Legion News

DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE

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

March 2022 *Vol. 20, No. 2*

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER *SANTOS ALVARADO*

My Fellow Legionnaires,

First, I want to thank Chris Lampert from TH01 for volunteering to be the Newsletter Editor. We are back on track with it. I also want to give a great thank you to David Greaux from GR42 for the excellent job he did through the years as the Editor.

As everyone knows, the Department will be conducting our Oratorical contest on 5 March. We will be having contestants from BE02, FR01, GC01, NL01, GR05, GR06, and GR07. From these 7 Contestants, one will advance to attend the Nationals Oratorical contest in April. We have been given an exemption from National this year.

As everyone is aware, we were holding our 3rd DEC in Ansbach, sponsored by GR1982. Unfortunately, it will be virtual due to the Garrison Commanders' policy. Even though the count is lowering in the area we must still abide by it.

As we know, we have hit the 5th stage of the Pandemic. Many EU countries have implemented strict rules on how people gather, and they are pushing for 100% vaccination of all residents. If you have not been vaccinated, you should get yours. We must remember that Covid-19 is still around. We must remain safe and protect ourselves, practice social distancing, and wear a mask when and where required. Follow your Host Nation's laws. If you are having in-person Post meetings, follow the local laws.

Most of all, let us not forget the Buddy Check! Remember that some Post members might not have a smartphone or computer. Visit them to see how they are doing. The Health and Safety of all our Members are of the utmost importance to me.

In Honor Of
Gail Seymour "Hal" Halvorsen (Candy Bomber)

Gail "Hal" Halvorsen, an Air Force pilot whose gesture of kindness during the Berlin airlift, sending tons of candy fluttering down from the sky to the city's beleaguered children, endured in memory as a redeeming moment amid the aggressions of the Cold War, died 16 February, at a hospital in Provo, Utah. He was 101.

Mr. Halvorsen, who retired at the rank of colonel after a three-decade Air Force career, was a 27-year-old lieutenant when he embarked on the mission that would earn him the adoration of

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thousands of children in Berlin and the gratitude of two countries: Germany and the United States, for his role in healing the wounds of World War II.

He was an active member of the Department of France, Rhein Main Post GR05. Our Condolences go out to his Family.

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT…*JOHN FLEMING*

Greetings Comrades,

1. Certification of Officers: Thank you to the Posts who have recently held elections and sent in the Notification forms. I can add all Post officers to the Post Officers Roster in National's database. Reminder, after Post elections or a change in Post Officers, it is required to send two forms to the Department Adjutant. Immediately after Post elections, the Notification of Post/Squadron Commanders & Adjutants form must be sent to the Department Adjutant. As soon as possible, after Post elections, the Certification of Post Officials report needs to be forwarded to the Department Adjutant.

2. NOTE: If you change your email address, please let me know. If I do not know about the change, YOU WILL miss emails.

3. Dates to Note (these are not all inclusive):

- 5 March – Department Oratorical Contest
- 6 March, at 1500 CET – Monthly Adjutant's and Commander's Meeting
- 6 March, at 1630 CET – Monthly Officers Meeting
- 10 March – Eagle Scout of the Year nominations due to Department Adjutant
- 10 March – Girl Scout Gold Award "Scout of the Year" nominations due to Department Adjutant
- 10 March – Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year nomination due to Department Adjutant
- 12 March, TBD – Internal Affairs Committee Meeting
- 19 March, at 1300 CET – 3rd DEC
- 3 April, at 1500 CET – Monthly Adjutant's and Commander's Meeting
- 3 April, at 1630 CET – Monthly Officers Meeting
- 9 April, at 1800 CET – Award Packets Due to Department Adjutant
- 23 April, TBD – Awards Committee Meeting
- 1 May, at 1500 CET – Monthly Adjutant's and Commander's Meeting
- 1 May, at 1630 CET – Monthly Officers Meeting
- 5 June, at 1500 CET – Monthly Adjutant's and Commander's Meeting
- 5 June, at 1630 CET – Internal Affairs Committee Meeting
- 15 June – Consolidated Post Report Due to Department Adjutant
- 16-19 June – 4th DEC, Convention, 1st DEC

DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER… *LEE PRESTON*

Greetings Legionnaires,

The next American Legion Riders DFR Meeting is here. This meeting is open to ALL members in good standing with the Department of France Legion Riders.

Date: 9 April 2022

Start Time: 1200 hrs.

Location: The Flying Dragon Bar (GR05 Post Home)
In der Trifft 5-7, 64546 Mörfelden-Walldorf

Please pass along this information to all your Chapter Members. I need the following info NLT 1 March 2022! Any members that want to attend should send their information to my email: lpreston1057@gmail.com.

1. The number of members planning to attend and stay for dinner.
2. The number of members that need a room to stay the night.
3. If spending the night, how many nights?

DETACHMENT OF FRANCE

Detachment Commander Joe D. Brown
vcalbrown50@gmail.com

2022MY OFFICERS

Commander Joe D. Brown *vcalbrown50@gmail.com*
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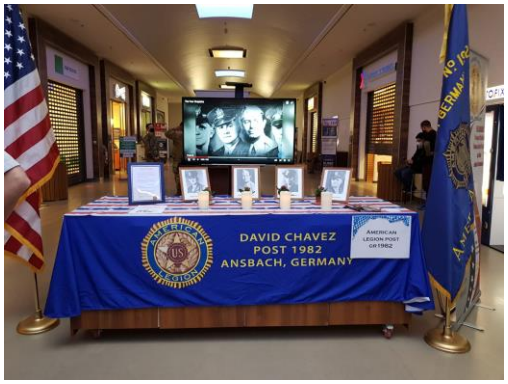
Sergeant-at-Arms David Craig *dcdavid16@googlemail.com*

Estus Smith

Post GR1982 Member

Post 1982 Honors Four Chaplains



American Legion Post GR1982 honored the Four Chaplains with a static display in the foyer in front of the USAG Ansbach Post Exchange and Commissary from 4 to 7 February 2022.

In past years, we had told the story of the four chaplains in a short presentation between services at the local Post Chapel. This year, we felt that we could reach a larger audience with the display at the PX/Commissary area. Having the static display up for four days, over a payday weekend, definitely took the message to a much larger audience.

The display was well-received by the members of our military community.

Pictured are the three Garrison Chaplains on the left. On the right is Legion Post Commander Ken Aungst and Garrison Command Sergeant Major Eric Bohannon.

Department of France Oratorical Contest

Date: **Saturday, 05 March 2021**

Venue: GoTo Meeting Platform. The link for the Oratorical Contest will be sent out 2 March 2022.

Eagle Scout of the Year

Nomination Application Form Available as of 01 Nov

The deadline for nominations to Department Adjutant is 10 Mar 2022

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Dept Adjutant

Girl Scout Gold Award "Scout of the Year"

Nomination Application Form Available as of 01 Nov

The deadline for nominations to Department Adjutant is 10 Mar 2022

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Dept Adjutant

Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year

Nomination Application Form Available as of 01 Nov

The deadline for nominations to Department Adjutant is 10 Mar 2022

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Dept Adjutant

Link to Department of France Website

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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Greetings fellow Legionnaires,

Hope everyone's doing well.

If you'd like an article included in the DFR monthly newsletter, please send your input to my above email no later than 10 days before the 1st of every month. If you send accompanying pics, please make sure they're high quality.

I'll surely include your input in the newsletter.