

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES**  
**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

# the Montana **VETERAN**



Glacier Park - Bear Grass



**Volume 20**  
**No. 2**

**mtvfw.org**  
**Aug./Sept./Oct./Nov.**



## Montana Ends Year as #1 in the World in Membership



**JACK HAWLEY**

Montana VFW ended the 2016-2017 year in first place for the first time since the Department of Montana was chartered on June 1st, 1928. Not only did the Department finish in first place but the Department grew by more than four (4) percent. The Department moved into first place in mid-December and never looked back. Thanks to all the Posts and Districts in Montana working toward the same goal you made it happen. We also ended the year with five (5) Districts and six (6) Posts receiving All-American status. We also had 54 out of 71 Posts make All-State status. Thank you for all your hard work and all the effort you put into getting your annual members to extend their membership. We are also back on top as

be 100% Gold Legacy Life. WOW what a year.

State Commander Jack Hawley started his year as Commander with a plan for success and he worked tirelessly to that end. If you were on his email list, you heard from him regularly. Commander Hawley always made it all about you, he never took credit for what your Post did but encouraged your Post to do more, and you did. Every time anyone from national mentioned Montana in person or an email he was the first to make sure the Posts and Districts got the credit. Commander Hawley was heard at the state convention saying, "I'm so proud of what our Posts and Districts have done this year. I was so blessed to have so many dedicated members all working together, it's such a humbling feeling to be their State Commander."

We have lost so many members in the last few years falling below 7,200. We need to continue to grow over the next three (3) years, we need to continue to work our membership lists and encourage our annual members to upgrade to life and we need to get back above 8,000. The eligible veterans are out there, but for the most part they are not going to come to us, we all need to ask them to join the VFW. Congratulations Montana on a great year.

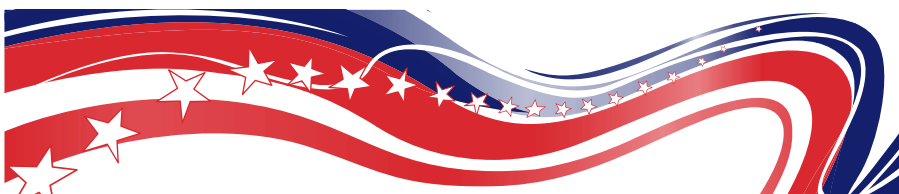
the highest percentage of Legacy Life members, by per-capita of any Department due in great part to Hot Springs Post 5159 that became the only Post in the world to

## Member of the Year



Our State Adjutant/Quartermaster Tim Peters was selected as member of the year at our state convention last month in Billings. It's not easy to keep Tim in the dark about much here in Montana, but he was actually surprised to be selected as member of the year. In the last five years we have not selected a member of the year. If anyone deserved to be member of the year it was Tim. Tim always puts us before anything else. He works countless hours at the office and on the road helping everyone that asks. We thought we were going to lose him to our National Headquarters but their loss is our gain. This organization's success is dependent on our leaders and everyone knows the Quartermaster is the backbone of the Post, District and the Department. We are so lucky to have him and I know he plans on staying on as our State Adjutant/Quartermaster for four more years.

Congratulations Tim you deserve it.



On March 3, 2017 a beautiful Friday afternoon at the Anaconda Deer Lodge County Court House, CMSgt. USAF, Retired, Joseph Kitchel from Anaconda, a twenty-six year Veteran, had his biography read and his uniform displayed. His uniform is the 17th to be so honored and will be on display for the next three months. Anaconda VFW Post 1876 and American Legion Post 21 Color Guard provided the colors. Pictured are Joseph and his wife Susan.

Photo by Barry Dechaine

## Deadlines

All articles and pictures have to be into Department Headquarters on or before the following dates for the next three issues of **The Montana Veteran**.

October 15, 2017 ..... Dec-Jan-Feb-Mar  
 February 15, 2018 ..... Apr-May-June-July  
 June 15, 2018 ..... Aug-Sept-Oct-Nov

## Coming Events

**DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

<b>DISTRICT #4 DILLON</b>	<b>  SEP 16</b>	<b>  10:00-12:00</b>
<b>DISTRICT #5 MALTA</b>	<b>  SEP 16</b>	<b>  10:00-12:00</b>
<b>DISTRICT #6 MILES CITY</b>	<b>  SEP 17</b>	<b>  10:00-12:00</b>
<b>DISTRICT #1 TROY</b>	<b>  SEP 23</b>	<b>  08:00-10:00</b>
<b>DISTRICT #2 HAVRE</b>	<b>  SEP 30</b>	<b>  08:00-10:00</b>
<b>DISTRICT #3 BILLINGS 1634</b>	<b>  OCT 7</b>	<b>  08:00-10:00</b>

# COMMANDER'S REPORT



**CHARLES CARROLL**

Greetings,  
I was recently installed as your Department Commander for the next year and I want to thank all of you who supported my candidacy. Commander Jack Hawley has done a remarkable job in

leading our organization: We are currently ranked as the number one VFW Department in the World. I want to thank Jack and his team for getting us to this milestone position, and to ask you to continue supporting our causes to remain in the number one slot for the next year. The major yardstick by which we measure success is in maintaining our status quo with regards to membership statistics and recruiting new members. It will take a lot of hard work, but I am convinced that the folks of Montana will rise to the challenge.

One aspect of living in this century is the use of various instant communication techniques. We have email, computer driven programs and smart phones, just to name a few. Having the access to this lightning fast communication is key to getting our input to our elected officials and working to focus their energies towards our goals. The paragraph below illustrates one such aspect that we recently used. I need everyone to get an email address and to provide that to our State Headquarters so that we can instantly

communicate with you about new and emergent needs regarding Veterans causes.

Recently we were faced with a bill in our State House of Representatives that would have placed a very unfair burden on every Veteran Service group in the State. We were able to marshal support to overturn this legislation because of phone calls and emails to our elected representatives from many of you and your colleagues from across the state. We were successful because we had a significant number of folks call or email in a very short period of time. We got their attention. Folks the work is not done. We need to continue to let our representatives know what we need.

One way that every one of you can be involved is through our "Grass Roots Advocacy" programs. If you have access to a computer with internet capability you can provide very valuable and immediate input to our causes. The VFW has a program called ACTION CORPS. This is extremely easy to use and gets immediate focus on our needs as a Veterans Service organization. First you will need to establish a logon with VFW.org. Once you have access you can select "Grassroots Advocacy" programs and it will walk you through the signup procedure. Every Friday the VFW sends out their Action Corps bulletin which gives information about how the VFW is working for you. Occasionally it will ask you to contact elected officials. This part is easy: All you have to do is select the start button and the program will give you some sample ideas

COMMANDER, continued on page 10

# SENIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT



**JOE FLETCHER**

As I look back over the past year I am filled with thankfulness and grateful to be part of the greatest Veterans Organization there is. What a year this has been and as I write this article, we are still NUMBER

ONE in the entire world.

To our immediate past Department Commander Jack Hawley, my personal congratulations on a "Job Well Done." Your leadership, guidance and encouragement made it happen and I know that your entire team was there with you every step you made, and I will not attempt to name them for fear that I would leave someone out. My sincere thanks to everyone. I am so proud of each of you. Commander Carroll, myself and Jr. Vice Bob Schwegel have some big shoes to fill. But with your dedication and hard work, again we will together make Montana proud again.

A word about membership, it is the strength of our organization and I understand it sometimes is like that is all we talk about, but it is extremely important to our future as an organization. I have become convinced that our elected folks

in Washington DC are entrenched with the idea that our fellow veterans do not deserve the benefits which we have earned and all we are looking for are handouts from Washington. I encourage each and every one of us to be diligent in watching what they do to us and remember them at the ballot box. Our fellow veterans, to include current active duty and their families deserve better. They should do what is right for America's Veterans and forget the political party rhetoric. This is why it is so vitally important to have a strong viable membership. I encourage you that are in communities where we have Montana National Guard Armories and Reserve Centers to contact their local full time Unit Administrators and/or Readiness NCOs and see if you can attend a weekend drill, address them for a few minutes and then set up a table where they can talk to you one-on-one. These soldiers, airmen, sailors and marines are out there. Let's make every effort to get them into our organization. I will be out there myself traveling to many of those locations, and looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming fall district meetings.

**Joe Fletcher**  
Sr. Vice Commander

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Harold Wheeler, Teacher's	5312 3rd Ave. S. Great Falls 59405	217-5194
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Rick Osborn, Patriot's Pen	524 N 23rd St Apt 17 Billings 59101	702-0378
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	<b>Senior Vice Commander Joe Fletcher</b>	<b>727-7546</b>
	Junior Vice Commander Bob Schwegel	438-7272
	<b>Adjutant Tim Peters</b>	<b>324-3992</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>Service Officer Dan Arnold</b>	<b>452-2265</b>
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Tim Peters	P.O. Box 4789 Ft. Harrison 59636 montanavfw@gmail.com	324-3992
Art Widhalm	PO Box 182 St Marie 59231 Chiefhunter2u@yahoo.com	524-3761

**Trustees:**  
Ed Viig, Dave Johnson and John Harris  
By-Laws Committee: Art Widhalm, Jack Hawley, Joe Murnion

## JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT



**BOB SCHWEGEL**

As we begin a new year, I would like to congratulate all of the new officers and chairmen. Most of all, I thank each and every one of our Montana members who placed their confidence in me by electing me as the State Jr. Vice-Commander. I am looking forward to the opportunity to continue to build on the legacy Past Commander Jack Hawley gave us this past year. I bring with me the

same dedication, devotion to duty, and professionalism that made my past assignments in the Department a success. I will strive to continue to serve our members, families, active duty Guard and Reserve, as well as the communities in which we live. With all of us working together for a common purpose, I firmly believe we can have another great year with Commander Chuck Carroll. Remember the motto "The West is the Best" and a new motto "Montana is the Best of the West." Again, I am looking forward to another great year and am proud to be part of the team.

**Bob Schwegel  
Jr. Vice-Commander**

## CHAPLAIN'S REPORT



**JIM PORTER**

Comrades and Auxiliary members let me first say, "Good luck in the coming year in each of your Posts & Auxiliaries, and May God be with each of you & your families. I want to say how much I have thoroughly enjoyed being your Chaplain for the past year. It has been a real treasure for me. Then I was appointed Chaplain for the Marine Corp. League, Det. #688 in Great Falls, that makes me very proud as well. I told all of them the same thing as I have mentioned to all of you, if you have a sickness, death, or someone just needs a little extra prayer, let me know. I will put it on the "prayer chain". Something to remember, anyone that has ever been on a battleground, or

had comrades die in front of them, they need all the prayers they can get. Please don't ever forget, "there is no limit to the power of prayer." If you think God isn't working quite fast enough to suit you, just remember how many requests God gets in a day. He hears all of us, but he knows what is best, even though it may not be just the way you think it should. I have decided not to run for Dept. Junior-Vice. I would truly like to stay right where I am, as your Chaplain. I am not going to make any campaign promises, but I do here-by promise that if I am re-elected as Dept. Chaplain, I will do the very best job I can. Annie & I pray that each of you & your families will have a terrific Independence Day, a very good Labor Day, and most of all, a very safe & enjoyable summer. Take care & God Bless each of you.

**Jim Porter  
State Chaplain**

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## PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S REPORT



**JACK HAWLEY**

Comrades,  
Well my time as commander has run its course. I have turned the gavel over to Commander Chuck Carroll who will do a great job. Please give him the same hard work and dedication as you gave me during my year.

The State of Montana is still leading the nation in membership and it wouldn't happen without you. When we work as a team no one is better than our State and we proved it. I will continue on as the Commander's membership chairman and State Inspector. As membership chairman I ask you to sit back and relax a bit and only concentrate on members that are due in July and August and new members. Around September we will start hitting it hard. Go to the yellow ribbons and set up a table, go to the stand downs and set up a table, go to the guard and reserve units. I know that we only hit the tip of the iceberg last year. We have lots of young men and women that are eligible to be members and it's our duty to bring them into our family. I will still travel around the state and help anyone that needs a hand, I'm here for you. Tim, Art, and myself are certified recruiters and were ready to assist.

My other great passion is the Life Legacy program. We did really good last year, but I still think we can do better. It is a Nobel deed that a comrade can leave a gift of his or her legacy for generations to come. Get with Tim Peters or myself and we will get you set up as a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Legacy Life Member.

I would like to say a few words about last year. You made me so proud of all your accomplishments. It was a lot of hard

work but the end results were fantastic, even I was taken back of what we did. Tim and I worked hard to improve the tools we have to work with and it paid off. Changes were made and are still being made. So again, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for having the opportunity to serve you as State Commander. I will continue to work hard for the State of Montana and all veterans to help maintain the benefits that we all earned.

The State raffle last year was a huge success and afforded me to give back a little something to the posts, districts, and individuals for your hard work and dedication to both the posts and the community's you live in. For those of you that were unable to come to the State Convention Tim Peters was awarded Member of the Year, an award that was well overdue. Take a few minutes and congratulate him on this prestigious award.

I would also like to congratulate Joe Fletcher on moving up to State Senior Vice Commander and Bob Schwegel on becoming the new State Junior Vice Commander. Now we have to find him a hat that will fit him - I'm sure his head has swelled by now.

Thank you Billings Posts 1634 and 6774 for having a great Convention. And Congratulations to all our All-State Post Commanders and Quartermasters. Good Luck and Congratulations to those post Commanders and Quartermasters that will become All-Americans. The two awards are the highest recognition that are awarded in the VFW and by wearing the hat it shows you are the best of the best. If you were not an All-State Commander or Quartermaster or have aspirations in being an All-American, let Tim or I know and we can tell you what you need to do.

**Jack Hawley  
Past State Commander**



## e-Edition

Same format as our printed edition.

You can view the current issue and other back issues of the *Montana Veteran* on our website at [mtvfw.org](http://mtvfw.org)

# What is a Legacy Life Member?

A Legacy Life member is another level of the VFW life membership program. It is intended to give our life members a way to leave a lasting legacy to the VFW. Future generations will know you not only for the sacrifices you made as a veteran but for the contributions you made as a member. **That's a legacy to be proud of.** When you become a Legacy Life Member, you are helping us strengthen the VFW where "NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS". There are 3 prestigious levels of Legacy Life Membership are available, (Gold, Silver, or Bronze). Each level offers generous benefits reserved exclusively for Legacy Life Members. Once your Legacy Life Membership begins, an annual endowment in your name will be made to your Post, Department, and the organization. You will feel confident knowing your contributions to our organization are helping not only today's veterans but the veterans of tomorrow. Future generations will know and remember you for the sacrifices you've made during your time in uniform in addition to the contributions you've made as a VFW Legacy Life Member. You will always be a member of your Post even after you're gone. Now Legacy Life memberships can be purchased for deceased life members, this is a great way to honor our past life members and keep them on the rolls of your post. If you are a life member and are interested in this program simply contact your Department Headquarters at (406)324-3992 for an application.

## LEGACY LIFE MEMBER EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS

### MEMBER INCENTIVES

	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
	\$400	\$800	\$1200
Plated Engraved Life Member Card	●	●	●
Lapel Pin	●	●	●
Hat Pin	●	●	●
Distinctive Emblem & Supply Line for Legacy Life Members	●	●	●
Framed Certificate for Legacy Life Membership	●	●	●
Recognition on Internet & Convention Program	●	●	●
Recognition at Kiosks at Memorial Building in Washington, D.C. and Museum at National Headquarters	●	●	●
Special Plaque	●	●	●
Hat Patch	●	●	●
Personalized Brick at Centennial Plaza	●	●	●
Emblem & Supply Discounts (For Personal Use Only)	5%	10%	15%
Increased Level of No-Cost AD&D Insurance	\$2000	\$3500	\$5000
Annual Endowment: Post	\$6	\$12	\$18
Annual Endowment: Dept.	\$6	\$12	\$18



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**  
**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

### Become a Veterans' Advocate

Join the VFW Action Corps here:

[www.vfw.org/weekly](http://www.vfw.org/weekly)

and receive the Washington Weekly e-newsletter  
 and All VFW Action Alerts.

# LEGACY LIFE HONOR ROLL

William J. Reneau	Gold Post 209	Dale J. Bender	Silver Post 3107
Dean House	Gold Post 276	Roy P. Christenson*	Silver Post 3107
Kelly W. Kvigne	Gold Post 276	Lee E. Erickson	Silver Post 3107
John G. Pearce	Gold Post 276	Kenneth K. Kautz	Silver Post 3107
Lawrence Cunningham*	Gold Post 1087	Felice H. Wilson	Silver Post 3107
Bradley A. Damron	Gold Post 1087	Otto J. Otnes	Silver Post 3596
William A. Darby	Gold Post 1087	Ludwig J. Rigler	Silver Post 10010
Joe R. Fletcher	Gold Post 1087	Eric Dunn	Bronze Post 209
Jack A. Hawley	Gold Post 1087	Ross A. Beagle	Bronze Post 276
Arthur P. Marshall Jr.	Gold Post 1087	Dennis G. Dreyer	Bronze Post 276
Anthony G. Morris	Gold Post 1087	Fred Hamilton	Bronze Post 276
Fred D. Nester	Gold Post 1087	Kenneth A. Herrmann	Bronze Post 276
William M. Rose	Gold Post 1087	Samuel L. House	Bronze Post 276
Gerald E. Van Every	Gold Post 1087	Robert Sammon	Bronze Post 276
Thomas A. Pouliot	Gold Post 1116	Charles F. Davis	Bronze Post 1087
Daniel P. Antonietti*	Gold Post 1448	Harold D. Floyd	Bronze Post 1087
John R. Fish Jr.*	Gold Post 1448	Laureen A. Hawley	Bronze Post 1087
Melvin W. Kieninger	Gold Post 1448	Paul T. Quinn	Bronze Post 1087
Ronald R. McLeod	Gold Post 1448	Eugene E. Olson	Bronze Post 1116
Ronald R. Peterson	Gold Post 1448	Michael L. Lawson	Bronze Post 1448
Carrol D. Koenig	Gold Post 1634	Troy A. McDowall	Bronze Post 1579
William D. Pirrie III	Gold Post 1723	James A. Ussin	Bronze Post 1634
James C. Aho	Gold Post 2252	Kenneth C. Handl	Bronze Post 2154
Duane Barrett*	Gold Post 3107	Michael J. Bennett, Jr	Bronze Post 2252
Norman K. Dahl*	Gold Post 3107	Robert Franczek	Bronze Post 2252
Albert Franzen	Gold Post 3107	William J. Metteer	Bronze Post 2252
George Kolstad	Gold Post 3107	James L. Amundson	Bronze Post 3107
E.C. Buster Lenoir*	Gold Post 3107	Lance A. Bender	Bronze Post 3107
Russell O. Lenoir	Gold Post 3107	Charles Bradford Jr.	Bronze Post 3107
Gerald L. Murch	Gold Post 3107	Reid B. Coldwell	Bronze Post 3107
Edwin V. Swanson*	Gold Post 3107	Michael K. Corey	Bronze Post 3107
Walter E. Watts	Gold Post 3107	Earl Fuhrman*	Bronze Post 3107
Arthur J. Widhalm	Gold Post 3107	Floyd R. Hopstad	Bronze Post 3107
Wilmer F. Zeller	Gold Post 3107	Michael J. Lenoir	Bronze Post 3107
Kenneth C. Williams*	Gold Post 3177	Byron M. Lindsay	Bronze Post 3107
Charles Oelschlager	Gold Post 3596	Gerald F. Myers*	Bronze Post 3107
Leslie L. Poland	Gold Post 4099	Marvin J. Olson	Bronze Post 3107
James G. Porter	Gold Post 4669	Steve Page	Bronze Post 3107
Robert W. Moran*	Gold Post 4725	Kenneth E. Page*	Bronze Post 3107
Gary L. Race	Gold Post 4725	Leon H. Pearce	Bronze Post 3107
Irwin D. Bangen	Gold Post 5159	Harold A. Potter*	Bronze Post 3107
Orville M. Bjorge	Gold Post 5159	Marvin L. Potter	Bronze Post 3107
Joun C. Bras	Gold Post 5159	LeRoy R. Stein*	Bronze Post 3107
Steven L. Buck	Gold Post 5159	William H. Sugg, Jr.	Bronze Post 3107
Hugh R. Butler	Gold Post 5159	Manley L. Tiffany	Bronze Post 3107
Russell J. Carey	Gold Post 5159	Edwin M. Yohn	Bronze Post 3107
Donald A. Carr	Gold Post 5159	Adam R. Zamborowski	Bronze Post 3107
Roy M. DeLong	Gold Post 5159	Edwin M. Zamborowski	Bronze Post 3107
Donald M. Decker	Gold Post 5159	Everett E. Crum Jr.	Bronze Post 4099
Larry J. Douglass	Gold Post 5159	Troy H. Garza	Bronze Post 4099
Rachel R. Fisher	Gold Post 5159	Joe M. Halversen*	Bronze Post 4099
Lyle T. Fisher	Gold Post 5159	Louie A. Kuylen	Bronze Post 4099
Randall E. Giese	Gold Post 5159	Harold E. Lorenz	Bronze Post 4099
Derwin F. Halvorson Jr.	Gold Post 5159	Eugene N. Ronningen	Bronze Post 4099
Henry F. Hanson	Gold Post 5159	Stanley K. Rosaaen	Bronze Post 4099
Lloyd G. Heinselmann	Gold Post 5159	Lawrence R. Troutd	Bronze Post 4099
Victor Holmberg	Gold Post 5159	Vernon E. Wilson*	Bronze Post 4099
Robert L. Jackson II	Gold Post 5159	Paul L. Holmgren*	Bronze Post 4762
Howell K. Joiner	Gold Post 5159	Alfred J. Adolph	Bronze Post 4925
Thomas W. Magera	Gold Post 5159	Daniel C. Barta	Bronze Post 4925
Zachary Malinak	Gold Post 5159	Jack L. Burger*	Bronze Post 4925
Alan J. McCoy	Gold Post 5159	Loren R. Erbe	Bronze Post 4925
Daniel M. Oberlander	Gold Post 5159	Harry Kowalczyk	Bronze Post 4925
Stephen M. Sedladko	Gold Post 5159	John G. Leggett	Bronze Post 4925
Victor J. Stobie	Gold Post 5159	Paul R. Meged	Bronze Post 4925
Jerry A. Sutton	Gold Post 5159	Douglas H. Parrott	Bronze Post 4925
Joel W. Thomas	Gold Post 5159	Henry A. Plott*	Bronze Post 4925
Clifford S. Tolman	Gold Post 5159	Ronald J. Merwin	Bronze Post 5652
James L. Wellington	Gold Post 5159	Will D. Juhl	Bronze Post 6774
Clayton H. White	Gold Post 5159	Donald R. Kendall	Bronze Post 6774
Ted H. Wilburn	Gold Post 5159	Clifford E. Schleusner*	Bronze Post 6774
D. B. Zimmer	Gold Post 5159	Robert J. Sutton	Bronze Post 6774
John C. Fay	Gold Post 5652	Howard J. Aemisegger	Bronze Post 6786
Richard L. Osborn	Gold Post 5748	Terry Beezley	Bronze Post 6786
John T. Freetly	Gold Post 6774	James H. Burns	Bronze Post 6786
Paul R. Harper	Gold Post 6774	James H. Follensbee	Bronze Post 6786
John C. Lattimer*	Gold Post 6774	Leo A. Howe	Bronze Post 6786
Russell H. Mobraaten	Gold Post 6774	J. P. Hume*	Bronze Post 6786
Francis E. Croucher	Gold Post 6786	Patrick L. McKeever	Bronze Post 6786
Robert T. Schweigel	Gold Post 6786	John C. Mueller	Bronze Post 6786
Ken R. Utter	Gold Post 6786	Thomas H. Price	Bronze Post 6786
Gary O. Borland	Gold Post 7311	Francis L. Utter	Bronze Post 6786
Charles M. Handley	Gold Post 7311	Dale F. Wassmann	Bronze Post 7311
Barton W. Lawson	Gold Post 7311	Paul E. Coble	Bronze Post 8292
Edward A. Viig	Gold Post 7311	Carl J. Graham	Bronze Post 8292
Thomas H. Armstrong	Gold Post 8292	Charles R. Thompson	Bronze Post 9040
Carl M. Carver	Gold Post 8292	Edward J. Boucher	Bronze Post 10010
Terry W. Lambert	Gold Post 8292	John R. Buckley*	Bronze Post 10010
William I. Mackley	Gold Post 8292	LeRoy S. Johnson	Bronze Post 10010
George F. Fryett, Jr	Gold Post 9040	David F. Johnson	Bronze Post 10010
Elmer D. Bernard	Gold Post 10010	Melvin V. Johnson*	Bronze Post 10010
William R. Bovee*	Gold Post 10010	Dale A. Person	Bronze Post 10010
Michael C. Buckley	Gold Post 10010	Robert J. Russ*	Bronze Post 10010
Lyle F. Pedersen	Gold Post 10010	George C. Stump Jr.	Bronze Post 10010
Timothy C. Peters	Gold Post 10010	Roy E. Jordan	Bronze Post 15027
Ruthie M. Buttrick-Best	Gold Post 15027		
Robert P. Seely	Silver Post 2154		

\* Deceased

Total 192

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

## All-State Posts 2016-2017

Post 209	City Missoula	4725	Red Lodge
276	Whitefish	4762	Columbus
497	Havre	4813	Circle
1025	Reedpoint	4925	Roundup
1087	Great Falls	5159	Hot Springs
1125	Glendive	5514	Troy
1448	Butte	5556	Noxon
1551	Harlowton	5652	Ronan
1579	Miles City	5748	Joliet
1595	Broadus	6786	Eureka
1634	Billings	7311	Absarokee
1703	Lewistown	7407	Worden
1849	Forsyth	7407	Hardin
2154	Livingston	7481	Three Forks
2252	Kalispell	7621	Conrad
3107	Glasgow	7655	Jordan
3177	Laurel	7886	Richey
3648	Basin	7887	Maxville
3831	Pony	8292	Medicine Lake
4018	Plentywood	8869	Sunburst
4042	Bigfork	8952	East Helena
4047	Fort Benton	10010	*Captain*
4067	Malta	12112	Belgrade
4099	Sidney		District #1
4109	Fairfield		District #2
4198	Belt		District #3
4603	Whitehall		District #4
4669	Black Eagle		District #5
			District #6

## All-American 2016-2017

Post 209  
Post 1087  
Post 2154  
Post 5652  
Post 5748  
Post 10010  
District #1  
District #2  
District #3  
District #4  
District #5  
Department



### Post 5478 of Joliet Flag Ceremony

On April 24, 2017, Post 5748 of Joliet performed a flag ceremony at the Joliet High School. The ceremony included replacement of flag along with burning of old flags. With the help of Chad Massar, Ag Teacher, who was assisted by several members of the local FFA, a good ceremony was given. In attendance at the ceremony from Post 5748 were Rick Grewell, Commander; Ray Locke, Quartermaster; and Rick Osborn, Junior Vice Commander. Students and teachers from all grades 1-12 were in attendance at this ceremony. Purpose of ceremony was to give awareness to students about proper flag etiquette. The event was well received by all in attendance.

### Montana VFW Henry Rifle Raffle



#### Monthly Gun Raffle

October to June 2018

**2 Henry VFW Tribute Rifles**

11 – Rifles and Shotguns

1 Gun Safe

1 Per Month, 2 in Jan and 2 in June

And 1 Gun Safe in June

Tickets \$10 each or 3 for \$20

See Your Local VFW for Tickets

# 2017 State Convention



*Congressman Greg Gianforte talks to the members that attended the convention.*



*District #3 Commander Mike Ward lights candle during the memorial service for the members of District #3 that passed away this year.*



*Barb Peters lights candle for the POW/MIA table.*



*Sr. Vice State Commander Chuck Carroll was Master of Ceremonies at the Convention Banquet.*



*Chuck Carroll takes oath of office as our new State Commander.*

# 2017 State Convention



*Susan Abney, Hope Trinity and her daughter in front of their First Place Poppy display.*



*George Tayer receives Community Activities award from National Rep Joe Davis & State Commander Jack Hawley.*



*Art Widhalm and Denise Tiffany receive Community Activities award from National Rep Joe Davis & State Commander Jack Hawley.*



*Val Burges gives military history seminar at convention.*



*Members of Post 276 stand in front of their Poppy display.*

We  
Support  
Our  
Veterans

**REMEMBER:**  
Show your support  
any time of the year by  
distributing Buddy Poppies.

*The flower of remembrance*  
They Gave, Will You?  
Honor the Dead by Helping the Living

# TAPS

## Montana VFW comrades who have transferred to Post Everlasting

Post	First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name	Post	First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name
209	George	M	Gratzer	4018	Emanuel	F	States
209	John	K	Armstrong	4042	Charles	T	Elliott
276	Terry	R	Hansen	4042	Laurence	G	Kiefer
276	Warren	H	Scott	4042	Robert	L	Tice
497	Robert	N	Prim	4042	Don	B	Torgerson
689	Wayne	L	Mckee	4099	Ralph	J	Folven
1087	William	M	Lowden	4099	Cecil		Gartner
1116	Elmo	H	Pennington	4099	Lloyd	M	Quinnell
1125	Larry	D	Preston	4099	Raymond	R	Rumfelt
1430	Roy	C	Meyer	4109	Robert Carl		Carlson
1430	Gordon	W	Miller	4109	J	J	Dellwo
1430	Loyd	C	Russell	4109	Jack	E	Knight
1430	William	D	Stephani	4109	Anton	L	Van Setten
1448	Daniel	P	Antonietti	4198	John	H	Freie
1448	Virgil	G	Atkins	4725	Robert	A	Harsha
1448	John		Elich	4744	George		Horse Capture
1448	Lewis		Skuletich	4744	Clarence	H	Olson
1551	Perry	J	Moore	5514	Glen	C	Fifield
1579	Edward	T	Jonutis	5748	William	D	Jones
1703	Thomas	L	Killham	5748	William	H	Speigner
2154	Shad	N	Albrecht	7311	Rudolph	O	Jauregui
2154	Stanley	C	Davis	7655	Stephen	C	Kellogg
2154	Lynwood	D	Pompper	7655	James	K	Smith
2252	James	G	Edmiston	7885	Samuel	A	Denney
2252	Winford	F	Johannes	7885	Warren	O	White
2986	Harold	D	Greiner	7886	Robert	K	Baugh
3107	John	N	Etchart	7886	Patrick	A	Talbot
3107	Johnny		Kuncheff	8292	Paul	E	Coble
3107	Gary	C	Nelligan	10010	Leonard	J	Barnes
3107	Marvin	L	Potter	10010	Perry	W	Hughes
3177	James	A	Gunnels	10010	Lloyd		Mergenthaler
3596	Frank	E	Manning	10010	Bernard	R	Warren
3596	Lewis		Roy	15027	Robert	R	Edwards
3596	Miles	E	Williams	15027	Robert	J	Gerber
3648	Stewart	E	Andrews	15027	William	E	Hunt
3997	Garrett	C	Eaton	15027	William	M	Mitch
3997	John	F	Tempel	15027	Raymond	L	Peck
4018	Harry	D	Fink	15027	Russell	E	Peery
4018	Peter		Melle				

—COMMANDER, continued from Pg. 2

or a letter that will be sent on your behalf to various elected officials. You merely select the VFW suggested letter and it will be automatically delivered to our Montana representatives. Believe me, when several thousand constituents tell Congress what we want, they are more inclined to sit up and listen.

How about if our Congressional leaders would/could resolve to affect the outcomes of many global conflicts? Specifically, in order to send our troops into harm's way, they must first fund it entirely. When I say entirely, I mean the whole shooting match. Provide our folks in harm's way with all of the tools that they need to be successful, **And** fund everything necessary for their successful reintegration into society, including medical and vocational transitions. Our Congress has the propensity to fund many events where we have people in combat roles but then they turn their backs on them when they return. We must insist that Congress fund war in its entirety including the aftermath of being in a combat situation.

There have been some changes made to VA eligibility, and plans are underway to revamp more areas of VA aggregate care. Those who have filed a V.A. claim in the past and were denied can file again. Any veteran who needs help completing a VA claim for their service can contact the VFW for assistance at 1800-VFW-1899. The VFW accredits more than 1,600 service officers to assist veterans with their VA

claims and benefits, **and we have some of the best in Montana**. I would also suggest that if you already have an established claim that you contact a VFW accredited VA service officer and have your claim reviewed to see if your eligibility has changed to a higher number. To read the VA's announcement on this issue, go to: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2743>.

I urge you to get more involved with internet usage and embrace the power of instant communications. Be an advocate for our Veteran population. If you have difficulty establishing an internet presence then contact your local Post and get their support, or contact one of your State Officers who will be glad to help you get involved.

I want to reiterate what an honor and privilege it is to serve you in the capacity that I do. If you see areas that we could do better, please consider attending a meeting and let your views be known or contact me by phone or email. My contact information is available on the Montana VFW website. If you encounter Jack Hawley in your travels please take a moment to thank him for leading our State to the historic position of being number one in the world. I also ask you to keep our deployed troops in your thoughts and prayers. God Bless you and God Bless America.

**Chuck Carrol**  
State Commander

### Senators and Representatives Contact Information

**The Honorable Senator Jon Tester**  
311 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Washington Phone (202)224-2644

**The Honorable Senator Steve Daines**  
320 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Washington Phone: (202)224-2651

**The Honorable Representative Greg Gianforte**  
1419 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
Washington Phone: (202)225-3211

**WE SUPPORT  
OUR TROOPS**



## Department Service Officer

Here in Montana, we work diligently to keep up with the new processes of doing business with the VA. Our investment into a paperless claims management system has paid off! Our agency has been invited to participate as a pilot site utilizing a new paperless claims submission program called Digit to Digit (D2D).

The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) currently receives a large number of Veteran and Survivor claims and evidence is submitted and managed by our agency as the Veteran Service Organization acting on behalf of Veterans by way of a Power of Attorney (POA) relationship. Currently, all of the claims and evidence we manage is sent as paper submissions to VA via fax. To better manage the claims, last year we partnered with a software vendor to implement Vetraspec, a claims management system.

D2D is a data delivery service built to enable accredited service organizations to electronically submit data and related attachments from its claim management system to VA systems using a standardized and centralized method. It will reduce the time to submit VA claims and eliminate costs associated with filing paper claims by establishing secure and direct data transfers between the VA and accredited organizations.

The time savings will be tremendous! What used to take weeks, from submission by our organization to receipt by VA, will soon be immediate. We anticipate beginning this process in early January 2016. If you have never filed for VA benefits in the past, I encourage you to contact one of our Service Officers about beginning the process.

The goal of our 10 Montana Veterans Affairs Service Offices staffed with accredited Veterans Service Officers is to assist all veterans and their dependants with their VA benefits. Please contact us for more information.

Listed below are the MVAD/VFW offices throughout the state:

Belgrade..... (406) 388-4601  
 Billings..... (406) 248-8579  
 Butte..... (406) 533-0910  
 Great Falls..... (406) 452-2265  
 Havre..... (406) 265-4225  
 Helena..... (406) 495-2080/2081/2082/2083  
 Kalispell..... (406) 755-3795  
 Lewistown..... (406) 538-3174  
 Miles City..... (406) 232-1203  
 Missoula..... (406) 542-2501

Thank you for your service to our great country!

**Daniel Arnold**  
 Department Service Officer

## Veteran Service Offices

Helena Armed Forces Reserve Center  
 1956 Mt. Majo • PO Box 5715 • Helena, Montana 59604  
 Phone (406) 324-3740 • Fax (406) 226-7459

### Administration Offices

**FOSTER, Joe** -Administer **Phone (406) 324-3741** [jofoster@mt.gov](mailto:jofoster@mt.gov)  
**HALL, Lee Ann** -Budget Analyst **Fax (406) 226-7459** **Phone (406) 324-3740** [lehall@mt.gov](mailto:lehall@mt.gov)  
**RYCHALSKI, -Admin.** Support/Benefit Tech **Phone (406) 324-3743** [jrychalski@mt.gov](mailto:jrychalski@mt.gov)

### Cemetery Offices

**HALL, Tom** -Cemetery Program Manager **Phone (406) 324-3742** **Cell (406) 202-0530** [thall@mt.gov](mailto:thall@mt.gov)  
**WIGERT, Shawn** -Groundskeeper **Cell (406) 202-1297**  
**HOLMLUND, Kurt** -Cemetery Sexton **Fax (406) 232-2019** **Cell (406) 951-1325** [kholmlund@mt.gov](mailto:kholmlund@mt.gov)  
**AASVED, Curt** -Cemetery Sexton **Fax (406) 543-2360** **Cell (406) 396-8009** [caasved@mt.gov](mailto:caasved@mt.gov)  
**PAUL, Brady** -Groundskeeper **Phone (406) 543-2360**

### Veteran Service Offices (Locations and Counties)

#### BELGRADE

**Mahn, Janine** -Service Officer II [jmahn@mt.gov](mailto:jmahn@mt.gov)  
**Edmonds, Earl** -Service Officer I [eedmonds@mt.gov](mailto:eedmonds@mt.gov)  
 350 Airport Road  
 Belgrade, MT 59714  
**Phone (406) 388-4601**  
**Fax (406) 388-4602**  
**COUNTIES:** GALLATIN, PARK, S. MADISON, SWEET GRASS

#### BILLINGS

**Heald, Cheryl** -Regional VSO [cheald@mt.gov](mailto:cheald@mt.gov)  
**Berge, Lindsay** -Service Officer I [lberge@mt.gov](mailto:lberge@mt.gov)  
**Love, Amanda** -Service Officer I [alove@mt.gov](mailto:alove@mt.gov)  
**Keehn, Shane** -Service Officer I [skeehn@mt.gov](mailto:skeehn@mt.gov)  
**Vacant** -Service Officer I  
 2795 Enterprise Ave.  
 Billings, MT 59102  
**Phone (406) 656-0584**  
**Phone (406) 248-8579**  
**Phone (406) 259-5419**  
**Fax (406) 656-0617**  
**COUNTIES:** BIG HORN, CARBON, STILLWATER, TREASURE, YELLOWSTONE, MUSSELLSHELL, GARFIELD

#### BUTTE

**Muhammad, Saajid** -Service Officer II [smuhammad@mt.gov](mailto:smuhammad@mt.gov)  
 600 Gilman Ave.  
 Butte, MT 59701  
**Phone (406) 533-0910**  
**Fax (406) 494-1273**  
**COUNTIES:** BEAVERHEAD, DEER LODGE, GRANITE, S. JEFFERSON, N. MADISON, POWELL, SILVERBOW

#### GREAT FALLS

**Arnold, Dan** -Service Officer II [danarnold@mt.gov](mailto:danarnold@mt.gov)  
**Brunken, Kari** -Service Officer I [kbrunken@mt.gov](mailto:kbrunken@mt.gov)  
**Hering, Candice** -Service Officer I [chering@mt.gov](mailto:chering@mt.gov)  
 600 Central Plaza #300  
 Great Falls, MT 59401  
**Phone (406) 452-2265**  
**Fax (406) 453-5871**  
**COUNTIES:** CASCADE, CHOUTEAU, PONDERA, TETON

#### HAVRE

**Loendorf, Judy** -Regional VSO [jloendorf@mt.gov](mailto:jloendorf@mt.gov)  
**Mulonet, Steve** -Service Officer I [smulonet@mt.gov](mailto:smulonet@mt.gov)  
 232 1st St. W.  
 Havre, MT 59501  
**Toll Free 1-877-265-VETS (8387)**  
**Phone (406) 265-4225**  
**Fax (406) 265-2666**  
**COUNTIES:** LIBERTY, BLAINE, GLACIER, HILL, PHILLIPS, TOOLE, VALLEY

#### HELENA

**Ackerman, Kelly** -Senior VSO [kelly.ackerman@va.gov](mailto:kelly.ackerman@va.gov)  
**Ingraham, Tim** -VSO II [timothy.ingraham@va.gov](mailto:timothy.ingraham@va.gov)  
**Baranyai, Krystelle** -VSO I [krystelle.baranyai@va.gov](mailto:krystelle.baranyai@va.gov)  
 Veterans Service Center  
 Bldg. 3633 Veterans Drive, Rm. 110E  
 PO Box 1007  
 Ft. Harrison, MT 59636  
**Phone (406) 495-2080**  
**Phone (406) 495-2081**  
**Phone (406) 495-2082**  
**Phone (406) 495-2083**  
**Fax (406) 495-2003**  
**COUNTIES:** LEWIS & CLARK, BROADWATER, N. JEFFERSON

#### KALISPELL

**Keeler, Ryan** -Regional VSO [rkeeler@mt.gov](mailto:rkeeler@mt.gov)  
**Collins, Carolyn** -Service Officer I [carolcollins@mt.gov](mailto:carolcollins@mt.gov)  
**Zipp, Bryan** -Service Officer I [bzipp@mt.gov](mailto:bzipp@mt.gov)  
 2989 Highway 93 North  
 Kalispell, MT 59901-9801  
**Phone (406) 755-3795**  
**Fax (406) 755-1039**  
**COUNTIES:** FLATHEAD, LINCOLN, LAKE

#### LEWISTOWN

**Foster, Sue** -Service Officer II [suefoster@mt.gov](mailto:suefoster@mt.gov)  
 505 W. Main, Ste. 217  
 Lewistown, MT 59457  
**Phone (406) 538-3174**  
**Fax (406) 538-3186**  
**COUNTIES:** GOLDEN VALLEY, MEAGHER, WHEATLAND, FERGUS, JUDITH BASIN, PETROLEUM

#### MILES CITY

**Olson, Keith** -Service Officer II [keitholson@mt.gov](mailto:keitholson@mt.gov)  
 VA Primary Care Clinic  
 210 S. Winchester  
 Miles City, MT 59301  
**Phone (406) 232-1203**  
**Fax (406) 233-1217**  
**COUNTIES:** CARTER, CUSTER, DAWSON, FALLON, POWDER RIVER, PRAIRIE, WIBAUX, McCONE, RICHLAND, SHERIDAN, DANIELS, ROOSEVELT, ROSEBUD

#### MISSOULA

**Hahn, Kate** -Service Officer II [khahn@mt.gov](mailto:khahn@mt.gov)  
**Cornelius, Peter** -Service Officer I [pcornelius@mt.gov](mailto:pcornelius@mt.gov)  
**Hale, Steve** -Service Officer I [shale@mt.gov](mailto:shale@mt.gov)  
 1911 Tower Street  
 Missoula, MT 59804  
**Phone (406) 542-2501**  
**Fax (406) 543-2360**  
**COUNTIES:** MINERAL, MISSOULA, RAVALLI, SANDERS

#### SEASONAL EMPLOYEES

**Lantz, Jesse** -Groundskeeper  
 Missoula Veterans Cemetery  
 Helena Veterans Cemetery



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**YOUR PURCHASE SUPPORTS VETERANS,  
 MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS  
 AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

<p><b>WHITEFISH POST 276</b> Meeting 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Post and Auxiliary Club Room open 9:00 a.m. to ? 7 days a week</p>	<p><b>BLACK EAGLE POST 4669</b> Post Meetings – 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Club open daily at 12:00 p.m. Mon-Sat Lounge – Banquet Hall – Meeting Room Bowling Center, 2332 Smelter Ave. 453-4736</p>	<p><b>DAN ARNOLD</b> <b>DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER</b> Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday 406-452-2265 600 Central Plaza, Suite 300 • Great Falls, MT 59401</p>
<p><b>GREAT FALLS POST 1087</b> Meeting 2nd Thursday each month 6:00 p.m. Chicken &amp; Steak Dinner – 3rd Sunday Breakfast Every Sunday – 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>POLSON POST 2986</b> Post &amp; Auxiliary Meeting 3rd Monday 7:00 p.m. Club open daily from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. 5th and Main in Polson</p>	<p><b>PONY VFW POST 3831</b> <b>AND MOC PUP TENT #24</b> Post Meetings 2nd Saturday 1:00 p.m. at Pony Bar Members and Guests Welcome</p>
<p><b>LIBBY POST 1548</b> Meetings 1st Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Bingo every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Club open daily at 12:00 Noon to 2:00 a.m. 7 days a week</p>	<p><b>KALISPELL POST 2252</b> Post Meets 1st Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Men's Auxiliary meets 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Breakfast available for purchase. 3rd Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Lounge open 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Daily <b>Come in and enjoy Flathead Camaraderie</b></p>	<p><b>BOZEMAN POST 903</b> 121 W. Main (406) 577-2155 Meeting 3rd Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Club House Open 12 Noon - 11 p.m. daily Members and Guests Welcome</p>
<p><b>BIGFORK POST 4042</b> <b>AND AUXILIARY</b> VFW Meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month/same time Auxiliary Meeting 1st Wednesday of the month Steak Night – 3rd Wednesday of the month</p>	<p><b>EUREKA POST 6786</b> Post Meeting 1st Tuesday – 7:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 1st Tuesday – 1:30 p.m. Club open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>MISSOULA POST 209</b> Post Meeting 2nd Wednesday – 7:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 2nd Tuesday – 2:00 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Visit the Montana Military Museum</b> At historic Fort Harrison, just west of Helena. Telling Montana's Military History and Recognizing Montanans For Their Service! For more information write to: <b>Fort William Henry Harrison Museum</b> <b>Foundation &amp; Montana Military Museum</b> ATTN: Museum Director/Curator P.O. Box 125, Fort Harrison, MT 59636-0125 E-mail: myfun51@msn.com – 406-324-3550</p>	<p><b>EAST HELENA POST 10010</b> Post Meeting, 1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meetings, 3rd Monday, 7:00 p.m. (April-Sept.) 2:00 p.m. (Oct.-March) Club Open from 11:00 a.m. to ? <b>Stop By and Enjoy Our Smoke Free Club</b></p>	<p><b>TROY VFW POST 5514</b> Post Meeting, 2nd Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. Auxiliary Meeting, 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Jr. Girls Meeting, 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.</p>
<p><b>GLASGOW POST 3107</b> <b>AND AUXILIARY</b> 1222 Highway 2 West Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Canteen open 2:00 p.m. to ?, Mon-Sat</p>	<p><b>PLENTYWOOD POST 4018</b> <b>AND VETERAN'S CLUB</b> Post Meeting 1st Tuesday – 7:00 p.m. American Legion Post 58 Meeting 2nd Monday – 8:00 p.m. Club Hours 1:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>e-Edition</b> <b>Same format as our printed edition.</b> <b>You can view current editions as well as back issues of the <i>Montana Veteran</i> on our website at <a href="http://mtvfw.org">mtvfw.org</a></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Montana Veteran</b> <b>Department of Montana VFW</b> <b>c/o Tim Peters</b> <b>P.O. Box 4789</b> <b>Fort Harrison, MT 59636</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Montana Veteran is produced at</b> <b>American Publishing LLC</b> <b>Jenny DeBack, Owner</b> <b><a href="mailto:americanpublishing8482@gmail.com">americanpublishing8482@gmail.com</a></b></p>
<p><b>PLAINS POST 3596</b> Post Meetings 1st &amp; 3rd Wednesdays Auxiliary Meetings 2nd &amp; 4th Mondays Club – Bowling Alley – Banquet Hall You Are Always Welcome</p>	<p><b>BILLINGS HEIGHTS POST 6774</b> Post Meeting 2nd Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting 2nd Thursday - 6:00 p.m. Mens Auxiliary Meeting 1st Monday - 6:00 p.m. Canteen Open Daily</p>	
<p><b>SIDNEY POST 4099</b> Meeting 2nd Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Club open daily 10:00 a.m. to Midnight Closed Sunday Phone: 433-9982</p>	<p><b>BILLINGS POST 1634</b> 4242 State Ave. Post Meeting 1st Monday at 7 p.m. Kitchen Open Tuesday-Sunday Canteen Open 10:00 a.m. - Close</p>	
	<p><b>LEWISTOWN POST 1703</b> Post Meeting 3rd Monday – 7:00 p.m. Basement – American Legion Club</p>	

**VA Montana Health Care System**  
**TOLL-FREE NUMBER**  
**1-877-468-8387 (M-F: 8:00-4:30)**

<p><b>Option #1</b> <b>Pharmacy</b> (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) 1. Refill 2. Renewal 3. Anticoag 4. Staff **Refill Option is available 24 hours.</p>	<p><b>Option #2</b> <b>Central Scheduling</b> (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)</p>	<p><b>Option #3</b> <b>Mental Health</b> (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) 1. Appointments 2. Crisis Nurse 3. Staff **If crisis nurse is needed after 4:30 p.m., call 406-442-6410</p>	<p><b>Option #4</b> <b>VA Clinics</b> (Between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) 1. Missoula, KalisPELL, Cut Bank 2. Great Falls, Lewistown, Havre 3. Fort Harrison, Anaconda, Bozeman 4. Billings, Miles City, Glendive</p>
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