



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



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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

1 April 2021

Web Site Address
www.al626mo.com

Facebook Address
facebook.com/Post626MO

This newsletter is available to view on our website

Upcoming Meetings

Meetings are held every 3rd Thursday in the Northland Elks Lodge #2376, 7010 N. Cherry St., at 1900 Hrs. (7 PM) Lower (West) Entrance

15 April 2021
20 May 2021
17 June 2021

Commander Says:

Hello all, and welcome back.

I remember being on a road trip to AZ last year at this time as things started to shut down. We ended up cancelling the trip in NM because we quickly tired of having to eat in the car and our final destination was curtailing its amenities. It has been a long, tumultuous year, but we have learned to adjust by modifying some things, quitting others. Decisions were made that were not easy but deemed at that time to be best for the whole.

Many entities are working hard to get as many people as possible vaccinated, we still have to wear the masks most places, but I feel more people are comfortable that we are heading in a good direction. Things are looking up but we still don't know the extent of transition possibilities from the vaccinated or post infected to someone at risk and variants are still popping up, so please continue to be cautious.

We are still cutting back on activities like the Memorial Day Ceremony and I&I Banquet, yet Honor Guard goes on, meetings are in person with masks and the in person Poppy Donation Day is back on at Walmart. We are almost there, but not quite yet...

For information on receiving the vaccination from the VA visit <https://www.kansascity.va.gov/services/covid-19-vaccines.asp> and watch our Facebook page for clinic updates. They are currently accepting ALL Veterans and their spouses and/or caretakers.

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.

New Members

Welcome to:

Transferring from Post 1000;
Dwight Sampson, WWII era Navy Veteran
Everett Fraker, Vietnam era Army Veteran
Matas Liubinas, Vietnam era Navy Veteran

New Legionnaire;
None

Thank you all for joining us, one of the most active Posts in the area.

Membership

Commander

As of 1 February, members who have not renewed for 2021 are suspended, a member on the roster without a vote or ability to transfer.

Look at your membership card, is it current? If you think you renewed but don't have a 2021 card contact the Adjutant and let's find out what happened and get it fixed. If you need help making dues this year due to financial hardship (there's a lot of that out there this year) contact the Post and we will work with you.

On 1 June suspended members will be dropped from the roster (but able to come back in upon payment of dues). Those are the rules we all have to abide by folks.

Conference/Convention Notes

Commander

The Fall Conference was cancelled due to COVID, but the Department Executive Committee (DEC) met on February 27th in Ashland MO. The District Commanders (my) Report is inserted after the Upcoming Events section. The biggest news to come out of this meeting was adjustments made to the Department Budget due to membership shortfalls.

The Department Convention is scheduled for 9 – 11 July 2021 at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Cape Girardeau. Housing Request information is inserted below after the DEC report. If you plan to attend notify the Adjutant to be registered as a delegate.

District Meeting Notes

Commander

The District Meeting was held on March 14th in Excelsior Springs, the minutes of that meeting are inserted after the Convention Hotel info flyer. The Commander called for more Posts to get

online and use the tools in MyLegion, which we do, and also to advertise their presence, which we also do. He (I) also submitted his (my) resignation as District Commander effective 1 June 2021 due to his (my) moving to CO.. The District Executive Committee voted to install Calvin Bumgarner as acting Commander on 1 June until the new Commander can be installed after the Department Convention. District Officer and Committee Chairs are elected at the June District Meeting which will be on the 13th in King City MO. See Events Calendar for details. The District Newsletter will be attached to this email and will also be posted on the District website @ <http://www.mo3rdherd.com/>.

Post Business Commander

The Post approved 2 new resolutions submitted by the Finance Steering Committee which will guide where we put our savings that we currently have as well as any future earnings outside of the annual budget process.

This also allowed us to fully fund a scholarship which we are still working on, but hope to have done soon. I find getting third party information this past year has been tiresomely slow, but I have also been somewhat distracted as well. Hopefully I will have enough information to bring it to the Executive Committee's next meeting.

Vice Commander Bowman is organizing our first (that I know of) Community Flag Day Ceremony. Final details still need to be worked out but we need 12 people to run an efficient Ceremony, including some of the Honor Guard. It will be held on June 14th, probably after dinner, and at the Big Shoal Cemetery grounds. The public will be invited. **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS.** Please respond to the Post if you are available to help us in this project. You do not need to be one of the regulars! This is a great chance for someone who wants to participate but hasn't to get involved. This is another activity where one might think we have lots of people who will volunteer to cover this, one would be wrong! If not you who? Precious few.

Official nominations for Post Officer and Executive Committee elections will be made at the April Membership Meeting, with the elections held at the May Membership Meeting. We will hold an Initiation and Installation Ceremony (I&I) in place of the July Membership Meeting as usual. It will not be an elaborate ceremony like we have had in the past with guest speakers and a meal due to COVID, but we will do something more like last years and hopefully a little more as things will improve (hopefully) by then. The time between election and installment can be used by the new Command to get organized and come up with a budget for the following year and fill Committee positions as the old Command finalizes paperwork and passes on information.

Billy Thompson is organizing the Poppy Donation Day event at Walmart on May 29th. There will be two shifts again, 0900-1200 and 1200-1500. Six per shift is a great number to work with

so give Billy a call (816-536-7249) or email the Post to get your name down and help out. Remember, every dime raised with Poppy's goes toward Veteran causes, not the Post, and if you think you don't need to volunteer because someone else is going to do it, you're wrong.

I am also the Departments VAVS (VA Voluntary Services) representative at the KC VA, and my report from the last VAVS Board Meeting is inserted below after the District Meeting Minutes. We are looking for a replacement in that position also, so if you want to get involved at the VA let me know.

We will hold an abbreviated Memorial Day Ceremony at the Clay County Veterans Memorial at 1000 Hrs. on Memorial Day. No guest speakers or big speeches, chairs or PA, but if you would like to come and be socially distanced by whatever standards prevail at that time, you may.

American Legion Baseball is back this year! We will compete up to the State level, possibly even Regionally, regardless of what National might end up doing. The coaches are fielding 3 teams this year, and Clark is optimistic about how far at least one of them will go. I have included the schedule as we know it at this time at the end. PLEASE give this program the same attention we give Honor Guard, Boys and Girls States, and Poppy Donations. This is what we do and how we support our tomorrow. Go to some games and cheer them on. There are not that many home games. Let the players and the fans know that The American Legion supports its own programs. And by the way, we still need someone to be our Point of Contact with and for the Team. You don't have to go to every game and meeting or even coach. You're just there to facilitate communication so we can keep up with the schedule changes and help as needed.

Please stay on top of what your Post is doing at the meetings you miss by reading the minutes which are emailed out after each meeting.

Member Contribution

Russ Dubuc is a travel agent and shares the following Travel Hints & Tips. He can be found on our member owned business page @ <https://al626mo.com/member-owned-%2F-operated>. Is YOUR business there?

Where to and what's next? Here's the latest. Alaska has lifted all travel restrictions. Land tours are available. Hawaii wants 72 hours for the Covid PCR Test and an up-loaded form. Mexico continues their no entrance test policy. Jamaica has dropped their 10-day time period to 3 days. They want the Antigen or Rapid Test. It's easy to get here. The PCR Test is more difficult to meet 72 hours. St. Lucia, the Bahamas, the US Virgin Islands ask for 5 days before departure for a Covid-19 PCR Test. For the rest of the islands, it's 3 days. Whatever the case might be, call me for the latest on where you want to travel and what their travel requirements might be. A Covid Antigen Test is still needed to re-enter the US. All the major resorts are

providing on site testing. Some charge. We'll wait to see what they say about those of us who have been vaccinated.

News from the cruise lines. The majors have canceled all cruises originating from the US until the end of June. Royal Caribbean's Adventure of the Seas will sail from Nassau, The Bahamas beginning June through August. All adult passengers and crew must be fully vaccinated. Children 17 and under will need a negative PCR Test. This is for the cruise. All those entering the Bahamas must have a PCR Test within 5 days of departure.

If you are tired of being nickel and dimed to death and screaming kids in the dining rooms, Google Virgin Voyages. This the only all-adult cruise line and is owned by Richard Branson. You might want to consider their drink package. That's an extra charge. When cruising begins from the US, Virgin Voyages will require all crew members and all sailors (passengers) to be vaccinated.

Staying in the US? There are driving tours, organized tours and Amtrak Tours here. Every-one in the travel business is offering specials. People are booking into 2022. Keep in mind Hurricane Season is most intent from mid-August thru mid-October in the Caribbean and Mexico. Remember, most resorts want final payment 45 days prior to departure. Don't forget to ask for veteran's discounts.

Let's hope that all goes well and we can return to some form of normalcy as soon as possible.

Russ

In Closing
Commander

Thank you for taking the time to read the Newsletter, I appreciate it. There is also lots of good information in the inserted and attached documents as well. I believe that the most effective Legionnaire not only participates in activities and events, but is knowledgeable in all aspects of the Legion, not just what happens at a meeting. That is why I forward all of this reading material. So read what you can, take the Basic Training Course @ <https://www.legion.org/alei>, and continue to participate in all aspects of The American Legion. Want to lead? We have room for you at the table.

Inserts

DEC Report

Convention Housing Request

District Meeting Minutes

VAVS Report

Attachments

District Newsletter

Upcoming Events

- 15 Apr **Post Membership Meeting**, 1900 Hrs., Elks Lodge 2376
7010 N Cherry St., Gladstone MO 64118, West (lower) entrance
- 15 Apr **Post Data Report** deadline
- 20 May **Post Membership Meeting**, 1900 Hrs., Elks Lodge 2376
7010 N Cherry St., Gladstone MO 64118, West (lower) entrance
Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members
Certification of Post Officials sent to Dept.
- 29 May –
1 Jun Decorate **Big Shoal Cemetery**
- 29 May **Poppy Donation Day**, 0900 – 1500 Hrs.
Walmart, 7207 N Hwy M1 Hwy, Gladstone, MO 64119
- 31 May **Memorial Day Ceremony**, 1000 Hrs., Clay County Veterans Memorial
- 1 Jun **District Commander Resigns**, Calvin Bumgarner appointed as interim Commander
- 14 Jun **Community Flag Day Ceremony**, TBD
Big Shoal Cemetery, 4125 NE 64th St., Gladstone MO. 64119
- 15 Jun **Consolidated Post Report (CPR)** deadline (To Dept. 30 June if filing on MyLegion.)
- 12-19 Jun **Missouri Boys State**
- 18-19 Jun **Blues Fest**, Oak Grove Park
Honor Guard opening TBD
- 13 Jun **District Meeting**, 1500 Hrs., Potluck meal follows
Post 132, 104 Pine St., King City MO 64463
- 17 Jun **Post Membership Meeting**, 1900 Hrs., Elks Lodge 2376
7010 N Cherry St., Gladstone MO 64118, West (lower) entrance
Cdr. Millison Not Present
- 2-5Jul Decorate **Big Shoal Cemetery**
- 4 Jul **Independence Day**
- 19-26 Jun **Missouri Girls State**
- 9-11 Jul **Department Convention**, Drury Plaza Hotel
3351 Percy Drive, Cape Girardeau MO 63701
- 15 Jul **Post Initiation & Induction (I&I) Ceremony**, 1900 Hrs., Elks Lodge 2376
7010 N Cherry St., Gladstone MO 64118, West (lower) entrance

JOIN US IN OUR ACTIVITIES, WE'DE BE DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU!



Douglas W. Millison
Commander
3rd District, Dept. of MO

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commander.third.district@gmail.com

Legionnaires,

4 Mar 2021

My report from the Fall DEC is as follows;

The Department Executive Committee met on February 27th at Post 150 in Ashland MO. Myself and Vice Commander Bumgardner were in attendance.

National Vice Commander Richard Heigert was in attendance and mentioned how Missouri had a strong start and was in 12th place in membership last October but was now in 30th. Last year we finished last in the region and 43rd overall. MO lost 3,000 members last year and are at 2,500 losses so far this year. He needs to make a report on what we are doing to retain our members and get back our expired, especially from 2019 and 2020. (Only two Posts outside my own has reported those numbers to me as requested on February 20th!)

He also encouraged all of the leadership to participate in Training Tuesdays and believes the Department needs a stronger leadership training and mentoring program and held Wisconsin up as an example.

Department Adjutant reported that 9 Posts have started the paperwork to close, and two have closed since the last DEC.

Membership Chair reminded us again that National is requesting information on our attempts to contact expired members. He would like us to at least report the numbers of expired members from 2019 and 2020 that we have contacted or attempted to contact. (Those lists were emailed to those without a MyLegion account of Feb 4th and everyone was asked to do this on the Feb 3rd Commanders Call)

Finance Commission Report

- Legionnaires Insurance Trust (LIT) earnings dropped by \$17,000
- Missouri Veterans Commission earnings dropped by \$85,000
- Altogether earnings dropped \$174,000 this year
- Department is taking advantage of PPP grants and loans
- The Department will need to cut \$100,000 next year
 - Changes have been voluntarily made by some staff's insurance
 - Overtime hours for staff and service officers have been cut

- Serious Radio has been dropped from Department vehicles
- Legal Affairs budget dropped from \$500 to \$0
- VA&R Travel cut from \$16,000 to \$14,000
- Reductions in Service Officers hours and locations were again discussed but due to Past Dept. Cdr. Goodin's leadership it was decided to cut the Missouri Legionnaire and divert those funds to VA&R
- Columbia SO position will remain at 24 hours a week and the Poplar Bluff position will be filled at 16 hours a week due to paper being cut

Oratorical Commission

- Past Department Commander Boardman installed on the Commission

Convention Registration Fee

- Set at \$5 per delegate

Dept. Judge Advocate

- Review your rental agreements. There was a fatal shooting at a Post with injuries. Situation is far from resolved for that Post
- Missouri Veterans Hall of Fame applications due in April

NEC Report

- No DC Conference, everything virtual starting March 2nd

Legislative Report

- State Veteran Home occupancy has dropped from 1,300 to 850 patients due to COVID policies
- Please call your representatives in response to the inserted MAVO bulletin, especially bullet #1

A.L. Riders Director

- This year's Legacy ride will be June 24 – 27 through Districts 15 and 17.
- The Riders currently have 40 Chapters
- They lost two Chapters and gained one

Boys State

- 500 students from last year expressed interest in returning and there will be a possible 700 from this year
- #'s may get limited but is still uncertain as to exactly what will happen
- Posts may apply funds provided for 2020 students who will not attend toward 2021 students, or can ask for a refund if they don't have the students, or call it a donation to the program

Media & Communications

- Last year's Toot Our Horns awards will be given out at this year's convention
- There will be one more edition of the Missouri Legionnaire printed, then it will be a digital edition from then on
- Content is still needed with the next cut-off in May

Scouting

- Eagle Scout of the Year nominations due 5 Mar
- The last two years will be awarded at this year's convention

A.L. Foundation of Missouri

- The Foundation supports the Departments Scholarships
- Their goal is \$1.2M and has had a return of 3-5%
- They are asking Districts and Posts to contribute toward goal
- District 5 donated \$500

Baseball Commission

- DEC approved playing ball this season, regardless of what Regional or National does

Adjutant Announcements

- CPR deadline to Department is June 15th
- Only two Posts applied for the Mission Blue Post Assistance Program
 - One Post completed the process and received the grant, the other did not complete the paperwork
 - See insert
- Department Convention will be 8 – 10 July at the Drury Plaza Hotel, Cape Girardeau MO.
 - No Past Commanders Club golf tournament
 - Limit of 250 members, usually have approximately 350 so proxy voting will be in play
 - Having only one large hospitality room was recommended
- National Convention will be Aug 27 to Sep 2 in Phoenix AZ
 - Only 12 tickets will be available for the Banquet
 - Hotel info out 15 March

Zone Announcements

- Looking for a Department Assistant Sgt at Arms, must attend all Department Conferences and Conventions
- It is 3rd Districts turn to nominate a Zone Commander; no nominations will move it to another District

Misc: Flyers inserted below

MAVO Legislative Agenda

Mission Blue Post application

Alternate membership activity reporting sheet (Bottom left block at a minimum please, by Tuesday)

Thank you all for your service to the Legion. Please share this with your members.

Douglas W. Millison

Commander

3rd District, Dept. of MO

MAVO

Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA - 2021

- (Priority) As revenues from gaming continue to decline, it is imperative for the state to ensure veterans commission funding remains a top priority through maintenance of existing revenue sources with inclusion of general revenue to make up for fiscal shortfalls. Maintain the necessary level of funding for the operation and maintenance of State Veterans Homes, State Veterans Cemeteries, Veterans Service Officers Program, Veterans Grant Program and other needs of Missouri Veterans. MVC is funded by three major sources: Dept of Veteran Affairs and Missouri Gaming Commission and the Missouri Veterans Health and Care Fund.
- Advocate to maximize allocation of funds from the MO Veterans Health and Care Fund (medical marijuana) to the Missouri Veterans Commission, and emphasize MVC funding on any future recreational marijuana legislation.
- Maintain the 9-person Missouri Veterans Commission with 1 Ex-Officio member from the MMPEC AS STATED IN Chapter 42 RsMO and maintain the governance of Missouri Veterans Commission as stated in Chapter 42 RsMO with NO MERGER WITH ANY OTHER ENTITY; MVC Shall remain under the Department of Public Safety.
- Advocate for additional veterans service officers to help ensure Missouri's veterans receive the benefits they have earned and, given that the state's economy receives an influx of \$156 for every dollar spent on a veterans service officer, that Missouri enjoys the healthiest economy possible.
- Implement plans to introduce Adult Day Health Care in our state veteran homes
- Support Veterans Treatment Courts Statewide.
- Support implementation of new VA Home model in ALL HOMES of our state veterans homes to include construction of private rooms and restrooms for our veterans.
- Support the creation of a state-wide Prescription Drug Monitoring program.
- Support the concept of the "Missouri Veterans' Heritage Protection Act" to protect memorials of historic military significance in Missouri.
- Support any other legislation introduced in the legislature determined by the MAVO Legislative Committee to be in the interest of veterans.

2021 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

HOUSING REQUEST

July 9-11, 2021

HOUSING/HOSPITALITY/CAUCUS ROOM & VENDOR TABLE REQUEST

**Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau Conference Center
3351 Percy Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
1-800-325-0720 Group #2404261**

Make reservations directly with the hotel, using a credit card for confirmation be sure to mention you are with The American Legion.

****CUTOFF DATE FOR ALL HOUSING RESERVATIONS IS JUNE 5, 2021**
(Group room rates is not guaranteed after the cutoff date)**

Cost per night is \$96.00 (plus Sales and Lodging tax)

Check in time 3:00 p.m. No exceptions

.....
HOSPITALITY ROOM

**We will have one shared Hospitality Room for Candidates Only
Please call Department Adjutant for details**
.....

DISTRICT CAUCUS ROOMS

Will be assigned by Department Adjutant at Convention
.....

Table Request for Vendors, Post and Auxiliary

**All table requests will be reserved through Department Headquarters.
Please call Theresa Boss to make your request 573-761-4143**

Vendor Tables are limited.

Deadline for table request: *June 17, 2021*



American Legion 3rd District of Missouri Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2021 – Clyde Gustine Post 236 – Excelsior Springs hosting

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison led salute to colors

3rd District Chaplain Dan gave the opening prayer

3rd District Sergeant at Arms Ed Weaverling gave the POW-MIA introduction in honor of those lost on Japanese Hell Ships during WWII.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and reciting of the Preamble.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison called the meeting to order at 15:00 HRS

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison welcomed everyone to the 3rd District Meeting.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison asked if there were any guest present. None were found to be present.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison asked 3rd District Adjutant Robert Emery to call the roll of Posts.

District Adjutant Robert Emery reported that there were five (5) Posts present and found there was a quorum present.

Posts – 61, 95, 236, 285, 626

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison asked since the 3rd District Meeting minutes from the last 3rd District Meeting had been sent out via e-mail the reading of the minutes would be considered read, and the minutes would be approved as sent.

Finance:

3rd District Finance Officer Calvin Bumgarner presented the 3rd District Finance Report

Savings Account Bank Midwest \$2483.33

Checking account Bank Midwest

Beginning balance: \$2291.90

Deposits:

\$ 607.00	September 2020
\$ 211.00	October 2020
\$ 327.00	November 2020
\$ 17.00	December 2020
\$ 196.00	January 2021
\$ 47.00	February 2021



Withdrawals:

Gower Memorial Post 393 \$100.00
3rd District Allowance and Car Sign \$674.03
Corporate Registration – Calvin Bumgarner \$11.25
Unit 216 \$100.00
Oratorical Contest – Douglas Millison \$100.00
Total: \$985.28

Total Balances \$5194.95
Total Current Assets: \$5194.95

Projected Expenses:

3rd District Commanders Allowance \$650.00
Department of Missouri Convention Committees – 3 @ \$100.00 each \$300.00
3rd District Meeting Hosting – 4 @ \$100.00 each \$400.00
3rd District Oratorical Contest Hosting \$100.00
T.F.A \$400.00
3rd District Commanders hat fund \$25.00
Office Supplies \$55.00
Total Projected Expenses: \$1930.00

Checking Account Balance \$2711.62
Withdrawal to put in savings \$1500.00
Final Checking Account Balance \$1211.52

3rd District Finance Officer Calvin Bumgarner made a motion to take fifteen hundred (\$1500.00) dollars and deposit into savings Account. Dan Heiser seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Service Officer / VA&R Officer Ann Puck reported the following

Service Officers need to know about community resources

Red Cross supporting sports teams

VA Hospitals have listing of wait times

MAVO has new State Veteran Benefits booklets

American Legion pushing Buddy Checks

3rd District Commanders Report:

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison gave his report:

Several Post have had extreme losses over the last year.

3rd District Newsletter will come out April 1st.

Committee Chairs recruit for your committee, inform Posts what committee is doing or needs.



Email list of members transferred to Post Everlasting so listing can be included in the newsletter.

District report is due to Department at end of April; Post need to share all they have done in the last Quarter.

Per Diem only one Post has not paid it.

Child Welfare is asking for donations so take a piggy bank to collect pocket change.

Continue push Post to be more visible online and use tools on mylegion

American Legion has updated Buddy Check program and asking all post to conduct them during Legion Birthday and Veterans Day.

He attended DEC meeting on February 27 and emailed report on March 4th.

He attended KC VAVS board meeting and emailed that report out March 11th.

Asked all to share all information with all members.

Liberty Boys Home asking for Flag, the request was turned over to Post 95.

Calvin Bumgarner reported that VA in Leavenworth was giving any veteran the virus shots.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison stated that informed membership make better membership.

MEMBERSHIP:

3rd District vice Commander Calvin Bumgarner talked about membership numbers so far. Membership should be at ninety (90%) percent but we are currently at eighty five point one (85.1%) percent.

Conduct Buddy Checks

April 14th goal is ninety five (95%) percent and current standing in the state is seventh (7) place.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison reported that the Legionnaire would be digital only from now on. The cost savings from not printing would fund two (2) Service Officers one (1) Columbia and one (1) Cape Girardeau area.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison reported next national renewal cutoff will be April 14

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison reported only 11 Active Posts using mylegion and seventeen (17) of the twenty six (26) Posts are registered to use it.

Ed Waverly suggested Buddy Checking Post 1000 members.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison said he had Why You Should join pamphlets and everyone should take some.

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison reported that he would be moving to Colorado June 1st. and Calvin Bumgarner would be temporary 3rd District Commander until elections could be held.

3rd District By-Laws:



3rd District Commander Douglas Millison outlined update to current By-Laws to bring them into alignment with Department By-Laws stating officers will be installed after the Department Convention. This will be voted on at the June District Meeting.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison reported that Zone 2 is looking for Assistant Sergeant at Arms for Department.

Good of the Legion:

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison nominated Ed Weaverling for 3rd District Commander.

Jim Elliott said that he would be meeting with the lady from the boys' home in Liberty about flag for the home.

Post 236 will be "Pan Handling" again on July 4th collecting donations and passing out stick flags.

Holding Car Show September 25th

BINGO on Fridays

Post 61 Car and Bike Show on August 21st.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison repeated Newsletter was due April 1st and emails him any information you wanted to share.

May 1st District Report was due to Department.

CPR was available online and ready to fill out.

Next 3rd District Meeting Post 132 King City on June 13th with meal planned.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison talked about upcoming events.

MAVO April in Jefferson City

Missouri Boys State

Missouri Girls State

Department Convention

3rd District Sergeant at Arms Ed Weaverling gave POW/MIA Table Remembrance ceremony.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison proceeded to close 3rd District Meeting.

Thanked post 236 for hosting and everyone for attending today's meeting.

3rd District Commander Douglas Millison closed the meeting at 15:53 HRS.

Submitted by:

Robert C. Emery
3rd District Adjutant

Approved by:

Douglas Millison
3rd District Commander



Douglas W. Millison
Commander
3rd District, Dept. of MO

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816-509-5247
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Legionnaires,

11 March 2021

The latest meeting of the KC VAMC VAVS Board was on March 11th via WEBEX and a summary report follows. The main topics of this meeting were COVID Vaccinations and construction projects as well as Volunteer opportunities and donation needs. Please pass this information on to the Posts who use the Kansas City area VA Hospital and related community-based outpatient clinics (CBOC's) and to Service Officers and VA Volunteers in your districts and Posts.

I am required to report annually to the VA how many Posts have members utilizing any aspect of the KC VA, Volunteer involvement in the system and any general issues that should be brought to their attention (not patient specific, use the patient advocate for that). With that in mind I hope you can gather some of that information from your Post visits and keep me informed on what is happening with your district's involvement at the KC VAMC. Our next report is due in April.

One last thing... For an organization that is supposed to be about the Veteran, we have 8 volunteers that are claiming their time under the American Legion. 8! See if you can do something about that.

Respectfully;

Douglas W. Millison
VAVS Representative
American Legion, Dept. of MO

P.S. VOLUNTEERVOLUNTEERVOLUNTEERVOLUNTEERVOLUNTEERVOLUNTEERVOLUNTEER

VAVS Report, 11 March 2021

American Legion representative Douglas Millison in attendance.

Executive Briefing: Angela Athmann, Assistant Director, Kansas City VA

COVID-19 Vaccinations

From Dec 22nd to now

- 10,298 Veterans and VA Staff have been fully vaccinated
- 24,580 have received first of two shots

Shot Clinics in Harrisonville, Cameron and Nevada will be administering 1,200 one shot J&J vaccinations this week.

There is availability at the Warrensburg Shot Clinic on Monday for Veterans registered to receive care through the VA. Call 816-922-2619 to schedule for any Shot Clinic. You can still register for VA care by calling 816-861-4700 (Option 4).

Because of how well things are going the VA may be close to opening to all ages and groups as well as creating walk-in opportunities. There is a Bill in Congress to allow the VA to vaccinate Veterans who are ineligible to receive care through the VA and all family members who reside with the Veteran. We are wait and see on that passing intact.

(There is a separate email inserted after the wish list which has slightly different info, specifically adding "any age" and availability to this week's clinics as well – Doug)

Construction

Front entrance is complete and open, the patient drop-off entrance by the Emergency Room has been closed except to badged employees. All patients are expected to enter the hospital at the front entrance 24/7.

A new clinic opened in Cameron on Dec. 7th which gives them much more room than what was available working out of the Veterans Home.

New machines are available in the Kansas City VA lab allowing for all COVID test samples to be processed in house, allowing for faster return times. It can process up to approximately 1,000 tests a day.

10 West is nearing completion and should be wrapping up late summer or early fall. This wing houses inpatient mental health patients.

A new sterilization department is under construction to handle the hospitals needs in house.

9 East is becoming a specialty clinic and will house pediatric clinic, wound management, vascular surgery and others when complete.

The new large clinic in Lenexa will house a mobile CT and MRI machines and receive scheduled specialty clinic visits.

VAVS Staff report:

Volunteers who have not yet been vaccinated should contact the VAVS office to get scheduled.

- 80 Volunteers have been vaccinated through the VA

The old front information desk will be turned into what they are calling a “Service Station”. Veteran Service Organizations may reserve it on a specific day to pass out goods and services directly to the Veterans. Contact VAVS for details or to reserve when opened.

There is an Amazon Wish List for donations to VAVS.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3TGARRR4P8QTI?ref=wl_share

There will be a drive through baby shower at the Honor Annex on May 7th. See the wish list below for items to donate directly to that cause.

A “Compassionate Care” position will be open to Volunteers when ready. These will contact VA patients just to check in. (The American Legion has been leading an initiative to require the VA to create just such a program modelled after our Buddy Checks)

Volunteer Opportunities (orientation/interviews held every Wednesday, 9 a.m.)

1. Vaccination Clinic Volunteers (Guides/Monitors)
2. Eye Clinic-reminder calls
3. Chaplain Service-literature volunteer
4. Chaplain Service-musicians
5. Standardized Patients for Education Simulation Lab
6. Red Coat Ambassadors (Main Hospital)
7. Pet Visitation Escorts
8. Reminder Phone Calls
9. Mailroom help
10. Honor Annex-coffee, Red Coat Ambassadors
11. Escort Volunteers-late afternoons (2p-430p)
12. As openings exist, all other volunteer positions

Donation wish list is below. PLEASE DISTRIBUTE

We cannot accept used clothing, any medical equipment, used books or magazines, hotel toiletries, items containing alcohol, and household items.

MONETARY: Monetary donations are accepted to support general comfort and welfare, hygiene items, adaptive sports, coffee & refreshments, recreation and other general (non-medical) needs of KCVA Veterans. **Please make checks payable to: KCVA**

Please email any questions to VHAKANVOLUNTEERSERVICES@VA.GOV or call us at 816-922-2025

Kansas City VA Medical Center
Voluntary Service
Wish List

We can only accept NEW items. Starred items (*) indicate our greatest need as of March 2021.

- *Gift cards
 - Quick Trip (\$10)
 - Wal-Mart (\$10)
- *Sweatpants (Men's- S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL)
- *Sweatshirts (Men's- S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL)
- *Winter coats (Men's- L, XL, XXL, XXXL, XXXXL)
- *Socks (Ankle or long)
- *T-shirts (Long and short sleeved- S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL)
- *Underwear (Any kind-S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL)
- *Coffee (Large cans, regular brew)
- Travel Sized Pillows (approximately 8x10 or 10x12), patriotic colors, for post-surgery recoveries
- Restaurant Gift Cards-for radiation therapy Veterans & who must stay in a hotel (Subway, Applebee's Panera, McDonald's, Wendy's, Denny's, IHOP, etc.)
- Reading glasses (new) any power
- Baby Slings (for pregnant veterans)
- Weather Radios for Home Based Primary Care patients
- Microwave popcorn for Liberty building veterans
- Granola Bars (individually packaged)
- Chapstick
- Crossword/Sudoku/word search books
- Disposable razors
- Denture cleaner
- Denture adhesive
- Combs

The Women's Clinic is holding a Drive Thru Baby Shower for women veterans in need. Voluntary Service is collecting items now through May 1, 2021.

- Gender neutral baby clothes, socks/booties
- Swaddling blankets
- Thermometers
- Night lights
- Bottles and bottle supplies
- Diapers and Wipes
- Car seats
- Wrist or foot rattles
- Pacifiers
- Teething toys
- Baby swings or rocking seats
- Highchairs or booster seats
- Knitted blankets
- Baby slings or carry packs
- Sippy cups
- Play mats
- Monthly stickers (they come in packs) or grow charts for taking pictures each month
- Dishwasher basket for bottle parts
- Pack and Play
- Strollers

Herrick Memorial Freshman Schedule – 2021

	Opponent	Time	Field	Location
May				
21 – 23	OFF			
25	Fike Post 499 15U (DH)	6:00 pm	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
28	St Charles Post 312 Wood Bat Tourn	(15U)	Blanchette Park	St. Charles, MO
29	St Charles Post 312 Wood Bat Tourn	TBD	Blanchette Park	St. Charles
30	St Charles Post 312 Wood Bat Tourn	TBD	Blanchette Park	St. Charles
June				
2	Game (DH)			
3	Ottawa Post 60 A's (DH)	6:00 pm	Orliss Cox Park	Ottawa, KS
4 – 6	OFF			
7	Game (DH)			
11	Willard Tournament	(15U)	Willard HS	Willard, MO
12	Willard Tournament	(15U)	Willard HS	Willard
13	Willard Tournament	(15U)	Willard HS	Willard
16	Game (DH)			
20	Game (DH)			
23	Fike Post 499 15U (DH)	4:00 pm	Oak Park HS	Gladstone
25	Game (DH)		Oak Park HS	Gladstone
27	Ottawa Post 60 A's (DH)	3:00 pm	Oak Park HS	Gladstone
28	Game (DH) TBD			
July				
1	Game (DH) TBD			
2 – 5	OFF			
July 6 – 11 Games – TBD (KC Area)				
14	State Tournament	TBD	BAA Complex	Ballwin MO
15	State Tournament	TBD	BAA Complex	Ballwin MO
16	State Tournament	TBD	BAA Complex	Ballwin MO
17	State Tournament	TBD	BAA Complex	Ballwin MO
Date TBD	Legion Team Picnic – Oak Grove Park – Gladstone			

Herrick Memorial Junior Schedule – 2021

*League Standings Games

	Opponent	Time	Field	Location
May				
20	*St Joseph Post 11 (DH)	6:00 pm	Bartlett Field	St. Joseph
24	*Post 21 (DH)	6:00 pm	Crysler Stadium	Independence
27	St. Joseph Post 11 (DH)	4:00 pm	Oak Park HS	Gladstone

Off – Memorial Weekend (28 – 31)

June

1	*Fike Post 499 (DH)	6:00 pm	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
4	Jim Allen Memorial Tournament	TBD	Orliss Cox Park	Ottawa KS
5	Jim Allen Memorial Tournament	TBD	Orliss Cox Park	Ottawa KS
6	Jim Allen Memorial Tournament	TBD	Orliss Cox Park	Ottawa KS
9	Fike Post 499 (DH)	4:00 pm	Oak Park HS	Gladstone
10	*Waldo Teamwork Sports (DH)	Location TBD		

11 – 13 OFF

14	*Lees Summit Post 189 Outlaws	4:00 pm	Oak Park HS	Gladstone
18	Washington Post 218 (DH)	5 pm	Rosnick Field	Washington
19	Pacific Post 320 (DH)	11:00 am	Pacific HS	Pacific
20	New Haven Post 366 (1 game)	1 pm	Legion Field	New Haven
22	*League Game vs Sedalia (DH) – location TBD			
25	Fike Wood Bat Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
26	Fike Wood Bat Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
27	Fike Wood Bat Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
30	*Lathrop Post 467 (DH)	4:00 pm	Oak Park HS	Gladstone

July

1	Belton Pirates (DH)	6:00 pm	Belton HS	Belton
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2 – 4 OFF

5	*Oak Grove Post 497 (DH)	4:30 pm	Webb Park	Oak Grove
7	Lathrop (single 9 Inning game)	7:00 pm	Lathrop HS	Lathrop
9	Home Tournament	TBD	Oak Park / Lathrop	Glad/Lathrop
10	Home Tournament	TBD	Oak Park / Lathrop	Glad/Lathrop
11	Home Tournament	TBD	Oak Park / Lathrop	Glad/Lathrop
16	Zone Tournament	TBD	Liberty Park	Sedalia
17	Zone Tournament	TBD	Liberty Park	Sedalia
18	Zone Tournament	TBD	Liberty Park	Sedalia

State – July 23 – Rosnick Field in Washington, MO

Date TBD Legion Team Picnic – Oak Grove Park - Gladstone

Tournament:

Lathrop

626

St. Joe

Ottawa

Victory

Herrick Memorial Senior Schedule – 2021

*League Standings Game

Opponent	Time	Field	Location	
May				
22	Nebraska City Post 8	2:00 pm	Steinhart Park	Nebraska City
22	South Sioux City Post 307	4:00 pm	Steinhart Park	Nebraska City
24	*Waldo Teamwork Sports (DH)	5:00 pm	MO 3&2	Kansas City
28	Beatrice Ex-Mark Post (9-inning)	3:00 pm	Christenson Field	Beatrice NE
29	Ralston SOS Heating & Cooling Post 373	2:30 pm	Christenson Field	Beatrice NE
29	York Cornerstone Bank Post 19	5:00 pm	Christenson Field	Beatrice NE
30	Millard Gold Sox (Millard South)	11:00 am	Christenson Field	Beatrice NE
30	Ralston SOS Heating & Cooling Post 373	1:30 pm	Christenson Field	Beatrice NE
June				
1	Belton Pirates (DH)	4:00 pm	Oak Park HS	Gladstone
4	Post 12 First Dakota Classic	TBD	Mount Marty College	Yankton SD
5	Post 12 First Dakota Classic	TBD	Mount Marty College	Yankton SD
6	Post 12 First Dakota Classic	TBD	Mount Marty College	Yankton SD
8	Trenton Post 31 Blue Jays (DH)	6:00 pm	Lathrop HS	Lathrop
9	*Fike Post 499 (DH)	6:00 pm	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
11 – 14 OFF				
15	Topeka Post 400 Senators (DH)	6:00 pm	Field TBD	HOME GAME
16	*Blue Springs Elks (DH)	4:00 pm	Oak Park HS	Gladstone
17	*Sedalia Post 642 Travelers (DH)	6:00 pm	Liberty Park	Sedalia
18 – 20 OFF				
21	*Oak Grove Post 467 (DH)	6:00 pm	Webb Park	Oak Grove
22	Trenton Post 31 Blue Jays (DH)	6:00 pm	NCMC Juco Field	Trenton
25	Springfield Holiday Tournament	TBD	TBD	Springfield MO
26	Springfield Holiday Tournament	TBD	TBD	Springfield
27	Springfield Holiday Tournament	TBD	Republic HS	Republic
29	Ottawa Post 60 Arrows (DH)	6:00 pm	Orliss Cox Park	Ottawa, KS
30	Oak Grove Post 467 (9 inning)	6:00 pm	Lathrop HS	Lathrop
July				
1	*Harrison County Hot Rods (DH)	6:00 pm	Lathrop HS	Lathrop
2 – 6 OFF				
7	Fike Wood Bat Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
8	Fike Wood Bat Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
9	Fike Wood Bat Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
10	Fike Wood Bat Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
13	Topeka Post 400 Senators (9 inning)	6:00 pm	McDonald Field	Topeka
14	*Post 11 (DH)	6:00 pm	Bartlett Park	St Joe
15	Sedalia Post 642 Travelers (DH)	6:00 pm	Field TBD	HOME GAME
16	Waldo Teamwork Sports (9 inning)	5:00 pm	Lathrop HS	Lathrop
17	RAIN DATE			
21	Zone Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
22	Zone Tournament	TBD	Hidden Valley	Blue Springs
23	Zone Tournament	TBD	Liberty Park	Sedalia
24	Zone Tournament	TBD	Liberty Park	Sedalia

Date TBD Legion Team Picnic – Oak Grove Park - Gladstone

State – July 30 – Sedalia

Regionals – August 5 – Hastings NE

Nationals – August 16 – Cary NC