

American Legion Department of Vermont Monthly Bulletin

July 2021

"For God and Country"



My Fellow Legionnaires, Congratulations to everyone who received recognition at Convention, from Americanism and Children and Youth Awards to membership awards. With a special congratulations to our Past Department Service Officer Milt Willis who retired after 30 plus years. I wish you well in your retirement.

Although the last year the COVID-19 pandemic had a profound impact on all of our lives, Legionnaires and posts delivered groceries, prepared meals, did buddy checks, distributed food boxes, had drive-through events, and opened their posts for COVID testing and vaccination clinics, as well as other events. This is truly a remarkable organization with dedicated volunteers. Thank you

I encourage our Posts to

#### **DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT COMMANDER**

## Catherine M. Tester

keep up the good work. As our Legion emerges from the pandemic and begins to resume some sort of normalcy, we need to be more involved than ever before. Open your post home to the community. Let the citizens of your communities know that we are back, and stronger than ever. Reach out to every veteran of your post, whether local or living far away, with a phone call, a card, or a visit. Check on their mental well-being, and offer what assistance you can. If possible, invite them to the post. Our job as the American Legion, is to be good partners with our communities and ambassadors for our veterans. I ask you to join me in accomplishing these goals.

We are the greatest veteran service organization in the world, and like you, I am proud to be a part of it. Together, we will continue to uphold the traditions of the four pillars of the American Legion; Americanism, Children and Youth, Veterans Affairs and National Security, as well as continue our commitment to service. I look forward to working with each post and each legionnaire, as well as the Son's of the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Congratulations to everyone who stepped forward and was elected or appointed to positions with the Department of Vermont. Working together we can make a difference.

Thank you to Rutland Post 31, the Elks Club and Moose Club for your hospitality during the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention.

Please keep our troops in your thoughts and prayers.

My motto for the year -"have a goal for tomorrow, a plan for today and remember the lessons of yesterday."

For God and Country,

Catherine M. Tester Department Commander



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Department Commander	1	DEC Meeting Minutes—June 25	12
Sr. Vice Commander	2	Upcoming Events	12
Department Elections & Appointments	3	Posts with 100% Membership	13
Northern Area Commander	5	Post Everlasting	14
Southern Area Commander	5	Fall Foliage Gas Raffle Information	15
Department Adjutant	6	Fall Foliage Gas Raffle Tickets	16
Commendations and Awards	6	Reflections from the 102nd Convention	17
Legion Baseball	7		
Third District Commander	7		
Marty Lemnah PDC Obituary	8		
Green Mountain Boys State	9		
S.A.L. Advisor	10		



#### SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

#### Tom Scanlon

First and foremost I want to thank all that were at our recent convention and voted for the new slate of officers,

myself included. It is truly an honor to serve you and all of veterans, children, and communities in Vermont. My vying for and accepting this position was not for status, connections, or future advantage, but rather for the purpose of being able to do for and serve others.

We are now back to a near (or new) normal. Vermonters should be proud of what they all accomplished in the fight against the Covid-19 virus. Many posts throughout the state played a vital part in getting to where we are today by making their posts available for food distribution, testing, and vaccinations. Additionally many posts had drive through events, particularly for children, and even fireworks. I am proud of our great organization, particularly my post where 19,300 vaccinations were conducted during a five month period. It was an all in display of ordinary people doing extraordinary things with a common goal. *Thank you Le*- *gionnaires* for being a vital element of what was accomplished in this battle.

As Senior Vice, membership is top on my list of to do's. However each and every one of us should be involved. It will take us all to get back to where we once were as relates to members. All posts are losing too many members to Post Everlasting. This coupled with a lack of new members, and there are many eligible candidates out there, has led to our current dilemma. We are all recruiters and we have to let all know of what we do for our veterans, children, and community. I challenge each person reading this to get at least one new member to join our great organization prior to Fall Conference in October. We can do it together.

Our National Headquarters sets many goals, benchmarks, and target dates as relates to membership. There is also a financial incentive to the Departments that met these target dates. In the past year we have done a little better than previously achieved. But we can do better. Memberships must be submitted in a timely manner, and I urge all posts

#### **DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT 2021-2022 ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

#### **ELECTION RESULTS**

Department Commander – Catherine M. Tester (Crippen Fellows Post 50) Sr. Vice Commander – Tom Scanlon (Middlebury Post 27) Northern Area Commander – Mark Cloutier (Hardwick Post 7) Southern Area Commander – Bill Ferman (Fair Haven Post 49) NECman – PDC Ronald LaRose (Bristol Post 19) AltNEC – PDC David Woodward (Bennington Post 13)

#### COMMANDER APPOINTMENTS

Department Historian - Victor Stone (Colchester Post 91) Assistant Finance Officer - PDC Dave Woodard (Bennington Post 13) Department Sgt-at-Arms - Silas Loomis (Crippen Fellows Post 50) Judge Advocate - Rebecca Otey (Bristol Post 19) Department Chaplain - Ken Coonradt (Bennington Post 13) Department Adjutant - Brian Markwell (Alburgh Post 60) Service Officer - Larry Thompson (Barre Post 10) (five year term)

#### **DISTRICT 1**

District Commander – Jessica Blanchard-Patenaud (Colchester Post 91) Addison Commander – Alan Smith (Bristol Post 19) Chittenden County Commander – Richard West (Colchester Post 91) Franklin County Commander – Robert Pearl (Alburgh Post 60)

#### **DISTRICT 2**

District Commander – Lou Furry (Hardwick Post 7) Caledonia County Commander – Dave Perron (Lyndon Post 30) Essex County Commander – Robert McComiskey (Northland Post 47) Orleans County Commander – Stephen Russell (Jay Peak Post 28)

#### **DISTRICT 3**

District Commander – Joseph Zickmund (Barre Post 10) Lamoille County Commander – Fred Latour (Morristown Post 33) Orange County Commander – Larry Hart (Earl Brock Post 78) Washington County Commander – Christopher Wood (Harry N. Cutting Post 59)

#### DISTRICT 4

District Commander - Christina Moore (West Rutland Post 87)

Bennington County Commander – Joe Bump (Bennington Post 13)

Rutland County Commander – Daniel Maniery (Rutland Post 31)

#### DISTRICT 5

District Commander – Lew Graham (Ludlow Post 36)

Windham County Commander - Carole Spaulding (Bellows Falls Post 37)

Windsor County Commander - vacant

I hope you will join me in congratulating all of these legionnaires who are volunteering their time to serve the Department of Vermont

## "Have a goal for tomorrow,

## a plan for today,

## and remember the lessons of yesterday"

(Continued from page 2)

to sign up for My Legion so submission can be done directly. Posts and adjutants should not hold on to memberships but rather, get them submitted in a timely manner. <u>All memberships should be submit-</u> ted by the first Friday of each month so as to ensure Department meets or exceeds goals on target dates throughout the year.

I also wanted to mention the Legionnaires Insurance Trust (LIT). Being a Legionnaire or member of the Legion Family entitles you to a free accidental death benefit by just signing up at <u>www.TheLIT.com</u> In addition to this, there are many other cost effective available options regarding travel accidents, emergency assistance, and medical care. One of the offerings is ID Resolve which deals with identity theft which is endorsed by The American Legion. With this being an increasing problem, I recently signed up for this service for what I thought was a very reasonable annual fee. Sign up and get the free insurance and see what else is available. It is worth your time and effort to just take a look.

*Final Thought:* Always do your best. It increases your chances of success and it wins the respect of others.

For God, Country & Community Tom Scanlon

### NORTHERN AREA COMMANDER



#### Mark Cloutier

Welcome fellow Legionnaires.

Summer convention has come and gone. Thank

you to all that showed up to make it a success. Thank you to the Elks Club for hosting and to Rutland Post 31 for the excellent meal that they put on for everyone. The hospitality was greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to Our new Department of Vermont Commander Catherine Tester, Senior Vice Commander Tom Scanlon and all newly elected officers.

For those that weren't able to make it we had a nice ceremony for some of our WWII and Korean War Veterans that were present. We presented them with a certificate of appreciation and National Commander Bill Oxford's Commander's coin and pin and it was well deserved.

A big thank you to all of you for choosing me to serve as your Northern Area Commander. It is a

great honor to so serve all of you.

I also finished up my tenure are 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commander with a bang with 100% membership. I would personally like to congratulate all posts in the 2<sup>nd</sup> district for all the hard work in reaching 100% membership. Great job done. I was also surprised to be presented with the PNVC James Brouilette District Commander award. Once again thank you to all for your support.

Stay tuned for more.

I can be reached at **802-371-8097**, by email **<u>post7adj@gmail.com</u>**, or just shoot me a message on Facebook.

Mark Cloutier Department of Vermont Northern Area Commander *For God and Country* 



## SOUTHERN AREA COMMANDER

Bill Ferman

I would like to thank the membership for electing me to this position.

I will Do my best to fulfill my duties and further the American Legion programs.

If anybody needs to reach out to me my email is <u>bill1956.bf@gmail.com</u> my phone is 802-345-6163 again thank you for giving me this honor.

For God and Country,

Bill Ferman Southern Area Commander



#### **DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT**

#### Brian Markwell

The Convention in Rutland was successfully completed even with the challenges posed by the times we are in regarding COVID -19. Now we are off and running in preparation to attend the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ from 27 August to 2 September. Packets have already been sent to all who have been elected to attend as dele-

sent to all who have been elected to attend as delegates or because of your position in the Department. We will be sending updates and more information as they are received.

Membership for the new year starting 1 July has also begun. We will be working with posts who have not yet established online membership processing to help switch more of that job off the Department and onto the posts to get new and renewed memberships more quickly and efficiently into the system. Zoom online and regional training dates will be announced soon. We are still experiencing issues with the new Legion online system but those will be worked through, and we should be well underway by this fall.

I will also be working with Larry Thompson, our new Department Service Officer (DSO), in the future to train Post Service Officers in addressing issues they can at their level and what items need to be forwarded to Larry for further attention. The more issues that can be addressed locally, the less that Larry must handle, and the more time he will have to address issues that need to be handled at his level to assist our Legion Family.

If you have any questions that I may help you with, please email me at <u>adjvt@talofvt.com</u> or call or text me at 802-999-1026. I look forward to working with you in making our Department even better in supporting our Legion Family. Thank you.

Brian Markwell

Department Adjutant

#### **Commendations and Awards**

District Commander of the Year:	Mark Cloutier - 2nd District
County Commander of the Year:	Dave Perron - Caledonia County
PDC Rodney Sherman Legionnaire of the Year Award:	Daniel Maniery - Post 31
Robert Bergeron Adjutant of the Year Award:	Ron Schoolcraft- Randolph Post 9
PDC Calvin Cole Finance Officer of the Year Award:	Dale Lynch - Post 47
PDC Don Sisco Service Officer of the Year Award:	Phil Hannan - Randolph Post 9
Honorary Mention Covid Pandemic Citation:	Thomas Scanlon - Middlebury Post 27
PDC Don Tetreault - Eagle Scout of the Year Award:	Koby LaRose of Bristol, VT
2021 Oratorical Winner:	Avery Carter of Dorset, VT
Dept. Commander Appreciation Award:	Melodie Ashford, Executive Admin.
The Robert Vincelette Law Officer of the Year Award:	

Chief Douglas Allen, Colchester Police Dept.



Greetings from our Vermont American Legion Baseball Committee. We are currently in the early part of our 2021 season and the teams within the State are playing daily with their eyes on winning a spot in the 2021 Tournament. We have a tentative date/s of July  $27^{th}$  – August  $1^{st}$ . We will be doing things a little different this year as the first two days (July 27-28) will be at the higher seeded teams, playing at home fields, and then traveling to Rutland for days three through five. Of course, we have to rely on Mother Nature for our exact dates and times but those are set for now. The Tournament will be hosted by Post 31 and played at St. Peters Field in Rutland.

We will have a better idea of who and where games for Tournament will be played at a later date and we will ensure we get that information out as soon as we can. We would encourage you all to get out and support your teams and go see a game. There's a lot of talented kids in the program.

Thanks for all your support of our program and Hope to see you in the stands!

Scott Stevens Vermont American Legion Baseball Athletic Committee Chair



#### THIRD DISTRICT COMMANDER

## Joe Zickmund

My congratulations to the department, district and county officers elected at last month's convention and my thanks to the outgoing officers who dedicated their time and talents to the betterment and success of the Department of Vermont.

I think we're going to have an awesome year! Some of you already know me but many do not and that is something I hope to change over the course of the next year as I visit posts and attend meetings. I thought this first bulletin a great opportunity to introduce myself. Originally from the Midwest, I have been in Vermont for several years now. I'm a 28 year member having held several Post-level positions to include Past Post Commander of two different posts (including Barre Post 10) and am currently their Adjutant. A US Army veteran married to my high school sweetheart (a past Unit 10 President). We have 4 daughters and 5 grandchildren. My wife and I both work in the granite industry and reside in Barre Town.

I am honored to serve as your District 3 Commander and am really looking forward to doing some good this coming year. It's through the sharing of ideas and mutual helpfulness that we will find our greatest success. Should any of you wish to reach me, please call 802-505-8545 or via email at <u>joezickmund@gmail.com</u>.

For God and Country,

Joe Zickmund Commander, District 3 - Department of VT



Saint Albans - Marty passed away unexpectedly on Wed. June 30, 2021, at home. She was born Feb. 26,1947, to Elaine C. (Owczarzak) Pemberton and John L. Pemberton. She was a proud Native American and was an enrolled member of the Ojibwa Indian Tribe of White Earth Indian Reservation in Minnesota. She was raised in Minneapolis MN and joined the US Navy shortly after graduating from Minneapolis Vocational High School in 1965. She was honorably discharged in 1968. While serving in the Navy she met and married the love of her life MSGT Richard Lemnah in Sept. 1968. After he was killed in action in Beirut, Lebanon (1983), she made her permanent home in Richard's home state of VT. She graduated from Marymount University with a BSN and spent her nursing career working mostly in Hospice and Palliative care. She became the second nurse in VT to be board certified as Hospice/ Palliative care Nurse. Her last "patient" was her longtime partner, Reginald Richard, who passed away in 2008. She was

# Marlys Ann (Marty) Lemnah Past Department Commander

every bit a caregiver at heart and was very generous. She was an active community member and was proud to have served as the Councilwoman for Ward 1. She was a member of the American Legion Post #1 St. Albans, VT and was very active at the Local, State and National levels. She held multiple positions and served on countless committees within the organization but was most proud of becoming the 1st female Post Commander and the 1st female Department of Vermont Commander and serving as the National Executive Committeeperson. She was a Gold Star honorary member of the Marine Corps League and helped with Toys for Kids. She worked with the Foster Grandparent program, also prepared food for Martha's Kitchen, was a member of the Girls State program and Girl Scouts of America. She is survived by her sisters Kathleen (Melvin Lockwood) Hiekke, Rena (James) Nessler, brother and sistersin-law, Robert (Sandra) Lemnah, Reba Lemnah, a special niece, Gina Nessler and her children and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and great great nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Richard, her mother, Elaine, partner, Reginald

and brothers-in-law, Harold, Ronald and Faye (Sue) Lemnah. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to American Legion Charities, The American Legion Donation Processing, PO Box 1954, Indianapolis IN 46206, or Vermont Paws & Boots P.O. Box 153, Williston, VT 05495. There will be calling hours at the Heald Funeral Home, 87 So. Main St., St. Albans, VT from 4-7 PM on Thursday July 15, 2021. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Holy Angels Church, 245 Lake St. St. Albans, VT at 11 AM on Friday July 16, 2021, with a reception to follow at the American Legion 100 Parah Dr. St Albans, VT. Burial will take place at the Veterans Cemetery in Randolph, VT on Monday July 19, 2021, at 1 PM. Honored to be serving the Lemnah family is the Heald Funeral Home, where messages of condolence are welcome at www.healdfuneralhome.com.





#### **BOYS STATE CHAIRMAN**

#### Dave Cobb

**"A Year Like No Other"!** Boys' State persevered in 2021 over COVID, space limitations, and an ever-changing landscape of associated rules and regulations. Thirty-six delegates arrived on Sunday,June 20 to hot and humid weather and to their first inperson activity in sixteen months.

What we lacked in quantity, we made up in quality. The delegates organized their Towns to address thenumerous issues presented by the Our Town document. Thanks to the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, the delegates learned about the challenges facing our state, and used their experiences to researched solutions to improve on their future state. Many delegates assumed multiple roles within their towns, and the Town Reports they produced were of excellent quality and substance.

Lower numbers meant increased opportunities to shine, and the guys this year did just that. The staff was able to get to know the guys and support their activities. We were not able to go to Montpelier this year due to COVID. We did not have access to many Vermont legislators, as both bodies of the Legislature were called back into session by Governor Scott. Truly resilient, our delegates made the best of it. With the support of the Northern Vermont University staff, we reorganized activities and locations. The delegates authored sixteen bills based on current issues, and while we were not on the floor of the VT House or Senate, the discourse and discussion were no less vibrant.

Delegates earned the following awards and scholarships. We wish to thank the colleges and universitieslisted below for their unwavering support of Boys' State. We were also notified by the American Legion Boys' Nation Program that Vermont was selected to send four delegates instead of the usual two delegates. The four young men selected will participate in the Boys' Nation Program in late July at Marymount University near DC.

In a year that certainly had its ups and downs, the posts of our American Legion Department really came through for Boys' State. Orchestrated by Department Adjutant Linda Perham, a call for support of the Boys' State administration was made. At Department Convention, Director Cobb was presented with checks in excess of \$3,300 to purchase new computers and printers by a significant number of local Posts. What a fantastic end to a year of uncertainty. In true American Legion fashion, our members came together in service and support of our delegates – with the appreciation and gratitude of all concerned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Cobb Director

#### SUICIDE

If you or someone you know is experiencing suicidal thoughts, please call the crisis line at 1-800-273-8255, press 1 for veterans. You

could also text at 838255.





#### S.A.L. ADVISOR

#### Bruce F. Faquin

Wel-

come to the post-convention summer of 2021 with a new year ahead of us. I bring you the gratitude and appreciation on behalf of all the S.A.L. members and Detachment leadership for Vermont. Without the support and backing of our American Legion Posts, all the Detachment's hard efforts working the Legion family programs would not have been possible.

The Department's S.A.L. committee sends out our sincere thanks and congratulations to every SAL member, who tirelessly worked the programs and kept the ship afloat during the last two years of this challenging time. Before we look forward, let's reminisce a little on what your S.A.L. Squadrons did accomplish last year. They managed to continue to support veteran's programs such as the Dodge house, The Veterans Place, Shelters, and numerous other veterans and VARS programs with thousands of dollars and hours donated. They continue to support the children of our veterans and our communities with scholarships, grants, along with giving 72% above goal to the Nationally sponsored Child Welfare Foundation. This is just the tip of the iceberg.

I had the pleasure to attend this past S.A.L. convention in Rutland and it was filled with an impressive display of support from our dedicated SAL members to this organization and their communities. I know it has been a tough year for membership, but I'm confident all the Legion family will be back on target for this coming year and surpass all our goals.



I thank Commander Tester for the opportunity to serve the Department as the Sons advisor, and I congratulate all the newly elected and appointed Detachment Officers and Chairman and look forward to working with everyone for a better tomorrow.

Thank you again for the work you do.

Bruce F. Paquin Department of Vermont SAL Advisor

# DEC Meeting Minutes June 25, 2021

The Department of Vermont Executive Committee met prior to the 2021 State Convention in Rutland Vermont. Invocation by Catherine Tester. Meeting presided by Commander Ronald LaRose. Adjutant Perham took roll call, and a quorum was present of executive board members.

Motion was made and seconded to except the minutes of the last DEC meeting as written and sent to members. ACTION: Passed unanimously.

Department Finance Officer report. Spoke about SAL budget. Finance Committee questions answered concerning balancing budget to Committee's approval. Presented to DEC for approval. Motion made and seconded to approve SAL budget. ACTION: Passed unanimously.

Cdr LaRose covered a number of subjects discussed during Finance Committee zoom meeting this past Monday. One was the Foundation and how posts can go out and get donations donated to foundation and get money back to use in their programs. Spoke about the LIT, the USAA, and AGIA and that the numbers did not come in during COVID as high as they had in the past. Talked about having the ability to increase those numbers. Talked about the DSO Office. Budget modified to fit salary and travel expenses. Funding in part to be provided with expected increase in membership due to recruiting efforts. Talked about District Funds. Talked about the Finance report. Having a fantastic year. Membership high, investments panned out, real struggle will be with what to do with notes com-

(Continued on page 11)

ing due this year. Motion made and seconded to except the Finance report. ACTION: Passed unanimously.

Cdr LaRose discussed issues that will be passed on. Report given by Dave Woodward on ongoing efforts at Arlington Post 69. Milton Post 57 has turned in everything into Department. Post needs revitalizing. They have a building and money. Next is Hartford, Post 26. They have a debt load of about \$17,000. Have received a business plan from them. They need to be revitalized.

Comments by Adj Perham. Have revitalized White River Jct three times. Discussed ongoing issues of the post. Cannot be revitalized. Under investigation by Attorney General's Office. Members only want to run a bar. Do not conduct regular Legion meetings. Considers Post is a money pit. Adjutant/Finance Officer of Post under investigation at VFW for embezzlement. Made motion to revoke charter of Post 26. Seconded. AC-TION: Passed unanimously.

Adj Perham updates for tomorrow. Caucuses and election procedures. Commander has to be installed by noon. My legion still has glitches. LIT gives us a kickback each year. Legion, Auxiliary and SAL all eligible. It's free. Need copies of speeches for stenographer. Riders at noon. Children and Youth Americanism and Membership awards after that.

Cdr LaRose opened New Business.

Tom Scanlon discussed Robert Vincelette award. Motion made to rename the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award to the PDC Robert Vincelette Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award. Motion seconded. ACTION: <u>Passed unani-</u> mously. Second motion made to give a second award limited to Chiefs of Police or heads of major subdivision. Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement Leadership. Motion made and seconded. ACTION: Passed. Motion made to allow for electronic meetings. Seconded. ADJ Perham clarified that the motion was already being supported by the Vt Secretary of State to conduct meetings. ACTION: Passed unanimously.

Cdr LaRose informed group of DEC meeting after the convention.

Adj Perham needs to see PDCs after meeting.

Cdr LaRose adjourned the meeting.

Chaplain offered the benediction.

Cdr LaRose adjourned the meeting.

Sincerely submitted,

Brian Markwell

#### DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT

126 State Street

P.O. Box 396

Montpelier, Vermont 05601-0396

800-501-7131

802-223-7131

vtlegion.org

Melodie Ashford

Executive Administrator Finalvt@talofvt.com

> Department of Veterans Affairs

800-827-1000 www.va.gov

American Legion Headquarters

317-630-1200 www.legion.org

Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs

802-828-3379

www.veterans.vermont.gov

## Did you renew for 2021?

Don't let your membership benefits lapse. You can renew your membership online at Ad members.legion.org/renew

Don't Miss A Day of Your American *Legion Member* Benefits. *Renew* Online Today! You're A Part of Our Legacy. Be A Part of Our Future. *Renew* Your *Membership* Now! *Renewing* Is Simple. Serving Veterans. Access Your Benefits. Nearly 2 Million *Members*. Serving America.

# **DEC Meeting Minutes - June 26, 2021**

The Department of Vermont Executive Committee met on June 26, 2021, after the State Convention. Meeting presided by Commander Catherine Tester. Invocation given by Tom Scanlon.

Executive Admin Melodie Ashford conducted roll call and a quorum was present of 15 executive board members.

Cdr Tester nominated her appointments. Victor Stone as Historian, Dave Woodward as Assistant Finance Officer, Silas Loomis as Sergeant of Arms, Brian Markwell as Department Adjutant, Rebecca Otey as Judge Advocate, Ken Coonrandt as Chaplain, Larry Thompson as Service Officer for a term of five years. Motion made and seconded to accept the nominations. Discussion brought up concerning the appointment of the Adjutant. ACTION: Passed.

Next DEC meeting is July 11 at noon at Montpelier Post 3. Will be doing remainder of appointments and other business.

Acting Chaplain Tom Scanlon offered benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Sincerely submitted,

Brian Markwell



Dates		Event/meeting		Location
2021				
July August	30 1	Legion Baseball Tournament	St. P	eters Field Rutland
August September 2	27 – 2	National Convention	Phoe	enix AZ
September	18	5 <sup>th</sup> District Caucus 10:00 am	Ludic	ow Post 36
October	TBD	Fall Conference		
December	10	Open House Department of Vermont		
2022				
January	21-22 22	Mid-Winter Conference Department Executive Committee Meeting (D		ouble Tree, Burlington following Mid-Winter Conference
April	10	Department Executive Committee Meeting (D	EC)	Montpelier Post 3



# Congratulations

#### to the Posts that achieved 100% or more on Membership as of June 17, 2021

20 N					9 <u>2</u> 9
Post		District	Membership	2021 GOAL	Percentage
Post 43	Martin-Fales, Rochester	5	18	15	120.00
Post 1819	Norwich University, Northfield	3	104	89	116.85
Post 53	Henry L. Danforth, St. Johnsbury	2	24	21	114.29
Post 66	Noble Beckwith, Rochester	5	17	15	113.33
Post 16	West River Valley, Brookline	5	37	33	112.12
Post 61	Chelsea	3	29	27	107.41
Post 17	Celil A. Davis, Whitingham	5	16	15	106.67
Post 20	Bradford	3	33	31	106.45
Post 87	West Rutland	4	161	152	105.92
Post <mark>41</mark>	Moore-Fox, Gilman	2	18	17	105.88
Post 88	Sheldon Springs, Sheldon	1	36	34	105.88
Post 15	Nelson Pickwell, Willington	5	19	18	105.56
Post 55	Brandon	4	141	134	105.22
Ppst 23	Orleans	2	128	122	104.92
Post 28	Jay Peak, North Troy	2	69	67	102.99
Post 21	Newport	2	158	154	102.60
Post 18	Veterans Memorial, Springfield	5	40	39	102.56
Post 60	Alburgh	1	81	79	102.53
Post 13	Bennington	4	333	325	102.46
Post 50	Crippen Fellows, Castleton	4	223	218	102.29
Post 9	Randolph	3	93	91	102.20
Post 58	St. Johnsbury	2	106	104	101.92
Post 19	Bristol	1	344	339	101.47
Post 27	Middlebury	1	232	229	101.31
Post 47	Northland, Canaan	2	128	127	100.79
Post 3	Montelier	3	219	219	100.00
Post 44	McBride-Harwood	4	20	20	100.00
Post 46	Johnson	3	35	35	100.00
Post 52	Ralph H. Pickett, Wallingford	4	62	62	100.00
Post 57	Milton	1	32	32	100.00

13

\_1

I\_

# POST

# EVERLASTING

WALSH, THOMAS W	01
BURT, DONALD H	01
McLAUGHLIN, DAVID E	01
LEPPOROLI, LOUIS F	05
LEVIN, LEW H	13
AYER, GLENDON	13
CENTER, WILLIAM	13
SANDERS, SR. CLYDE H	13
JAQUISH, RALPH D	14
BOYLE, THOMAS J	14
CRAWMER, KENNETH R	14
DICKINSON, HOWARD	25
LAMBERT, DANIEL	25
BURKE, WILLIAM	27
GAMACHE, LAWRENCE	27
HOLDEN, JAMES	27
LEE, DARWIN	27
MORRISSEY, EUGENE	27
RILEY, VERNON	27
SEVERANCE, RALPH	27
STANLEY, GALE	27
VIENS, LEO	27
DANN, ROGER	29
PRIOR, ARNOLD K	51
CALKINS, CARMEN	53
CROSS, ROBERT	53
BAKER, DOUGLAS	63
STATESIR, ROBERT	64
RIVERS, ROBERT	64
LAVOIE, JAMES	88
JOHNSON, WENDELL	91
DALTON, W. SR.	91
WHIE, DONALD	91
LOISELLE, MICHAEL	91
AGAN, JAMES	91
NOREAULT, JAMES R	91



"Whereas, we humbly bow to the will of Devine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of distinguished service to our country and outstanding contributions to American Legion comradeship. The American Legion does mourn the passing of these comrades. "



Department of Vermont American Legion

# "Foliage Gas Raffle"

# 1<sup>st</sup> Prize







# Donation: 3 Tickets for \$5.00

# Drawing: Fall Conference, October 2021

Mail tickets and payment to:

Department Headquarters 126 State Street, P O Box 396 Montpelier, VT 05601-0396

Fall Foliage Gas Raffle Tickets

Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00 Drawing : Fall Conference, October, 2021 1º Prize-\$250 gas card 2" Prize-\$150 gas card	Name Address Phone
Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00 Drawing : Fall Conference, October 2021 1st Prize-\$250 gas card 2nd Prize-\$150 gas card	Name Address Phone
Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00 Drawing: Fall Conference, October, 2021 Ist Prize-\$250 gas card 2nd Prize-\$150 gas card	NameAddress Phone
Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00 Drawing: Fall Conference, October, 2021 1st Prize-\$250 gas card 2nd Prize-\$150 gas card	Name Address Phone
Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00 Drawing: Fall Conference, October, 2021 1st Prize-\$250 gas card 2nd Prize-\$150 gas card	NameAddress Phone
Department of Vermont American Legion "Foliage" Gas Raffle Donation-3 Tickets for \$5.00 Drawing: Fall Conference, October, 2021 1st Prize-\$250 gas card 2nd Prize-\$150 gas card	NameAddress Phone

# **Reflections on the 102nd Annual Convention**

The 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Department of Vermont Convention has come and gone but there are many impressions that linger. It was obvious that our members were delighted to be out and about again, catching up on old friend-ships, and participating in the important business of the Department. It was also a pleasure to see the various awards and honors that were bestowed on Vermont's legionnaires. This was a clear indication that important work was going on and progress being made behind the scenes even as most public discourse was hampered during the COVID lockdown. Among the many events that occurred, it was a delight to see (and hear) the "Ride In" by the American Legion Riders. The color guard from Ballard-Hobart Post #36 was impressive. The tribute paid to the retiring Department Service Officer, PDC Milton Willis, Jr. was heartfelt. The change of command was simple yet striking.

Now the annals of history will record that on June 26, 2021 Ron LaRose, our Department Commander for the past two years, joined the list of 100 Past Department of Vermont Commanders and Cathy Tester has been elected and installed as the 101<sup>st</sup> Commander. As well, all of the other elected and appointed officers are in place and the Department is ready for operations. As we go forward we will keep in mind the Commander's motto *"Have a goal for tomorrow, a plan for today, and remember the lessons of yesterday."* 

Respectfully submitted.....Victor Stone, Dept. Historian



American Legion Riders presenting Commander Ron Larose with a generous contribution for his Boy Scout special project.



Commander LaRose presenting PDC Milt Willis with a gift on his retirement as Department Service Officer



Color guard from Ballard-Hobart Post #36 in Ludlow



Change of Command