30 p.m. Sept – May Dues: \$36.00
Rhonda Gould 1241 W 11 th St Sheridan WY 82801 rhondasewer@gmail.com 307-751-4056	Linda Orr, Membership linda54.orr@gmail.com 655-9839
POWDER RIVER UNIT # 13 DUES: PO BOX 236 BUFFALO WY 82834	M-2nd Tue 7:00 pm POST Dues: \$35.00 Sept – Jun
Peg Sillivan	Sharon Soule, Membership dsoule@vcn.com 351-3931
MOORCROFT UNIT # 25 DUES: PO BOX 353 MOORCROFT WY 82721	M-2nd Mon 5:00 Sept – Jun Dues: \$35.00
Vicki Paddock, President 756-2433 vickip@vcn.com	Ann Sundstrom, Membership Sund80fine@gmail.com

DISTRICT 2	
PRESIDENT B-Jo Laing 500 3rd Ave # 141 LaGrange, WY 82221 801-717-6783 bjovfwaux@gmail.com	VICE PRESIDENT Jane Simpson 851 Buckskin Rd Evansville WY 82636 307-351-4665 houndsgrls@yahoo.
FERDINAND BRANSETTER UNIT # 01 DUES: 305 OAK ST Van Tassell WY 82225	M - Call Secretary Van Tassell Town Hall Mar and Aug Dues: \$:
Sandy Richardson	Donna Lloyd, Membership 216-0603 dkl083117@gmail.com
TRAVIS SNOW UNIT # 05 DUES: PO BOX 422 TORRINGTON WY 82240	M-2nd Mon 7:00 pm POST Dues: \$4
Jan Alexander, President 532-0497 jamoose@hotmail.com	Crystal Van Buskirk, Membership 575-6291 crystalmiller328@gmail.com
SAMUEL MARES UNIT # 08 DUES: 509 N 2nd Spc 4 DOUGLAS WY 82633	M-2nd Wed. 5:15 pm POST Dues: \$40.00
Linda York, President 358-5421 lindayork2@yahoo.com	Jessica York, Membership 358-8067 countrygirljdy@gmail.com
JESSE MARTIN UNIT # 09 DUES: PO BOX 267 GLENROCK WY 82637	M- 2nd Mon 12:30 pm SENIOR CENTER Aug – May Dues: \$
Betty White, President 262-1575 glenrockwd@gmail.com	Bonnie Bartels, Membership 247-4846
ORA CALL UNIT # 10 DUES: PO BOX 144 WHEATLAND WY 82201	M-3rd Tue 12:00 pm \$31.00 PLATTE COUNTY LEGACY HOME Dues:

DISTRICT 4	
PRESIDENT Trudy Zaffarano, President 1314 2nd St Cody WY 8241 307-272-3495 trudyzaff71@gmail.com	VICE PRESIDENT Debbie Cropanese 590 N Bent St Powell, WY 82435-1833
HUGHES-PITTINGER UNIT # 26 DUES: 143 S Clark St POWELL WY 82435	M-1st Mon 6:00 pm POST Dues: \$32.00
Ruth Ross, President (307) 202-8377 xohiogirl@comcast.net	Ruth Ross, Membership
MARION TANNER UNIT # 29 DUES: PO BOX 706 BASIN WY 82410	M-2nd Tue 2:00 pm 890 US Hwy 20 S Dues: \$46.00
Susan Sironen 250-6060 sironen2014@gmail.com	Cynthia Schlattmann, Membership 568-2668 cschlattmann418@gmail.com
FLOYD MINCH UNIT # 44 DUES: PO BOX 735 WORLAND WY 82401	M-2nd Tues. 6:30 pm POST Dues: \$40.00
Gloria McGonigal, President 272-3109 mcg45@msn.com	Wendy Fredricks, Membership 388-0407 wendyaf135@gmail.com

DISTRICT 6	
PRESIDENT Fran Payne-Rogers PO Box 929 Saratoga WY 82331 307-710-3127 frantic.p@yahoo.com	VICE PRESIDENT Cynthia Ivaniszek (720) 219-6284 cynthia@veritek.com
FRANCIS E. SELF UNIT # 6 DUES: 2001EAST LINCOLNWAY CHEYENNE WY 82001	M- 2nd Wed 7:00 pm POST Sept – Jun Dues: \$40.00
Dora Jones 29 Hynds Ave Cheyenne WY 82007 638-9414	Kristi Moore - Membership 714-318-4005 cheyennealaunit6@gmail.com
HUSTED-PENDLETON UNIT # 14 DUES: PO BOX 2187 LARAMIE WY 82073	M-2nd Tue 7:00 pm POST Dues: \$40.00 Sept – Jun
Lori Stalder, Membership 399-0010 wyala14lori@gmail.com	Lori Stalder, Membership
ANGUS ENGLAND UNIT # 54 DUES: PO BO 266 SARATOGA WY 82331	M-3rd Tue 6:30 pm POST Sept – May Dues: \$40.00
Fran Payne Rogers, President PO Box 929 Saratoga WY 82331 710-3127 frantic.p@yahoo.com	Donna Younger, Membership 326-3005
CANADY FILKINS UNIT # 60 DUES: PO Box 111 PINE BLUFFS WY 82082	M-Mon before 2nd Wed 6 pm POST Dues: \$35.00
Kathy Canady 220-2033 canadyfilkinsauxiliaryunit60@yahoo.com	



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