

LARRY A. HOFF ePOST 2100



Issue #83 FEBRUARY, 2020

COMMUNICATION IS POWER

TO OPT OUT OF OUR NEWSLETTERS, E-MAIL MARIA KLENHARD

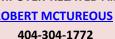
OUR NEXT MEETING

FEBRUARY 20th at 7:30 PM, is slated for our next tele-meeting, by invitation, using GoToMeeting. E-mail me if you want an invite:

commander@epost2100.org.

Our tele-meetings are provided for you to learn about and have input regarding your cyber Post. BTW, have you visited Our Web site, lately?

OUR HELP DESK STANDS READY TO ASSIST US VETERANS WITH FREE COMPUTER-RELATED AID. **ROBERT MCTUREOUS**





UPCOMING EVENTS

The next 9th District Meeting for this year will be Sunday February 9 Gainesville Post 7,

2343 Riverside Drive Gainesville, GA 30501 Phone - 770-534-7091

10:00 am Registration

11:00 am Opening General Session and Service

11:30 pm Lunch

12:15 pm Business Session

2019-2020 9th District Meeting Schedule:

February 9, 2020 – Gainesville Post 7, Phone -770-534-7091

May 3, 2020 - Duluth Post 251, Phone - 770-623-4504

YOUR CYBER POST OFFICERS

Post Commander...... ROBERT GREEN 770-786-8702 Senior Vice Commander...... MARIA KLENHARD 916-952-7691 Junior Vice CommanderOPEN Adjutant...... MARIA KLENHARD 916-952-7691 Finance Officer..... MAC MCMILLAN 404-277-4280 Judge Advocate..... TED RICHARDS 404-754-0415 Exec. Committee..... ED MCMILLAN 770-757-6136 Sergeant-at-Arms......DAVID GREEN

Service Officer.....ED MCMILLAN 770-757-6136

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Thom Mash tells us that Craig has tentatively set dates for the 9th District's 2020 Oratorical Contest on Satur-2/8/2020-2pm-5pm and Sunday, 2pm-5pm 2/9/2020 as a back-up date.



Location: Hall County Government Center 2875 Browns Bridge Road Gainesville, GA 30504-5635.

If you have never attended one of the oratorical contests, you might want to make the effort. As a high school junior, I came in second place. Sadly, the contest was not offered the next vear.

Attending an oratorical contest can be an enlightening and heart-warming experience, as high school teens compete on our United States Constitution topics with prepared and extemporaneous speeches. You may attend any of the American Legion's contests, as the audiences are not geographically limited.

It is sometimes a challenge to find contestants, as public speaking does not come naturally, to most of us. High school staff are not always willing and helpful in selecting students, but enough have annually worked with us to promote the benefits of the contests which begin locally and conclude on a national level.

I've served as a judge and as a tabulator at the local level and have been impressed, each time, by the research, text, and speaking skills of the contestants.

Maybe check out the videos of the 2019 winner, Patrick Junker, who also received an \$18,000.00 scholarship.

Bob Green 770-786-8702

IMPORTANT LEGISLATION

From U.S. Veteran Compensation Programs:

HR 269 – Gold Star Families Remembrance Day – Currently in the House Military Personnel Subcommittee, this <u>Bill</u> was introduced by Rep. Robert Latta, R-<u>Ohio</u>, in March 2019. The House Resolution expresses support to designate March, 2, 2020, as <u>Gold Star Families</u> Remembrance Day to honor <u>Gold Star families</u> who have lost a loved one in uniform in the line of duty.

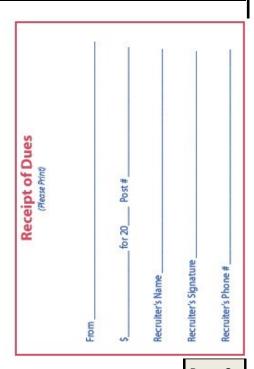
The text reads, in part, "the sacrifices of the families of the <u>fallen members</u> and <u>veterans</u> of the <u>Armed Forces</u> of the United States should never be forgotten," and encourages Americans to observe <u>Gold Star Families</u> Remembrance Day with "... acts of service and good will in their communities."

HR 734 – Purple Star Families Week – This resolution, introduced by Rep. Denver Riggleman, R-<u>Virginia</u>., is a resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 20 through September 26, 2020, as <u>Purple Star Families</u> Week in honor of <u>military families</u> who suffer the loss of a loved one who was a <u>service member</u> or <u>veteran</u> who died by suicide.

HR 3495 – Improve Well Being for Veterans Act – Currently in the House of <u>Veterans Affairs</u>, the Bill introduced in June 2019 by Rep. Jack Bergman, R-<u>Michigan</u>, would require the Secretary of <u>Veterans Affairs</u> to provide financial assistance to eligible entities to provide and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for <u>veterans</u> at risk of suicide and <u>veteran families</u> through the award of grants to such entities, and for other purposes.

HR 729 – Expansion of the list of the <u>Department of Veterans Affairs</u> of <u>presumptive medical conditions</u>.

(Name)				(Date of Birth)	
	(Mailing Address)	A	A	(Phone Number)	
(City)		(State)	(Zip)	(Post#)	
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DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT'S

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2020

<><><> ZESTE C. DEBRO: THE ADJUTANT <><><><> NEW YEAR, NEW START, NEW CHAPTER

Many would venture to say that it is a brand-new day. Indeed, it is. Moreover, it is a New Year and the beginning of a New Decade. As Team Georgia prepares to have an effective and successful year, I call upon each Legionnaire to take advantage of this opportunity to start afresh and to recommit to the mission of the American Legion, rededicate yourself to the values and goals of the largest, oldest, and most efficient veterans service organization in the world. Do not concern yourself with the things that did not happen in 2019. Look ahead to the great and wonderful things that can and will happen in 2020 because of the work you do, and the effort you make, and the "can do spirit" you exhibit in every area and aspect of your commitment to excellence. If your post or your district has not met the milestones of membership renewals, keep your head up and keep on plowing and growing your membership. Become creative in your efforts to get new members and to renew current members and to reclaim former members of the American Legion family. Strategically plan and design your approach to reach one or more member(s). This is 2020 and it will last for 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days, 8760 hours, 525,600 seconds. Each one of us has the same amount of time. No more and no less. You can make a difference and strengthen and protect Georgia's fine legacy for now and years and decades ahead. It is a New Year. We get a New Start. As we move into a New Chapter, our story will be told over and over how Georgia prevailed, how Georgia triumphed, how Georgia emerged from the bottom of the list to the top of the chart. Yes, We Can. Yes, We Will. Yes, We Are Team Georgia. And the Power is back on!!!!

DID YOU KNOW?

In the Constitution and By-Laws of the Department of Georgia, the following information is provided as per Article IV, Section 3 & Section 4: Legion Membership is Annual, the Legion Year begins from January 1 to December 31. If dues are not paid by January 1st of each calendar year, the member becomes delinquent. If dues have not been paid by February 1, the member is suspended, but nevertheless, a member with no privilege except that of reinstatement by vote of the Post and payment of dues: and dues not being paid, such membership continues for a period of five months, to June 30th, at which time the member is dropped from the roll by constitutional mandate and the membership forfeited.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2020	Washington Conference / Washington, DC	Mar 08 - Mar 11
2020	Department Spring Conference, Duluth GA	Mar 19 - Mar 22
2020	National Commander's Visit to Georgia	Apr 19 – Apr 22
2020	National Spring Conf Meetings, Indianapolis	May 04 - May 07
2020	Department Convention, Duluth GA	Jun 19 – Jun 21
2020	National Convention, Louisville, KY	Aug 28 - Sep 03

Post Excellence Award

The American Legion's Post Excellence Award has added new criteria. To qualify for the Post Excellence Award, a post is required to achieve excellence in four areas: membership, submission of the Consolidated Post Report (CPR), attaining a 90 percent renewal rate and community activity.

The purposes of this award are membership growth, exposure of American Legion values to the youth of the community, and increased visibility of the American Legion Family through service projects. A post achieving this qualification will have had numerous post members involved in planning and achieving these goals. Many posts are most likely already active in these areas and will qualify without extra effort. Others, however, will need to increase their efforts in one or more areas to qualify for the award. The standard to be achieved in each area is as follows:

- ✓ *Membership*: Post must attain at least 103 percent of their membership goal. At least one post officer attends district meetings.
- ✓ <u>Consolidated Post Report</u>: CPRs must be submitted by July 1. The American Legion's federal charter requires the submission of an annual report to Congress on activities for the year. MyLegion.org has made it simple for a post to submit its CPR in a timely manner.
- ✓ <u>90% Renewal Rate</u>: The post must renew at least 90 percent of their members that were on the 2019 roster.
- Community Activity: The post must conduct an event that connects the local community with The American Legion post. The objective is to open your doors, welcome the community in, and educate them on what The American Legion is all about and how the post is an asset to the community. Posts do not need to have a physical building to accomplish this. This activity can be held in a park, a community center, or anywhere the post can welcome and interact with the local community.

The **district commander** responsible for the post will certify a post as having achieved the four specified criteria. The district commander will submit a list of posts meeting the criteria to department headquarters. That list should include the post name, phone number, address and commander's name. If possible, accompany the last two criteria with copies of press releases submitted to the local media about the projects to show that the projects were not only accomplished but that an attempt was made to enhance the image of The American Legion through local media. The copy submitted should include a date and time stamp showing receipt by the media outlet.

For God and Country...

ZEŠTE C. DEBRO

Department Adjutant

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9th District Adjutants Newsletter January 2020

2019-2020 9th District Officers:

Commander – Tom Hineline, Post 127

Sr Vice - John Varner, Post 7

Jr Vices – John Harkins, Post 23

Harold Goss, Post 328

Rick King, Post 232

John Owens - Post 82

Robert Wilgus – Post 262

District Meeting February 9, Gainesville Post 7:

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10:00 am Registration

11:00 am Opening General Session and Service

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Membership:

The past year the 9th District fell short of the 2019-2020 membership goal. In 2016-2017 we exceeded 6,600 members an all time record for the 9th District. Please reach out to your posts and get the 9th back to 100% for the 2020 membership year. We are currently around 1500 members short at 74%.

Department Spring Conference: March 20-22

Sonesta Hotel

Duluth, GA

Please contact the department to make your reservation for the SpringConference in Duluth. Saturday evening the Commanders Homecoming Banquet will be held at the Sonesta. Come enjoy a great meal and welcome the Commander, President and Detachment Commander.

Programs for the Upcoming Year:

With the new year of programs approaching us, let me remind you of a few programs that need immediate attention to ensure a well planned and successful program.

<u>The Oratorical</u> should be introduced to your local schools with the understanding that post competitions should be completed by February 02, 2020. The 9th district competition date is tentatively set for Saturday February 8. 2020 from 2pm-5pmat the Hall County Government Center – 2875 Browns Bridge Road – Gainesville, GA 30504

<u>Shooting Sports</u> also qualifies locally in early February and shooting regularly on a weekly basis from August on will help your team qualify more shooters. Don't forget to order your targets by December.

January – Our <u>Boy's State</u> will sneak upon us if we wait until February or March to make contact. Waiting until early spring you will find out programs will get lost in the SPRING BREAK frenzy. Lock them in before that happens. The 9th district should lead the way for this program since it is held in Gainesville at Riverside Military Academy from May 24th thru May 30th.

<u>Post Constitution and By-Laws:</u> Please review your Post Constitution and By-Laws and provide a copy of your most current to the Department. We would like to see this done by late September. If you have any question whether your most current is on file at the Department please feel free to call them at 678-289-8883.

We also need those posts who have not applied for a Supplemental Charter to do so.

<u>Upcoming Dates:</u> 2020 National Convention -Aug 23-29 Louisville, KY

2020 Department Spring Conf - Mar 20-22 Duluth, GA

2020 Department Convention – June TBD – Duluth, GA

Still Serving God and Country

Man Sul

Thom Mash, 9th District Adjutant

JESSIE CAMPBELL FOR DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA SR. VICE COMMANDER

Greetings, Post Commanders,

I am a candidate for the position of the 2020 – 2021 Sr. Vice Commander of the American legion, Department of Georgia. Attached is a copy of my Resolution, I would appreciate if you will read this in your general meetings.

My mission and goal are to work the 3 R'S. Retention, Recruiting and Revitalization and with us all working together we can bring Georgia back to 100% in membership.

I have visited some District meetings and I hope to visit some Post general meetings, so you can hear more of my plan in my campaign speech.

I strongly believe that I am the best candidate to lead us back to 100% in the American Legion. I am asking for your support and vote as Department of Georgia, Sr. Vice Commander.

Thank you for support and votes in advance.

Jessie Campbell Jr Vice Commander

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Department of Georgia, 5th District American Legion Paul E. Kelly Jr., Post 296 Inc

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, American Legion Paul E. Kelly Jr., Post 296, Inc., has a Legionnaire (Jessie Campbell) who has proven his honesty, dedication and integrity in numerous capacities and every assignment bestowed upon him. He has been a member of the American Legion for 22+ years; a "Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) member; a Georgia American Legion College graduate; successfully completed the requirements of the American Legion Extension Institute Course and online Basic Training Course of the American Legion Education Institute (2018); and a member of 40/8; and

WHEREAS, Jessie Campbell has served Post 296 as Historian, Executive Board member and Commander (2007-2011); and

WHEREAS, Jessie Campbell has served as 5th District Jr. Vice Commander (4 consecutive years, 2011-2015), and 5th District Sr. Vice Commander (2015-2016) and 5th District Commander (2016-2017); and

WHEREAS, Jessie Campbell has served as Department of Georgia, Jr. Vice Commander, two consecutive years (2018-2020), with his first year of leadership, his assigned Districts reached top echelon in membership and received all monetary awards in the Department for the year; and

WHEREAS, Jessie Campbell has demonstrated excellent leadership skills within and outside the Post. During his Post commandership, Post 296 received Honorary Mention for Outstanding Post of the year and runner up for Outstanding Post competition, his second year in commandership. His dedication to recruiting veterans has made 100% membership goal for two consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, Jessie Campbell during his District commandership, the 5th District (2017-2018) held 3 training classes in training leaders for tomorrow, Post level to District level, 3R workshop (Renewal, Retention and Recruiting) and Service Office training for veterans and Auxiliary spouses. Started a new Post in the District (Post 338) and received the "District Commanders' New Post Achievement" award from the National Commander; and

WHEREAS, Jessie Campbell served on numerous committees during several National Conventions, as a member of National Security Conventional Armed Forces Sub-committee, 2017-2018, Employment and Veteran preference committee, 2018-2019; and

WHEREAS, Jessie Campbell served in the Vietnam War, receiving numerous medals along with receiving the Navy Commendation medal and Good Conduct medal with 4 stars. He was also a Military Instructor School graduate and Certified Master Training Specialist, and after 21 years, retired as a Sr. Chief Vietnam Veteran; and

WHEREAS, Jessie Campbell's determination and solid commitment has prepared him for increase leadership within the American Legion; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That American Legion Paul E. Kelly Jr. Post 296, Inc. and the 5th District, unanimously endorse Jessie Campbell as an elected candidate for the high office of **Department Sr. Vice Commander** in the American Legion, Department of Georgia, for the year of 2020-2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this resolution shall be presented at Paul E. Kelly Jr. Post 296 general meeting on September 11, 2019, and the 5th District regular meeting on November 17, 2019. Upon approval, copies shall be forwarded (by email) to the Department of Georgia Adjutant, Members of the Department Executive Committee, District Commanders, District Adjutants, Post Commanders, and Post Adjutants throughout the American Legion Department of Georgia.

Napoleon Parker, Post 296 Commander

Walter Cusick , 5th District Commander

Sandra Jordan, Post 296 Adjutant

Pete Woodruff, 5th District Adjutant

For God and Country