TO MY LEGION FAMILY:

Good morning, Legionnaires and Veteran advocates, today is Wednesday, April 4, 2018, which is Hug a Newsgperson Day, 404 Day, National Tell A Lie Day, Vitamin C Day and National Walking Day. I hope everyone had a good Easter Weekend!

SOME HISTORY

- Just after 6 p.m. on April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. is fatally shot while standing on the balcony outside his second-story room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee. The civil rights leader was in Memphis to support a sanitation workers’ strike and was on his way to dinner when a bullet struck him in the jaw and severed his spinal cord. King was pronounced dead after his arrival at a Memphis hospital. He was 39 years old.

- After the successful siege of Boston, General George Washington begins marching his unpaid soldiers from their headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, toward New York in anticipation of a British invasion, on this day in 1776.

- 1865: President Abraham Lincoln visits the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia, a day after Union forces capture it.

- 1949: The United States and 11 other nations establish the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a mutual defense pact aimed at containing possible Soviet aggression against Western Europe. NATO stood as the main U.S.-led military alliance against the Soviet Union throughout the duration of the Cold War.

- 1841: Only 31 days after assuming office, William Henry Harrison, the ninth president of the United States, dies of pneumonia at the White House.
DEPARTMENT HISTORY

This months Departments History includes a couple pictures from years gone by. One is a guess who, and the other is about a Post we had that was all female.

This picture is of one of our Past Department Commanders and future Admiral! (not really). It is apparent the Navy did not have a height requirement. Must be so sailors could get into those small bunks is what I think. See if you can guess who this is. (Answer on last page.)
Did you know this Department had an all women Legionnaire Post? Yes, it was the Peg Milan, Post 110 out of Portsmouth NH. This was taken in 1952. The officers were

Post Commander, Mary Barwick,

Sr. Vice Commander, Marjorie Hughes,

Jr. Vice Commander, Julia Dumoulin,

Adjutant, Helen MacGregor,

Finance Officer, Anna Walsh,

Chaplain, Sally Scott,

Historian, Cora Hassey,

Service Officer, Catherine Kennedy,

Sgt at Arms, Milfred Smart

They were a very important part of this Departments history. But who is the guy on the far-right sneaking into this picture. Figures even back then there was some guy trying to get in good with the girls!!!
This DEC will be geared toward the upcoming fiscal year and budget. If you are a committee Chairmen and have not submitted a figure for your budget for FY19, we need those by May 1st at the latest. Send them to me and I will make sure the finance committee gets them to include in the budget.

**Centennial News**

1) Golf

We have met with the Loudon Country Club and discussed many of the variables as to putting on a "Centennial" golf event on Saturday, Sept. 22. Tentatively $125 a player. Really appreciate hearing from Paul Lemire, who has lots of experience with these and who has offered to help. We need to publicize details and would like to recruit a few more good people to help with planning committee

2) NASCAR Race

We're working out details, so the Legion's Centennial Year Celebration can be recognized during announcements during the big nationally televised NASCAR Race on Sunday July 22 in Loudon. NH Motor Speedway folks have suggested reserving a section in the stands for Legionnaires and perhaps ticket deals as well. Need to communicate further with the track about the possible discounted tickets, and then we can work up an announcement for the next Department newsletter. Need to similarly get golf info in the same publication.) Also, the track would like us to provide a color guard as part of the weekend's opening ceremonies on Friday, July 20.

*I would like to use the Department Color Guard for this event which is Greenville this year. If they are unable to I know there are other color guards out there that would like the experience. Keep this in mind if I come knocking on your door.*
Department Events Recognized

Commander Meaney, ANEC Ken Maynard and Past Department Commander Earl Beale, posing with Senator Maggie Hassan at the Washington Conference 2018.

You are cordially invited to attend
the Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of New Hampshire

Dedication Ceremony of their Memorial Stone
at the New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery

110 Daniel Webster Highway Boscawen N.H. 03303

on Saturday 9 June 2018 at 1000 Hrs.
Veteran Events & Announcements

Operation Care for Troops PO Box 1604 …. Nashua, NH 03061
https://www.facebook.com/OCTNH/

Introduction and Mission:

‘Operation Care for Troops’, a grassroots organization, supplies deployed soldiers, troops, and sailors in Afghanistan, Iraq, Africa, Syria, Kuwait, etc. with items not easily obtained in the hopes of making their job a little easier by caring, devoted volunteers. Further, OCT responds with requested items to troops and sailors in a relief situation.

‘Operation Care for Troops' supports "Stand-Down Day" held annually in Nashua, NH for southern NH homeless and displaced veterans. OCT supplies a care package designed for the needs of the homeless veteran. OCT works with the NH VASH program and supplies in December the Holiday stockings for the children of service families in transition. 'Operation Care for Troops' is a community involving organization from schools, summer camps to local retirement community to area business.

OCT’s Projects

Quarterly Care Packages for the Troops: The project involves four packing events held at the Nashua, NH National Guard Armory in February, May, August and November. Each event takes four days with approximately 120-200 volunteers over these days. Each packing focuses on a theme incorporating varied items for the deployed men and women.

- February - Personal Hygiene Items
- May - “Spring into Summer” - sun protection items and protein snacks
- August - “Bag of Bare Necessities” - drink mixes, canned fruit, beef jerky, trail mix
- November - “Holiday Stocking Packing”

In November 2017, OCT passed 100,000 packages at our "November Holiday Stocking Packing".

Holiday Stockings for Children of Veterans in all Southern NH Area: VASH (VA Supported Housing Program) is a VA program in Manchester, NH. Homeless/displaced veterans & their families are in a five-year program obtaining housing, life skills, jobs, etc. Each year the names of the children are placed on a tree for the holiday season with a requested gift item. OCT started 5 years ago making Holiday stockings by age and gender for each of these children. The program began with less than 60 children. OCT now makes 120 specialized stockings for these children. Case managers feedback is how overwhelmed the families are when they see the stockings and gifts for their children. It reinforces all the support of VASH.

(EIN: 27-3685964) Operation Care for Troops Inc. is a qualified 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. No goods or services were provided for this gift. Please consult your tax advisor regarding specific questions about your donation.

Special requested items especially from deployed female personal: OCT has experienced an increase in special requests for food items and for personal hygiene items especially from female troops. The food items include protein bars, canned fruit, fruit snacks, and nut mixes. Personal hygiene items are lotions (such as Eucerin, Aveeno, Bath & Body Works, etc.), powders (such as gold bond), razors, shampoo, conditioner and such. OCT has set-up a specific section at the Armory to build these care packages for the female troops and/or special request units. Further,
OCT works with local veteran organizations and businesses to donate some of the requested items. This allows OCT to best respond to their requests.

**Stand Down Day**: 'Operation Care for Troops' supports "Stand-Down Day" held annually in Nashua, NH for southern NH homeless and displaced veterans. OCT supplies a care package designed for the needs of the homeless veteran. We do these by gender as women who are homeless have special needs which need addressing. OCT attends the event distributing these packages and supporting Harbor Homes.

**Collaboration with the Community**

OCT has related to the local schools, scouting programs, community organizations, veteran’s organizations, businesses, etc. for many years. Several groups make volunteering for us an annual event while others (groups and individuals) come to every packing.

Those who are unable to come to the actual packing volunteer in many other ways. For example, a local Resident Facility rolls socks and makes drink mix kits when needed. Local schools and groups write letters to the troops. At Halloween, “Treats for Troops” is a collection of leftover Halloween Candy throughout the state of NH. This collection for the troops allows many children of all ages involvement with a community-based service project.

Hundreds of people have volunteered for OCT and continue to return to help. For many children, writing letter to the troops and collecting Halloween candy for "Treats for Troops" is their first introduction to community service. A local residential home has become involved with preparing items for the packing. Recently, several of the residents came to a packing for a couple of hours. Many of the volunteers see each other only at the OCT packings but enjoy "catching-up" while volunteering. "Operation Care for Troops" is a grassroots organization run by volunteer Team Leaders with volunteers help all for a common good - “because it’s the right thing to do”

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**14th Annual Pat’s Run**
April 21st 2018, Tempe Arizona
http://pattillmanfoundation.org/pats-run/
Memorial Day Ceremony: NHSVC

May 30, 2018, Boscawen NH
http://nhsvc.com/1100am-memorial-day-ceremony-rain-or-shine-1

6th Annual Pack & Boots 5K & 1 Mile Survival Run

Wednesday, July 4 at 8:30 AM - 11 AM 105 Marcy St, Portsmouth, NH
https://www.facebook.com/events/151211052214150/
Run To Home Base 9th annual 9K run and 5K run/walk at Fenway

July 28, 2018, Boston MA
http://www.runtohomebase.org/

Flags On The 48-A September 11th Memorial Hike

Saturday, September 8 2018 from 12:00 – 2:00 PM, White Mountain National Forest, NH
http://www.flagsonthe48.org/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZcsNBMurqo
Run For The Fallen NH
September 16, 2018, Rye NH
http://www.runforthefallennh.com/

Seacoast Salutes
September 30, 2018, Portsmouth NH
http://www.seacoastsalutes.com/

ARMY-NAVY BASEBALL GAME AT FENWAY PARK
On Friday, April 20, Fenway Park will play host to the historic Army - Navy rivalry. Starting at 6 p.m., the Army Black Knights baseball team will take on the Midshipmen of the United States Naval Academy.
Tickets are just $10! Net proceeds from the game will benefit the Home Base Program, a partnership between Massachusetts General Hospital and the Red Sox Foundation that helps veterans suffering from PTSD and other "invisible wounds of war". All Military in uniform will be granted entry for free.

https://www.mlb.com/redsox/tickets/events/army-navy
• Past and Present Military Benefits Expo, New England College, Friday, 20 APR 18 (Curt)
  o Mike stays at office on Friday 20 APR. Curt goes to event
  o Fridays are our training days

• Seacoast Veterans Conference, Service Credit Union, Portsmouth, Saturday 14 APR 18 (Mike)
  o (Since there is no O/T, Mike will take Friday 13 April off and work 14 APR instead)
  o Curt is at the office on Friday 13 APR
  o Fridays are our training days

ITEMS OF INTEREST

For those of you that have issues finding copies of your military records, the following is one way of doing that. Just follow the instructions below.

Military Records

Records may be obtained by one of the following ways:

1. By linking to the National Personnel Records Center and obtaining a copy of SF 180, must provide a telephone number where you can be reached.

2. Send a request including:
   o Type of record needed
   o Veteran's full name
   o Service or Social Security number
   o Branch and dates of service, to include if person was enlisted person or an officer
   o Current mailing address and telephone number

   Mail to:

   The Adjutant General's Department
   Attn: Mr. Peter Fortier
   4 Pembroke Road, Concord, NH 03301-5652

3. E-mail Mr. Peter Fortier

4. Fax the request:
   603-225-1341, Attn: Mr. Peter Fortier

5. Phone 603-225-1380 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Historical Military Records and Information:

Due to the size of our staff in the Human Resources Office, we are not able to conduct any historical research that may require a lot of time.

Those wishing to conduct historical research of military records may do so by contacting Mr. Peter Fortier at (603) 225-1380 to coordinate a date and time that you would like to visit our archives at:
The Adjutant General's Department
4 Pembroke Road
Concord, NH 03301-5652

Form TAGNH 24 (Record Request Form)

During the convention we are hoping to hold the event below. We are still waiting on final confirmation but will verify in future issues. We are also going to have the VA Van Care Center at the Radisson as well. These are things I have always wanted to have for our members and veterans at our conventions and thanks to Curt, our Service Officer, for helping me coordinate this with the VA.

VA Benefits Information Session
WHAT: VA Benefits Information Session at The American Legion Department of New Hampshire Annual Convention. The Vet Center van will also be available.
WHEN: Friday, June 22, 2018: 1-5PM.
WHERE: DoubleTree by Hilton (formerly known as the Radisson Hotel) Manchester Downtown, 700 Elm Street, Manchester, New Hampshire, 03101, 603-625-1000

New Office Furniture

One last thing I want to mention is the Department Offices recently received some new office furniture. The old stuff to say the least was out dated and of course nothing matched according to the girls, which it didn’t! A big shout out to the Sons of the American Legion who graciously donated money so we could buy furniture for three of the offices as seen below. This furniture is better looking of course, just like myself, and it can be secured, which we could not do with the old furniture.

The Finance Office.
Lisa’s new desk.

And of course my desk, which allows for plenty of belly space!

Again, thanks to the SAL for their kind donation to our offices here in Concord.
(Answer from pg. 2, PDC Tony Rabbia)

Renew – Recruit - Reconnect

Please Post