DEPARTMENT COMMANDER...James Dennis

Fellow Legionnaires and Legion families,

We made our 100% membership for National. Congratulations to all the Posts. Thank you to the Posts, Vice Commanders, Membership Team, and all the Legionnaires supporting this Department. We can still make the 105%. We only need about 80 members. We have plenty of renewals still out there.

The National Commander and National President’s visit was great. I would like to thank Post GR07 for their assistance in Wiesbaden, Posts GR14 and GR05, and Post GR01 for their assistance in the ROB/Ramstein. In addition, a huge thanks goes out to Comrade Preston and Mrs. Zeigler for escorting the National party around the Wiesbaden and Ramstein areas. They are leaving out of Germany today and on their way to Belgium. A special thanks goes out to our NEC man Settle, VCAL Brown, and District President Dennis for accompanying me on this trip.

We are coming up on Convention time. 20 June to 23 June in Eitorf-Alzenbach, Germany. I hope to see most of you there. The Department is working hard to insure a good atmosphere and comradery. Don’t miss it.

Please be informed for the upcoming events for the month of May-June.
June 8th Sons of the American Legion Convention
June 20-23rd Department Convention in Wustenrot, Germany
July 4th Independence Day
Please contact me in advance if you wish me to stop by.

James Dennis / Commander / Department of France
DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER AT LARGE Joe D. Brown

Memorial Day 2019 Sant Avoid France Lorraine American Cemetery

Awareness Drive GR01 / GR02

Newsletter Editor…David N. Greaux

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

Davidg1959@t-online.de
DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER...Frank Phillips

Contact me after 1700 please or e mail me

Home: +49 9872 8051801
FAX: +49 9872 955406
Mobile: +49 172 6879915
Mail: fdphillips59@gmail.com

https://www.linkedin.com/in/frank-phillips-2b7515bb/

Paris Post FR01

Initiation of Marie Furguson as commander, Paris Post FR01 -- Saturday, 10 May 2019.

``Chaplains Corner``

Harvey Briggs
Department Chaplain

Comrades,

We often find ourselves faced with challenges that affect us and our families. These challenges that we face can be caused by bad choices however, some can come from circumstances we have no control over. Regardless of the situation we often find ourselves sitting back and wondering why is this happening to me.

Each challenge or trial we go through is a test of our endurance. When your endurance increases that will help us through this race, we call life. For some people, knowing the fact that you will eventually be faced with these trials and tribulations it is not something to get excited about. We should look to find joy in the trials that we are facing because it is in that trial that we will find God leading us to something great.
Again, as in past years, GR09 paid visits to the graves of locally buried American Veterans on Memorial Day and as in previous years the Post was able to decorate each grave with more than just a US flag. Thanks to the American Legion’s Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Fund, Post GR09 received a check amounting to 500 dollars to “be used to honor and decorate individual graves of those veterans who were laid to rest outside American Battle Monument Commission controlled facilities.” For the 10 veterans in GR 09’s area this amounted to fifty dollars per grave. Accordingly, each grave was decorated with an impressive flower and plant arrangement and with a streamer citing the Neu-Ulm’s American Legion.

This demonstration of patriotism also demonstrates to German visitors to the cemeteries that Americans do not forget their comrades in arms.

GR09’s Post Commander Post Jerry Aman has frequently stated at how surprised he was at the ease of obtaining these funds and those who participated in this yearly event hope that the post will obtain these monies again next year. Hopefully more posts will take advantage of this program and no one can say they didn’t know about it as FODPAL Secretary Doug Haggan has frequently informed everyone of the availabilities of these funds.

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 Paßt Commanders Club is only $25.00
Renewal dues for the Paßt Commanders Club is only $10.00
DETACHMENT OF FRANCE

Detachment Commander Joe D. Brown
vcalbrown50@gmail.com

SAL CONVENTION 2019
Hosted by GR07

When:
Saturday, 08 June 2019

4TH DEC / 1000-1100 – Registration / 1100 - 4thDEC
CONVENTION / TBA
1ST DEC / TBA

Location:
ZUM REEGEN
IM RIEDWEG 52
74078 HEILBRONN-FRANKENBACH
The American Legion Riders have established themselves in Europe over the past few years. As a member of the Legion Riders, American Legion Post GR 79 Heilbronn, Germany, I felt it was appropriate to present ourselves and our involvement in supporting charitable events in various communities. The Legion Riders in Heilbronn were established in 2016 by Don Chamberlain along with 5 other members of Post GR 79 who ride motorcycles. To date there are 9 active members and more are expected as the Legion Post grows. As Riders we actively support the American Legion Post and the Dept. of France Legion Riders Director Lee Preston. True to the Legion's grassroots tradition, each chapter manages its programs at the post level, where the best ideas are born. The Riders are involved in many projects and events, including: In May the Erlangen, Germany Toy Run, which some members have been supporting since its beginnings 25 years ago. Easter egg hunt for children of veterans and friends in the community of Heilbronn, Memorial Day in St. Avold France, 4th of July Celebration of Post GR 79 and friends.

A Toy Run in St. Leon Rot, Germany put on by the Rheine Valley HOG Chapter (RVHC) dedicated to the support of the local orphanage and the annual Thanksgiving Dinner sponsored by Post Gr 79 as well as a Christmas Dinner for the Homeless to name a few of the events supported. Our Post is no longer part of a Military Community however the reason for establishing the Post still exists as there are numerous veterans living in the geographical area who require help and support. We also support the “The Rainbow Run” in the Heilbronn community sponsored by numerous businesses and motorcycle clubs, whose purpose is to provide help for families with special needs children such as the purchase of vehicles with special equipment that families could not normally afford.

All in all, all of our Legion Riders Chapters have events and communities to support and actively do so.

Dave / Beowolf
GREETINGS TO ALL - YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR

15 EURO 13 July PARTY FEST 15 EURO

When...13 July 2019
Where...Gartenfreunde Klingenberg
Time...14:00
74081 Heilbronn-Klingenberg IM Bruch

POC: First Vice Commander David Craig / dcdavid16@gmail.com / 0157-78254355
or
GR79 Commander Ross Shephard III / rshephard3rd@gmail.com / 0176-47227166
June 6th—World War II D-Day Invasion. On this day, 156,000 troops from the United States, Great Britain and Canada stormed five beaches. American troops landed on Omaha and Utah beach. At the same time, British troops landed on Gold and Sword beach. And, Canadian forces landed on Juno Beach. 4,000 Allied troops died on these beaches on D-Day, 2,000 of them were American.

Please take a moment of silence today, and thank the many soldiers who fought and died for our country on D-Day.

June 14th—Flag Day. Flag Day, is a day for all Americans to celebrate and show respect for our flag, its designers and makers. Our flag is representative of our independence and our unity as a nation....one nation, under God, indivisible. Our flag has a proud and glorious history. It was at the lead of every battle fought by Americans. Many people have died protecting it.

VA May Have Incorrect Addresses for 25,000 Veterans

Free Dental Care for Veterans Available June 8

A dentist and her dental assistant (Photo: Erik Christensen)
REMINDER!

Department of France 95th Annual Convention
20-23 June 2019

REMINDER

Hotel Schützenhof, Windecker Str. 2, 53783 Eitorf-Alzenbach

REMINDER

**VERY IMPORTANT**: Keep in mind, if you do not book your room through the convention committee or if you are just attending the meetings on a daily basis, not staying at the hotel, you will be expected to pay a daily fee for use of and attending the meetings. That is per day, per person. This information has been put out there since the Third DEC in March

REMINDER!
Hallo everybody

Convention is coming up and I have not seen any Email from everybody who past way from June 2018 to now. I tell you again, please let me know for the Convention.

Auxiliaries, now I am talking to you. Convention is coming up. Please think about to take an Office for the District of France. Open is President, 3x Vice President, Chaplain, Historian, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary and Treasure. If you would like to take a position and you cannot come to the Convention, please write a letter to the Secretary. Inform her of what Position you like to do. Treasurer and Secretary is appointed by the President. So, think about it, come to the Convention and let us know.

I have the date to go to the USO at the 5 October 2019 at 14.00 hrs. (2.00p.m.) to bring them homemade Cakes and Chocolate. No surprise eggs, because there are not allowed to give them out. We have to vote. If this date is okay with you let me know at the Convention. So, we can work on that and we need to know, what kind a cake you bring, so we don't have any double. The Secretary will send out a Flyer to the Units about USO, so they don't forget when we are going. The Legionnaires can go to with us and join it. So, they see what we are doing.

I hope I see you all soon. Have a nice trip everywhere you go and be safe.

For God and Country

Sonja Dennis / President / District of France

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My husband SGM Frank M. Crosley (Ret) went to PEL 29 April 2005. The following 8 May 2005, I received the Medal of Montargis, on behalf of his activities among the French veterans' organizations.

8 May 2019 I gave the Medal of the Centennial to the present Mayor, since I am myself very active with ceremonies held in my district. The present Mayor is on my left, the preceding Mayor, who is now a congressman, is on my right.

Crosley Ginette AU01

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2019 American Legion 100th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Program
Hi All Legion Riders,

May really started the riding season and my wife and I road to Erlangen on 4 May to participate in the 25th annual Toy Run. GR79 also participated with several riders as well as donated 300€. It was raining cats and dogs when we left the house at 07:30 and did not really stop until later that afternoon. Probably due to the weather, there were only about 1/5 the number of bikers for this year’s toy run compared to last year but, 28,000.00€ were raised for the Children’s Cancer Clinic. Myself and Margo Ziegler will be providing the Legion Rider Escort for the National Commanders visit from 28 May to 1 June 2019. Margo will be helping with the Wiesbaden area and possibly all the way to Landstuhl Medical Center. Thank you, Margo, for your support on this.

Upcoming Events: The Department convention will be held 20-23 June 2019 and I hope that we can get some riders to attend. After speaking with the hotel, we can still get rooms for those that have decided late that they would like to attend. We will not be able to guarantee that special needs can be accommodated but, we will be able to get you a room. Please get your room request completed and sent to me, David Greaux, or Mike Young as soon as possible.

The Legacy Scholarship fund is the premier program for the American Legion Riders and we, as Legion Riders, should be supporting this program. Many of the riders in the Department are wearing the Pony Express pin on their vests. Please do your best to collect donations and bring them to the Department convention in June. I have $80 so far donated from GR42, GR1982 and GR07. I understand that many Riders Chapters are collecting and donating to charities in their home locations, such as GR79 donates to the Erlangen Toy Run every year, this is a good thing but, as this is the premier program for the American Legion Riders; I am asking for you to please do a little for this program as well. I know that there are Chapters that donate directly to National for this program; please let me know that this is what you are doing and, if you do not mind, the amount so that I can recognize your Chapter at the convention. Thank you all in advance for your help on this program!

Now, as everyone knows, the Convention is the time that we elect the Department officers that will lead this Department for the upcoming membership year. That being said, all of the program directors will be appointed by the new Commander after the elections. I want everyone to know that I have notified the Commander that I will be resigning my position as the Department Director of the Legion Riders and that I will not make myself available to hold that position for the upcoming membership year. I have tried my best to do the things that were asked of me at the beginning of this year but, when the support is minimal and questions not answered, those ideas cannot be fulfilled. I hope that someone will step up and take the position that can possibly have more success than I had during this year. I want to thank those couple of people that supported me during this year and hope that the Legion Riders in this Department have a great 2019-2020 membership year.

“For God and Country”
Lee “Papa Smurf” Preston

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**Return of Rolling Thunder? Trump Weighs in on Memorial Day Ride**

U.S. Marine Tim Chambers salutes to participants in the Rolling Thunder motorcycle rally ahead of Memorial Day on Sunday, May 27, 2018, in Washington. (Jose Luis Magana/AP)

27 May 2019 / Military.com | By Richard Sisk
Department of France
95th Annual Convention

Hotel Schützenhof
Windecker Str. 2
53783 Eitorf-Alzenbach

*NOTE...on the convention packets passed out at the 3RD DEC, Windereckerstrasse 2 was used as the street address. It has been brought to our attention that some navigation systems would not take that street name. Please try the street name Windecker Str. 2.

Convention Package Consist Of:

4 days - 3 nights / One convention coin per Department registered guest residing at the hotel / Breakfast buffet / Utilization of the conference rooms / Mineral water and juice during our meetings / Late morning coffee/tee and yogurt / Afternoon coffee and pastry / Evening dinner buffet (includes Banquet on Saturday) / One drink of choice with evening dinner

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Single Room Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20-23 June 2019</td>
<td>€305.00</td>
<td>€250.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>21-23 June 2019</td>
<td>€215.00</td>
<td>€180.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-23 June 2019</td>
<td>€120.00</td>
<td>€105.00</td>
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Following expenditures to be paid at Convention.

Attending meetings only. Not staying at hotel €16.00 per person, per day.
* Includes use of conference room, Late morning coffee/tee and yogurt, Afternoon coffee and pastry & Mineral water and juice during our meetings. Please notify Convention Committee if you will be attending Convention Meetings only!

Banquet only (Saturday). €25.00 per person.
Breakfast only. Not staying at hotel. €8.00 per person, per day.
Dinner only (Thursday-Friday). Not staying at hotel. €15.00 per person, per day.

VERY IMPORTANT: For 20-23 June, you MUST register and pay for your hotel room through the Convention Committee. If you book directly through the hotel, you will have to pay the daily €16.00 fee per day, per person for use of the conference room.

Convention Committee 2019
Lee Preston...GR42  David Greaux...GR42  Michael Young...GR01
NOTE: The hotel has given us an extension on booking rooms for the convention, **but the deadline for “special needs” has expired.**

All payments must be in Euros / If paying prior to convention, please make all Euros checks payable to **David Greaux**

Bank Transfer Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME:</th>
<th>David Greaux</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IBAN:</td>
<td>DE37 9330111000005356</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIC:</td>
<td>FLESDEMM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Verwendungszweck:</strong></td>
<td>Dept. Convention / Option 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6</td>
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Please fill out included reservation form and send in **no later than 15 May 2019** to ensure a reserved room. Please print clearly to avoid mistakes. Make copies as needed. If reservations are made but not able to attend please contact a convention committee person prior to convention. **If paying with credit card at convention, must still fill out form and send in by 15 May 2019.**

Send to a Convention Chairperson:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>David Greaux</th>
<th>Lee Preston</th>
<th>Michael Young</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunnhöhe 21</td>
<td>Behring Str. 20</td>
<td>Box 7043 PSC 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97505 Geldersheim</td>
<td>97464 Niederwerrn</td>
<td>APO AE 09012</td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:davidg1959@t-online.de">davidg1959@t-online.de</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lpreston1957@gmail.com">lpreston1957@gmail.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:michael.young63@yahoo.com">michael.young63@yahoo.com</a></td>
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The AMERICAN LEGION, Department of France
95th Annual Convention, 20-23 June 2019 Room Reservation

**PLEASE CHECK ONE:**

<table>
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<th>EXAMPLE</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Greaux</td>
<td>First Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post:</td>
<td>GR42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Option ONE:**

| 20-23 June 2019 / Three Nights - single room / **€305.00 per person** |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |

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**Option TWO:**

| 20-23 June 2019 / Three Nights - double room / €250.00 per person / **Total: €500.00** |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |

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**Option THREE:**

| 21-23 June 2019 / Two Nights - single room / **€215.00 per person** |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |

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**Option FOUR:**

| 21-23 June 2019 / Two Nights - double room / €180.00 per person / **Total: €360.00** |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |

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**Option FIVE:**

| 22-23 June 2019 / One Night - single room / **€120.00 per person** |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |

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**Option SIX:**

| 22-23 June 2019 / One Night - double room / €105.00 per person / **Total: €210.00** |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |
| Last Name: | First Name: | Post: |

**#: ____________________**

**e-mail: ____________________**

**□ Will be paying with credit card at convention.**
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

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 / Our next Promenade is planned for 20 July 2019, hosted by V1467

Merci Train: “Life on a Forty & Eight”