



Bennett and Dennis Herrick Memorial  
American Legion Post 626  
Gladstone, MO.



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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

**1 January 2018**

Web Site Address  
[www.al626mo.com](http://www.al626mo.com)

Facebook Address  
[facebook.com/Post626MO](https://facebook.com/Post626MO)

This newsletter is available to  
view on our website

**Upcoming Meetings**

Meetings are held every 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Thursday in the Gladstone  
Community Center, 6901 N  
Holmes St., at 1900 Hrs. (7 PM)

17 January 2019

21 February 2019

21 March 2019

Submit articles and pictures  
for the Newsletter by email to  
the Post (Subject: Newsletter)  
two weeks prior to Quarterly  
publishing. All submissions  
subject to editing.

**Commander Says:**

First and foremost, Thank You for what you do. For us, for others, for your country.

I started off this quarter thinking about an easy fall. I have no idea why, because I was dead wrong. Gladfest, Fright Night, Funeral Details, Community engagements with the Chamber and Scouts, Poppy fluffing, Poppy Donation Day, Fall Conference, Veterans Day activities at Staley and Antioch Middle, Cameron Veterans Home visit, Post and County Oratorical, USO Comedy Fundraiser, Mayors Christmas Tree lighting, VA&R calls, Wreathes Across America, End of Year Social and all of the myriad of meetings that go with all of that and more.

I gotta say, we do not sit idly by...

As we move into this next quarter, we are forming a new committee to look closer at our prospects for a new Post Home as well as starting the Boys and Girls States process and the continuation of the Oratorical Contests. AND Memorial Day is approaching so we need to set our sights downrange on that target and then shift fires to the next.

And we couldn't do any of this without our active members who are supported by our inactive members. We need each and every one of you, and the more that are involved the better.

And remember, the future of this organization is in YOUR hands. Sign up a new member today!!

## New Members

Larry Ragan

Welcome to New Legionnaires Victor Hulbert, a Navy Veteran of the PG/GWOT era and Dean Mitchell, a Coastguardsman from the Vietnam Era who joined us during our End of Year Social. That brings our total of Coastguardsmen to a whopping 4!

Transferring in from out of State are John Clark (NA) and David Rodriguez (MC) from LG Era and Howard Jackson (AF) from the Vietnam Era. From Post 1000 we pick up Vietnam Era Veterans Gary Barvick, William Coles, Michael Davis and Lendon Garrison JR. from the Army and Robert Fayne from the Navy, Charles Stafford and Peggy Blazier from the Airforce; also from the Army are Donald Henkel and Wayman Blazier from the PG/GWOT Era.

Welcome one and all!!

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## Congratulations

Elisha Knapp from Staley High School beet out two other competitors from Staley to win the Post level High School Oratorical Competition and then went on to clinch the County Title. Her next step is the District Contest on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January in Smithville. Congratulations Elisha, and good luck going forward!

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## Membership

Larry Ragan

As we exit the gift giving season of Christmas and start wondering about the tax season ahead, I know that financial concerns are one of the many issues on our minds. So being reminded that another expenditure, along with all of the donation request by mail, is not something we really want to hear, but we do need to remember that continued membership in the Legion is important. The American Legion activities are supported by your membership dues and they continue even after the holidays. So please take the time to renew your membership and remember there is a significant lag time from when you send in your renewal until your name is removed from National's mailing list so please remember to not pay twice!

If you wish to use a credit card you can go on line to <https://www.legion.org/join> and click on the renew menu and login with your last name and member number or you can send a \$35 check to:

**Phyllis Rosales 810 NE 46<sup>th</sup> Ter. Kansas City MO 64116**

Our Adjutant will send you your new card when we process your renewal, keep it handy as a reminder that you have paid.

Find a new member and sign them up. Friends, family, people you bump in to. If you would like recruiting information send the Post an email and we will get it to you. We have roughly 250 members, if half of you get one more that would be great, if each of you got one that would be fantastic!

As the membership chairman I want to take this opportunity to also thank the members that have assisted in the process of calling members to remind them of the importance of renewing and how the post benefits the community. The individuals that have donated their time for this effort are Billy Thompson, William McDonald, Robert Mallams, James Dunnam and Douglas Robker.

(If you haven't renewed for 2019 yet you will be delinquent as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, suspended on February 1<sup>st</sup> (no vote), and dropped from the roles on June 30<sup>th</sup> - Please don't procrastinate and chance losing your "continuous years" status. Cdr.)

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### **Historian**

We are in the midst of our Centennial year and there are several programs going on to celebrate it. There will be a ceremony in St. Louis on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the St. Louis Caucus. There will also be a celebration banquet during the 2019 convention in St. Louis. And finally, to commemorate the anniversary of the first Congressional Charter given to a Veterans Service Organization we will celebrate at The National WWI Museum and Memorial in Kansas City by unveiling our memorial bricks on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The only Department commemoration held on this side of the state. **In order to have your brick in place by the event date your order must be on file at Department NLT 29 Mar.**

Flyers are included with this email or you can go to <https://www.missourilegion.org/> for more information.

CDR.

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### **Honor Guard**

C. Joe Farris, USAF, Honor Guard Captain

## **HONOR GUARD YEAR-END REPORT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2018**

**OUR MISSION:** To provide Full Military Honors for veterans of the Armed Forces in a respectful and dignified manner by following the Arlington National Cemetery Standard and in keeping with the requirements of the Missouri Military Funeral Honors Program.

**OUR MOTTO:** "Trying our best 100% of the time"

2018 was a busy year for the Post Honor Guard. In this past calendar year we performed at **65** funerals, generating **\$6,500** for the Post Treasury. Thus far, halfway through the Fiscal Year we have performed at **29** funerals, generating **\$2,900** from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 thru December 31, 2018.

Total number of funerals we have performed at since being first certified are **138**.

I would like to thank each and every member of the Honor Guard for their faithful service and dedication to our mission and a very special thanks to our spouses for all the support you give us! I am proud to report that in the 2 ½ years we have had the privilege of being a Certified Honor Guard, we have only had to cancel one mission due to hazardous driving conditions.

**Here are the names of the dedicated members of your Honor Guard:** Bob Box, USMC, Honorary Captain, Doug Millison, USA, Nelson Duncan, USN, Jeb Coy, USA, Bill McDonald, USN, Kim Murch, USAF, Jim Tucker, USAF, Jerry Braton, USN, David Bowman, USA, Steve Jacobs, USMC, Preston Marquis, USN, Steve Walker, USAF, Phyllis Rosales, USN, Don Pind, USAF.

It has been my privilege to serve as your Captain!

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**VA&R**  
Douglas Millison

### **Semi Annual Donation to VAVS**

The Post made its semi-annual donation to the Volunteer Services at the KC VA Medical Center. This time they needed to restock men's underwear so we took in a little over \$300 worth. That should hold them for a while. In the past we have donated coffee, coffee makers, coats, shoes, socks, whatever they need. Donations are made around Memorial Day and Veterans Day each year and are paid for by our Poppy Program.

### **Achieve your career goals with help from the VA**

If you want to make a career move or are interested in enhancing your skill set, VA employment services is a good place to start.

Here are some career and training resources to get you going:

- Search nearly 3 million jobs at the [Jobs Bank](#) to find employers looking to hire Veterans.
- Check out federal jobs by visiting the [Veteran Employment Services Office](#).
- Search for a variety of [health care-related careers](#).
- Earn a degree or attend a technical school with [education and training](#) benefits.

Veterans with a service-connected disability may be eligible for one-on-one support, counseling and training to meet employment goals through VA's [Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program](#).

Spouses, dependents and survivors of Veterans [may also be eligible](#) for career assistance, counseling and other services.

Visit [Explore.VA.gov](#) for more on VA employment services or click the button below for information on all VA benefits.

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### **Member Contribution**

Shopping at the PX online

“Hey guys I found a web site for vets to use px priv. no tax and some free shipping. Go here [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com). thanks BOB”

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### **Admin Notes**

In order to get some more informative material into our meetings we need to cut out some of what we cover in the meetings, especially the stuff that puts everyone to sleep. Starting with the January meeting we will no longer automatically read the **Minutes** from the last meeting. When the Adjutant gets the minutes prepared, they will be emailed to the majority of our membership. The question will be presented at the next meeting if there is any desire from the membership present to have a portion or all of the minutes from the previous meeting read aloud and if there are any corrections to be made. If any member so wishes we will read the minutes, if not they will be filed.

The American Legion has an online training course called **Basic Training** that is free to take and has a lot of great information about The American Legion and its programs. Already taken the old course (ALEI)? The American Legion Extension Institute has been rewritten, updated, streamlined and enhanced with videos, digital photos, clickable links, a historical timeline and additional features. The program should take less than three hours to complete but you can start and stop whenever you need to. It is divided into six sections, with a quiz at the end of each one, followed by a final exam. Go to <https://www.legion.org/alei> and register to get started. There will be follow on courses in the future. The Post will present you with your completion pin when you present your certificate of completion.

Check out the **Membership Impact Report** on our website. Homepage, near the bottom.

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## Taps

It is our sad duty to report that the following Legionnaires have been transferred to Post Everlasting: Charles Englund, a 16-year Legion member and WWII Navy Veteran and Harold Trull, a 14-year member of the Legion and AF Veteran of the PG Era.

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## Upcoming Events

12 Jan Exec, 1000, MCPL Antioch Branch, Meeting Room #1  
12 Jan District Oratorical, 1400, Post 58 Smithville  
13 Jan District Meeting, 1400, Post 216 Bethany  
17 Jan Membership Meeting, 1900, Community Center  
09 Feb Exec, 1000 (*Date change due to Spring Conference*), Place TBD  
15 - 17 Feb Spring Conference, Jefferson City  
21 Feb Membership Meeting, 1900  
28 Feb St. Michael's Benefit Luncheon, 1130, Post 21 Independence  
16 Mar Exec, 1000, Place TBD  
21 Mar Membership Meeting, 1900, Community Center  
29 Mar Centennial Memorial Brick Cut Off Date, **MUST** be at Department

EVERYONE is more than welcome at any of these events! Please contact the Commander for any additional details.

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## The Past Quarters Photo's



Content changes, so hold on to old Newsletters for reference!

# Attachments

You're Cordially Invited  
to  
**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Saint Louis Caucus**



When: **May 9-10, 2019**

Where: **Ceremony** - at Soldier's Memorial (1315 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, MO)

Guest Speakers: **National Commander Bret Reistad and National President Kathy Dungan**  
**Luncheon** – Missouri Athletic Club Grand Ball Room  
(405 Washington Avenue, St. Louis, MO) cost for lunch \$35.00

**The Traveling GI Bill Display will on exhibit at Soldier's Memorial**

A room block has been reserved at the Missouri Athletic Club. The room rates are:

Singles includes queens/king beds \$121.00 per night

Doubles includes 2 queen beds \$121.00 per night

Suites –one bed & parlor w/pull out sofa -135.00 per night

Reservation can be made by calling 314-231-7720 -when booking ask for **The American Legion Block**.

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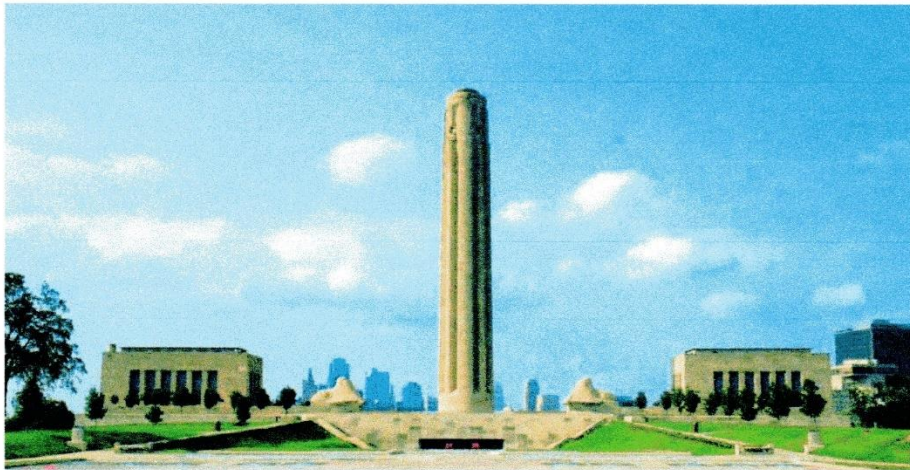
Please RSVP by April 18,2019 and remit your luncheon reservation(s) of \$35.00 per person  
(Make Check payable to the American Legion Department of Missouri: mail to P.O. Box 179,  
Jefferson City, MO 65102)

Person (s) attending Name and position:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment Sent: \_\_\_\_\_



# **CENTENNIAL FUNDRAISER MEMORIAL BRICK SALE**

**Support the Legacy of the American Legion AND  
The National WWI Museum and Memorial at the  
Liberty Memorial in Kansas City Missouri.**

The American Legion Department of Missouri is holding a fundraising campaign as part of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to support the museum's mission in "**maintaining the Liberty Memorial as a beacon of freedom and a symbol of the courage, patriotism, sacrifice, and honor of all who served in World War I**"

*How wonderfully that mission falls into our own, "To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars"*

This memorial was built with the support of the Veterans of the "Great War", the Veterans who formed The American Legion, our founding fathers.



**Let's not stop now!**

**Bricks Will Be  
Unveiled During A  
Ceremony  
Commemorating  
Our Centennial In  
2019**

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**All Bricks Will Be  
Placed Together  
As A Symbol Of  
Our Unity**

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**The American  
Legion Family Is  
Invited To  
Participate**

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**Place A Brick For  
Your Post, Unit,  
Squadron,  
Chapter, An  
Honored Member,  
or Yourself**

**POC: DOUGLAS  
MILLISON**

**dwmillison7@gmail.com  
816-509-5247**



## SUGGESTED FORMATS

A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	L	E	G	I	O	N
P	O	S	T	6	2	6	C	H	1	9	7	4	
G	L	A	D	S	T	O	N	E	M	O			

4x8 Post Brick, \$200  
3 Lines, 15 Characters Each, Formatted  
(Post#, Charter Year, City)

A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	L	E	G	I	O	N
A	U	X	.	U	N	I	T	6	1				
K	A	N	S	A	S	C	I	T	Y	M	O		

4x8 Family Brick, \$200  
3 Lines, 15 Characters Each, Formatted  
(AL Family Member & #, City)

A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	L	E	G	I	O	N
R	I	D	E	R	S	C	H	A	P	.	6	1	
K	A	N	S	A	S	C	I	T	Y	M	O		

4x8 Family Brick, \$200  
3 Lines, 15 Characters Each, Formatted  
(AL Family Member & #, City)

A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N	L	E	G	I	O	N
D	I	S	T	R	I	C	T	3					

8x8 District/Post/Family Brick, \$400  
4 Lines, 15 Characters Each, Partially Formatted

B	E	N	N	E	T	H	E	R	R	I	C	K
1	9	4	8	-	1	9	6	8				
U	S	A	R	M	Y	V	I	E	T	N	A	M

4x8 Individual Brick, \$200

H	E	R	R	I	C	K	F	A	M	I	L	Y
L	O	R	E	N	,	M	A	R	G	E	,	
B	E	N	N	E	T	,	D	E	N	N	I	S
A	R	M	Y	A	L	L	W	W	2	-	V	N

8x8 Individual Brick, \$400

L	E	G	I	O	N	N	A	I	R	E				
D	O	U	G	L	A	S	M	I	L	L	I	S	O	N
S	F	C		U	S	C	A	V	A	L	R	Y		
1	9	7	9	-	2	0	0	0	H	O	O	A	H	

8x8 Individual Brick, \$400

Fill in below, 3 lines will be 4X8 at \$200 and 4 lines will be 8X8 at \$400.


Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form and Check or Money Order made out to American Legion Dept. of MO to;

American Legion, Dept of MO  
ATTN: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee  
PO Box 179  
Jefferson City MO 65102