



Legion News



DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE

BELGIUM-CHINA 01-DENMARK-ENGLAND-FRANCE-GREECE-GERMANY-IRELAND-ITALY-NETHERLANDS-PORTUGAL-SPAIN-THAILAND

November 2019

Vol. 17, No. 11

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER...*Jimmie Dale*



I've been asked why do I do what I do since I have a full-time job and I'm a Post Commander and now I'm Department Commander. The truth is I enjoy what I do because it is all about taken care of Veterans and their families.

I just return from Indianapolis Indiana last where I attended a conference at the American Legion National Headquarters. I'm very grateful I was given the opportunity to attend this conference because I was able to learned a lot of great information over the six days period from 12-17 Oct 2019 about

the American Legion. I was also introduced to many different people with same strong drive and commitment for taken care of Veterans and their families.

The 2nd DEC on 26 Oct 2019 in Heilbronn, we had a good turn out and we were able to conducted great business but I wish more Post would attend these events and let their voice be heard. You missed out on some great comradeship and some great food. I'm looking forward to our next 3rd DEC on 21 March 2020 in Ansbach.

Some of the take away from my trip to National that I want to bring back to my Post and to Department:

* The Buddy Check Program- We need to establish a program for each Post the goal is to reach out and contact every member in your post just to check on them and see how they are doing and to see if they need any help or support with anything. This is not a membership renewal drive that will come later, on your first contact with them we just want to reach out and let the member know that we are here for them. This is also a great opportunity to let them know about what is going on at the post and inform them about any current or upcoming events that they might be interested in.

* Retention the National Commander has challenged all Departments to reach a 90% retention goal for the American Legion. I think the Buddy Check can also assist us with this goal after we make first contact.

* Consolidated Post Report (CPR) all Dept. Has been challenge to have a 100% Post reporting of their CPR to National. I heard from other Dept Commanders that they assume responsibility for what is known as paper post, those are the post that have very few members and they don't submit any reports to the department or national.

* The National Commander set a 103% membership goal for this year. He also said he would to see the American Legion to grow by 100K new members this year.

Upcoming events for Department:

-Awareness Drives: The Dept. Membership Chairmen has scheduled several awareness drives that will start up in November with goal of reaching the National Commander goal of a 103% for all departments.

-Veterans Day Memorial Service in St. Avold on 10 Nov 2019 at 11:00 hrs.

-Oratorical contest is schedule for 22 Feb 2020 location in time TBD.

In closing I would like to thank all of the Post membership teams, Vise Commanders and the VCAL for their support in the Department making it 65% membership goal for this month. For God and Country, we serve our community Veterans, Dependents and Youth.

Jimmie Dale
Commander
Department of France



The artwork at National Headquarters behind the Commander was donated to The American Legion National Headquarters by the Department of France.

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2020MY

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DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE 2019 - 2020 / POST MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES

EARLY BIRD KICKOFF - 50%

Department Cutoff - August 30, 2019

National Cutoff - September 11, 2019

VETERANS DAY - 65%

Department Cutoff - November 04, 2019

National Cutoff - November 14, 2019

MID-WINTER - 80%

Department Cutoff - January 06, 2020

National Cutoff - January 15, 2020

LEGION BIRTHDAY - 90%

Department Cutoff - March 02, 2020

National Cutoff - March 11, 2020

ARMED FORCES DAY - 100%

Department Cutoff - May 04, 2020

National Cutoff - May 13, 2020

FALL MEETINGS - 55%

Department Cutoff - September 30, 2019

National Cutoff - October 09, 2019

PEARL HARBOR DAY - 75%

Department Cutoff - December 02, 2019

National Cutoff - December 11, 2019

PRESIDENTS DAY - 85%

Department Cutoff - January 31, 2020

National Cutoff - February 12, 2020

CHILDREN & YOUTH - 95%

Department Cutoff - March 30, 2020

National Cutoff - April 08, 2020

For images of the 2nd Legion DEC **CLICK HERE...**
provided by Victor Brown, Thomas W. Barnett Post GR14

DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER AT LARGE...*Joe D. Brown*



Awareness Drive GR01

GR07 General Membership Meeting



GR79 Bowling



More questions answered as installations get ready for the potential 3 million extra shoppers......By: *Karen Jowers*



An extra 3 million people will be eligible to shop at commissaries and exchanges, and have certain MWR benefits. (Defense Commissary Agency)

Thanksgiving Day



Thursday 28 November 2019

Renew Online
Today

**ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF
MEMBERSHIP**



Department of France Past Commanders Club

PCC President Dennis Owens



info@dennisowens.com

PCC Secretary Quincy Foster



qcfooster@yahoo.com

Who is eligible to join the Department of France Past Commanders Club?

past and present Department Commanders, Department Vice Commanders At Large, Department Vice Commanders, Post Commanders, SAL Detachment Commanders, SAL Squadron Commanders, Auxiliary Department Presidents, Auxiliary Unit Presidents... so if you were just voted into office you are eligible to join

Initial dues for the Past Commanders Club is only \$25.00

Renewal dues for the Past Commanders Club is only \$10.00

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER...Frank Phillips



Contact me after 1700 please or e mail me
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News from the Department Service Officer:

Our Department Service Office is getting swamped with new Claims! We need your support. We will be offering a basic PSO training course on the 20th of March 2020. Anyone may attend this time. The course will give you an insight on how a PSO may help a Veteran. It will not allow you to "assist" the Veteran in filing a claim. You will learn the following:

- What forms are needed
- POC of our, current, 3 American Legion VA Reps
- What are presumptive condition
- What are secondary conditions
- Survivor Death Benefits
- Foreign Medical Program
- And so on...

At the end of the course, you will have to take a test. Upon successful completion of the test, you will awarded a certificate at the 3rd DEC the next day.

We need your support!

AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE

Post Service Officer Training

MARCH 20, 2020
Katterbach, Germany

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE
IS PRESENTING THEIR
POST SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING COURSE.

THIS TRAINING COURSE IS TO PROVIDE
GUIDANCE FOR THE PSO TO BE ABLE TO BETTER
ASSIST THE VETERAN WITH THEIR
VA BENEFIT CLAIM.


INSTRUCTOR

Frank Phillips: Department Service Officer

REGISTRATION:
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!
Please send an e mail to the Department Service Officer
[Frank Phillips: Francis.Phillips2@va.gov](mailto:Frank.Phillips2@va.gov)

UPON COMPLETION OF THIS TRAINING, THE PARTICIPANTS
WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE A TEST.
ALL PARTICIPANTS THAT PASSED THE TEST, WILL RECIEVE A
„TRAINED“ CERTIFICATE PRESENTED TO THEM AT THE DEC,
THE FOLLOWING DAY.

LOCATION
Training Seminar
Welcome Center, BLDG 5515, Room 316, 91522 Katterbach
Dinner, March 20, 2020
Gasthaus Goldener Stern, Ansbacher Str. 3, 91560 Heilsbronn



PROGRAM

0730-0800
CHECK-IN /REGISTRATION

0800-0900
PSO DUTIES / RESPONSIBILITIES
VA POLICIES

0900-1200
SMART CLAIM
BASIC CLAIM - STEP BY STEP

1200-1245
LUNCH BREAK - LEGION HOME

1245-1345
FOREIGN MEDICAL PROGRAM

1345-1500
CLAIM PROCESSING /TIPS

1500-1600
TEST

1830-????
DINNER IN HEILSBRONN
with
DSO, ADSO
DPT COMMANDER

21 March - 0900
DEC - KATTERBACH

Hotel rooms are available at:
www.goldner-stern-heilsbronn.de | www.hotel-windmuehle.de
SNGL: 47€ /DBL 70€ (7 miles to DEC) | DBL 70€ (9 Miles to DEC)
15 rooms blocked for us. mention „Frank“ | no rooms blocked for us.

BE ON TIME!
We have limited time to complete the training.



DETACHMENT OF FRANCE

Detachment Commander Joe D. Brown
vcalbrown50@gmail.com



2020MY OFFICERS

Commander Joe D. Brown vcalbrown50@gmail.com

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First Vice Donald Chamberlain chamberlaindw@hotmail.de

Chaplain John Portale johnportale@arcor.de

Judge Advocate James Dennis detachmentdennis@gmail.com

Adjutant James Dennis detachmentdennis@gmail.com

Alternate NEC James Dennis detachmentdennis@gmail.com

Second Vice Quincy Foster qcfoster@yahoo.com

Historian Casby Logan casbyj@hotmail.com

Sergeant-at-Arms Lee Preston lpreston1957@gmail.com

Images from our 2nd SAL DEC



Soon Available...Online Membership Processing for
Sons of the American Legion

Newsletter Editor...*David N. Greaux*

REMINDER...all newsletter articles should be turned in PRIOR to months end!

Davidg1959@t-online.de



AMERICAN LEGION LIBERTY WALK



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2019



**COMMEMORATE THE "BATTLE OF THE VIERSTRAAT RIDGE"
BY THE US 27TH & 30TH DIVISIONS AUG/SEP 1918.**

FREE START AT THE VISITORS CENTER KEMMEL

START WALK : 09.00-12.00

SHORT WALK : 7 KM / 4 MILES

MEDIUM WALK : 11 KM / 7 MILES

LONG WALK : 18 KM / 12 MILES

EXPO VISITORS CENTER : 09.00-15.00

COLD WAR BUNKER FREE TOUR : 09.00-12.00

FOOD AND DRINKS AVAILABLE



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

americanlegionlibertywalk@gmail.com

The organization is not responsible for any accidents, damage or theft
Responsible publisher: Joseph Schram, American Legion Flanders Field Post BE02



FOREIGN AND OUTLYING DEPARTMENTS AND POSTS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

ALASKA • CANADA • FRANCE • HAWAII • MEXICO • PHILIPPINES • PUERTO RICO • CHINA POST

Still Serving America's Veterans... Around the World



2020 OVERSEAS GRAVES DECORATION TRUST FUND GUIDELINES

Trust Fund Members

Consists of the current National Commander of The American Legion, who shall be chairman, and the immediate Past National Commander of The American Legion and his predecessor, who shall be known as the Trustees, and who shall serve respectively for three, two and one years to be calculated from the last day of the national convention of The American Legion. The American Legion National Adjutant will serve as recording secretary, The American Legion National Treasurer will be Financial Advisor, and the Chairman of the Finance Commission who shall serve so long as he or she remains as chairman. Each retiring trustee is released from any and all liability by reason of his acts as trustee. The Trustees are charged with the custody, control and administration of the fund, the income of said fund are used to honor, preserve and decorate the graves of those U.S. Veterans who served in the World Wars, Conflicts, and Hostilities and who are buried overseas.

Purpose

Rather than barbecues, races or even parades, the real idea of Memorial Day is to remember those who served their country in uniform and are no longer with us. The American Legion has been in the forefront of such efforts since its existence – no matter how far-flung the fallen comrade. The American Legion Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Fund was

established in the 1920s, and provides all U.S. flags – from Emblem Sales, made in the USA – flown at cemeteries and burial sites in foreign countries where American troops are buried or otherwise memorialized. The first fundraising for the decoration of overseas graves took place in 1921-1922, and its current organizational plan has been in force since 1935.

The Trustees shall use the income of the Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Fund to honor, preserve, and decorate the graves of those who served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America in World War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, and of those who served during the period of the Vietnam Hostilities, who lie overseas. They may adopt and use such methods and means as they may deem advisable, including the active cooperation and aid of overseas Departments and Posts of The American Legion and any other agencies, and in pursuance thereof may prescribe details, methods, and practices deemed necessary, expedient, or convenient. The income shall be used exclusively to honor, preserve, and decorate the graves and for no other purpose, and under no circumstances shall the Trustees have the power or authority to expend, use or divert the Trust Fund or any part thereof for any other purpose.

In addition to the above guidelines this fund will financially aid Departments and Posts outside the continental United States of America to honor and decorate individual graves of those veterans who were laid to rest outside American Battle Monument Commission controlled facilities.

Funds Request Procedures

Fund requests will be sent to The American Legion National Adjutant. The following information is required for each request for funds.

1. The name of the Veteran.
2. The cemetery name and location (city and country) where the veteran is at rest.
3. A quote in writing (not to exceed \$50.00) from a local florist, for flowers to decorate each veteran's grave.
4. A mailing address for Emblem Sales use so they can mail each Department or Post "U.S.A. made American flag" for each grave to be decorated.
5. A mailing address for The American Legion National Treasure so he can mail each Department or Post the requested funds for each grave to be decorated.
6. After the Grave Side Ceremony in May of each year a picture with caption must be forwarded to the FODPAL Secretary.

OPENING DATE TO REQUEST OVERSEAS GRAVES DECORATION TRUST FUND MONEY IS 1 NOVEMBER OF EACH YEAR

REQUESTED FUNDS FROM THE OVERSEAS GRAVE DECORATION TRUST FUND ARE DISPENSED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASES ANNUALLY UNTIL THE INCOME EACH YEAR IS DEPLETED



JOHN WAYNE POST GR 79

GREETINGS TO ALL - YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

To our Post Thanksgiving Dinner with families, friends, guests and Legionnaires.
Planned foods include turkey, ham, different salads and much more. (*Euro 15*) for Adults or our Early Bird a Price of (*Euro 12*) if purchased by November 9, 2019.

The comradeships there is free for your enjoyment, Come on out!



23 November 2019

BTC Frim Au Strasse 32
74072 NSU-Obereisheim

14:00 hours



POC...Charlie Brown / 0170-1888034 / vcalbrow50@gmail.com or Commander GR 9 Ross Shephard / rshephard3rd@hotmail.com



[Military Times](#)

[FODPAL Website](#)

[Legion Facebook](#)

[DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE](#)

[Renew membership online](#)

[FODPAL Facebook](#)

[Military.com](#)



Monday, 11 November 2019



David W. Craig

Department of France
Legion Riders Director

dcdavid16@gmail.com



Department of France



American Legion
Auxiliary



District President Sonja Dennis...Sonja.Dennis@t-online.de

Good Day Legionnaires and Auxiliary

I hope everybody is doing well.

I would like to say "Thank you" to Christa Purdy, Karin Fleming with John, Margot Ziegler, Jim Dennis, Doris Garcia, Caroline Cochran and guests that assisted us to make the Cakes, bring Gifts and Get-Well Cards to the USO for our Veterans. They were surprised when they walked in and saw the 12 cakes. They ask us what's going on here. We told them we brought Cakes and Goodies for you all, so you feel like home. We got a lot of hugs and Thanks from the Veterans. We were there on the October 5, 2019 from 1.30 p.m. till about 4.30p.m. They ask us when we will be back. I told them, maybe for Christmas or for Easter, because I have to talk first to the Units when they have time to go. Everybody said Thank you for the Cake and Gift and when they left, they had a smile face and we were very happy.

I would like to say "Thank you" to Karin Fleming for buying the 2 small Ice Machine instead the one big machine. Karin Fleming, Christa Purdy and Family Dennis donate the Ice machine, because we did not receive very many donations.

The American Legion Auxiliary GR30 had their 20year Anniversary with Food, Cakes and Desserts. We had POW/MIA ceremony, a Memorial Service and Certificates for our members. I made a speech on what happened in the last 20years. I would like to say "Thank you" to The Auxiliary members for joining and for being at the Meetings and worked for the functions we had. Thank you.

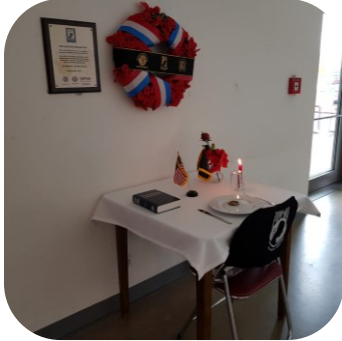
Years ago, we had a Flyer for members Birthday for 50, 55, 60, 65 and so on. Where they would get a Birthday Card from the District of France. We ask that Family members or Friends to let us know in Advance, of their Birthday. Please inform me, so I can send them a Card. Please include their Name and address of those having a Birthday. If anyone has objections to us maintaining this Information. Please let us know upon sending the request. Thank you.

Also, I have something new for all Post's and Unit's. There is a Group, they have a Birthday Party at the end of each month for our veterans (USO). This Group donate Coffee and Cake for those veterans. This would be nice, if we could do the same for our members, especially for those who are alone or have no Family to enjoy the day with. You might also want to give them a small Birthday present, like Flowers or package with sweets like candy, chocolate and pralines. Maybe, you like to do the same for members who are alone.

Sonja Dennis
President
Department of France

David Chavez Post GR1982

David Chavez Post 1982 in collaboration with AAES Manager, USAG Ansbach, VFW Post 9342 Ansbach and VFW Post 10708 Illeshien commemorating POW/MIAs National Recognition. A dedication commemorating the 82 thousands POW/MIAs was made possible by Past Commander Ken Aungst took place at the Katterbach AAFES Food Court on 20 September 1100 Hours. USAG Chaplin opened ceremony with an opening prayer. Post Commander Eddie Guevara, VFW 9342 Commander Dwight Johnson and VFW 10708 Commander Norbert Isaak dedicated POW/MIAs memorial as a physical symbol of the thousands of POW/MIAs still unaccounted for from all wars and conflicts involving the United States of America. Post



Commander Eddie Guevara lectured POW/MIA Table Ceremony and also Empty Chair Ceremony. Past Commander Ken Aungst gave a speech on his Unit POW/MIAs experience. A plaque and a wreath were permanently mounted on the wall as a token in commemoration of this august event. The ceremony ended with the sounding of taps by Commander Norbert Isaak.



David Chavez Post 1982 participated in USAG Ansbach Commemoration Ceremony for 18th Anniversary of 9/11 Attacks. Post Commander Eddie Guevara, Past Commander Ken Aungst and



legionnaires join with the Military Community in Katerbach. The Post Colors was proudly presented with VFWs during commemoration ceremony.



David Chavez Post 1982 sponsored and hosted USAG Fishing event 7 September 2019. Leading the event 2nd Vice Commander Frank Phillips and with collaboration with MWR, VFW Post 9342 and VFW Post 10708. The event was well represented by over 20 volunteers from both VFW and Post 1982. Over 64 children and kids participated. The annual Fishing Event was a success story as plans made for next year. Post Commander, Eddie Guevara assisted by Commander of respected VFW presented medals to children and kids. The service organization provided fishing medals, food and refreshments for this event.





La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux (The Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses) is an independent, by invitation, honor society of American veterans, more commonly known as "The Forty & Eight".

The Forty & Eight is committed to charitable and patriotic aims. Our purpose is to uphold and defend the United States Constitution of the United States, to promote the well-being of veterans, their widows, widowers, and orphans, and to actively participate in selected charitable endeavors, which include among others, programs that promote child welfare and nurses training.

Membership is by invitation, and open only to honorably discharged veterans and honorably serving members of the United States Armed Forces.



Grande Chef de Gare 2020MY

Lee Preston

Grand Promenade 19 October 2019

