Adjutant's Corner
By Clare Sullivan

Here we are in the throes of summer! For many of our membership it is a season of more frenzied activity with all the visitors to our state or spending quality time with the kids and grandkids now that school is out. Whatever the case it is a great time for the American Legion Family in Alaska with the long days and overall good weather. Enjoy your time because before you know it the winter will be back!!!

The last couple of months we all have been busy with the fabulous Convention at Post 28, getting ready for and hosting Boys State and of course many posts are working on their day to day operations and finishing up their Post Consolidated Reports (CPR) (hint, hint). This report for all my years at the post seemed to be a chore and it took me a little while for me to understand the significance of it. Well...

This document is a pretty important document. The CPR is critical in the documentation of the myriad of activities that each post has done during the previous 12 months. As the form's instructions state "The consolidated Post Report (CPR) may be the most important document your post will complete this year." All the combined posts’ information is used when the National Commander and other National Officers testify on Capitol Hill on behalf of all veterans. What each of our posts does and focuses on emphasizes the collective strength we have as an organization and demonstrates what we, as veterans, believe is important to all of us. Essentially, what we do every day speaks volumes as to what we feel is important in our work to support all veterans and our communities.

The CPR can be completed hardcopy or online on myLegion.org using the online form. It is good to have the info ready ahead of time to complete the online version so print out a copy or use the one you have at the post and put the data together first. Take a look at the instructions on the form and if you haven't submitted your report yet or have any questions, feel free to give us a call or email us at Department.

Moving on to the next big event for us, and that is the National Convention which will be held August 24-30th in Minneapolis and will be the 100th National Convention. All 55 Departments will be represented and sending delegates; their job is help further the cause of patriotism and garner committed support for our service members past and present. This is critical to preserve our proud heritage and to continue to protect our earned benefits through our service in the military. And, as you may already know, many benefits can erode (or completely disappear) if there is not one to preserve them in the realm of politics - and our job is to continue to watchdog and protect what we have earned.

With all this said there is fun and of course patriotic events - other significant elements of the National Convention includes a huge parade with all Departments being represented, patriotic memorial services, exhibits, general sessions with nationally acclaimed keynote speakers, color guard and band contest, receptions and banquets.

cont. on page 3

Alaska Legionnaire
The American Legion ~ Today's Voice for Today's Veterans & Military

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The American Legion Department of Puerto Rico
To Gladys M. Heintz Memorial Post 27 Department of Alaska

In grateful appreciation for your generous donation to the Department of Puerto Rico Disaster Relief Program, your contributions have touched the lives of many.
Juan A. Cruz-Rodrigues/Adjutant
Angel O. Narvaez/NEC
Alfonso Christian/Commander

Legionnaires, things are going well at the Department. The painting has been completed. The lawn is getting a new look thanks to PDC Ernest King. I also want to thank PDC Dean Hill for all the support that he has given to the new staff at the Department.

Membership got off to a good start and slowed up at the end. We will miss our goal by at least 200 members. Department 1st Vice Art Bell and the membership team have been working very hard to make our goal.

By the time you read this our Boys State program will be completed. Thank you to all the Posts that made this happen. A special thanks to all the Staff that worked so hard for these young men, who one day could be the leaders of this great nation. Also the same staff worked just as hard for Girls State.

Next, most of you should be gearing up the National Convention. And for those of you going let’s make the Department of Alaska look good and have a little fun. For those of you attending, please make sure to get in touch with Kevin Collier or Kelly Petersen for the NEW parade shirt.
From the Desk of Ray, Department of Alaska Historian

Robert Ferrebee of Lloyd Williams Post 41 in Berryville, Virginia has designed a great outline for starting your Post History. With the American Legion entering into it’s 100th Anniversary the time is now to start your Post History.

**Why Is a History Important?**

*Because it’s a story worth telling*

History helps us learn how we got here and where we are going. It helps us understand and appreciate our successes and failures. It can help develop a sense of accomplishment and pride in your Post. It will become a permanent record of the legacy of your Post for Future Legionnaires. It can help recruit new members.

To understand the importance of Post records, you may want to read about China Post 1 Shanghai, China. Here is a short excerpt:

"September 19, 1945 the Post was reactivated and General Chennault, now a civilian, became the Chairman of the China Post 1 Executive Committee. General Chennault continued to lead the Post through its post war reconstitution and frequently hosted events at the American Club in Shanghai attended by Madame Chiang Kai-shek, the Dragon Lady of China, her husband as well as other world dignitaries.

Civil war erupted in China and by 1948 the situation deteriorated to the point that a meeting of China Post 1 Executive Committee was convened to develop a plan to secure the Post’s survival. General Chennault, as Commander, ordered that all Post records be boxed up and forwarded to American Legion National Headquarters. This was accomplished in November 1948 with the Post going into exile from Shanghai on 22 November 1948.

**Get Organized**

- A Post History will take time...START NOW!
- Appoint a Post Centennial Committee
- Use the Legion’s Legacy Vision booklet as a guide
- Use the Legion’s Centennial Celebration Workbook and web page to organize and publish your history

A final thought, The American Legion is not just one story of a national organization, but rather 1,000s of stories in communities across the country served by individual post. Sharing your post’s story will not only tell what you have done to enrich your own community, but it will help illustrate the rich history of our organization across the country.
On the road with the ALR
by Director Bobby Dunno

OK so here I go on my second stint as Director of the American Legion Riders Alaska, of course the last time I took on the role of the ALRA Director I was also given goals to achieve which we did to a certain extent. This time around the By-Laws are pretty firm and we are regularly coming up with changes, ensuring that we stay within the guidelines of the American Legion and the Department of Alaska. To that end, we will always seek to meet the requirements and guidelines as a program of the American Legion Department of Alaska. It will always do too remind ourselves that our ALR Chapters are programs of the American Legion Post and we should keep them informed as to our activities and see that they are included in the consolidated reports. Also our fund raising activities need to be reported with our Post paperwork, tax and gaming documentation as appropriate.

So on to the ALR stuff, so riding season is upon us and most of us have been out and about on our bikes. Hopefully the usual traffic around towns and country are getting used to seeing motorcycles, yet we still need to be aware that too many drivers seem to miss a semi-truck coming down the road so you know they will be ignoring a motorcycle or group of motorcycles. Safety should always be the first concern when we take off for a ride. We do not want to see a fellow rider go down or lose a close friend to a motorcycle accident. We all have seen and felt the pain and carry an empty spot due to the loss of those we consider our own. It will be real nice if we can get through the season and not have to experience that this year. So always maintain your awareness whether you are riding alone or as a group and return home safe.

To those who were along for the Wounded Hero Escort trip I want to say we did a very good job met all the goals and arrived on time everywhere. Fun was had and mission was successful. This was my third year riding with the group Chapter 1 put together and by far this was the best year yet. It was like being part of a well-groomed unit, everyone geared up on time without too much direction, signals got passed and traffic control was for the most part managed without any serious consequences. If you happen to see Mark Berg or any of the Post 1 Riders they deserve a pat on the back for a fun and goal oriented trip.

The next event will be the ROMP and Dan Cole came up with a very good idea that we dedicate the ride to Randy Velasquez. Carrying that idea forward I had the thought we could call this ROMP “The Ride with Randy”. Now since we voted to move our ROMP into July (catching those of us who plan this stuff off guard thank you Loren for keeping us straight) to avoid the conflict with Flag Day, Father’s Day and the Hog Rally we will be holding the ROMP on the weekend of 20-22 July. Now that was supposed to be the weekend of the Peninsula Patriot Run, so due to the massive road construction on the Sterling Highway we will include the Patriot Run into the ROMP. First day will be the Patriot Run from Post 5 to 35 with the ROMP from Post 1 to Valdez following. It should be a fun yet busy and hopefully Sunny Ride. Next year we will plan to hold the Peninsula Patriot Run in June to get the two rides separated again and we will get to ride to beautiful Kachemak Bay and Post 16 in Homer, raising more money for the Legacy Run.

So take advantage of the sunny days and get out and scratch that itch to ride. As always get them safety checks on your bikes complete, fuel them up and then Get On Your Bike And Ride! Boy it feels good to write that again.

-----Adjutant continued from page 1

As I mentioned in my last article, we are considering emailing the newsletter to our membership who would prefer to have it sent directly to their inbox. The purpose of this is to have a better presentation but also to save mailing fees. As we all know it is spendy to mail anything these days so if you are willing to have it emailed vs. snail mail please let us know.

In keeping with the "electronic" method of staying in touch and keeping everyone up to date on "what's happening" at the post we are about to launch a Facebook presence for the Department. I have found at my own post this has been a great vehicle for people to find posts to visit and understand what we do as an organization and dispel the old myths of service organizations. My objective here is to have another vehicle to direct attention and find a way for people to "notice" posts in our state. If this works for you, please email photos that you take and information on events that will be going on at our posts so we can get it out to others who may be interested in what you do.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank all who have been so very patient with me these past couple of months as I am making the transition from my "regular" job at the state and put up with my late night and weekend email to them with questions as I learn the job. You guys are so appreciated! Thank You!!
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA
Is proud to announce our

Outstanding Women of the Year
   April Sinclair
   Nominated by Unit 57 Fairbanks

Outstanding Service Member of the Year
   Jamie Greendyke, Coast Guard
   Nominated by Seward Unit 5

Both candidates were judged by a panel of judges (Past Department Presidents) at the recent Department Convention in Anchorage. How delighted and proud we are to have these two women leading the way in showing what it means to serve our veterans. We are looking forward to seeing them in Minneapolis in August at the National Convention.


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To donate, call:
Fairbanks – 456-5645 / Anchorage – 222-5600 / Mat-Su – 357-5555

To learn more, go to: www.bloodbankofalaska.org

UP COMING DATES
Delegate Strength Membership Target Date - 30 days prior to the 99th National Convention

INDEPENDENCE DAY
JULY 4th
Korean War ends - July 27
Purple Heart Day - August 7
V-J Day - August 14
92nd American Legion World Series Baseball - August 16-21
100th American Legion National Convention August 24-30 Minneapolis, Minnesota
Happenings at your Post

Jack Henry Post 1
Monday - Homemade Pizza 5:00-7:30
Tuesday - Cribbage 4:30
Wednesday - Tacos 5:30-7:00
Thursday - Burgers & Brew 5:30-7:00
Friday - Steaks 5:30 - 7:30
Saturday - LOL Drawing 3:3

Seward Post 5
Taco Tuesday
Friday Night Steaks
Food Served most nights at Post

Wednesday: Taco Night 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Texas Hold’em 7pm - ?

MARCH
3/6 & 3/20 - Taco Tuesday 5pm
$1 Tacos - $3 Frybread - $5 Indian Tacos
Family Games, Pull Tabs, Raffles

APRIL
4/3 & 4/17 Taco Tuesday 5pm
$1 Tacos - $3 Frybread - $5 Indian Tacos
Family Games, Pull Tabs - 50/50 Raffle

Matanuska Valley Post 15
Taco Monday
Tuesday Pool League
Wednesday Dart League/NHL Hockey
General Buckner Post 16 Family
2nd Saturday Auxiliary Dinner 6 pm
Friday Burger & Brew - 6 - 8 pm
1st Friday of the month Special
General Buckner Post 16 Family
3rd Friday Steak Night 6 pm

George H. Plumley Memorial Post 20
Sunday Breakfast 10am - 1pm
Every Friday is Steak Night 6-8 pm with an added Special Dish
Every Sunday Breakfast Menu Dishes 10am - 1pm
Every Friday Aux Unit 20 Sponsors
The Friday Night Raffle 12 pm - 8 pm
Drawing (sign up once a day to enter)
Every Saturday must be present 4 pm
Membership drawing (no sign ups)
Every Sunday must be present 2 pm

Madison Post 29
Monday, Commanders Night~Burgers & Brew 4-8 pm
Tuesday, Taco night 6 pm
Wednesday Chicken Wings 6 pm
Thursday, Baked potato—all the fixins 6 pm
Friday Steak Night with Live band 6-8:30 pm
Saturday, Karaoke 8 pm
Sunday, Make your own - Waffle bar & Bloody Mary’s 10-2 pm

Chappie James Post 34
Commanders night starting at 6:30pm every Thursday
Susitna Valley Post 35
Open Daily @1:00pm
Meeting Nights: Legion: 1st and 3rd Tuesday 7:00pm
Auxiliary: 1st Tuesday 7:00pm
Some: 1st and 3rd Monday 7:00pm
Riders: 1st Saturday 6:00pm
Wednesday: Taco Night 6:00pm - 8:00pm Texas Hold’em 7 pm - ?
Friday: Steak Night 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Senior Appreciation Dance: Last Thursday of Every Month 2pm - 4pm

C.R. Huber Post 57
Sunday Breakfast 10-2
FOOTBALL & NASCAR Every Sunday
Monday night Football
Thursday Burger Night 5:30:9:00 PM

From The DogHouse
By Jim Pisa, NEC

On June 6th Department Commander Nate Carter, Jack of All Trades Kelly Petersen and I made a trip to Gladys M. Heinz Memorial Post 27 in Glennallen to present the Post an award from the Department of Puerto Rico. This award was presented to Commander Terry Keizer and general membership for the generous donation and support to the Department of Puerto Rico during Hurricane Maria last year. “BRÁVO ZULU” to Gladys M. Heinz Memorial Post 27.

100th National Convention Minneapolis: With the National Convention fast approaching, there are a few rules of protocol and convention rules we must all remember, whether its your first convention or your tenth convention, we are all there as members and representing the Department and State of Alaska.

1) All members marching in the national convention parade must have the official Department of Alaska Parade polo shirt. You can order these shirts through Kevin Collier, S.A.L. Adjutant or Kelly Petersen at department HQ. Parade uniform will be Khaki pants or shorts and the new polo shirt.

If you are assigned to attend a committee or commission meeting, you “MUST” be there on time and answer roll call, if you miss the meeting the leadership of the department will hear about it from the national leadership. You are responsible for your attendance.

3) Hospitality Room has been a main stay of the department for many years. The room is for the Alaska delegation to use and relax. There are several rules that we must remember, if you invite a guest you must be there when they arrive and they must leave when you leave. They must have an invitation card to enter. Remember we are not a restaurant or lounge. All Past National Commanders, Past National Presidents, Past S.A.L. National Commanders and National Staff have an open door.

American Legion season is underway. If your post sponsors a team you need to get out to the ball field and watch some outstanding teams play. All the teams are playing for the chance to attend the World Series in Shelby N.C.

A HUGE SHOUT OUT TO ERNEST KING AND RON BOYD for the incredible amount of hark work they have put into the Department landscaping and clean up!

Knobby, a mongrel pup served on a United States Coast Guard Cutter during WWII. He wore a specially made life jacket while the ships crew went about rescuing soldiers and air men in the English Channel waters on D-Day 1944.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY COAST GUARD
August 14
THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

From Commander Dave's Desk
Department SAL

I have a very short column this time around. But I want to thank everyone for all the cards, good wishes, and support from my Legion family. Just wanted to let you know I am half way through all my treatments and besides feeling tired, I am doing very well.

From Adjutant Kevin's Desk
Department SAL and
Boys State Director

and Girls State Director Vonn Lamm

BOYS AND GIRLS STATE

Goofing off while trying to get a photo!

Squadron 35 and Riders conduct the Flag Retirement Ceremony at Girls State June 2018.

Learning how government works...
AUXILIARY NEWS

From the desk of President, Debbie

Hello everyone,

I want to start my first article by saying Thank You for the opportunity to serve as your 2018-2019 Department of Alaska President. I have returned from the DLNC training ready to start an exciting year full of great opportunities for your Units and plenty of ideas to boost membership. Along with me you elected a great and enthusiastic Board of Officers, and we are ready to get involved and "Grow Goodwill"!

So that being said, July and August have prime opportunities for you and your Units to be involved in Veteran and Community Events, show yourselves and be proud of the ALA brand, wear it often! Attend or participate in a parade, or attend the 2nd Annual Veterans' Appreciation Bike and Car Show on July 28th from 10am - 2pm at the Anchorage VA Center on Muldoon. Support the American Legion Baseball teams by attending their games or host a fun day camp for your Juniors. Do something...Don't just do nothing!

Getting new members and keeping them beyond three years is a constant struggle. Let's find out why they don't want to join or renew. Do you communicate with them after they've joined? Be creative with your membership welcome packages, remember to include event calendars and volunteer opportunities. Odds are they joined the American Legion Auxiliary to do something, find out what motivates them. The future of our organization depends on it.

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From the desk of Secretary, Barb

WHAT AN EXPERIENCE!!!

This year I was privileged to spend more time at the Alaska Girls State Program. Each Evening I went out and had dinner with them and then took part in the evening activities. I was never aware of just how much goes on both before and during the week-long program. There were speeches and elections, a Talent Show, and a graduation ceremony to mention a few.

Former Lt. Governor Loren Leman (a graduate of the 1st Boys State) took the time to speak to those attending. The activities afforded me an opportunity to speak to one of my great nephews about participation in the Sons of the American Legion as well as the Boys State Program. He is excited about those possibilities.

I would like to commend Program Director Yvonne Lamm and her Co-Director Ann Robinson as well as all of the staff for doing such a great job and assuring that each Citizen was successful. This is a program that should be promoted throughout the year. It is an excellent opportunity for young ladies to experience legislative training which will benefit them throughout their lives.

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From Barbe Department President 2017 -2018

I was privileged to be invited to participate in ALA Alaska Girls State 2018. What a great event with brilliant young women. Praises to Director Vonn Lamm and her staff for a job well done. I am always so impressed and awed by the talent of our picture-perfect leaders. The American Legion Boys State was held the following week, but I didn't get to attend.

Thank you for allowing me to be your American Legion Auxiliary President 2017-2018. I am truly blessed and humbled to have been your leader this year. National Convention in Minneapolis in August which will be last function as president. I am looking forward to seeing you all there. This will be the 100 year anniversary of the American Legion. Congratulations!!

Remember to continue to work on your membership; recruit, renew and retain. Make a veteran's life better every day, even if it's only to visit them. Everything you do does matter. Helping with chores (inside or out), baking, cooking, giving rides, You would be surprised at how small acts can make a big difference. Thank you everyone for all you do.
In accordance with Article 12 of the Post By-Laws, notice is hereby given that at the regular meeting of the Spenard Post 28 membership, at least 30 days following the publication of this notice, but not later than September 6, 2018, the vote will be taken on the following amendment to the Post By-laws.

Article III – POST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Section 1.

The By-Laws of the Spenard Post 28, effective October 1, 2018, and thereafter, the Post Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the commander and as often as said commander may deem necessary. The Post Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the commander at least every Monday preceding the regular scheduled meeting.

Proposed change; "Thereafter the post Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the commander at least on the last Wednesday of each month and as often as said commander may deem necessary."

Because of National Convention, Legionnaire articles for the September/October issue are due by September 7th.