

Department of Oklahoma in the Beginning

On May 21, 1919 Tulsa members of The American Legion gathered to organize a post. These quotes from the Tulsa World article published on the morning of Wednesday, May 22, 1919 tell the story:

"Many service men attended the rousing meeting of the American Legion held at the courthouse at 8 o'clock Tuesday night. Inspired by the national convention recently held in St. Louis, Lee Daniel, acting chairman of the post, opened the meeting with a short talk in which he gave a clear idea of the principles of the legion, showing that its ideas were non-political and non-sectarian, but stood for ideal Americanism."

"Following the short talk a report was given of the national convention in St. Louis, after which the following officers were elected:"

"Horace Hagan, president; John Rogers, vice president; Ralph Berry, secretary; Virgil Jones, treasurer, Wm. R. Meyer, historian; and C.L. Murray, chaplain."

1

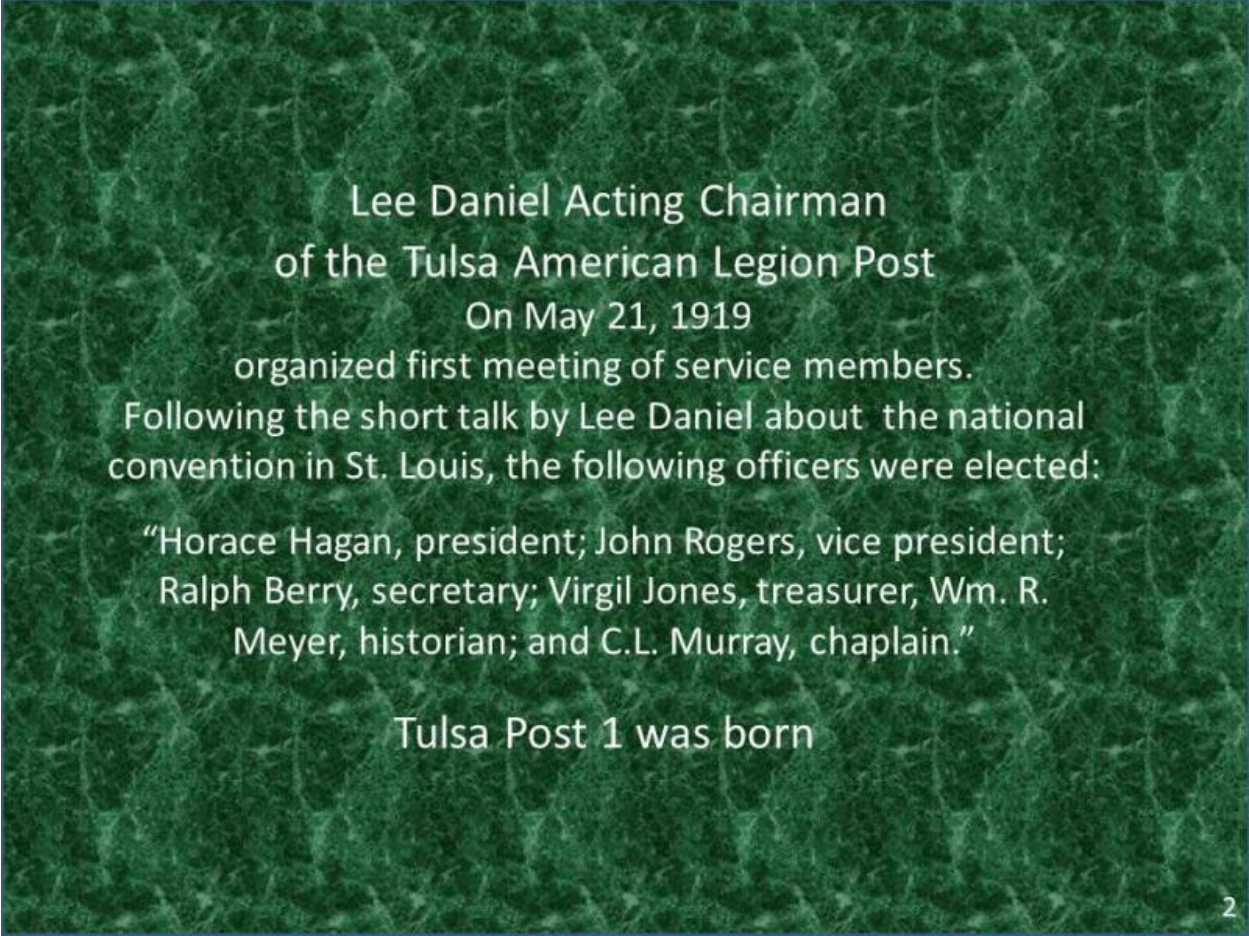
Lee Daniel Acting Chairman Organizes Post 1 Tulsa

May 21, 1919

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[Full Story](#)



Lee Daniel Acting Chairman
of the Tulsa American Legion Post
On May 21, 1919
organized first meeting of service members.
Following the short talk by Lee Daniel about the national
convention in St. Louis, the following officers were elected:
“Horace Hagan, president; John Rogers, vice president;
Ralph Berry, secretary; Virgil Jones, treasurer, Wm. R.
Meyer, historian; and C.L. Murray, chaplain.”
Tulsa Post 1 was born

2

Lee Daniel Acting Chairman

May 22, 1919

Lee Daniel Acting Chairman of the Tulsa American Legion Post On May 21, 1919 organized first meeting of service members.

Following the short talk by Lee Daniel about the national convention in St. Louis, the following officers were elected: “Horace Hagan, president; John Rogers, vice president; Ralph Berry, secretary; Virgil Jones, treasurer, Wm. R. Meyer, historian; and C.L. Murray, chaplain.” Tulsa Post 1 was born

[Full Story](#)

Ross Lillard
Commander
1919

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



Note: Ross Lillard, the first
Department of Oklahoma
Commander, resigned to run for
Congress in 1919.

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**Ross Lillard
Commander
1919**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

May 23, 1919

Ross Lillard Commander 1919 Department of Oklahoma Note: Ross Lillard, the first Department of Oklahoma Commander, resigned to run for Congress in 1919.

[Full Story](#)

Horace Hagan
Commander
1919-1920
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Carson-Wilson-Rigney-
Forrester-Shoemaker Post 1
Tulsa , Oklahoma



Hagan, who was very active in The American Legion at the local, state and national levels, was running hard for Department Commander and had the firm support of the Tulsa delegation. In order to secure Hagan's election as Commander, the Tulsa delegation, the largest in the state, pledged before the convention to support a resolution locating the Department headquarters in Oklahoma City in exchange for the Oklahoma City delegation's pledge to vote for Hagan for Department Commander. This unified the convention, and Hagan was unanimously elected Commander.

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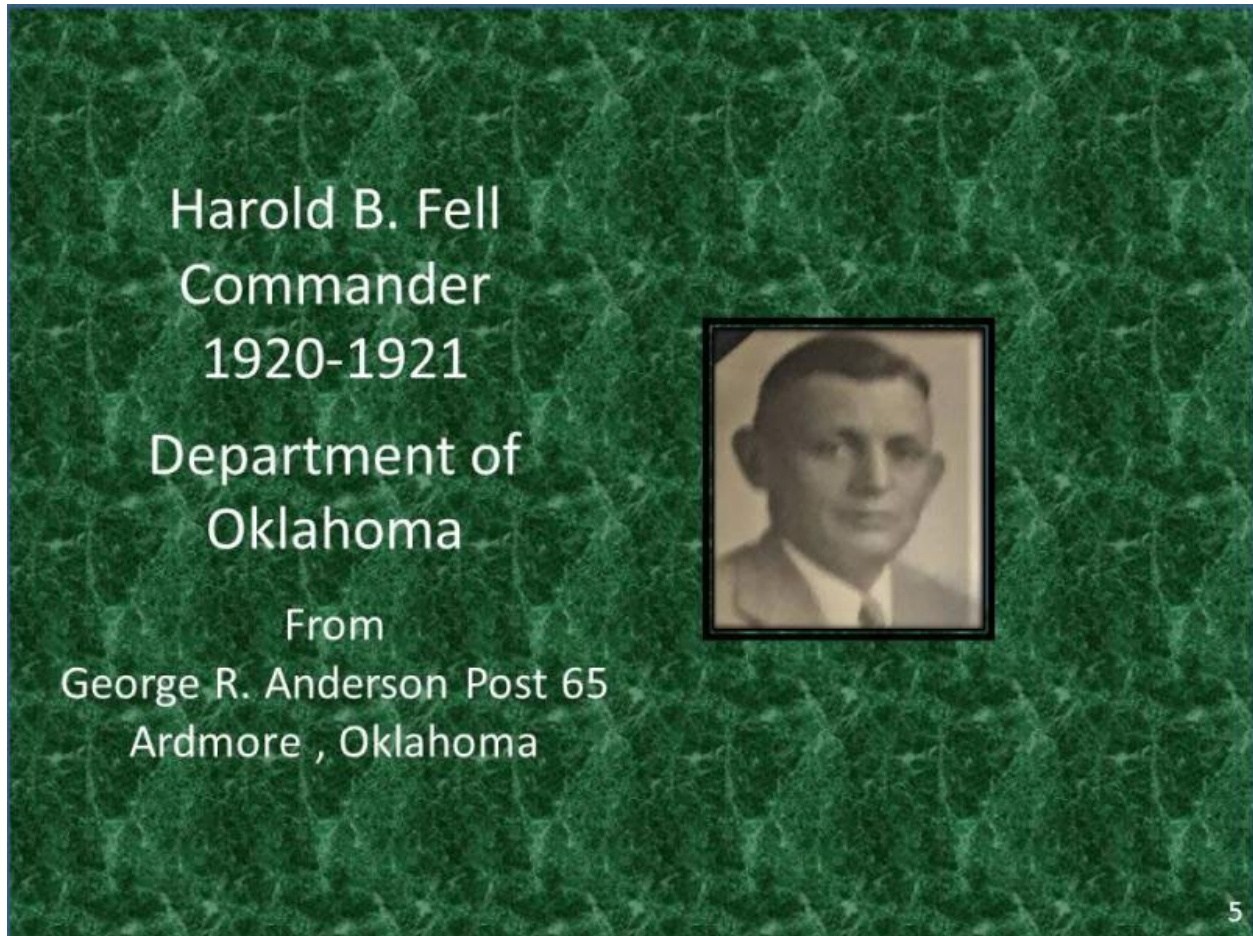
Horace H. Hagan, JR Commander 1919-1920 Department of Oklahoma

Jul 5, 1919

Horace Hagan Commander 1919-1920 Department of Oklahoma From Carson-Wilson-Rigney-Forrester-Shoemaker Post 1 Tulsa , Oklahoma Horace H. Hagan, Jr. (b. October 13, 1891) was elected Commander of Joe Carson Post 1 in 1919. A founding member of Post 1, he went on to serve as Oklahoma's first elected Department Commander, and also served on The American Legion National Executive Committee. He was a successful attorney, practicing civil and criminal law, before and after his service in..

[Full Story](#)

1920



Harold B. Fell
Commander
1920-1921

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 5, 1920

Harold B. Fell Commander 1920-1921 Department of Oklahoma From George R. Anderson Post 65
Ardmore, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Hughes B. Davis
Commander
1921-1922

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Dobbs-Adams Post 55
Duncan , Oklahoma



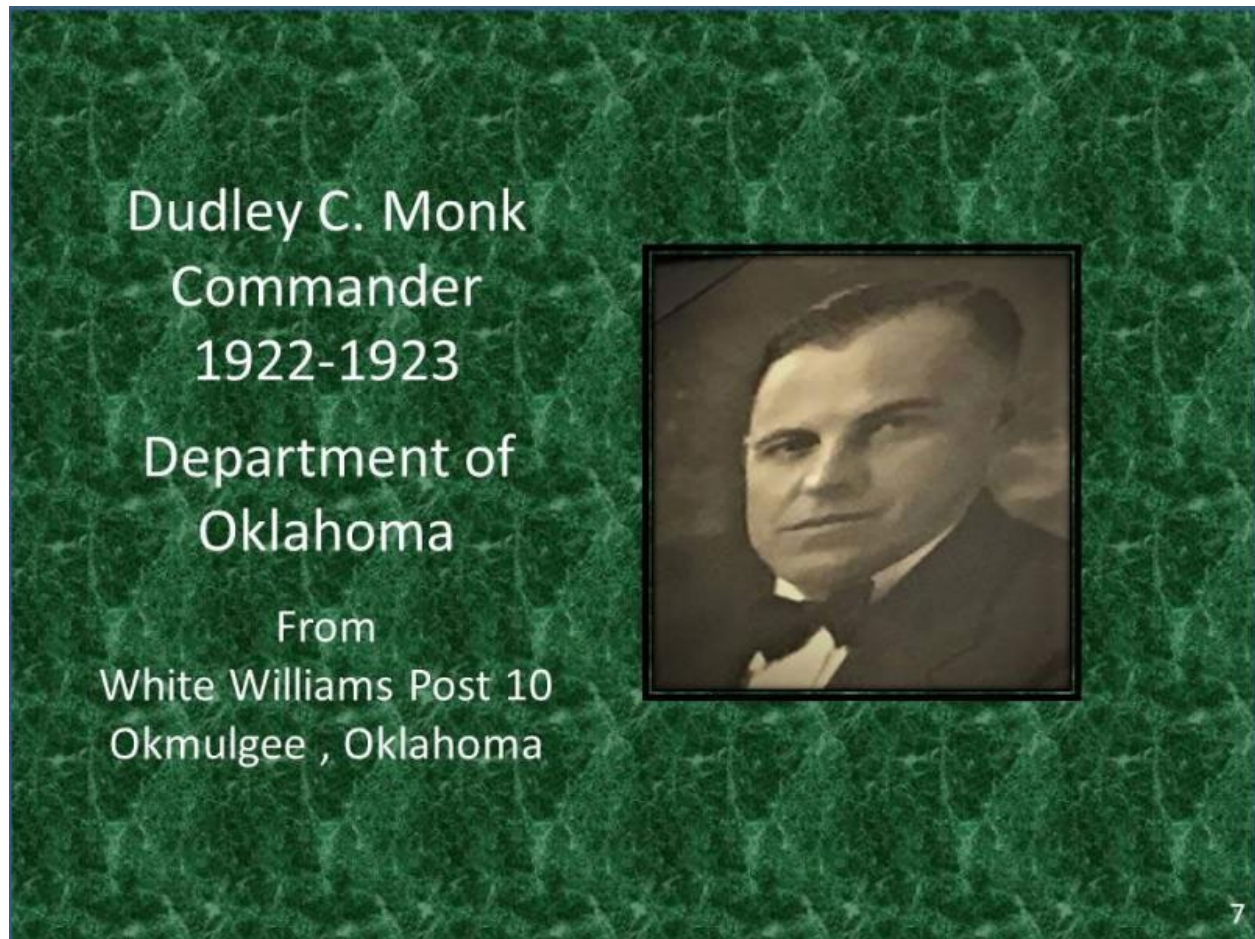
6

Hughes B. Davis
Commander
1921-1922 Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1921

Hughes B. Davis Commander 1921-1922 Department of Oklahoma From Dobbs-Adams Post 55
Duncan, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

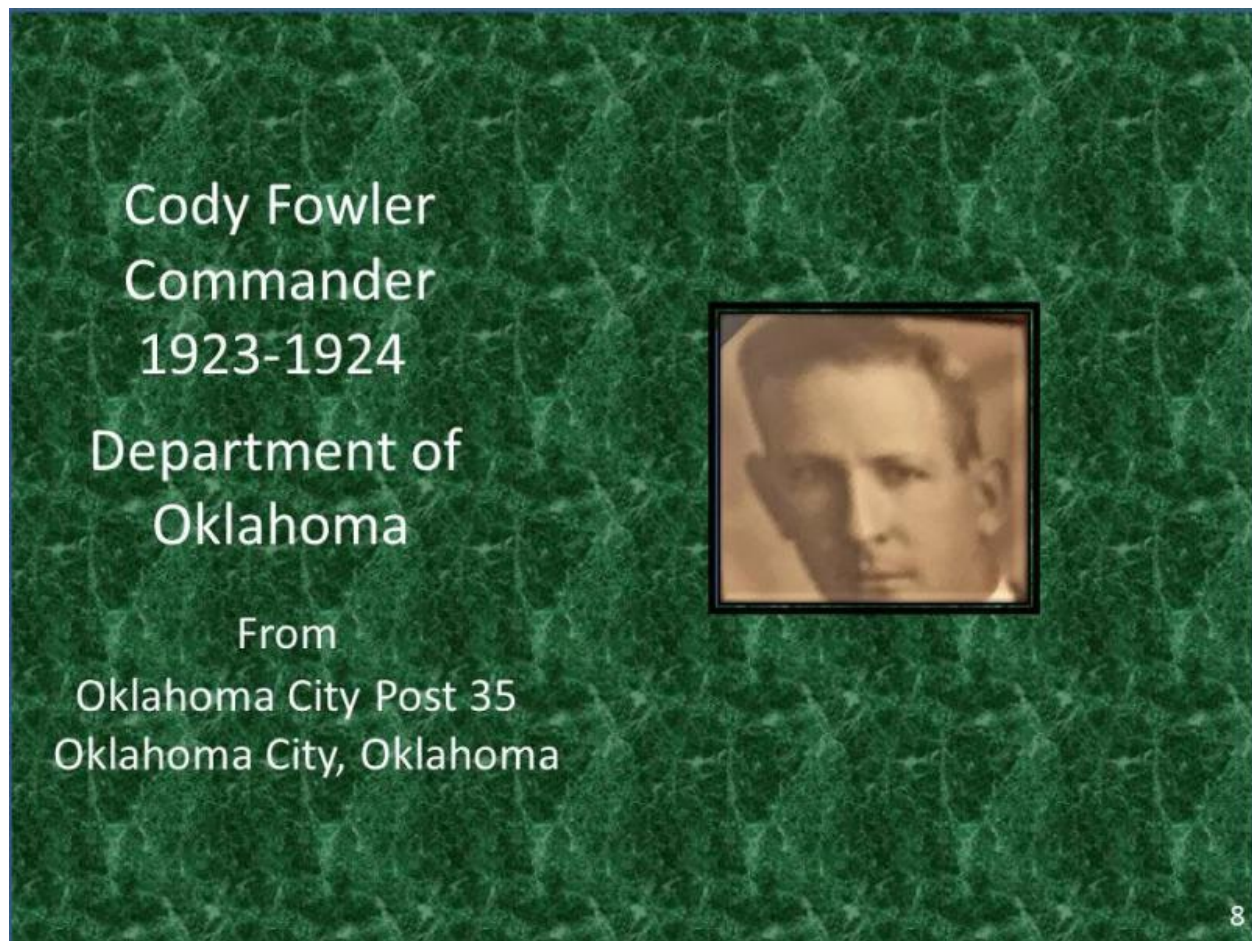


Dudley C. Monk
Commander
1922-1923 Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1922

Dudley C. Monk Commander 1922-1923 Department of Oklahoma From White Williams Post 10
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

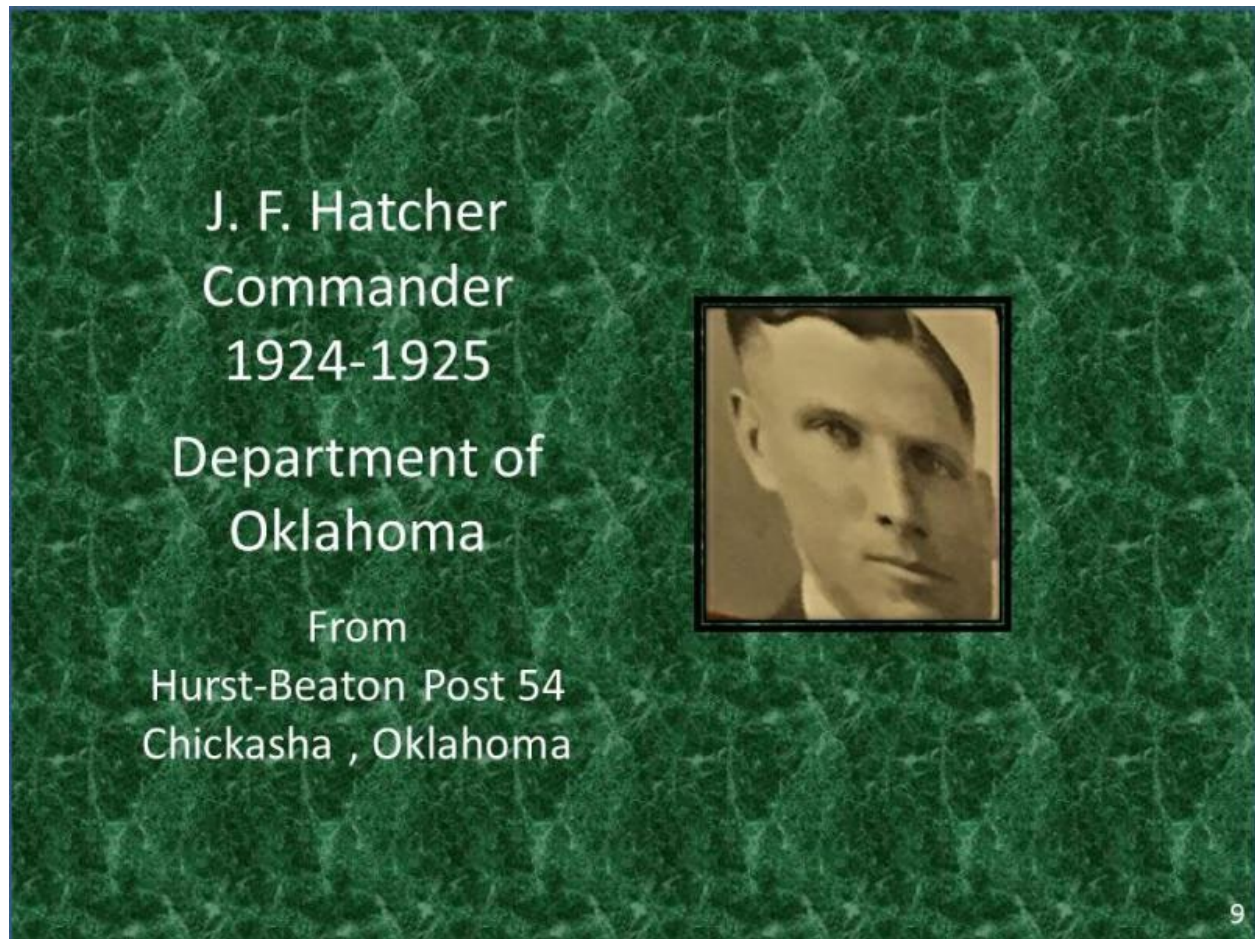


Cody Fowler Commander 1923-1924 Department of Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1923

Cody Fowler Commander 1923-1924 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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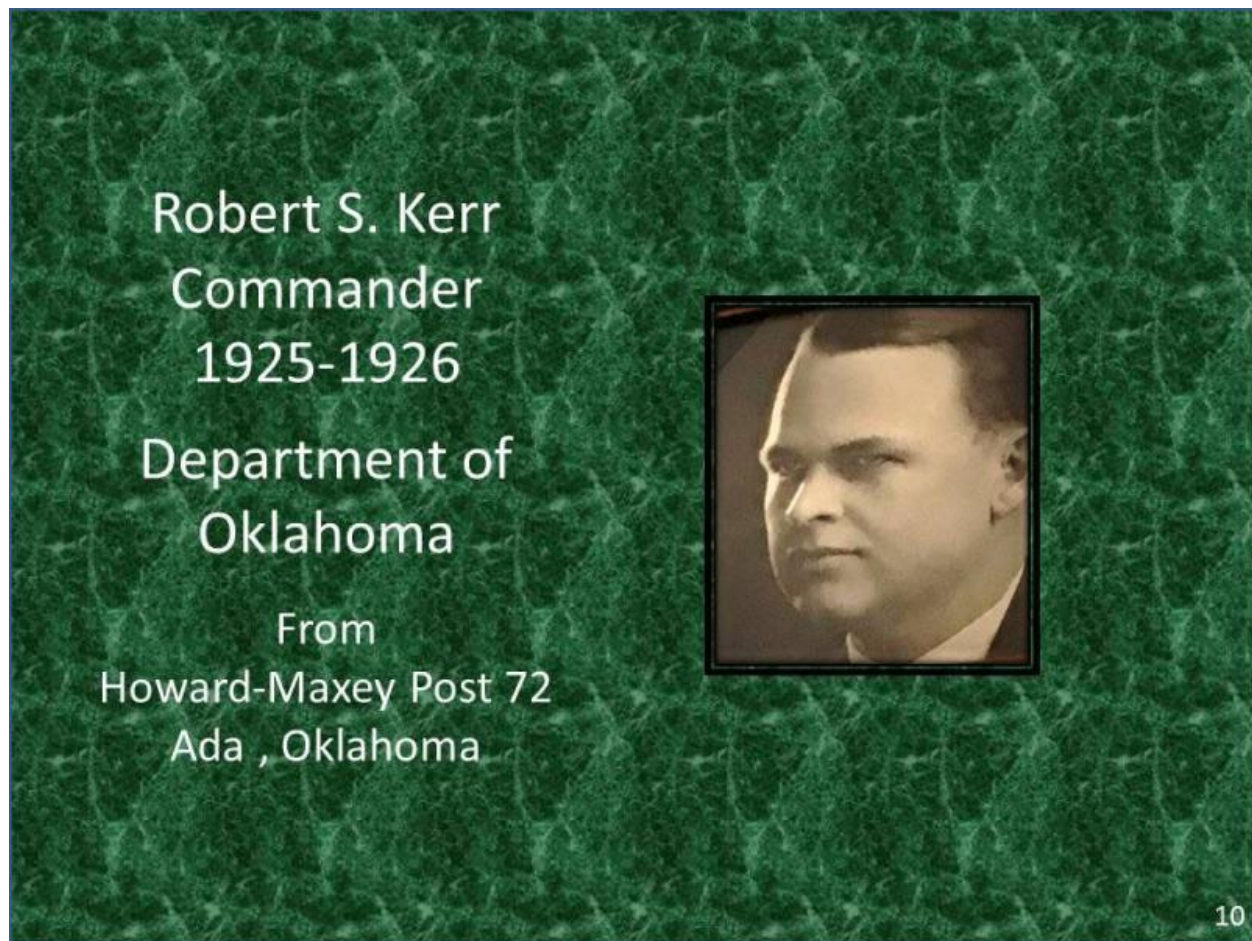
J. F. Hatcher
Commander
1924-1925

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1924

J. F. Hatcher Commander 1924-1925 Department of Oklahoma From Hurst-Beaton Post 54
Chickasha, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



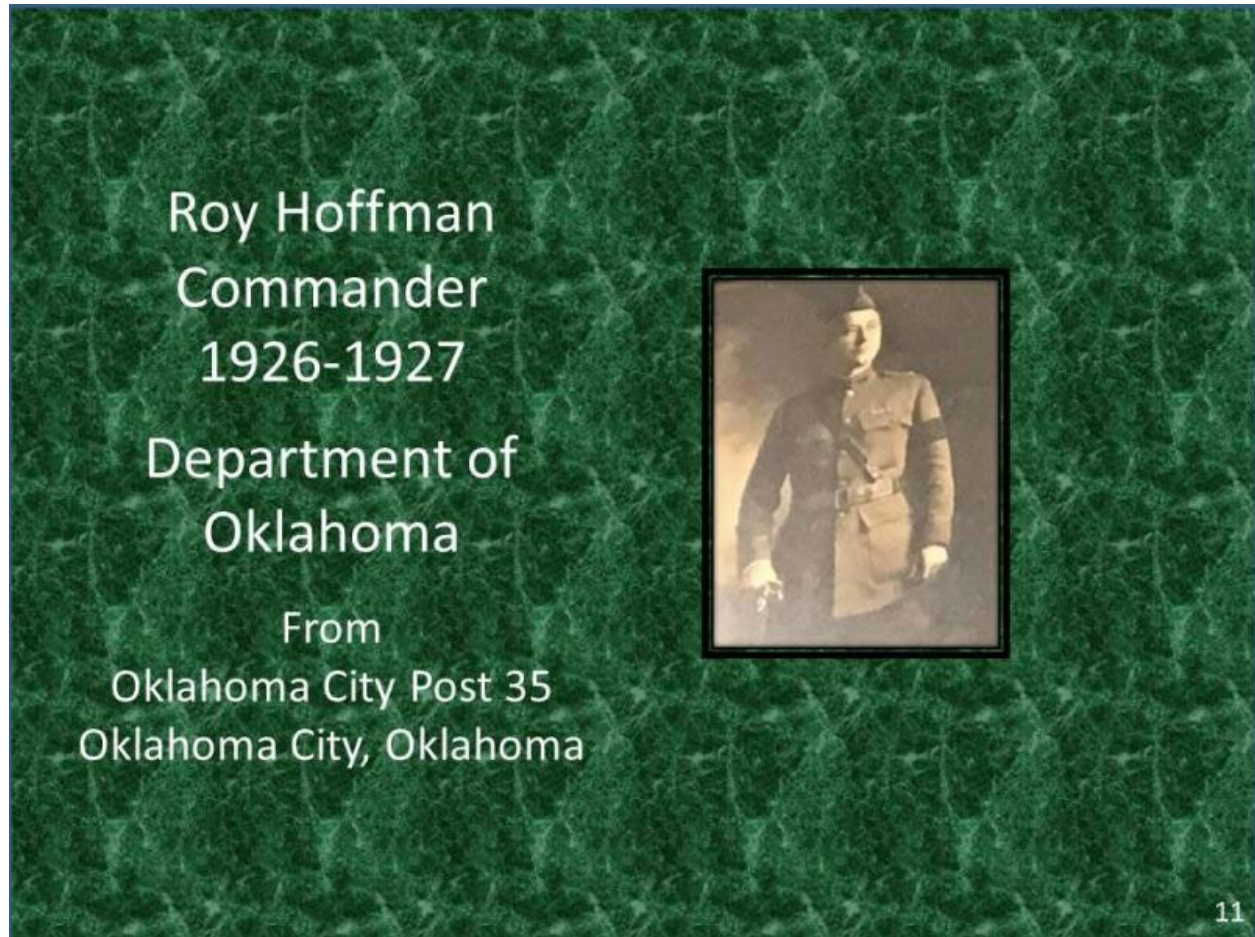
Robert S. Kerr
Commander
1925-1926

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1925

Robert S. Kerr Commander 1925-1926 Department of Oklahoma From Howard-Maxey Post 72 Ada, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



Roy Hoffman
Commander
1926-1927

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1926

Roy Hoffman Commander

1926-1927 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Frank P. Douglas

Frank P. Douglas
Commander
1927-1928
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Reynolds-Harjo Post 123
Okmulgee , Oklahoma

A black and white portrait of Frank P. Douglas, a man with short, dark hair, wearing a suit and tie. The portrait is set within a black rectangular frame.

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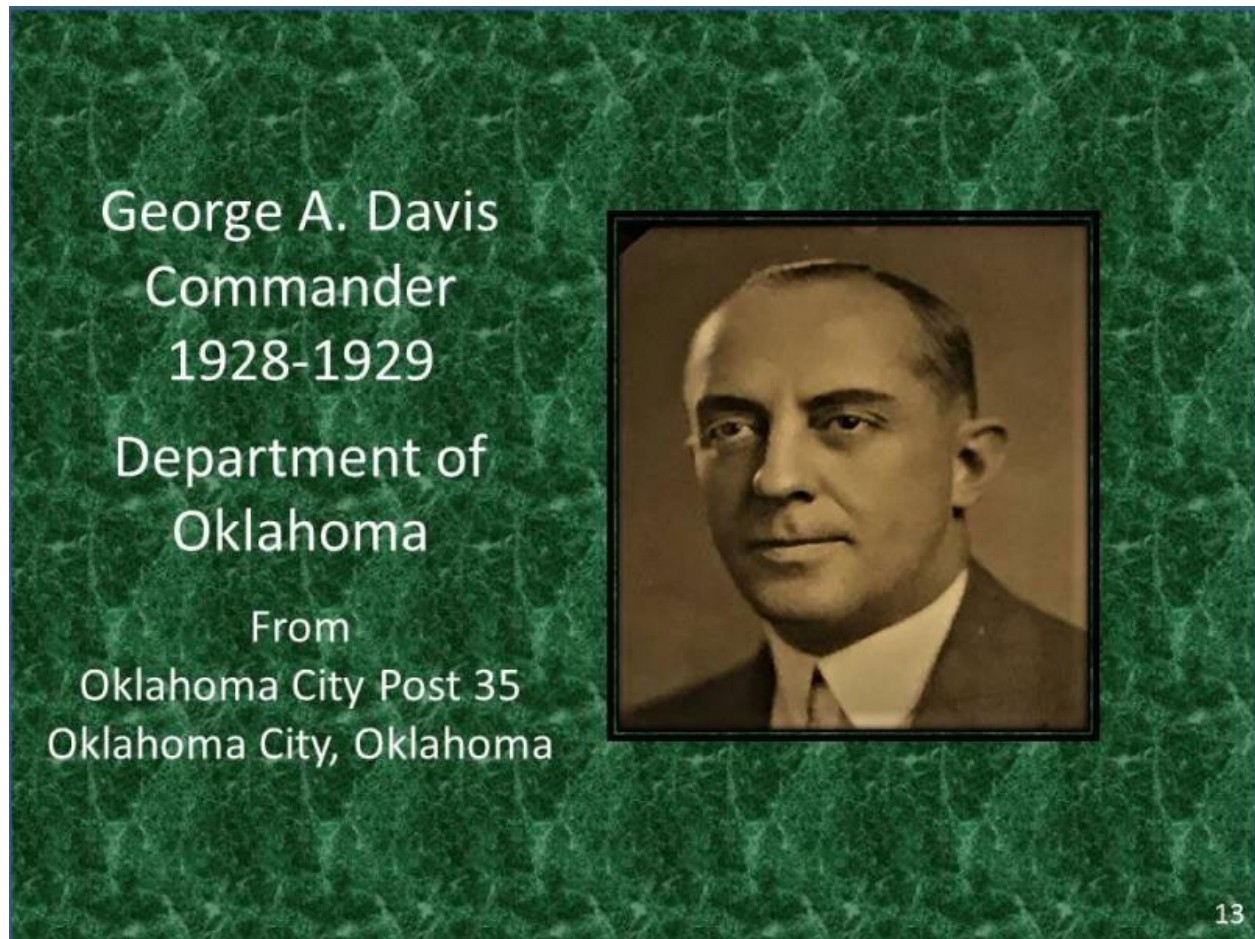
**Commander
1927-1928**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1927

Frank P. Douglas Commander 1927-1928 Department of Oklahoma From Reynolds-Harjo Post 123 Okmulgee , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



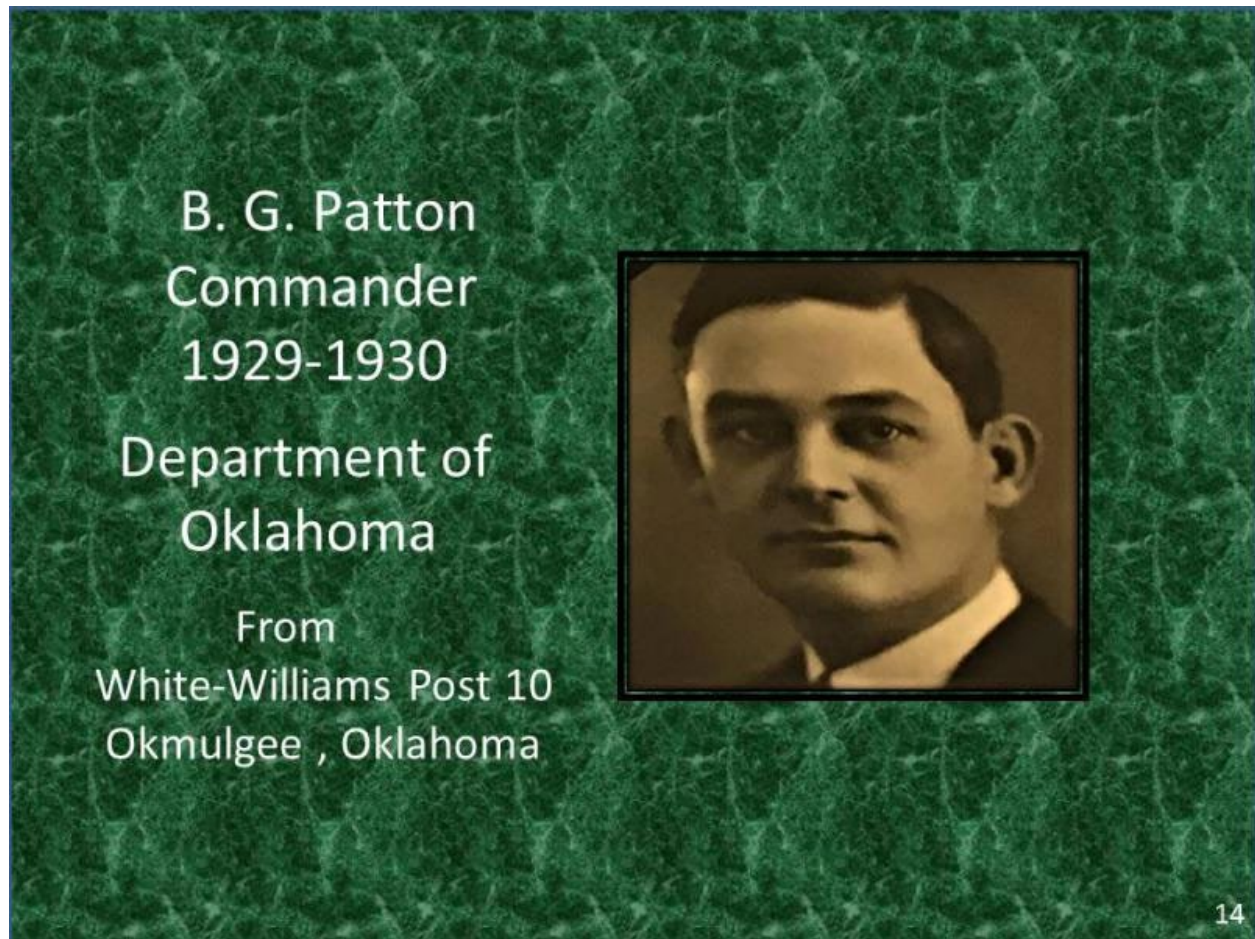
George A. Davis
Commander
1928-1929

Department

Jul 1, 1928

George A. Davis Commander 1928-1929 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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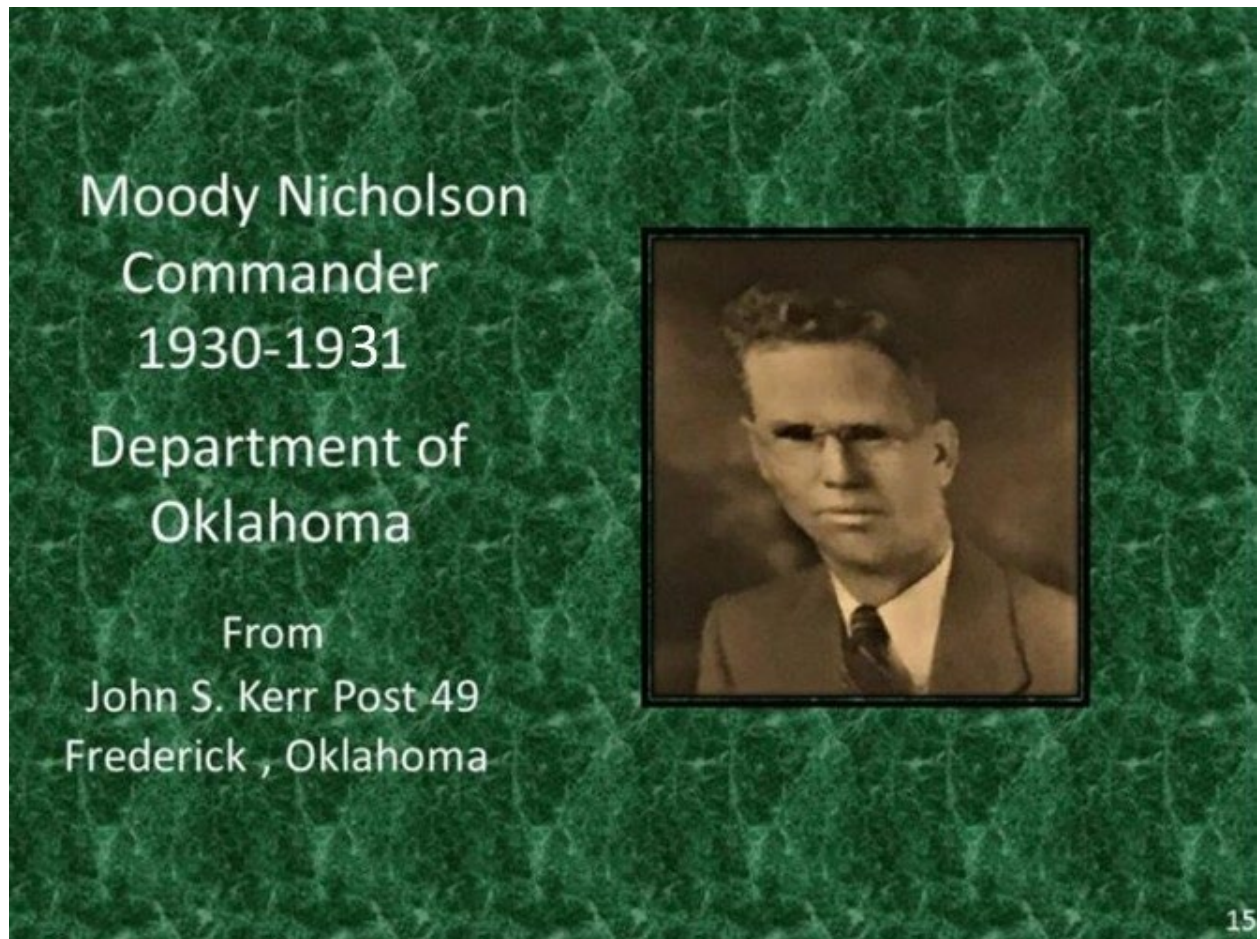
B. G. Patton
Commander
1929-1930 Department of Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1929

B. G. Patton Commander 1929-1930 Department of Oklahoma From White-Williams Post 10
Okmulgee , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

1930

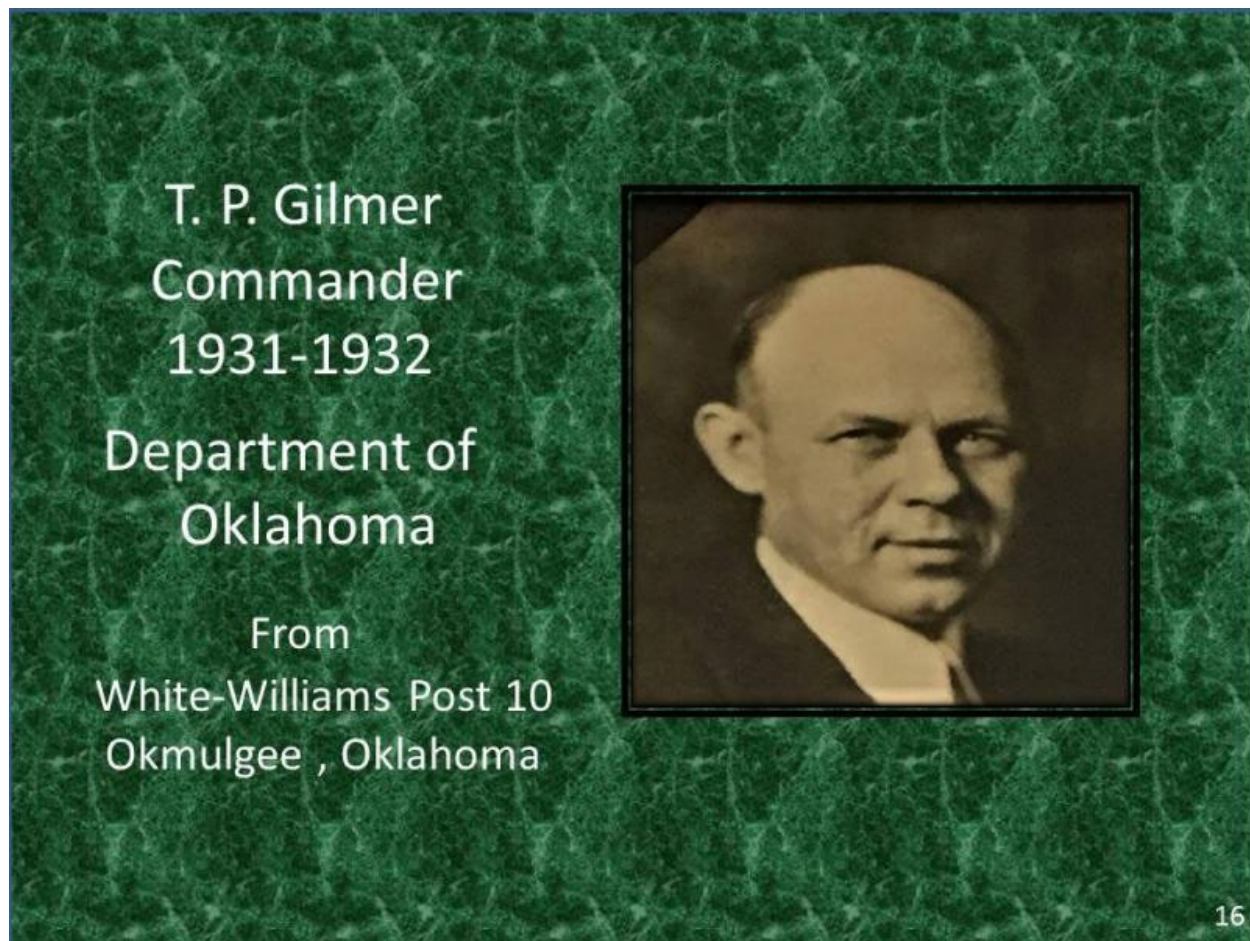


**Moody Nicholson
Commander
1930-1931 Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1930

Moody Nicholson Commander 1930-1931 Department of Oklahoma From John S. Kerr Post 49
Frederick, Oklahoma

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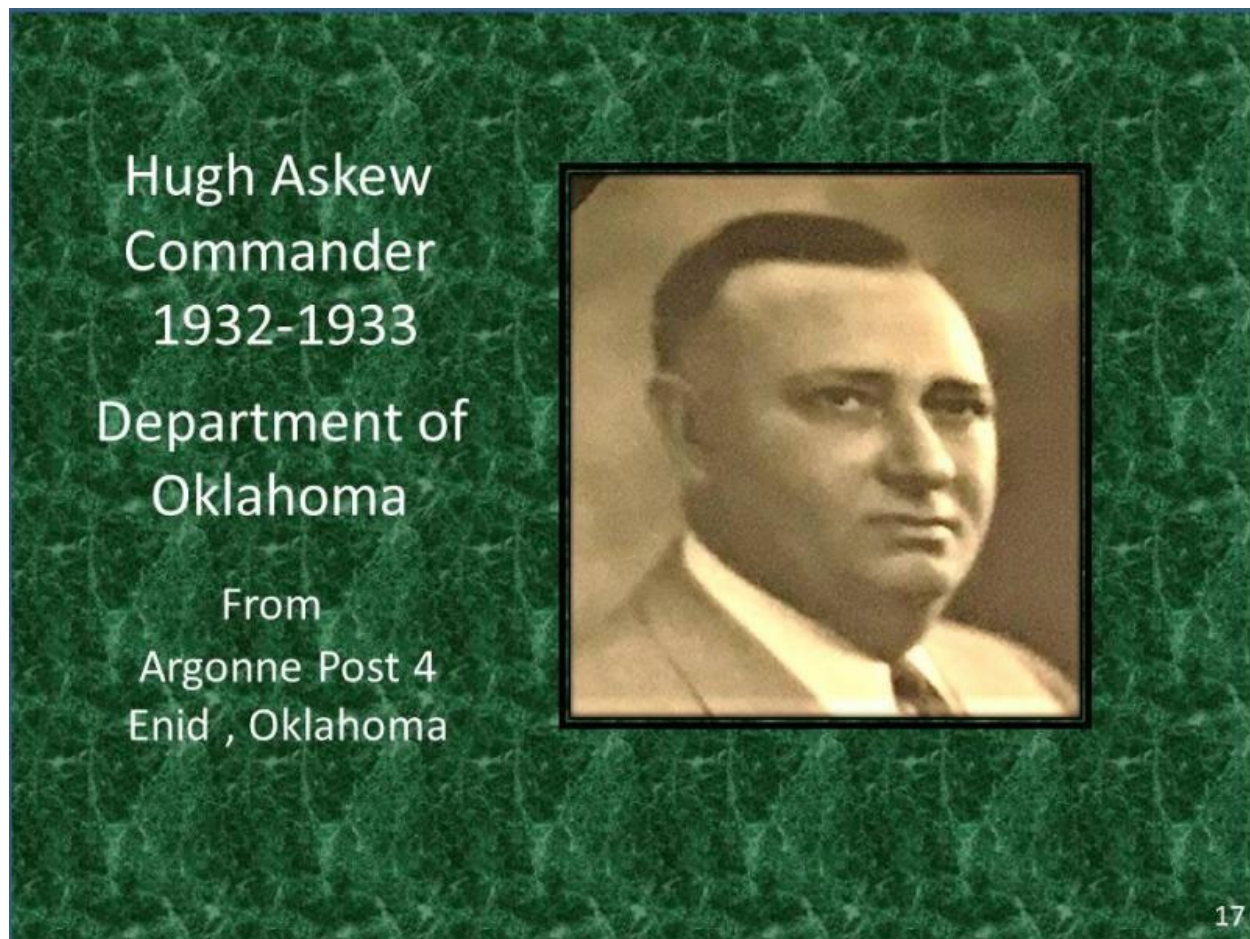


T. P. Gilmer
Commander
1931-1932 Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1931

T. P. Gilmer Commander 1931-1932 Department of Oklahoma From White-Williams Post 10
Okmulgee , Oklahoma

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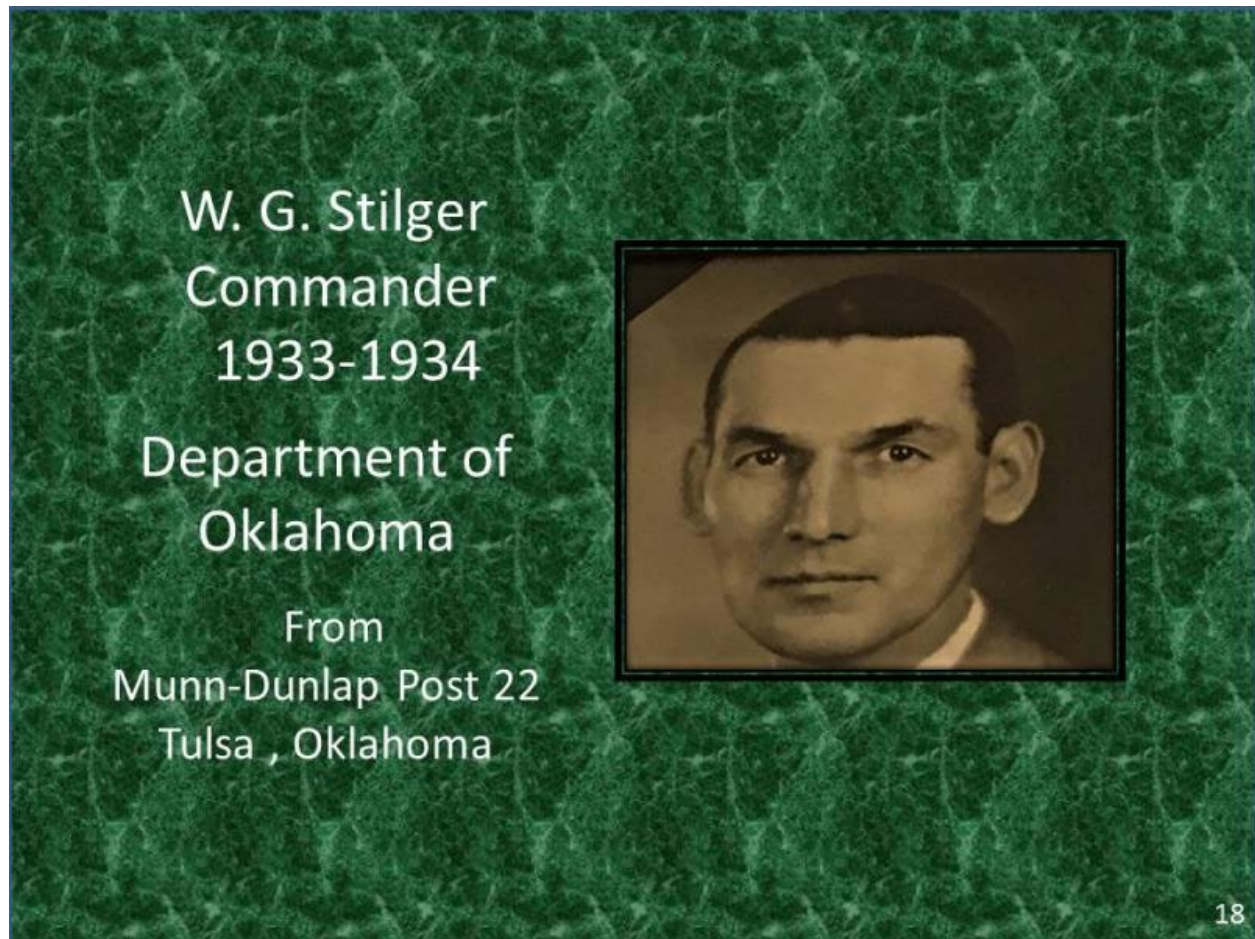
Hugh Askew Commander 1932-1933

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1932

Hugh Askew Commander 1932-1933 Department of Oklahoma From Argonne Post 4 Enid, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



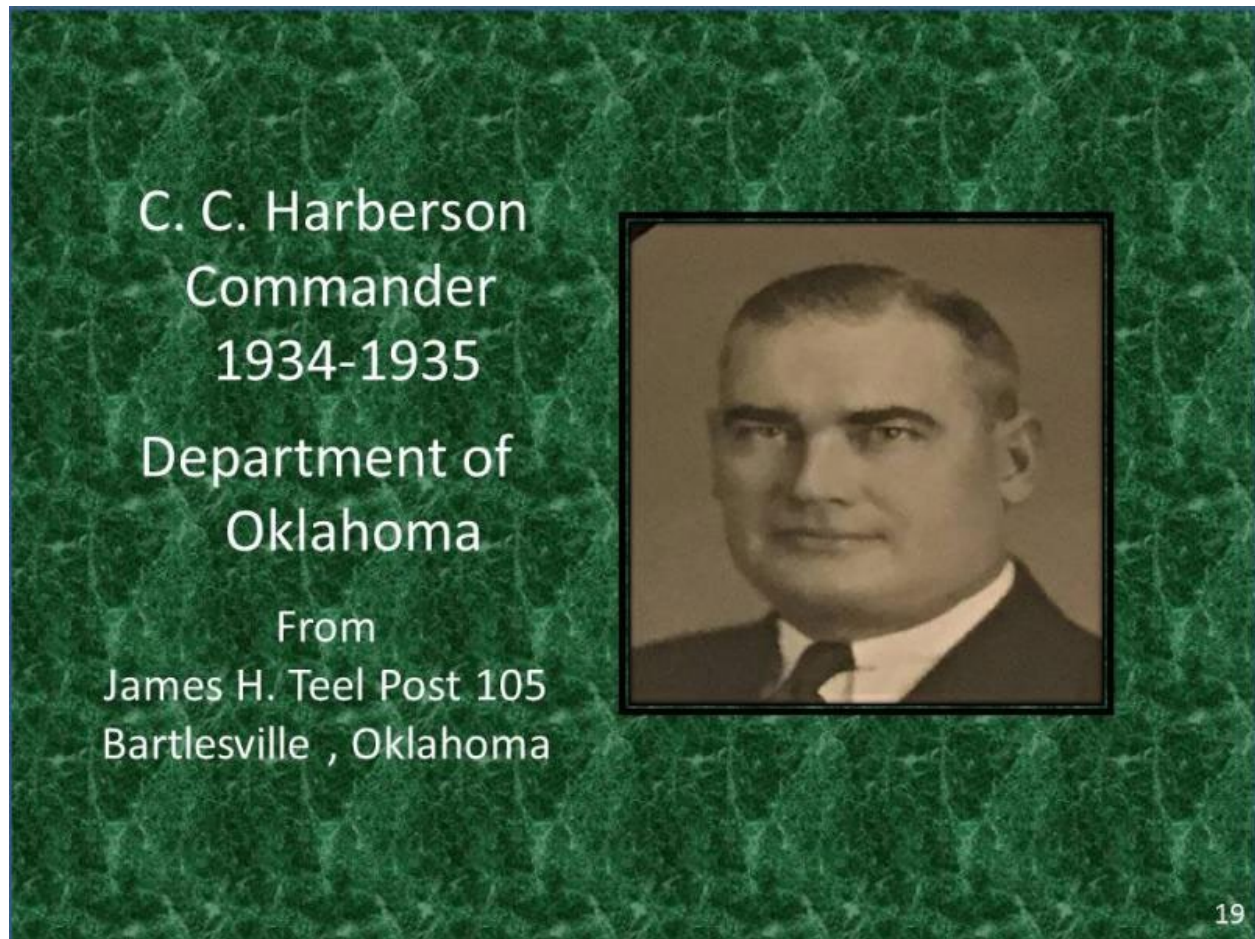
W. G. Stilger
Commander
1933-1934

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1933

W. G. Stilger Commander 1933-1934 Department of Oklahoma From Munn-Dunlap Post 22 Tulsa , Oklahoma

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C. C. Harberson
Commander
1934-1935

Department of Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1934

C. C. Harberson Commander 1934-1935 Department of Oklahoma From James H. Teel Post 105
Bartlesville, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

E. L. Fraker
Commander
1935-1936
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Hurst-Beaton Post 54
Chickasha , Oklahoma

A black and white portrait of a man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie, set against a light background. The portrait is framed by a dark border.

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E. L. Fraker
Commander 1935-1936

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1935

E. L. Fraker Commander 1935-1936 Department of Oklahoma From Hurst-Beaton Post 54
Chickasha, Oklahoma

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H. L. Schall
Commander
1936-1937
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Huff Minor Post 14
Ponca City , Oklahoma



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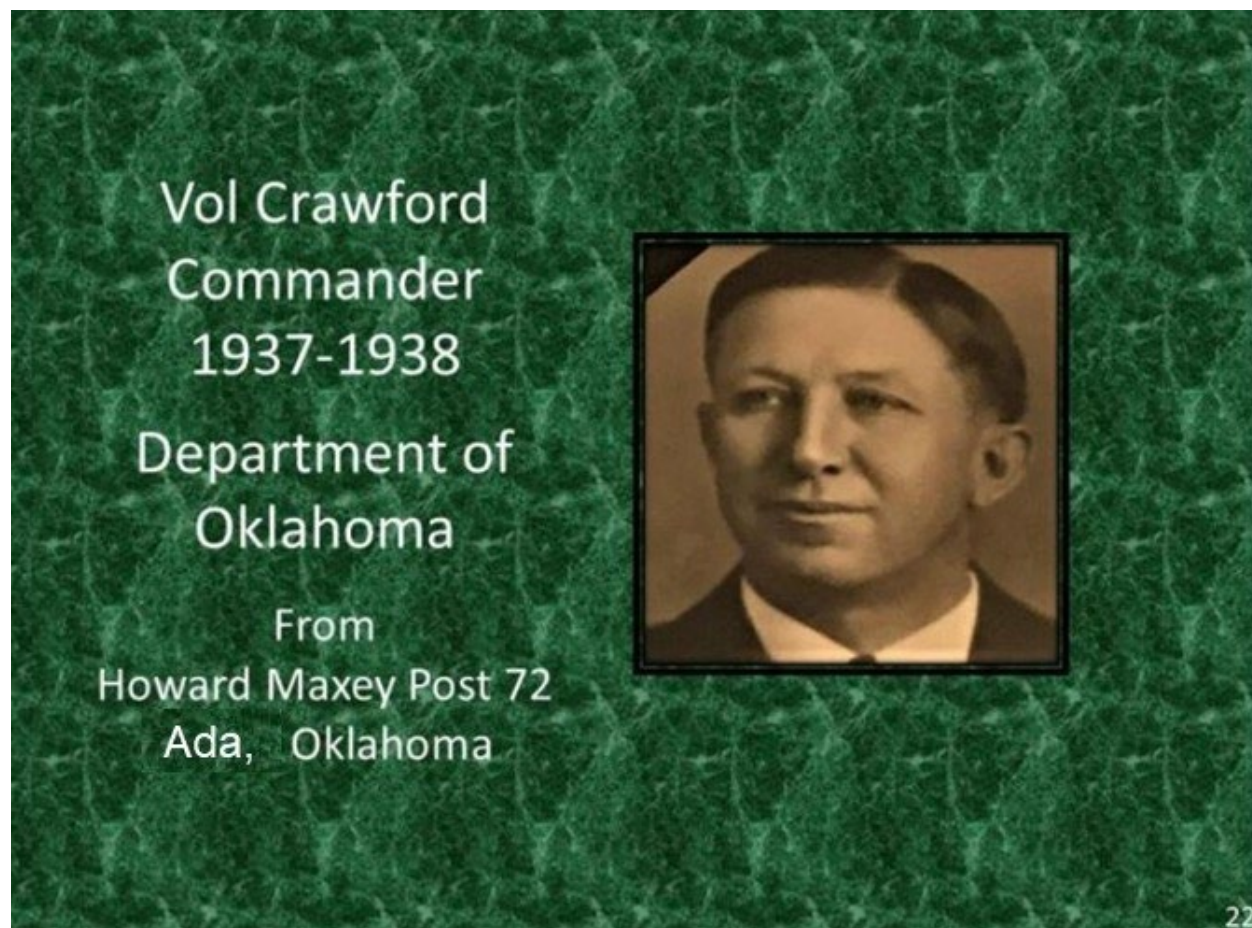
**H. L. Schall
Commander
1936-1937**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1936

H. L. Schall Commander 1936-1937 Department of Oklahoma From Huff Minor Post 14 Ponca City , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



**Vol Crawford Commander
1937-1938**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1937

Vol Crawford Commander 1937-1938 Department of Oklahoma From Howard Maxey Post 72 Ada, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Raymond Fields
Commander
1938-1939

Department of
Oklahoma

From
King-Hagen Post 51
Fairview , Oklahoma



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Raymond Fields
Commander
1938-1939

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1938

Raymond Fields Commander 1938-1939 Department of Oklahoma From King-Hagen Post 51
Fairview, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Dr. A. B. Rivers
Commander
1939-1940
Department of
Oklahoma
From
White-Williams Post 10
Okmulgee , Oklahoma



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**Dr. A. B. Rivers
Commander
1939-1940**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1939

Dr. A. B. Rivers Commander 1939-1940 Department of Oklahoma From White-Williams Post 10 Okmulgee, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

1940

Randall S. Cobb
Commander
1940-1941
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City



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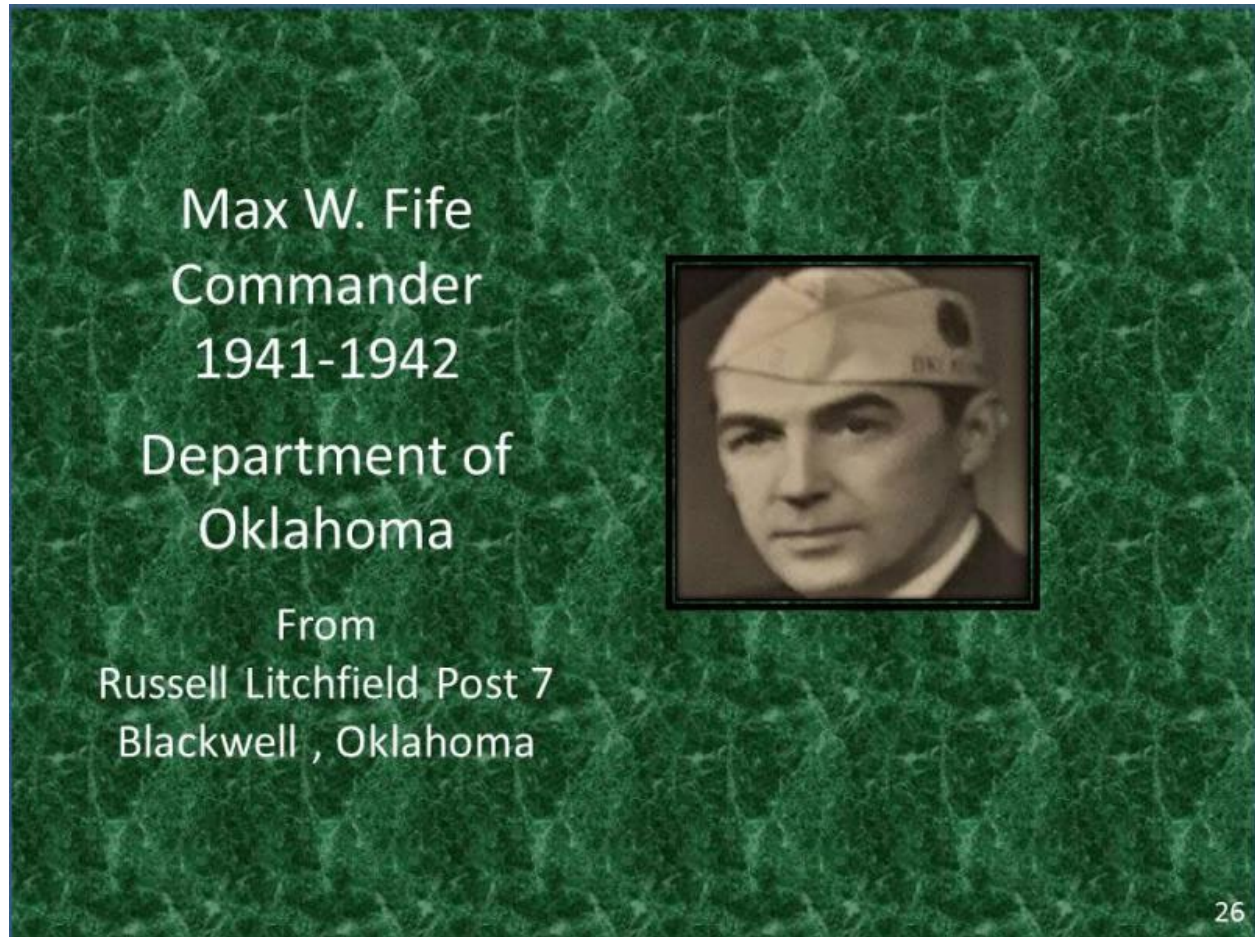
**Randall S. Cobb
Commander
1940-1941**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1940

Randall S. Cobb Commander 1940-1941 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City

[Full Story](#)



Max W. Fife
Commander
1941-1942

Department of Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1941

Max W. Fife Commander 1941-1942 Department of Oklahoma From Russell Litchfield Post 7
Blackwell , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

W. F. Rogers, Jr
Commander
1942-1943

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Atoka Post 48
Atoka , Oklahoma



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W. F. Rogers, Jr
Commander
1942-1943

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1942

W. F. Rogers, Jr Commander 1942-1943 Department of Oklahoma From Atoka Post 48 Atoka ,
Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Fred Tillman
Commander
1943-1944
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Rollie-McCartney Post 97
Pawhuska , Oklahoma



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**Fred Tillman
Commander
1943-1944**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1943

Fred Tillman Commander 1943-1944 Department of Oklahoma From Rollie-McCartney Post 97
Pawhuska, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

J. B. Rivers
Commander
1944-1945
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Pledger-Allen-Phillips-
McWilliams Post 88
Norman , Oklahoma



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**J. B. Rivers
Commander
1944-1945**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1944

J. B. Rivers Commander 1944-1945 Department of Oklahoma From Pledger-Allen-Phillips-McWilliams Post 88 Norman , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Granville Scanland
Commander
1945-1946

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



30

Granville Scanland
Commander
1945-1946

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1945

Granville Scanland Commander 1945-1946 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City

[Full Story](#)

Charles Duffy
Commander
1946-1947
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Huff-Minor Post 14
Ponca City, Oklahoma



31

Charles Duffy
Commander
1946-1947

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1946

Charles Duffy Commander 1946-1947 Department of Oklahoma From Huff-Minor Post 14 Ponca City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Brad W. Risinger
Commander
1947-1948

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Billie A. Hall Post 17
Sand Springs , Oklahoma



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Brad W. Risinger
Commander
1947-1948

Department of
Oklahoma

Jun 1, 1947

Brad W. Risinger Commander 1947-1948 Department of Oklahoma From Billie A. Hall Post 17 Sand Springs , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Preston J. Moore
Commander
1948-1949

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Carter C. Hanner-
Mamon G. Sharp Post 129
Stillwater, Oklahoma



Also Commander Post 129 in 1954-55 also National Commander 1958-59

33

Preston J. Moore
Commander
1948-1949

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1948

Preston J. Moore Commander 1948-1949 Department of Oklahoma From Carter C. Hanner-
Mamon G. Sharp Post 129 Stillwater, Oklahoma Also Commander Post 129 in 1954-55. Also
became National Commander 1958-59.

[Full Story](#)

Dick Warren
Commander
1949-1950
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Carson-Wilson-Rigney-
Forrester-Shoemaker Post 1
Tulsa, Oklahoma

A black and white portrait of Dick Warren, a man with short hair, wearing a suit and tie, looking directly at the camera.

34

**Dick Warren
Commander
1949-1950**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1949

Dick Warren Commander
1949-1950 Department of Oklahoma From Carson-Wilson-Rigney-Forrester-Shoemaker Post 1
Tulsa, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

1950

Guy Belford
Commander
1950-1951
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Carson-Wilson-Rigney-
Forrester-Shoemaker Post 1
Tulsa , Oklahoma



35

**Guy Belford
Commander
1950-1951**

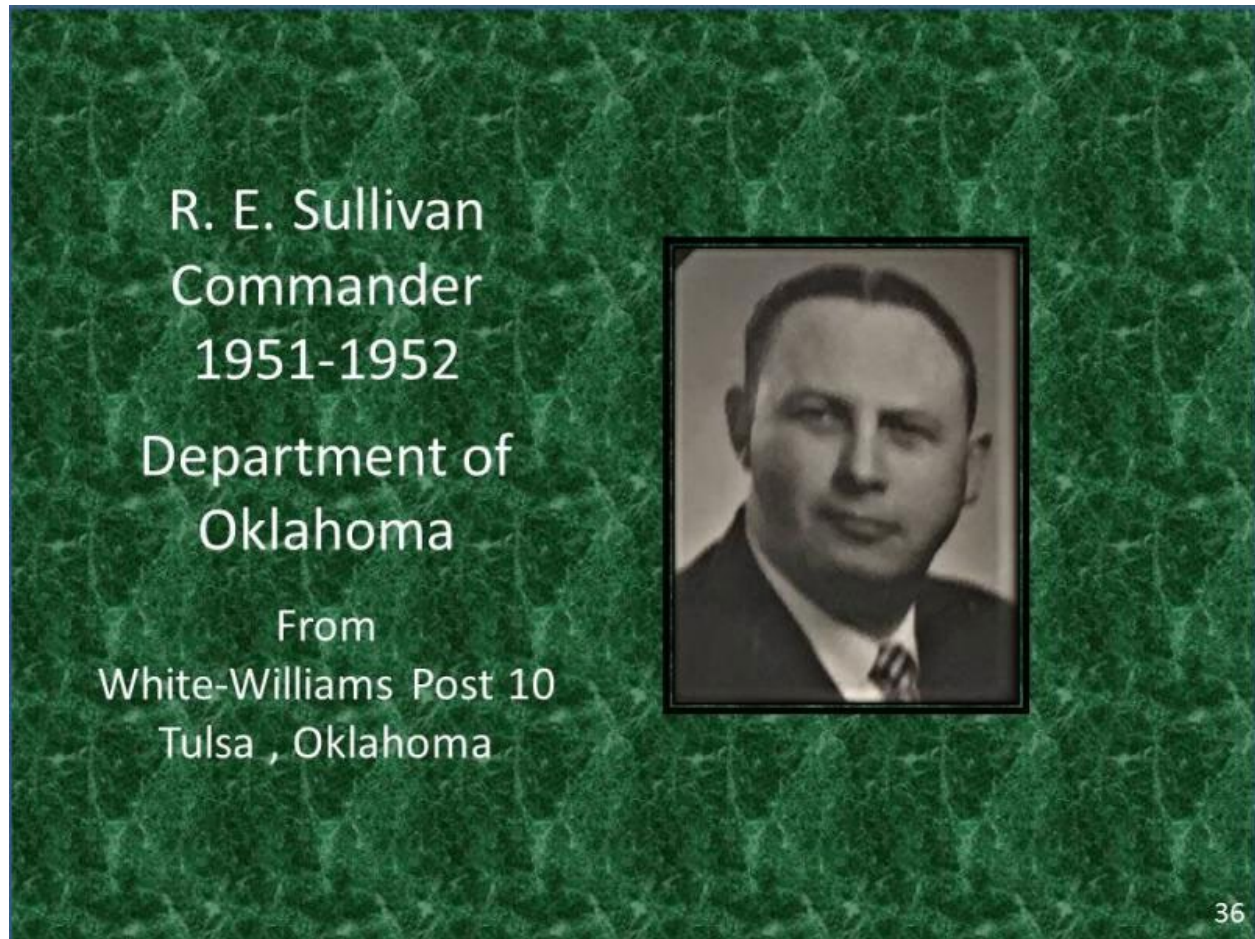
**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1950

Guy Belford Commander
1950-1951 Department of Oklahoma From Carson-Wilson-Rigney-Forrester-Shoemaker Post 1
Tulsa , Oklahoma

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R. E. Sullivan
Commander
1951-1952

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1951

R. E. Sullivan Commander 1951-1952 Department of Oklahoma From White-Williams Post 10 Tulsa, Oklahoma

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James V. Whitley
Commander
1952-1953

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Dobbs-Adams Post 55
Tulsa , Oklahoma



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James V. Whitley
Commander
1952-1953

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1952

James V. Whitley Commander 1952-1953 Department of Oklahoma From Dobbs-Adams Post 55
Tulsa , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

James W. Rodgers, Jr
Commander
1953-1954

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Thomas-Breeding-
Buckley Post 32
Holdenville , Oklahoma



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James W. Rodgers, Jr
Commander
1953-1954

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1953

James W. Rodgers, Jr Commander 1953-1954 Department of Oklahoma From Thomas-Breeding-
Buckley Post 32 Holdenville , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Raymond A. Trapp
Commander
1954-1955

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Russell Litchfield Post 7
Blackwell , Oklahoma



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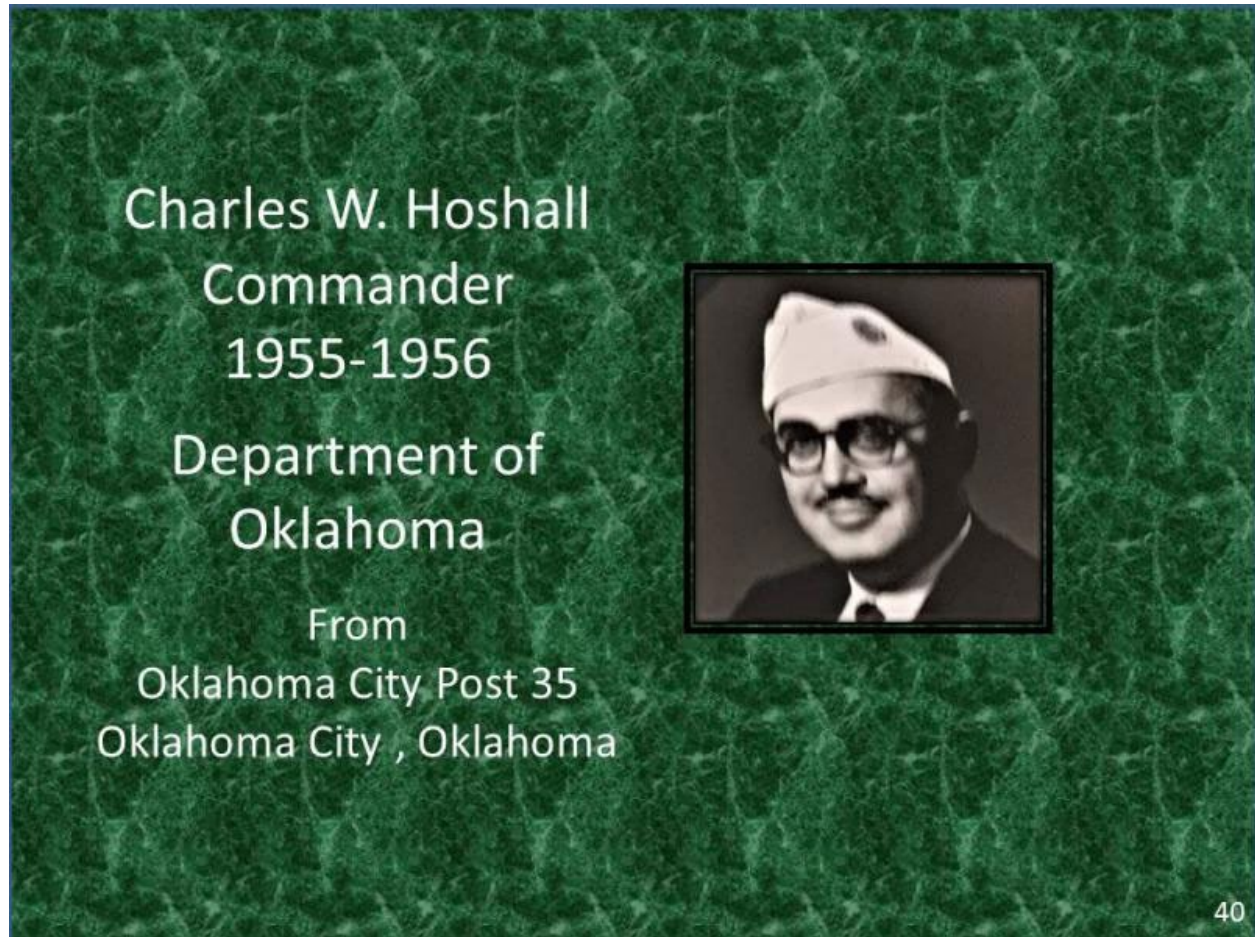
**Raymond A. Trapp
Commander
1954-1955**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1954

Raymond A. Trapp Commander 1954-1955 Department of Oklahoma From Russell Litchfield Post 7
Blackwell, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



Charles W. Hoshall
Commander
1955-1956

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1955

Charles W. Hoshall Commander 1955-1956 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Hugh C. Nolen
Commander
1956-1957

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Reynolds-Harjo Post 123
Okemah, Oklahoma



41

Hugh C. Nolen
Commander
1956-1957

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1956

Hugh C. Nolen Commander 1956-1957 Department of Oklahoma From Reynolds-Harjo Post 123
Okemah, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

C. J. Wright, Jr
Commander
1957-1958

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Dale Peace Post 40
Vinita , Oklahoma



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**C. J. Wright, Jr
Commander
1957-1958**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1957

C. J. Wright, Jr Commander 1957-1958 Department of Oklahoma From Dale Peace Post 40 Vinita ,
Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Dr. Tom A. Clark
Commander
1958-1959

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City , Oklahoma



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Dr. Tom A. Clark
Commander
1958-1959

Department of Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1958

Dr. Tom A. Clark Commander 1958-1959 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

George Brundidge
Commander
1959-1960

Department of
Oklahoma

From
James H. Teel Post 195
Bartlesville , Oklahoma



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**George Brundidge
Commander
1959-1960**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1959

George Brundidge Commander 1959-1960 Department of Oklahoma From James H. Teel Post 195
Bartlesville , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

1960

M. "Fred" A. Rennie
Commander
1960-1961
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Robert Gordon
Davenport Post 87
Henryetta , Oklahoma



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M. "Fred" A. Rennie
Commander
1960-1961

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1960

M. "Fred" A. Rennie Commander 1960-1961 Department of Oklahoma From Robert Gordon
Davenport Post 87 Henryetta , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Leroy M. Clayton
Commander
1961-1962

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Hobbs-Ogle-Power Post 41
Clinton , Oklahoma



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**Leroy M. Clayton
Commander
1961-1962**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1961

Leroy M. Clayton Commander 1961-1962 Department of Oklahoma From Hobbs-Ogle-Power Post 41 Clinton , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

C. B. Witcraft, Jr
Commander
1962-1963

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Rollie Mc Cartney Post 97
Pawhuska , Oklahoma



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**C. B. Witcraft, Jr
Commander
1962-1963**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1962

C. B. Witcraft, Jr Commander 1962-1963 Department of Oklahoma From Rollie Mc Cartney Post 97
Pawhuska , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Fred E. Frey
Commander
1963-1964
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Hurst-Beaton Post 54
Chickasha , Oklahoma



48

**Fred E. Frey
Commander
1963-1964**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1963

Fred E. Frey Commander 1963-1964 Department of Oklahoma From Hurst-Beaton Post 54
Chickasha , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Hollis B. Hull
Commander
1964-1965
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



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Hollis B. Hull
Commander
1964-1965

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1964

Hollis B. Hull Commander 1964-1965 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

W. "Bill" H. Redman
Commander
1965-1966

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Goltry Post 43
Goltry, Oklahoma



50

W. "Bill" H. Redman
Commander
1965-1966

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1965

W. "Bill" H. Redman Commander 1965-1966 Department of Oklahoma From Goltry Post 43 Goltry, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Jack C. Brown
Commander
1966-1967
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Floyd L. Perry Post 147
Miami, Oklahoma



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Jack C. Brown
Commander
1966-1967

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1966

Jack C. Brown Commander 1966-1967 Department of Oklahoma From Floyd L. Perry Post 147
Miami, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Eldridge Colston
Commander
1967-1968

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Burch Brothers Post 136
Marietta, Oklahoma



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**Eldridge Colston Commander
1967-1968**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1967

Eldridge Colston Commander 1967-1968 Department of Oklahoma From Burch Brothers Post 136
Marietta, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Gene Hassman
Commander
1968-1969
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



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**Gene Hassman
Commander
1968-1969**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1968

Gene Hassman Commander 1968-1969 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Josh M. Drake, Jr
Commander
1969-1970

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Paul Garrett Post 121
Mangum, Oklahoma



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Josh M. Drake, Jr
Commander
1969-1970

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1969

Josh M. Drake, Jr Commander 1969-1970 Department of Oklahoma From Paul Garrett Post 121 Mangum, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

1970

Tom C. Smith
Commander
1970-1971
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Yukon-Marietta Post 160
Yukon, Oklahoma



55

**Tom C. Smith
Commander
1970-1971**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1970

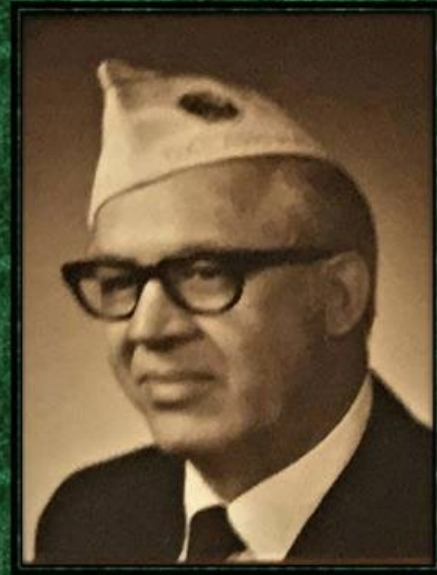
Tom C. Smith Commander 1970-1971 Department of Oklahoma From Yukon-Marietta Post 160
Yukon, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Harry G. Scoufus, Jr
Commander
1971-1972

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Reynolds-Harjo Post 123
Okemah, Oklahoma



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Harry G. Scoufus, Jr
Commander
1971-1972

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1971

Harry G. Scoufus, Jr Commander 1971-1972 Department of Oklahoma From Reynolds-Harjo Post 123 Okemah, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Elmore Meshew
Commander
1972-1973
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



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Elmore Meshew
Commander 1972-1973

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1972

Elmore Meshew Commander 1972-1973 Department of Oklahoma From Oklahoma City Post 35
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

William H. Baggett
Commander
1973-1974

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Blackfox-Hartness Post 135
Tahlequah, Oklahoma



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William H. Baggett
Commander
1973-1974

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1973

William H. Baggett Commander 1973-1974 Department of Oklahoma From Blackfox-Hartness Post 135 Tahlequah, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Genio Colasacco
Commander
1974-1975

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Carter C. Hanner-
Mamon G. Sharp Post 129
Stillwater, Oklahoma



59

Genio Colasacco
Commander
1974-1975

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1974

Genio Colasacco Commander 1974-1975 Department of Oklahoma From Carter C. Hanner-
Mamon G. Sharp Post 129 Stillwater, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Howard Shannon
Commander
1975-1976

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Carson-Wilson-Rigney-
Forrester-Shoemaker Post 1
Tulsa, Oklahoma



60

Howard Shannon

**Commander
1975-1976**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1975

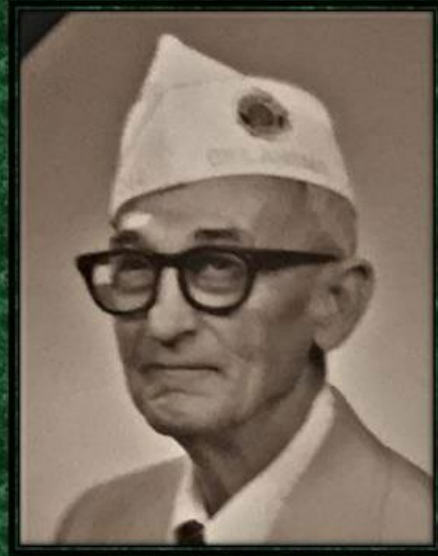
Howard Shannon Commander 1975-1976 Department of Oklahoma From Carson-Wilson-Rigney-
Forrester-Shoemaker Post 1 Tulsa, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

James C. Rutherford
Commander
1976-1977

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Ray Large Post 244
Mccloud, Oklahoma



61

James C. Rutherford
Commander
1976-1977

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1976

James C. Rutherford Commander 1976-1977 Department of Oklahoma From Ray Large Post 244
Mccloud, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Robert Walker
Commander
1977-1978
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Clarence L. Tinker Post 170
Midwest City, Oklahoma



62

**Robert Walker
Commander
1977-1978**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1977

Robert Walker Commander

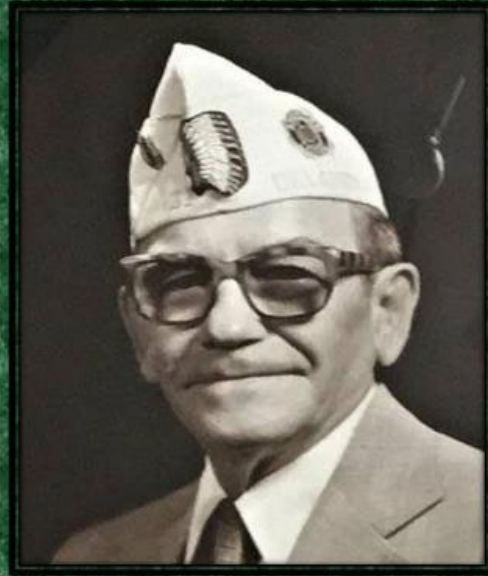
1977-1978 Department of Oklahoma From Clarence L. Tinker Post 170 Midwest City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Lee O. Walker
Commander
1978-1979

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Arnall-Sampson-
Walker Post 21
Checotah, Oklahoma



63

**Lee O. Walker
Commander
1978-1979**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1978

Lee O. Walker Commander 1978-1979 Department of Oklahoma From Arnall-Sampson-
Walker Post 21 Checotah, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Charles R. Brown
Commander
1979-1980

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Hill-Huett Post 260
Tecumseh, Oklahoma



64

Charles R. Brown
Commander
1979-1980

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1979

Charles R. Brown Commander 1979-1980 Department of Oklahoma From Hill-Huett Post 260
Tecumseh, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

1980

Lonzo Wyatt
Commander
1980-1981
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Hobbs-Ogle-Power Post 41
Clinton, Oklahoma



65

**Lonzo Wyatt
Commander
1980-1981**

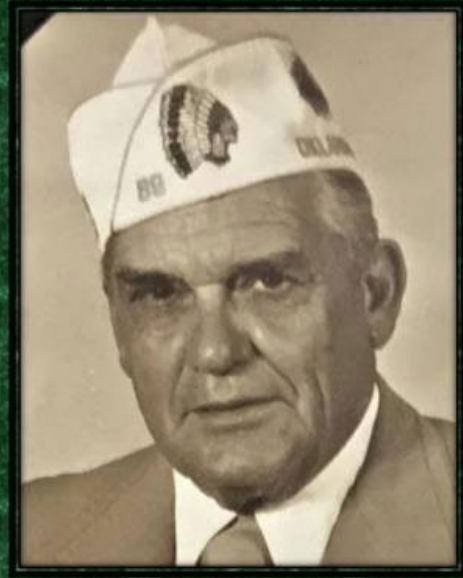
**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1980

Lonzo Wyatt Commander 1980-1981 Department of Oklahoma From Hobbs-Ogle-Power Post 41 Clinton, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Walter Rapp
Commander
1981-1982
Department of
Oklahoma
From
State Capitol Post 1000
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



66

**Walter Rapp
Commander
1981-1982**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1981

Walter Rapp Commander 1981-1982 Department of Oklahoma From State Capitol Post 1000
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Clinton D. Shag Allen
Commander
1982-1983

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Dale Peace Post 40
Vinita, Oklahoma



67

Clinton D. Shag Allen
Commander 1982-1983

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1982

Clinton D. Shag Allen Commander 1982-1983 Department of Oklahoma From Dale Peace Post 40
Vinita, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Bill LaBarge
Commander
1983-1984
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Stratford Post 191
Stratford, Oklahoma



68

**Bill LaBarge
Commander
1983-1984**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1983

Bill LaBarge Commander 1983-1984 Department of Oklahoma From Stratford Post 191 Stratford, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

C. "Jack" E. Swank
Commander
1984-1985

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Argonne Post 4
Enid, Oklahoma



69

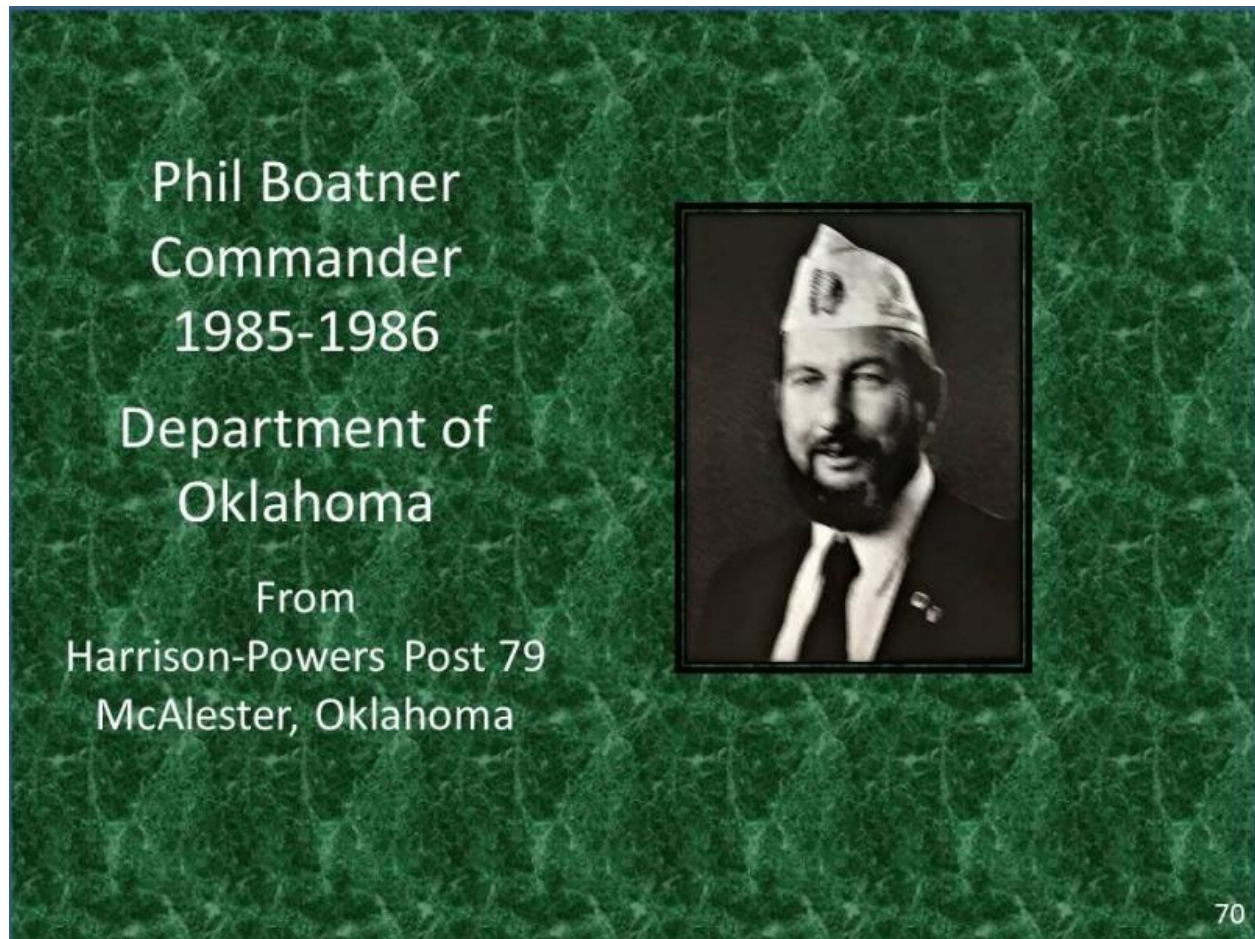
**C. "Jack" E. Swank
Commander
1984-1985**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1984

C. "Jack" E. Swank Commander 1984-1985 Department of Oklahoma From Argonne Post 4 Enid, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



Phil Boatner
Commander
1985-1986

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1985

Phil Boatner Commander

1985-1986 Department of Oklahoma From Harrison-Powers Post 79 McAlester, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Lawrence F. Roy
Commander
1986-1987

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Carter C. Hanner-Mamon
G. Sharp Post 129
Stillwater, Oklahoma



71

Lawrence F. Roy
Commander
1986-1987

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1986

Lawrence F. Roy Commander 1986-1987 Department of Oklahoma From Carter C. Hanner-Mamon G. Sharp Post 129 Stillwater, Oklahoma Lawrence F. Roy, Stillwater Okla. Post 129 is a Paid Up For Life member of The American Legion and has been a active member for over 64 years. Post 129 Adjutant for the last 21 years and was Chairman of the highly successful Post 129 Baseball Committee. He also currently serves on the State Americanism Committee which..

[Full Story](#)

James G. Morton
Commander
1987-1988

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Dobbs-Adams Post 55
Duncan, Oklahoma



72

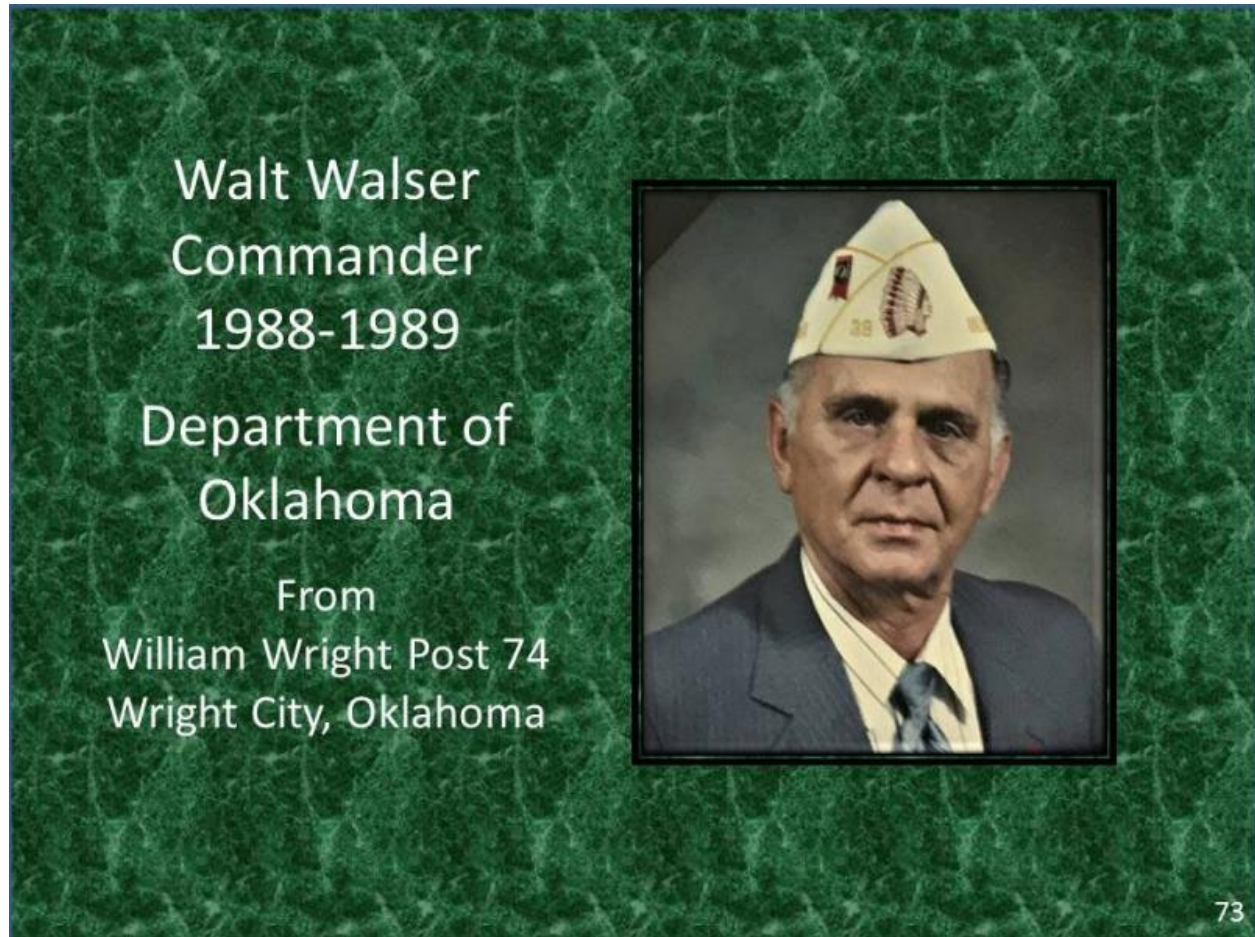
James G. Morton
Commander
1987-1988

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1987

James G. Morton Commander 1987-1988 Department of Oklahoma From Dobbs-Adams Post 55
Duncan, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



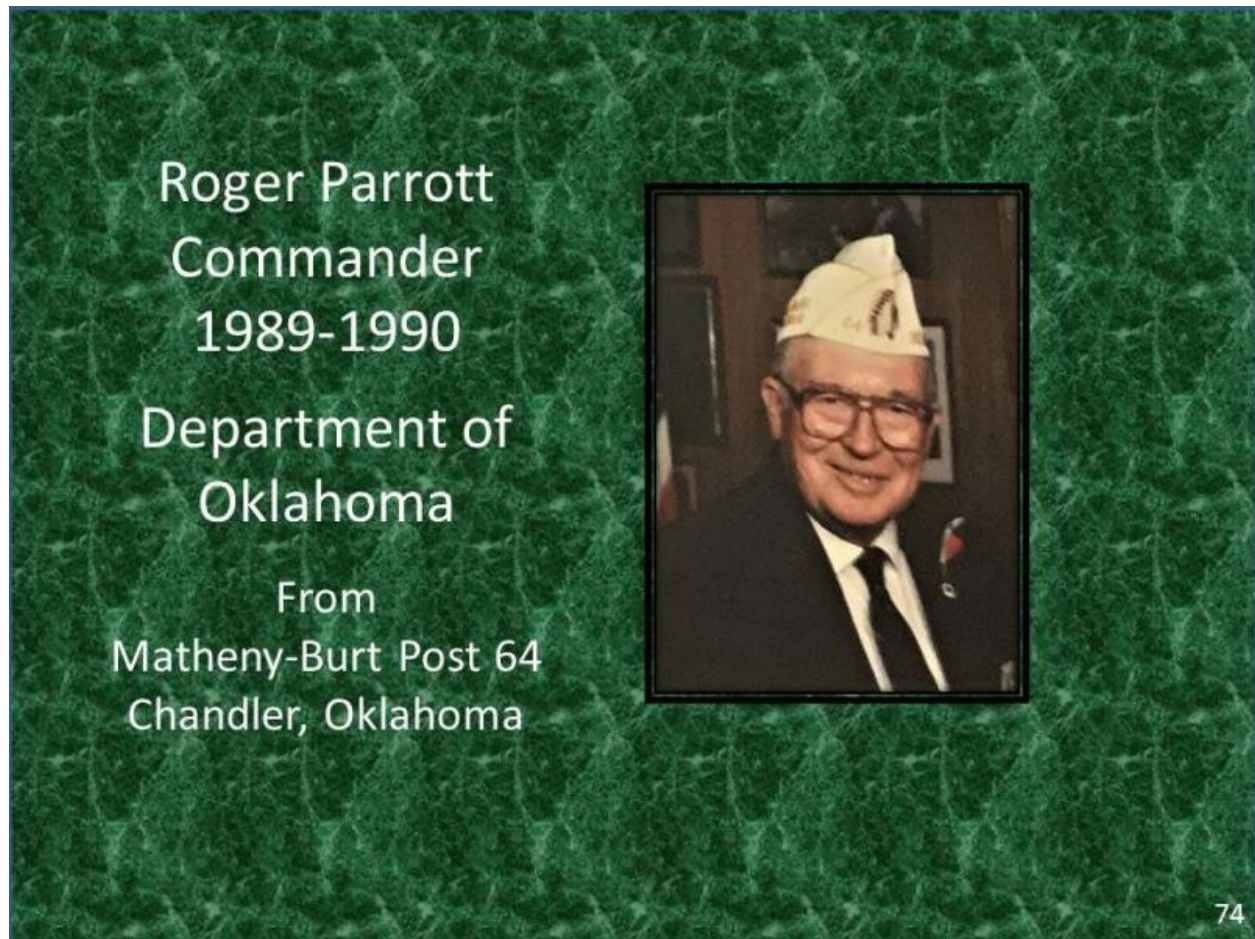
**Walt Walser
Commander
1988-1989**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1988

Walt Walser Commander 1988-1989 Department of Oklahoma From William Wright Post 74 Wright City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



Roger Parrott
Commander 1989-1990

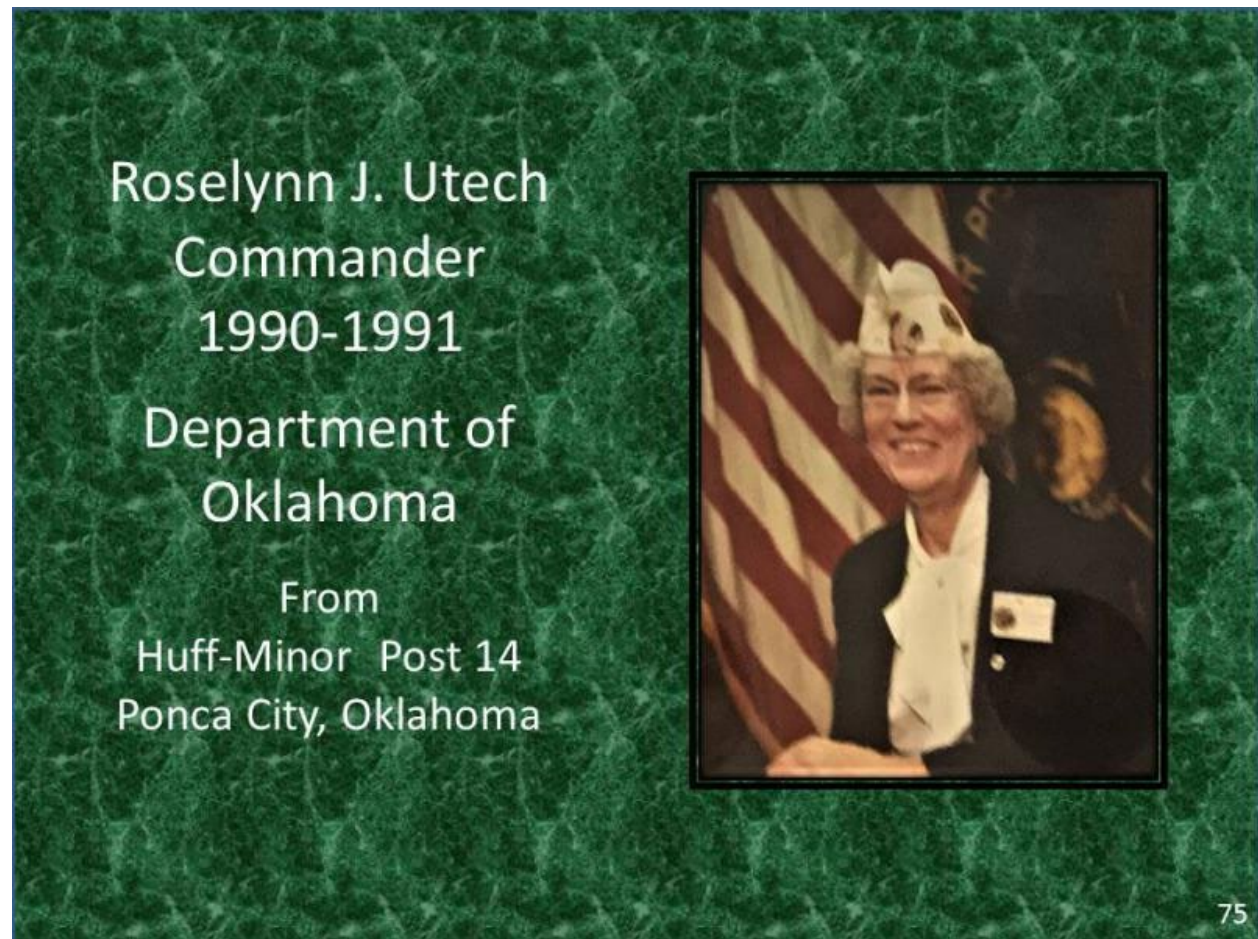
Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1989

Roger Parrott Commander 1989-1990 Department of Oklahoma From Matheny-Burt Post 64
Chandler, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

1990



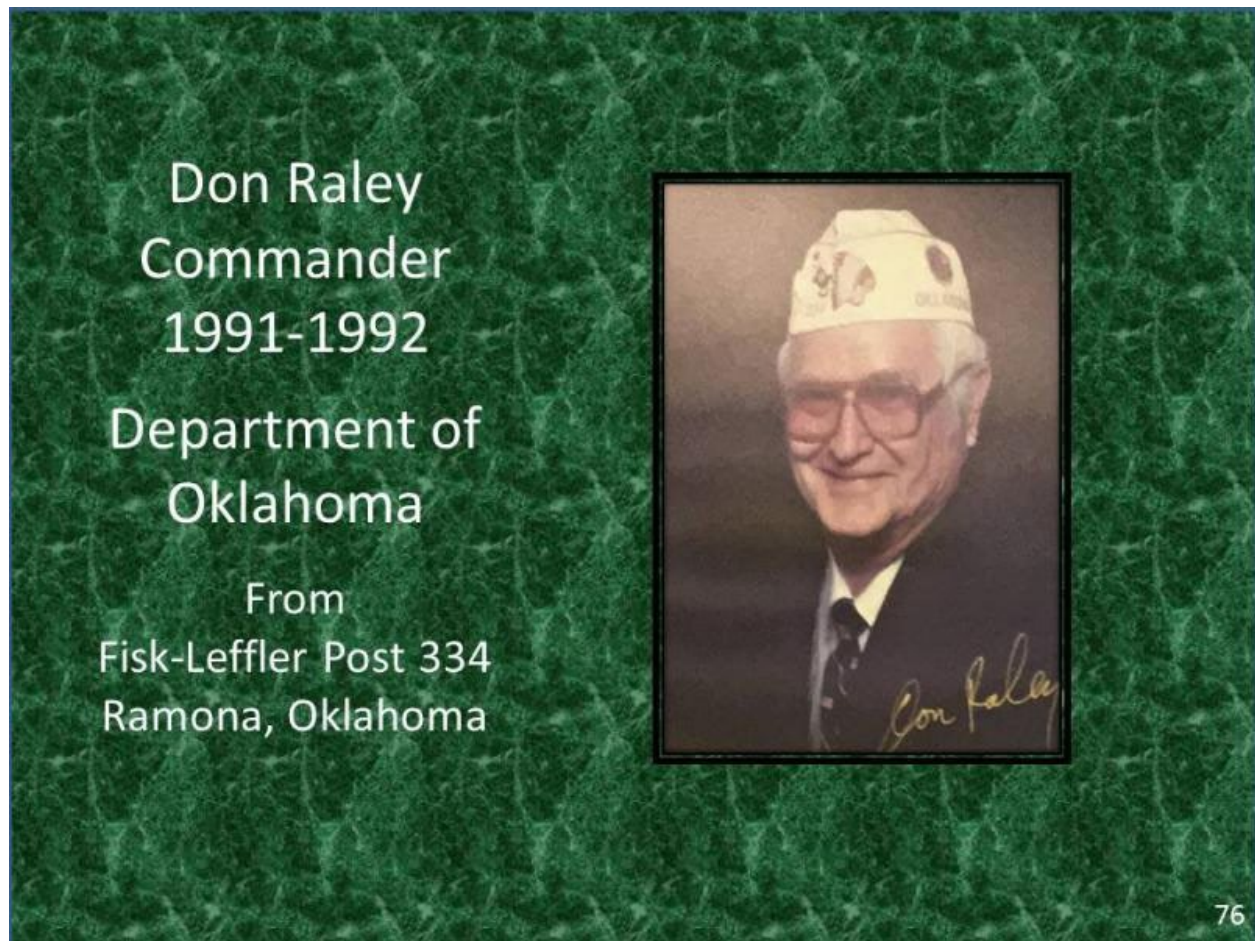
**Roselynn J. Utech
Commander
1990-1991**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1990

Roselynn J. Utech Commander
1990-1991 Department of Oklahoma From Huff-Minor Post 14 Ponca City,
Oklahoma.

[Full Story](#)



Don Raley
Commander
1991-1992

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1991

Don Raley Commander 1991-1992 Department of Oklahoma From Fisk-Leffler Post 334 Ramona, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Bill Paxton
Commander
1992-1993
Department of
Oklahoma

From
El Reno Post 34
El Reno, Oklahoma



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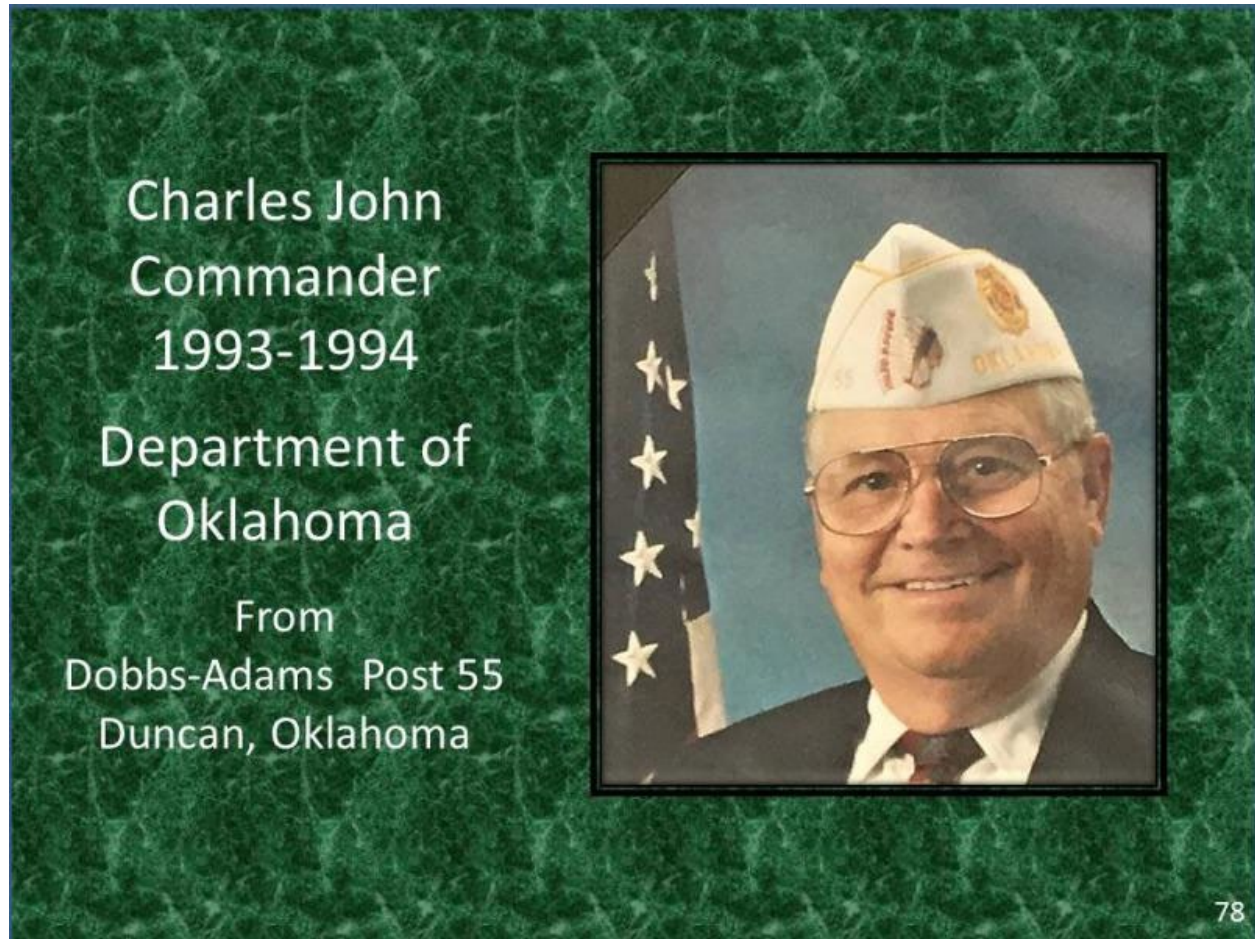
**Bill Paxton
Commander
1992-1993**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1992

Bill Paxton Commander 1992-1993 Department of Oklahoma From El Reno Post 34 El Reno, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



**Charles John
Commander
1993-1994**

Department of Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1993

Charles John Commander 1993-1994 Department of Oklahoma From Dobbs-Adams Post 55
Duncan, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Walter W. Bonham
Commander
1994-1995

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Waggoner-Trimble Post 12
Bethany-WA, Oklahoma



79

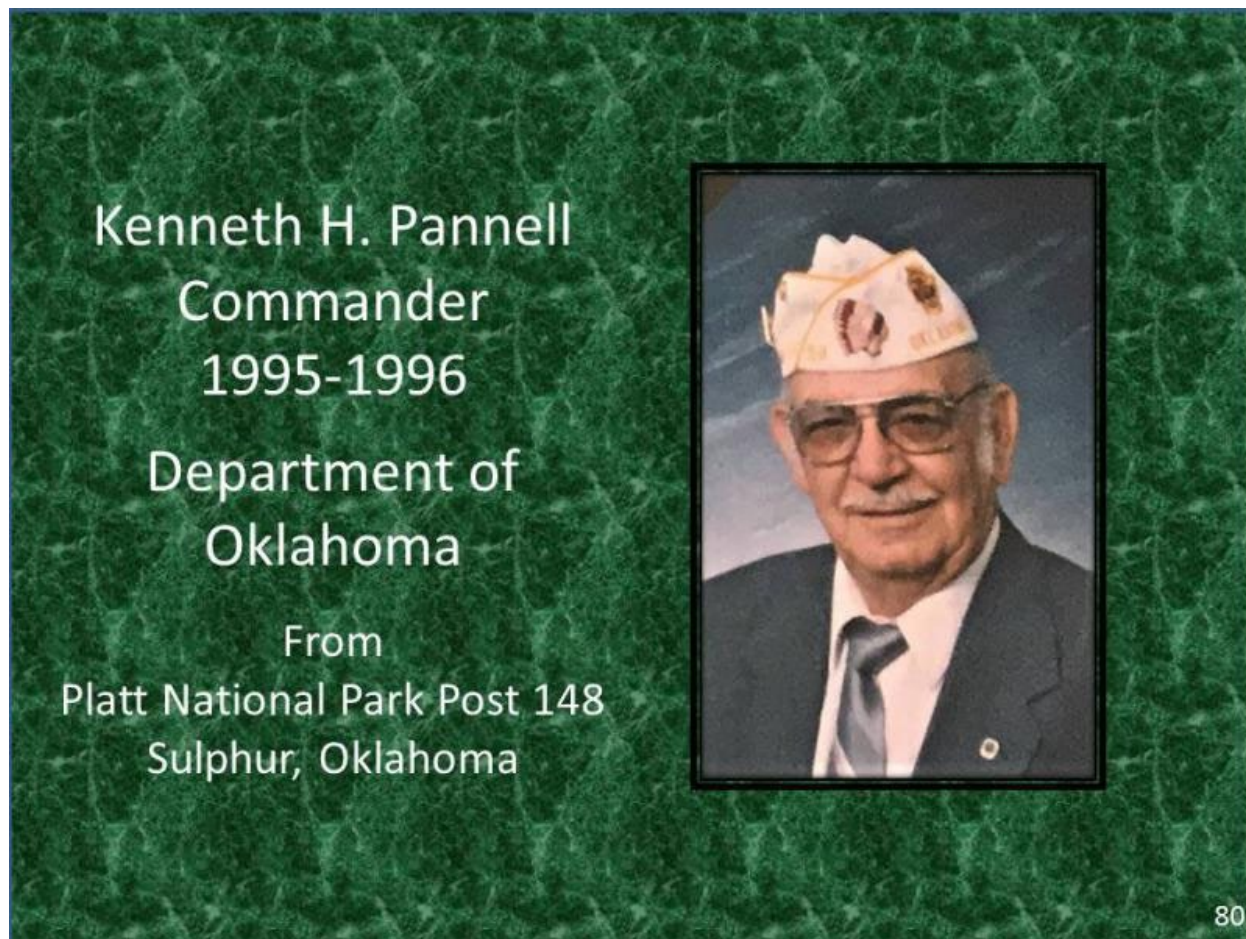
Walter W. Bonham
Commander
1994-1995

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1994

Walter W. Bonham Commander 1994-1995 Department of Oklahoma From Waggoner-Trimble Post
12 Bethany-WA, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



Kenneth H. Pannell
Commander
1995-1996

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1995

Kenneth H. Pannell Commander 1995-1996 Department of Oklahoma From Platt National Park Post 148 Sulphur, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Dick B. Earley
Commander
1996-1997
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Sullivan-Lewis Post 182
Pryor, Oklahoma



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**Dick B. Earley
Commander
1996-1997**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1996

Dick B. Earley Commander 1996-1997 Department of Oklahoma From Sullivan-Lewis Post 182
Pryor, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

William E. Finch
Commander
1997-1998

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Pledger-Allen-Phillips-
McWilliams Post 88
Norman, Oklahoma



82

William E. Finch
Commander
1997-1998

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1997

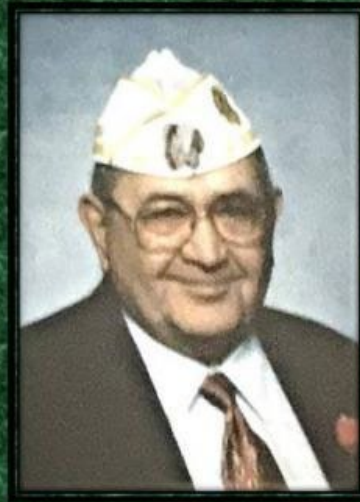
William E. Finch Commander 1997-1998 Department of Oklahoma From Pledger-Allen-Phillips-McWilliams Post 88 Norman, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

James E. Amerson
Commander
1998-1999

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Earl Maggart Post 26
Collinsville, Oklahoma



83

**James E. Amerson
Commander
1998-1999**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 1998

James E. Amerson Commander 1998-1999 Department of Oklahoma From Earl Maggart Post 26
Collinsville, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Larry E. Tiensvold
Commander
1999-2000

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Mustang Post 353
Mustang, Oklahoma



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Larry E. Tiensvold
Commander
1999-2000

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 1999

Larry E. Tiensvold Commander 1999-2000 Department of Oklahoma From Mustang Post 353
Mustang, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

2000

Donald H. Schulenberg
Commander
2000-2001
Department of
Oklahoma
From
Pledger-Allen-Phillips-
McWilliams Post 88
Norman, Oklahoma



85

Donald H. Schulenberg
Commander
2000-2001

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 2000

Donald H. Schulenberg Commander 2000-2001 Department of Oklahoma From Pledger-Allen-Phillips-
McWilliams Post 88 Norman, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Wayne L. Pedigo
Commander
2001-2002

Department of
Oklahoma

From
U.S.S. Batfish
Memorial Post 241
Muskogee, Oklahoma



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Wayne L. Pedigo
Commander
2001-2002

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 2001

Wayne L. Pedigo Commander 2001-2002 Department of Oklahoma From U.S.S. Batfish Memorial Post 241 Muskogee, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

John L. Yeager
Commander
2002-2003

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Argonne Post 4
Enid, Oklahoma



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**John L. Yeager
Commander
2002-2003**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2002

John L. Yeager Commander 2002-2003 Department of Oklahoma From Argonne Post 4 Enid, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

William "Bill" Hardin
Commander
2003-2004

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Capitol Hill Post 13
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



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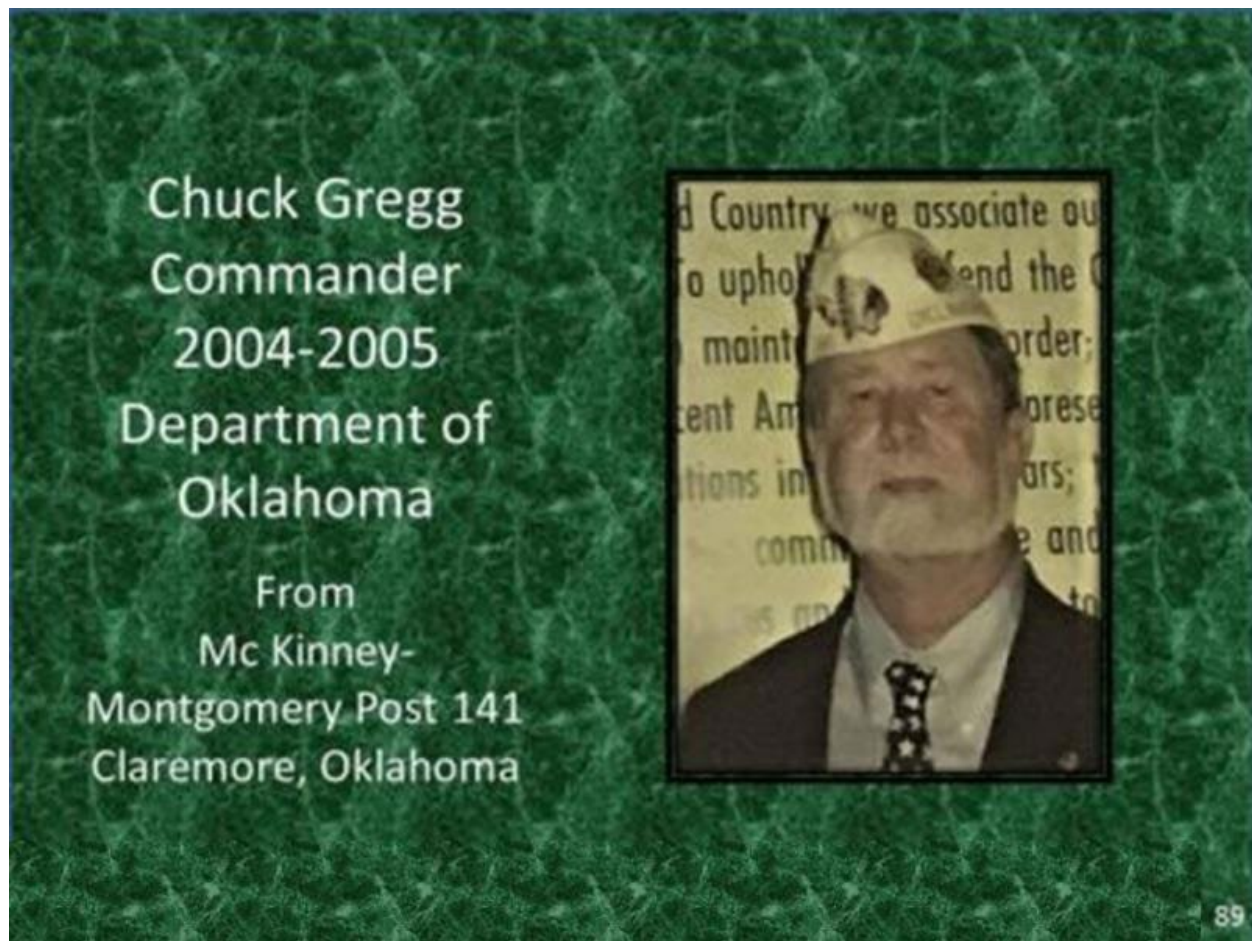
**William "Bill" Hardin
Commander
2003-2004**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2003

William "Bill" Hardin Commander
2003-2004 Department of Oklahoma From Capitol Hill Post 13 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

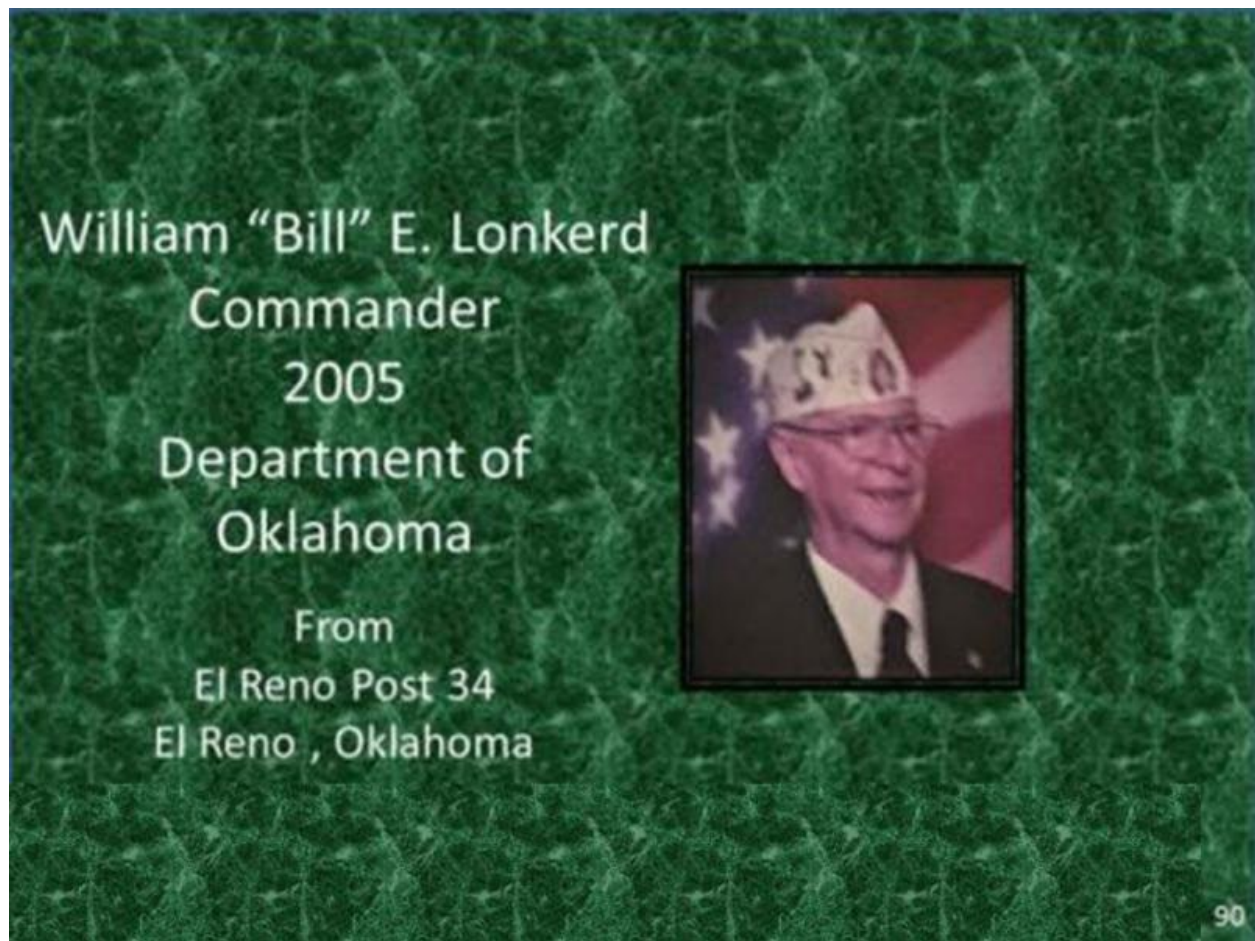


Chuck Gregg
Commander
2004-2005
Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 2004

Chuck Gregg Commander 2004-2005 Department of Oklahoma From Mc Kinney-
Montgomery Post 141 Claremore, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



William "Bill" E. Lonkerd
Commander 2005
Department

Mar 1, 2005

William "Bill" E. Lonkerd Commander 2005 Department of Oklahoma From El Reno Post 34 El Reno, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

William "Bill" E. Lonkerd
Commander
2005-2006

Department of
Oklahoma

From
El Reno Post 34
El Reno, Oklahoma



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**William "Bill" E. Lonkerd
Commander
2005-2006**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2005

William "Bill" E. Lonkerd Commander 2005-2006 Department of Oklahoma From El Reno Post 34 El
Reno, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Bobby “BJ” Longenbaugh
Commander
2006-2007

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Jodie Hunt Post 245
Noble, Oklahoma



92

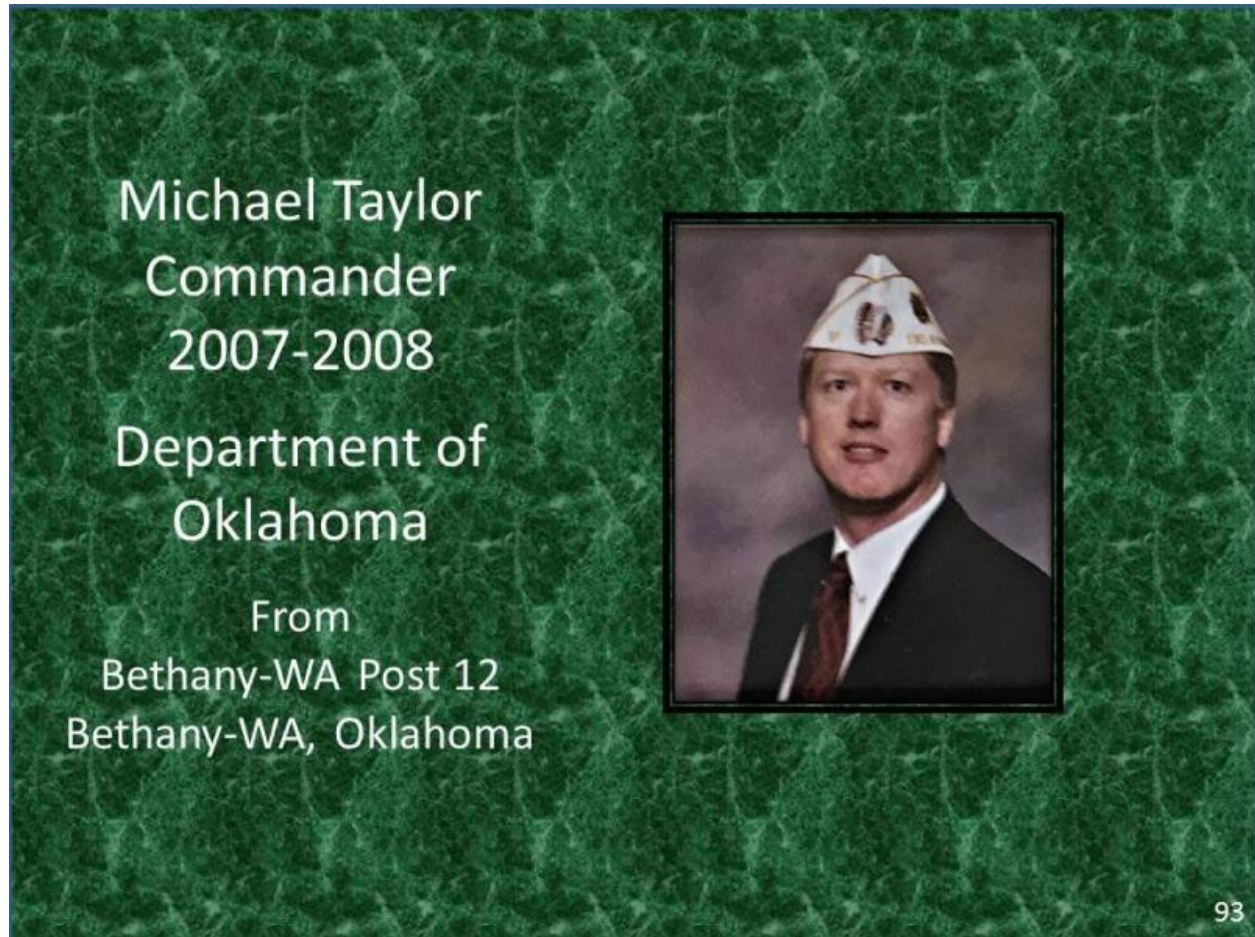
**Bobby “BJ” Longenbaugh
Commander 2006-2007**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2006

Bobby “BJ” Longenbaugh Commander 2006-2007 Department of Oklahoma From Jodie Hunt Post 245 Noble, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)



**Michael Taylor Commander
2007-2008**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2007

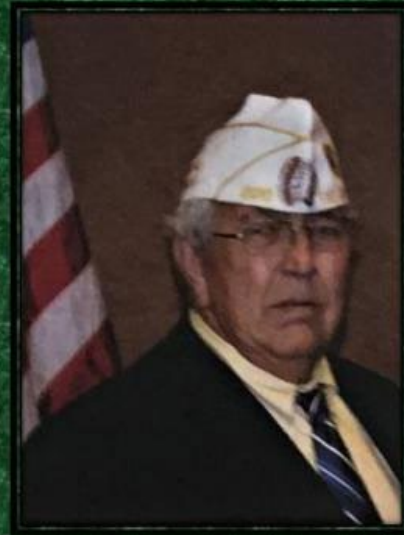
Michael Taylor Commander 2007-2008 Department of Oklahoma From Bethany-WA Post 12
Bethany-WA, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

W. "Dee" Wilson
Commander
2008-2009

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Zoal Stringer Post 226
Coweta, Oklahoma



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**W. "Dee" Wilson
Commander
2008-2009**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2008

W. "Dee" Wilson Commander 2008-2009 Department of Oklahoma From Zoal Stringer Post 226
Coweta, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Roy Clingenpeel
Commander
2009-2010

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Emmett E. Epperson Post 183
Ryan, Oklahoma



95

Roy Clingenpeel
Commander 2009-2010

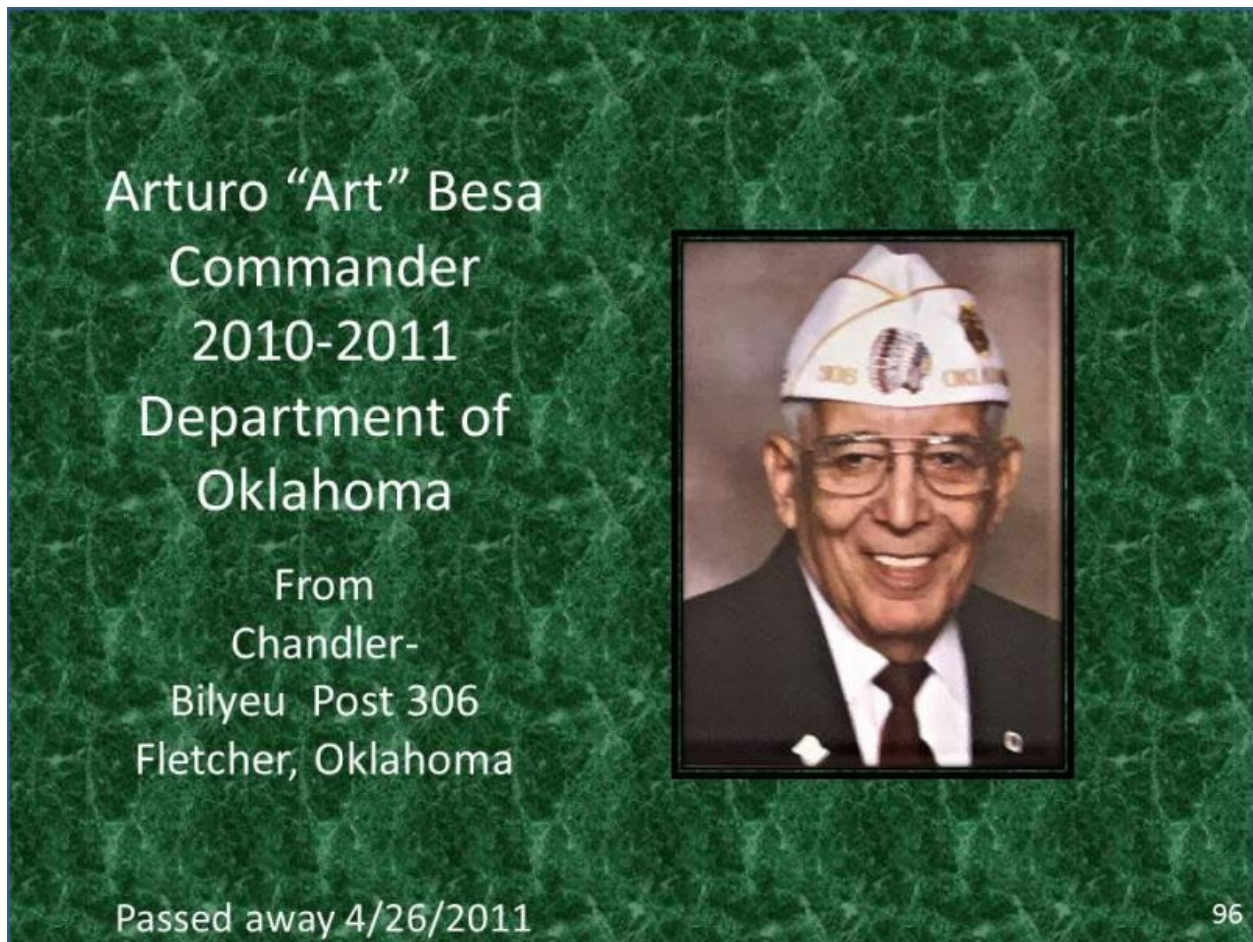
Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 2009

Roy Clingenpeel Commander 2009-2010 Department of Oklahoma From Emmett E. Epperson Post 183 Ryan, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

2010



**Arturo "Art" Besa Commander
2010-2011
Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2010

Arturo "Art" Besa Commander 2010-2011 Department of Oklahoma From Chandler-
Bilyeu Post 306 Fletcher, Oklahoma Passed away 4/26/2011

[Full Story](#)

John Hardison
Commander
2011
Department of
Oklahoma

From
James H. Teel Post 40
Vinita, Oklahoma

5/2/2011 Replaced Arturo Besa
who passed away in office



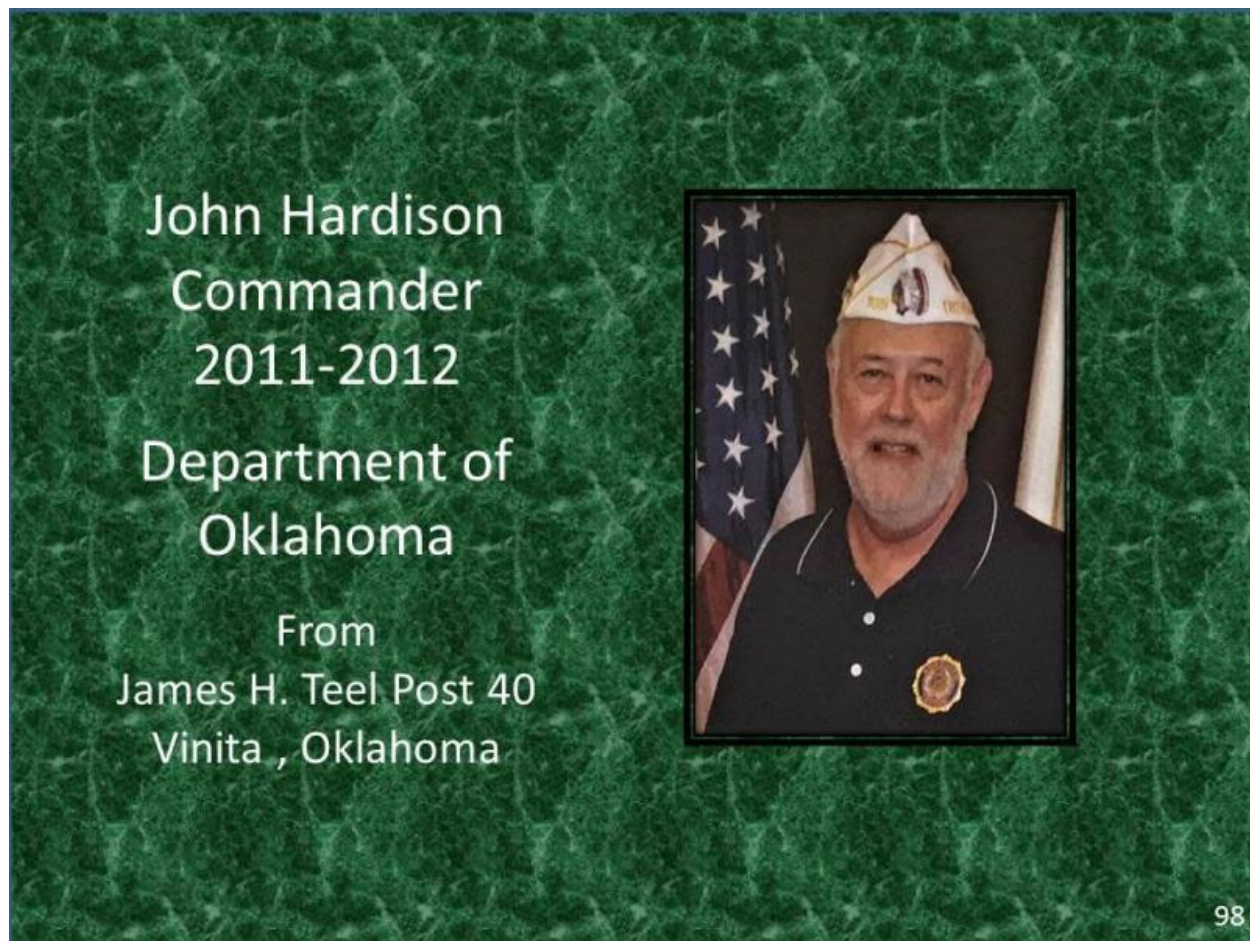
97

**John Hardison
Commander
2011
Department of
Oklahoma**

May 2, 2011

John Hardison Commander 2011 Department of Oklahoma From James H. Teel Post 40 Vinita, Oklahoma 5/2/2011 Replaced Arturo Besa who passed away in office

[Full Story](#)



**John Hardison
Commander
2011-2012**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2011

John Hardison Commander 2011-2012 Department of Oklahoma From James H. Teel Post 40 Vinita, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

John “Wes” Bengé
Commander
2012-2013

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Blackfox-Hartness Post 135
Tahlequah , Oklahoma



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**John “Wes” Bengé
Commander
2012-2013**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2012

John “Wes” Bengé Commander 2012-2013 Department of Oklahoma From Blackfox-Hartness Post 135 Tahlequah , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

George Nonomaker
Commander
2013-2014

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Mohawk Post 308
Tulsa , Oklahoma



100

**George Nonomaker
Commander
2013-2014**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2013

George Nonomaker Commander 2013-2014 Department of Oklahoma From Mohawk Post 308
Tulsa , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Timothy “Tim” Smith
Commander
2014-2015

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Frank Gladd Post 20
Fort Gibson , Oklahoma



101

Timothy “Tim” Smith
Commander
2014-2015

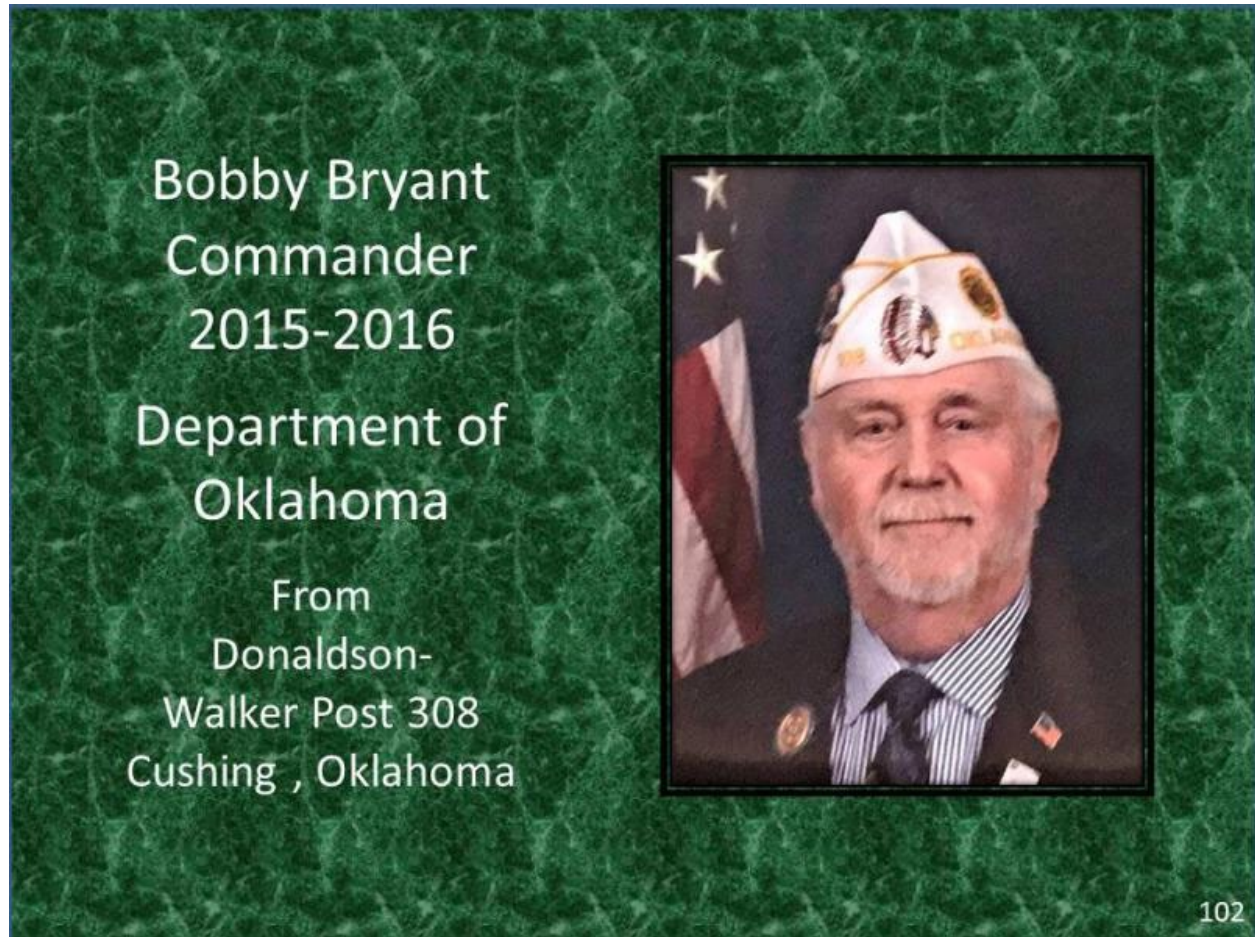
Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 1, 2014

Timothy “Tim” Smith Commander 2014-2015 Department of Oklahoma From Frank Gladd Post 20
Fort Gibson, Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Bobby Bryant



**Commander
2015-2016**

**Department of
Oklahoma**

Jul 1, 2015

Bobby Bryant Commander 2015-2016 Department of Oklahoma From Donaldson-
Walker Post 308 Cushing , Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

Don Kuntze
Commander
2016-2017

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Post 353
Mustang, Oklahoma



Don Kuntze
Commander
2016-2017

Department of
Oklahoma

Jul 12, 2016

Don Kuntze Commander 2016-2017 Department of Oklahoma From Mustang Post 353 Mustang ,
Oklahoma

[Full Story](#)

John Bloxom
Commander
2017-2018
Department of
Oklahoma

From
American Legion Post 126
Bristow, Oklahoma

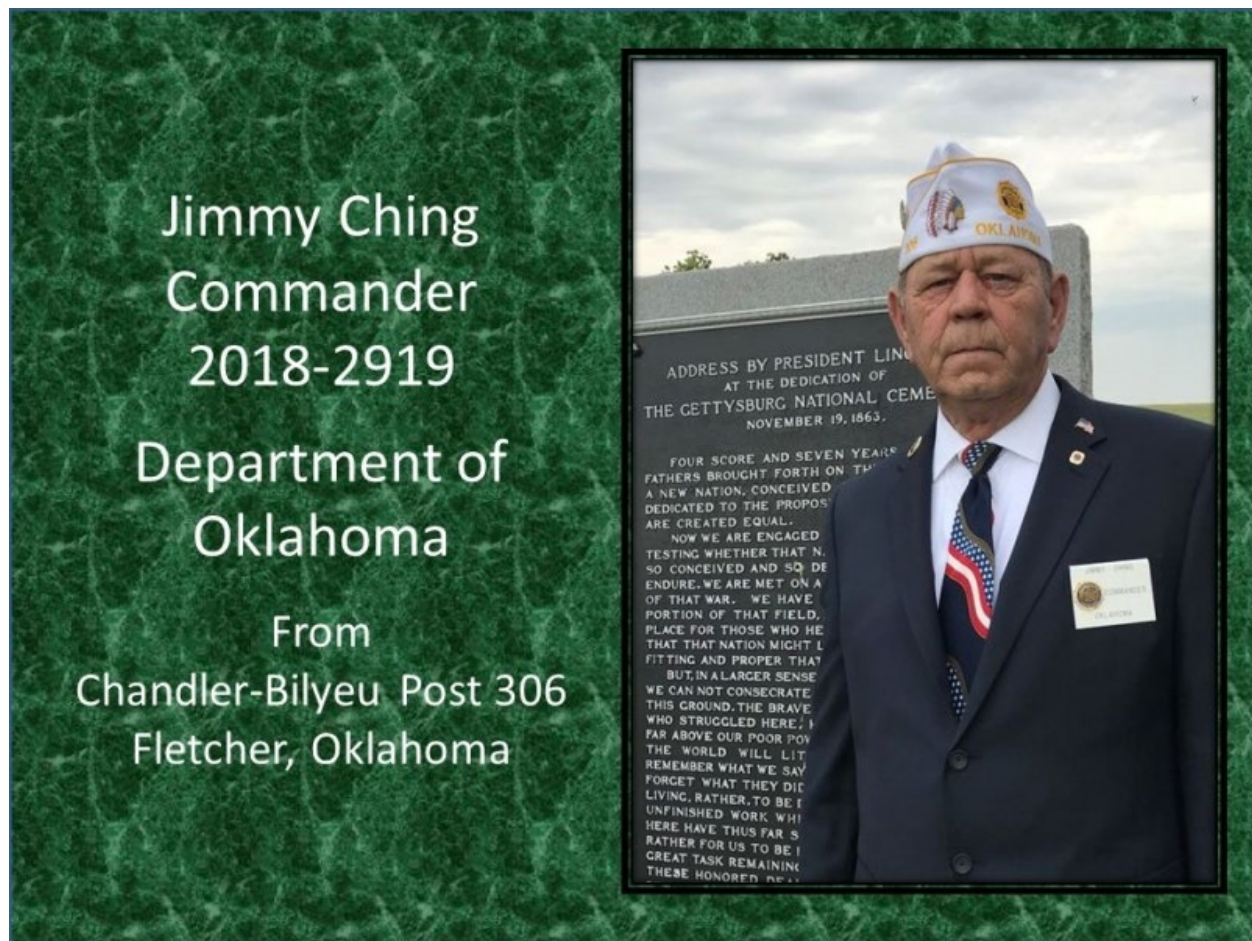


John Bloxom Commander 2017-2018 Department of Oklahoma

Jul 14, 2017

John Bloxom Elected Commander 2017-2018

[Full Story](#)



Jimmy Ching Commander 2018-2019 Department of Oklahoma

Jul 15, 2018

Jimmy Ching Elected as Commander Department of Oklahoma during the Annual American Legion Department of Oklahoma Convention in Grand Casino, Shawnee, Oklahoma July 15, 2018. Jimmy Ching was the Adjutant for Chandler-Bilyeu Post 306, Fletcher, Oklahoma.

American Legion 1980-2018

Oklahoma Department Commander 2018-2019

Oklahoma Department Senior Vice Commander 2017-2018

Oklahoma Department..

[Full Story](#)



Ronald L. Gott Commander 2019-2020 Department of Oklahoma

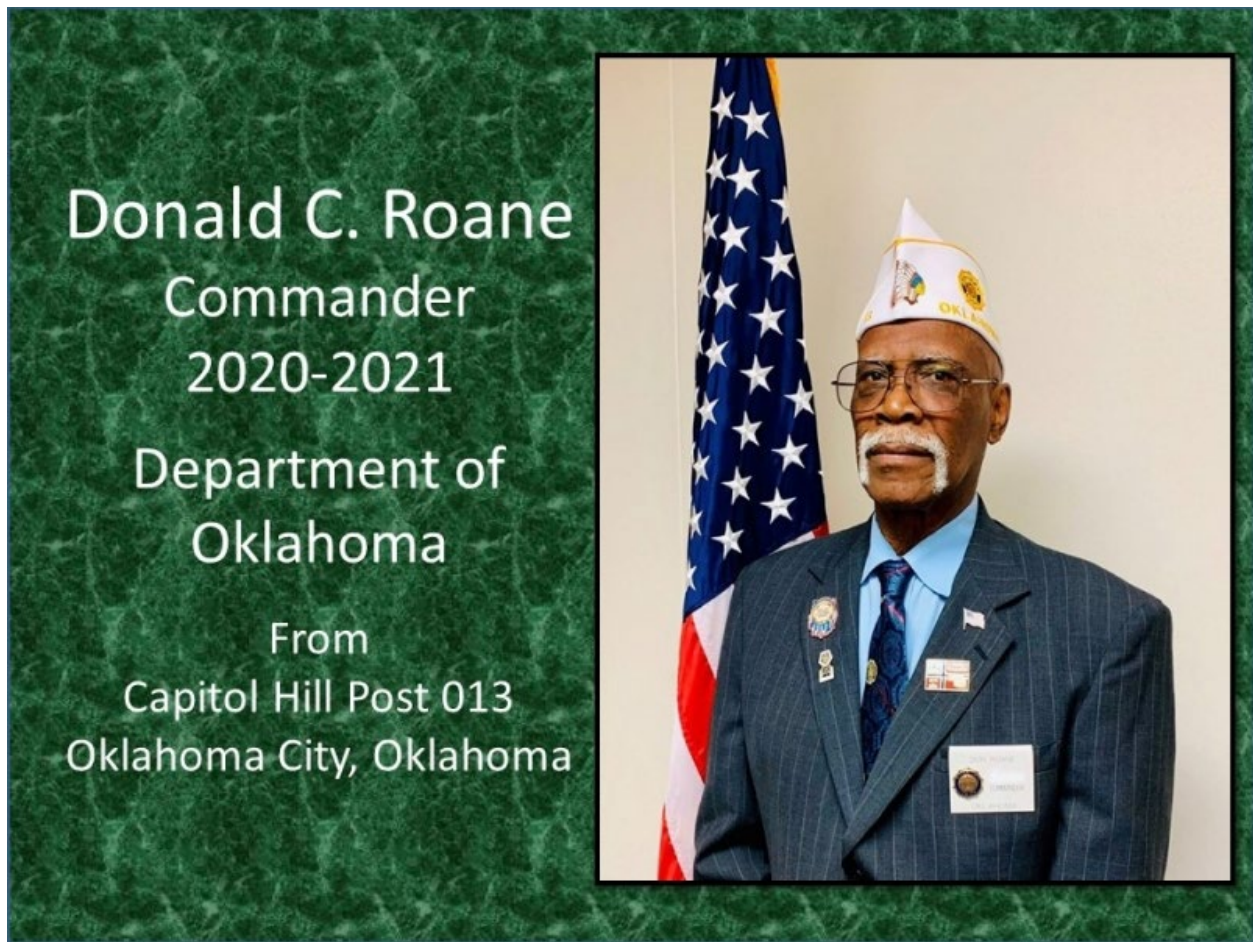
Jul 21, 2019

Ronald L. Gott Elected Commander of The Oklahoma Department of the American Legion on July 21, 2019

Commander Gott was born in Crawfordsville, Indiana on January 12, 1949, and raised in the city of Lebanon, Indiana. The Commander enlisted..

[Full Story](#)

2020



Donald C. Roane Commander 2020-2021 Department of Oklahoma

Jun 30, 2020

Donald C. Roane Commander 2020-2021 Department of Oklahoma.

DEPARTMENT:

Senior Vice Commander 1 year

Vice Commander West 2 years

[Full Story](#)



Charlie O'Leary Elected Commander 2021-2022 Department of Oklahoma

Jul 17, 2021

STATE COMMANDER THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF OKLAHOMA

CHARLES S. O'LEARY, LTC [RET], USA, POST 142 HOMINY, OKLAHOMA MILITARY SERVICE:

Charles O'Leary joined the US Army in 1967, taking Basic Training at Ft. Polk, LA and Infantry Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Dix, New Jersey. I volunteered for Special Forces training as an SF Medic, was sent to Airborne Jump School at Ft. Benning, GA and then to SF Training Group at Ft...

[Full Story](#)



Jim Quinn Elected Commander 2022-2023 Department Of Oklahoma

Jul 24, 2022

Military Service:

Jim F. Quinn served four years on active duty, including a tour in Southeast Asia, he was assigned to the 377th Air Police Squadron, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon, Republic of Vietnam, from September 1966 until October 1967. Jim attended Officer Candidate School at the..

[Full Story](#)



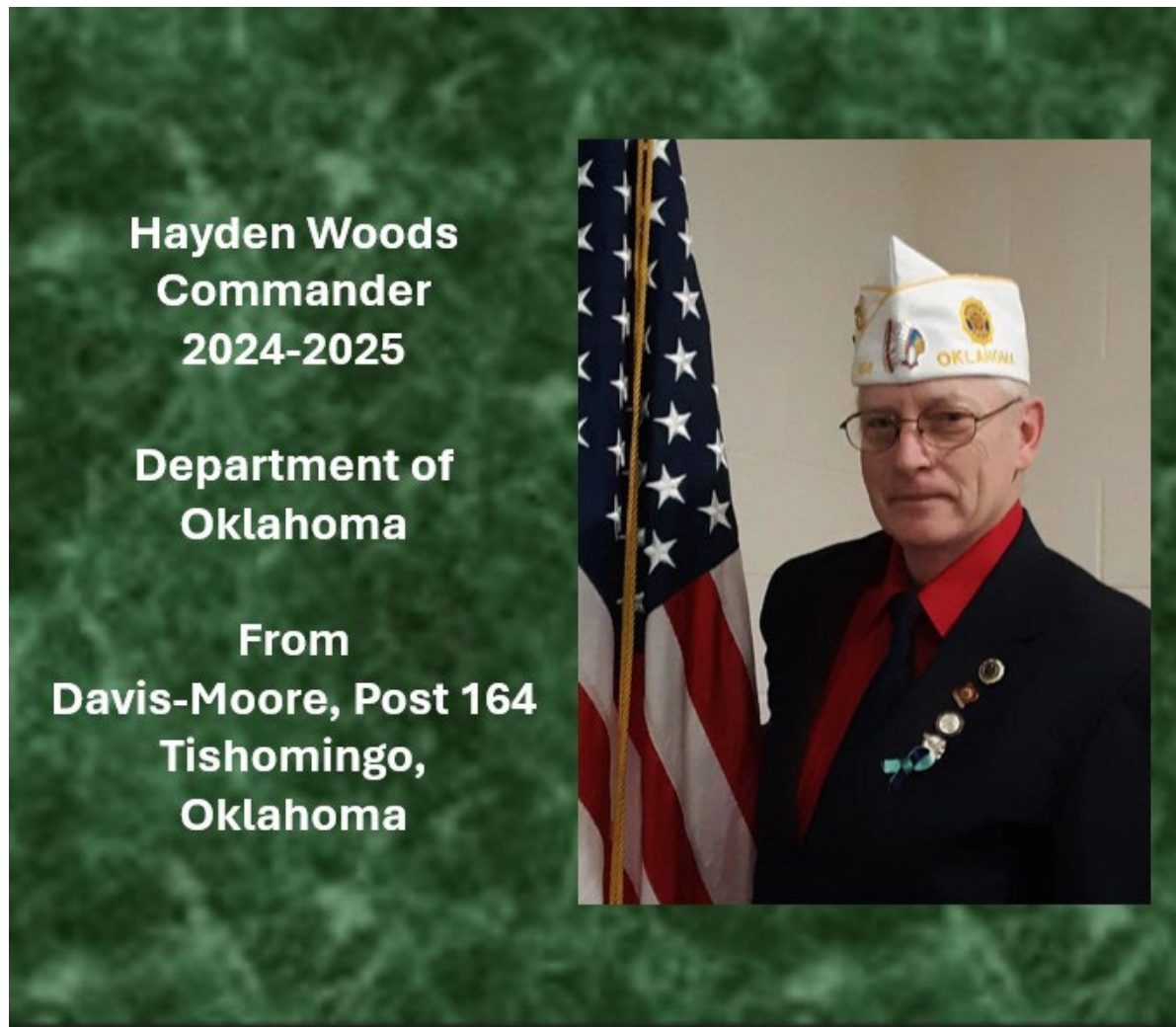
Brett Martin Elected Commander 2023-2024 Department Of Oklahoma

Jul 16, 2023

Brett Martin Bio

In September of 1961, Brett Martin was born to Roger and Georgia Martin and was raised on a 400-acre livestock and grain farm near Hornick, Iowa. His father Roger was a Sergeant First Class in the Second Division during the Korean War and was a member of American Legion Post 666, of Smithland, IA, where he was a past..

[Full Story](#)

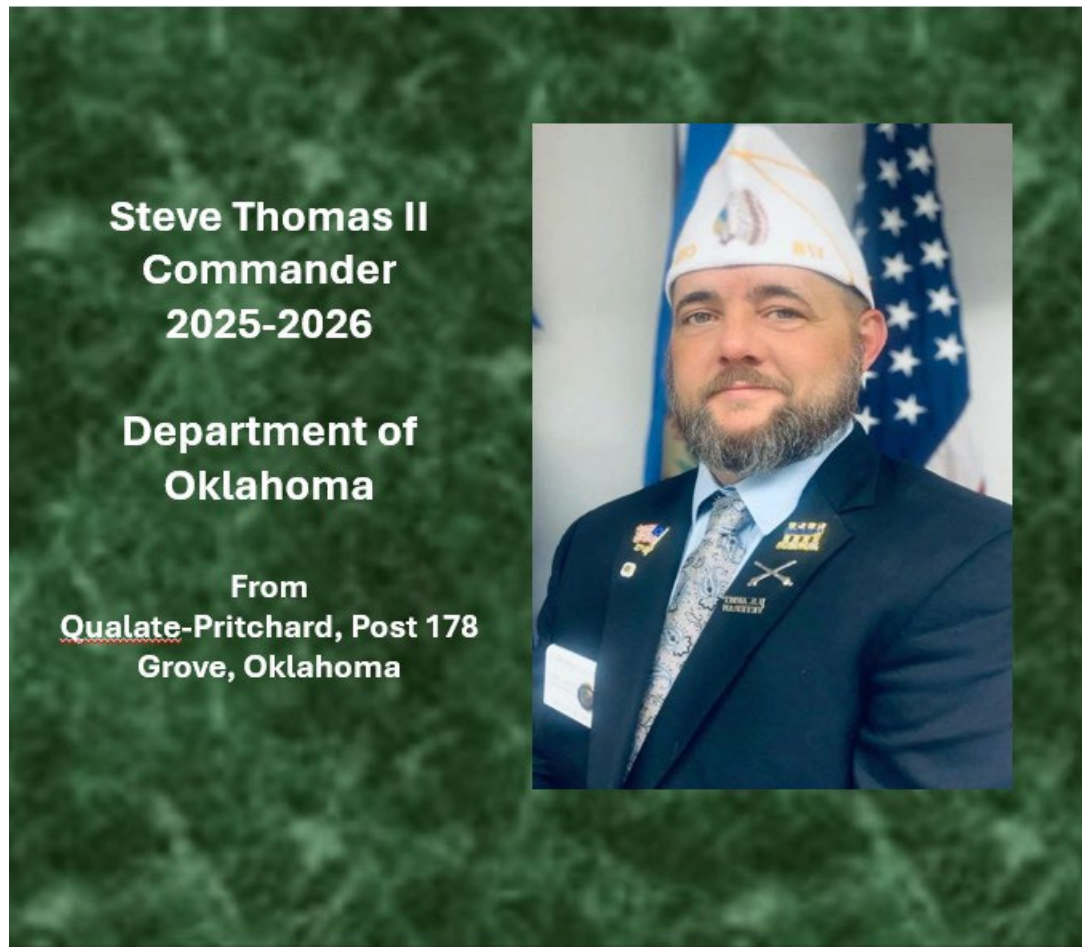


Hayden Woods Elected Commander 2024-2025 Department Of Oklahoma

Jul 16, 2024

Hayden Woods Bio: Mr. Woods joined the Navy in 1986 and retired in 2008. He served as a Master Training Specialist, Naval Submarine Support Command Senior Career Counselor, United States Military Apprenticeship Program for Career Counselor. Joined the American Legion in 2011 and served as a Post Service Officer, Adjutant, and Commander of Davis-Moore Post 164. Received Best Small Post for Americanism award, the Veteran and Veteran Rehabilitation award, the Youth award, and Best Small Post-2023. The post received the 90% retention award. He has served as the 3B District Commander, 3B District Vice-Commander, 3B Executive Committeeman, Department Adjutant and Senior Vice Commander. National Committees include: Membership Post and Activities Committee, Media & Communications.

He is a graduate of Arkansas Legion College and National Legion College class of 2023-2024. Due to his experience and training he was chosen as the Dean of Oklahoma's Legion College.



Steve Thomas II, Elected Commander 2025-2026 Department Of Oklahoma

Jul 16, 2025

Steve Bio

2015, join [American Legion Bear River Post 789](#) in California. I joined in with the Ritual Team and then was convinced to be involved with Regional Oratorical Committee.

2017 American Legion 178 Grove, OK.

2019. created [Squadron 178](#)

2023 elected as the [American Legion Grove Oklahoma Post 178](#) Commander. A month later I was elected to simultaneously represent the [Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Oklahoma](#) as the Detachment Commander. During that administrative year our members were able to secure the Detachments first ever Triple Nickel Award and set several Detachment records.

2025 was elected to represent The American Legion Department of Oklahoma as the State Commander .

Shirley May
Commander
2026 - 2027

Department of
Oklahoma

From
Post 146
Sayre, Oklahoma



Shirley May, Elected Commander 2026-2027 Department Of Oklahoma

Jul 12, 2026

Shirley Bio

Coming Soon

2026 she was elected to represent The American Legion Department of Oklahoma as the State Commander .