Hello Comrades,

I would like to start off by thank you again for electing me as your new Department Commander and I look forward to working with every Post and their members. I would like to report that the check that was given to me at the convention for donation to the Fisher House was delivered on 16 Jul 2019. They were very appreciative of the donation and I was given a tour of their facilities. The Manager informed that they rely totally on donations to operate and perform the services they provide each guess. The manager is willing to provide a tour to other members if they would like to see the facilities for themselves. They are currently renovating Fisher House I so only Fisher House II is receiving guess.

Membership: The new year for membership has begun and the early bird special is in effect to help Post achieve their goal. The Department Membership Standing for each Post has been released so each post can track their progress to achieve their Post goal of 100%. I’m looking forward to this being a great membership year and I plan on participating in as many Awareness Drives as possible.

Commander Post Report (CPR): This report is very import for each Post to turn in whether you are an active Post or not. National track this data and it feed into reports they use to brief congress and lobby on the behalf of veterans. It is very important to turn in your post report even if you only did a Memorial Day event or grave registration. If your Post did nothing at all still turn in the report so the Department still get credit for having all their post turn in the report.

Poland: Is still in the planning phase for VCAL Brown and Vise Commander Owens to go down and do a site visit to access whether we should establish a Post there are not. We are hoping to have this completed by our next DEC in Heilbronn.

I want to wish all the Legion Post, SAL Detachment, and ALA a successful recruiting year and if you need any assistance don’t hesitate to contact our membership team.

I visited the Fisher House on 16 Jul 2019 to present them with a $500 check from Department. I meet with Mrs. Sarafina N. Buchanan.
DEPARTMENT OFFICERS 2020MY

COMMANDER Jimmie Dale  GR07  jimmiedale87@gmail.com

NECMAN James Settle  GR42  james.settle@kabelbw.de
ALT NECMAN Hans Stockenberger  CH01  redsea_diver2000@yahoo.com

VCAL Joe D. Brown  GR79  vcalbrown50@gmail.com
VICE COMANDER Guy Walton  FR01  guywalton@att.net

VICE COMMANDER Santos Alvarado  GR07  salvar621@gmx.com
VICE COMMANDER Dennis Owens  NL01  info@dennisowens.com

VICE COMMANDER Liam Kane  IR63  commliam@gmail.com
HISTORIAN Casby Logan  GR07  casbyj@hotmail.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Andy Clevenger  NL01  clevtdy@hotmail.com
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SERVICE OFFICER Frank Phillips  GR1982  filphillips59@gmail.com
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FINANCE OFFICER Gary Miller  GR06  billsfan_gary@hotmail.com
ADJUTANT Maxwell Rice  GR79  colwichboy@yahoo.com

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

**PEAL 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

DELEGATE STRENGTH TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION 30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION
DELEGATE STRENGTH TO THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
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

Kaiserslautern Post GR01
Greetings,

I was contacted by the Area Operations Manager of the USO asking could we send some volunteers for the function they are having on the 10th of August. They will let us set up a table with our Flag. The event is outside the USO in Wiesbaden. I’ve told her that I would be there and I would get back with her as soon as possible. I will be the point of contact so if you have anyone that could attend please sent me a list of names or get back with me. I think this would be a Great opportunity for Americanism for us all.

Thanks in advance!

Quincy Foster - Vice Commander Rhein Main Post GR05 / Handy: 0178-3989509 / E-mail: qcfoster@yahoo.com
GR14 held its annual 4th of July party…pictures may be viewed at https://www.facebook.com/pg/gr14t.w.barnett/photos/

Thomas W. Barnett Post GR14

DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE

Detachment Commander Joe D. Brown
vcalbrown50@gmail.com

2020 MY OFFICERS

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NEC Maxwell Rice   colwichboy@yahoo.com
First Vice Donald Chamberlain   chamberlaindw@hotmail.de
Chaplain John Portale   johnportale@arcor.de
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Second Vice Quincy Foster   qcfoster@yahoo.com
Historian Casby Logan   casbyj@hotmail.com
Sergeant-at-Arms Lee Preston   lpreston1957@gmail.com

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER…Frank Phillips

Contact me after 1700 please or e mail me
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Newsletter Editor…David N. Greaux

REMINDER…all newsletter articles should be turned in prior to months end!

Davidg1959@t-online.de
American Legion Welcomes President’s Signing of LEGION Act

(INDIANAPOLIS, July 30, 2019) -- The head of the nation’s largest veterans organization thanked President Trump for signing a bipartisan act which will recognize veterans who served during periods not previously considered “wartime.”

The Let Everyone Get Involved In Opportunities for National Service Act (LEGION Act) opens the door for millions of veterans to access American Legion programs and benefits for which they previously had not been eligible.

“We are grateful that President Trump fully acknowledges the importance of The American Legion by signing the LEGION Act in the White House today – just one week after it passed the House of Representatives,” National Commander Brett P. Reistad said. “In an era of partisan gridlock, Republicans and Democrats in Congress overwhelmingly recognized the importance of allowing millions of honorable but previously ineligible veterans the right to join the largest and most influential veterans organization in the country.”

The gaps in the war eras were largely during the Cold War, a time when threats to U.S. national security was real, especially to the men and women serving in uniform. Overall, about 1,600 U.S. servicemembers were killed or wounded in hostile operations during periods that were not previously recognized as times of war by the federal government.

“Recognizing the service of these wartime veterans is the right thing to do and it is long overdue,” Reistad said. “The families of those who were killed or wounded during these wartime acts should take pride in knowing that we recognize their sacrifice and service. Moreover, we are proud to welcome any of the six million living veterans from the previously unrecognized periods into our organization and call them ‘Legionnaires.’”

Reistad points out that existing American Legion membership applications are in the process of being updated but can still be used. “In the meantime, I recommend that prospective Legionnaires and recruiters write ‘LEGION Act’ in the eligibility date section of American Legion membership applications if they fall outside the previous war eras,” Reistad said. “The larger pool of veterans now eligible for The American Legion will also open their family members to eligibility in the Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary as well.”

With a current membership of nearly two million wartime veterans, The American Legion was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, patriotic youth programs and Americanism. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through nearly 13,000 posts worldwide. From the drafting of the original GI Bill to the creation of the Department of Veterans Affairs, The American Legion is the most influential voice for America’s veterans. The American Legion, www.legion.org, will be celebrating its centennial through Veterans Day.

Media contacts: Indianapolis: John Raughter, jraughter@legion.org, (317) 630-1350; / cell (317) 441-8847
/Washington, D.C.: Mackenzie Wolf, mewolf@legion.org, (760) 889-0307.

John B. Raughter
Deputy Director, Media Relations
Phone: (317) 630-1350  Fax: (317) 630-1368
Hi everybody.

The Convention is over, and we had a good time. Did you too? I wish all the new Department Officers and District Officers a good and funny year. We are very busy and hope we can do everything that we wish do to for the upcoming year. Now, my Past Commander Husband has a little bit more time for me and we don't have to talk anymore about which function we will attend. Sometimes, we had to talk about who is going where.

Now, I asking for Pictures. Who took Pictures from the District, at the Banquet? I would like to put some for our history book and some for myself. Please send them by E-Mail. My E-Mail is Sonja.Dennis@t-online.de. Also I have a wish to all Chaplains. Let me know every month of the end is somebody has gone to the Post everlasting. I was not happy that a lot of members passed away last year, and nobody told me. I just heard, at the Banquet, from one member. I hope that will not be happen again. If yes, I will make a big complaint and nobody will be happy after this.

So now I wish you happy and a relaxed summer vacation. Don't drink and drive. Be save and God bless you.

Sonja Dennis / President / District of France
David Chavez Post 1982 honoring patriotic holiday – Flag Day June 14

Past Commander Ken Augnst and with members of local community celebrated in a patriotic ceremony honoring Flag Day. Over 21 in attendance enjoyed fellowship with Oskar Mayer hot dog picnic.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States

Viet Nam Veteran, and Past Commander Ken Aungst, Ansbach American Legion Post, made meaningful remarks. “Noticeable in this picture - is the monument shaped like the Oscar Mayer table. An official Wienermobile was there at the dedication back in 1995”.

Flag Retirement ceremony, dignified, symbolic cutting into 4 pieces, one piece for the field of blue with stars, (never to be divided) 3 pieces with the red and white stripes, in preparation for the Ansbach Scouts to complete the ceremony.

Attending were 3 Zweibruecken C.A.R. members, 4 prospective members, 2 adult leaders, Viet Nam Veteran and several guests interested in the Oskar Mayer German-American connection.
The USAG Ansbach held their annual Independence Day celebration on 4 July with a mini-Volksfest on the Katterbach Army Airfield. Post 1982 participated with our traditional Beer Mug Ping-Pong Ball Toss game. This has been very well-received by Soldiers, civilians and Family Members over the past several years.

To make this event possible, and thanks to our Post volunteers, our Post members and family members collect beer steins through-out the year in preparation for the event. The participants toss ping-pong balls at the wall full of mugs. If the ball goes in, they win the mug!

The game was a big hit with everyone again this year, AND the funds generated by this event goes back to our community. Supporting the many sponsored programs, and to mention some of the many such as Oratorical Contest, Boys and Girls State/Nation, Junior Shooting Team, Memorial Day, Veteran’s Day, Kids Fishing, High School track meet and other local events.

For 124 years, the Army & Air Force Exchange service has gone where troops have gone to provide goods and services to Warfighters and their families. To commemorate its anniversary, the AAFES held a special cake-cutting and community event at 1000 on 25 July, at the Base Exchange on Urlas Kaserne.

“It’s been an honor for the Exchange to serve Warfighters and their families for 124 years,” said Cary Zottolo Store Manager. This event is a way to say “Thank you to our military shoppers – the best customers in the world.”

Eddie Guevara the Commander of David Chavez Post 1982 and over 20 members participated in the cake-cutting ceremony. The Post congratulated AAFES!
Indianapolis, Indiana

Site of the 101th American Legion National Convention / August 23rd to August 29th 2019

If you are planning on attending the 101th National Convention in Indianapolis, IN (and I hope to see some new faces in Indianapolis) please e-mail me at dhaggan@sbcglobal.net with the following information, THE DATE YOU WILL ARRIVE AND DEPART, THE PERSON YOU ARE SHARING A ROOM WITH IF ANY, AND ANY SPECIAL ROOM REQUIREMENTS.

Updates will be e-mailed out, posted on the Department Website, and posted on the Department Facebook page in the coming weeks...Hope to see you in Indianapolis

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

COME ONE COME ALL TO THE FODPAL ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION BREAKFAST / INSTALLATION

PLACE: Indiana Convention Center, Sagamore 1
TIME: 0700hrs SHARP

DATE: August 26, 2019
COST: $30.00 per Person

Tickets will be issued at the Convention Site starting on Saturday August 24th. Pre-Reservations will be of great help to us, so I can get a good idea of the number of people that will be attending.

This is the biggest event of the year for FODPAL it has become “The Showcase” of the National Convention. So pass the word to all of your Members that are going to attend the National Convention.

Adjutants, Commanders, or NECman, don’t forget to bring some items from your Department for the RAFFLE that is held after the breakfast.

RESERVATION REQUEST

Enclosed is a check in the amount of $__________ for _________ reservation tickets

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO FODPAL AND MAIL TO:

Doug Haggan
5712 Riva Ridge DR.
Indianapolis, IN 46237

~ 11 ~
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

Grande Barbeque hosted by Locale V1524

When: 24 August 24 2019

Where: Gartenfreunde Klingenberg
Heilbronn—Klingenberg IM Bruch 74081

Time: 14.00

POC: Voyageur Charlie Brown / vcalbrown50@gmail.com / 0170-1888034

REPLY YES OR NO