TO MY LEGION FAMILY:

THE 97TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

Now that the Department Convention is over with it is time to concentrate on the National Convention that is fast approaching and is to be held on August 25 – September 3, 2015. The convention sight this year will be Baltimore, Maryland. I will be out of the office from August 23rd to September 4th during this time period. Those interested in going have been registered and we have a delegation of about 40 going to Baltimore this year. This is our time to voice our concerns on issues effecting the American Legion and veterans of this country.

I have set up a tab on the front page of the department website for the National Convention where I will continue to attach information for this convention as time goes along.
NATIONAL COMMANDER AND LEAD CANDIDATE VISITS

National Commander Dale Barnett will be visiting the Department on September 10-13, 2015.

He will be the keynote speaker at the Global War on Terrorism Memorial remembrance ceremony at Hampton, NH Post 35 at 6:00 PM

On Saturday, September 12, 2015, 10:00 AM, he and Department Commander John Graham will be leading a 2.1-mile walk to raise awareness of the American Legion and also fundraiser for the National Emergency Fund. The walk will commence and terminate at Sweeney Post 2 with a barbeque to follow at the Post. Sponsorship will be $20.00 per person and will include a T Shirt and the barbeque.

We encourage all Legion Family and guests to support this event as well as to give our National Commander a big New Hampshire welcome. We will also be having a Legion Family booth at Veterans’ Park at this event. We will need volunteers from all of the Legion Family.

The Lead Candidate for 2016 National Commander, Charlie Schmidt from the Department of Oregon, will be visiting our state from Thursday November 19 thru Monday November 23, 2015.

Comrade Schmidt will be attending the Post 79 Thanksgiving Day for veterans at the Tilton Veterans’ Home and the VA Medical Center on Sunday, November 22, 2015 at 11:00. AM. All Legion family is welcomed to attend this event to honor our veterans domiciled at these facilities. Not only will there be great food, there will also be entertainment to follow with the AOH Pipe Band and the Amoskeag Strummers!

Any Post who would like the above dignitaries to attend their Posts please contact:

Bill Roy
23 Cambridge Court
Manchester NH 03103
603-315-5829
wmroy@comcast.net

For the National Commander’s Walk:

Ken Maynard ANEC
6 Epping Woods Rd
Epping, NH 03042
603-817-0515
kenmay1@comcast.net
On July 20, President Obama signed into law P.L. 114-31, a bill that creates a new identification card (ID) for military veterans. Sponsored by Representative Vern Buchanan (FL), the bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to issue a veteran's identification card (VA currently only provides VA-enrolled veterans an ID card). The newly-legislated VA card would allow veterans to prove their veteran status without having to carry a military service record, such as the most common form of proof of service known as the "DD-214." DD-214s contain sensitive personal information, such as the veteran’s Social Security Number, thus leaving a veteran at risk for identity theft.

Sec. 2) Directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to issue a veteran's identification card to a requesting veteran who is neither entitled to military retired pay nor enrolled in the VA system of patient enrollment.

Requires such card, among other things, to: (1) display the veteran's name and photograph, and (2) serve as proof that the veteran has a DD-214 form or other official document in his or her military personnel file that describes the veteran's military service.

Directs VA to charge a card fee.

States that such card shall not serve as proof of entitlement to any benefits.

We are waiting to hear from VA concerning when they plan on rolling out the new VA ID Cards. As soon as we receive confirmation, we will provide you with an update.

**Scam Phone calls**

This is not just restricted to our members or veterans but has become a ever increasing problem throughout the region and wanted to touch on it since a friend of mine was a victim of this scam a short time ago.

People have been getting phonecalls from people representing themselves as IRS agents and telling people there are warrants out for their arrests or the IRS is going to be seizing property and so forth and requires the person to provide information and/or asking for money to cancel the warrant or seizure. Some of these calls go like this.
PHONE CALL 1: This is Officer Ward of the IRS Investigation Audit Unit. We have conducted a preliminary audit of your 2010-2015 tax returns and found serious discrepancies sufficient to allow us to immediately file suit and attach all of your assets. (When client picked up the phone, nervously, the caller said that she is advised to contact a good attorney since this is very serious…….)

PHONE CALL 2. Hello, I am calling from the IRS to tell you that the action has been entered in court and that a non-bailable warrant has been issued for your arrest. I confirm that you reside at xxx address (the correct one) and that you have children named… (the correct ones). (This call was not answered but listened to. The caller had personal information on the taxpayer. I assume that if the taxpayer picked up the phone, there was a plan to send them money to strike the warrant for arrest, etc.)

If you happen to get one of these calls make sure you let your local authorities know about it and remember to never provide money, personal information, or account information over the phone to a person claiming to be from the IRS without confirming this to be true. The IRS has made it known that it does not do business this way and would never ask for money or information over the phone.

**Foxwoods Casino Bus Trip**

*Saturday, October 17th*

Bus leaves Post at 7:00am
Returns to Post at 7:00pm

*Sweeney Post 2*

251 Maple St, Manchester NH 03103

30.00 per person

Includes….

- $10 voucher for lunch
- $15 Bonus play
- 50/50 on the way down
• Light snacks on the bus
• **Tickets can be purchased with credit card at 603-623-9145**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Prisoners of War and Missing In Action:**

WWII- 73,515  Korea- 7,852  Vietnam-1,627  Cold War- 126  Iraq and other conflicts-6
Total: 83,126  (This information came from August 2015 Auxiliary Magazine in an article called Let’s Never Forget Our POW/MIAs)

**Historical Dates:**

- August 1**th** 1943: Initial bombing of oil fields in Ploiesti, Romania
- 2**nd** 1990: Operation Desert Shield begins
- 2**nd** 1943: Australian Coastwatchers sent coded message noting sinking of John F. Kennedy’s PT109
- 2**nd** 1990 Iraq invaded Kuwait
- 5**th** 1963 Representative of U.S., UK, and USSR signed limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
- 6**th** 1945 U.S. dropped atomic bomb on Hiroshima
- 6**th** 1918 Aisne-Marne Campaign ends
- 7**th** 1782 Badge of Military Merit (Purple Heart) established
- 7**th** 1864 Shenandoah Campaign begins
- 7**th** 1942 U.S. forces land on Guadalcanal
- 9**th** 1945 U.S. drops atomic bomb on Nagasaki
- 10**th** 1861 Battle of Wilson’s Creek
- 11**th** 1972 Last U.S. ground combat unit departed Vietnam
- 13**th** 1898 U.S. forces capture Manila
- 13**th** 1961 construction of the Berlin Wall began
- 14**th** 1982 President Reagan declared this day Navajo Codetalkers Day
- 15**th** 1944 Allied Forces land in Southern France (Operation Dragoon)
- 15**th** 1945 Japan announces its surrender
- 16**th** 1777 Battle of Bennington
- 16**th** 1858 First exchange of telegraph communications occurred with congratulatory messages between Queen Victoria and President James Buchanan
20th 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia
21st 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers
21st 1865 Civil War officially declared over
22nd 1956 Chinese fighters shot down U.S. Navy reconnaissance plane over Shengsi Islands killing all sixteen crew members
25th 1944 Allied forces liberated Paris
26th 1776 Battle of Long Island begins
28th 1775 Quebec Campaign begins
28th 1862 Battle of Second Bull Run (Manassas) begins
29th 1776 Battle of Long Island ends
29th 1779 Battle of Newtown
29th 1949 Soviets detonate their first atomic bomb
30th 1862 Battle of Second Bull Run (Manassas) ends

**Veterans in Congress**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41%</td>
<td>1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68%</td>
<td>1951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69%</td>
<td>1961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78%</td>
<td>1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76%</td>
<td>1981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69%</td>
<td>1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38%</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29%</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18%</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: Congressional Research Service)

**WELCOME TO THE TEAM**

We have been looking for an individual to replace our hard working clerk here at the office, *Ned Brooks*, who has been looking to finally retire completely and live the good life. We have been searching for some time and we have finally found the right person. I would like to welcome *Terri Ouellette*, wife of our Department Vice Commander, Emil Ouellette, to the Department of New Hampshire office team. Terri has jumped in with both feet and is training with Ned for a couple weeks learning from the master. We will miss Ned and he has been a big part of the success of this office since I took over as Adjutant 3 years ago. On behalf of Jim, Lisa, and I, we wish Ned the best in his future and we welcome Terri with open arms and I am confident she will continue with the great work Ned has done over his years as clerk for this Department.

**PLEASE POST ON YOUR POST'S BULLETIN BOARD**