



VFW Department of Wyoming News – April 2017

April Post Charter Anniversaries

Thunder Basin Centennial Post 7756, 4/04/1990, Gillette

Bridger Valley Post 7798, 4/12/1990, Mt. View

Robert E. Stoddard Post 4343, 4/15/1959, Cheyenne

Important days in April – Month of the Military Child

April 5, 2017 - Gold Star Wives Day

April 14, 2017 - Air Force Reserve Birthday

April 23, 2017 - Army Reserve Birthday

900 Club

April 900 Club winners

1. Rich R. – Sold by VFW Post 2221 in Laramie - \$500
2. Tony B. – Sold by VFW Post 2321 in Green River - \$300
3. Charles and Judy C. – Sold by VFW Post 954 in Lander - \$100

Camp Lejeune Presumptive

“The Department of Veterans Affairs finalized regulations to establish new presumptions of service connection for eight conditions for Veterans exposed to contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune. If you have a record of service at Camp Lejeune between August 1, 1953, and

December 31, 1987, served there for at least 30 days during that period, and developed a condition that you believe is related to exposure to the drinking water at the base, VA recommends you file a disability compensation claim.”

Department Convention

The Department Annual Convention is in Thermopolis, June 9-11. More information and the application can be found on the Department Website at www.vfwvy.org under the Resources tab. Our National representative is PCIC Richard Eubank.

During the State Convention in Thermopolis, June 9-11, there will be a memorial service for all deceased comrades. Please send your list of deceased members to Donnell Nichols at donnell@vcn.com by **May 15, 2017**.

Scholarship Application

May 3, 2017 is the deadline for the Past State Commander/Past State President Scholarship applications. Hopefully, every post is out there looking for a deserving applicant. You can find the application at www.vfwvy.org under the Resources tab.

****VFW Programs****

As a reminder, our VFW Programs Chair is Jim Pedersen, wyonavy@bresnan.net.

Teacher Awards Department Winners

LaNece Day, K-5, submitted by Post 4797

Dylan Grant Wisroth, 6-8, submitted by Post 7756

Troy Reichert, 9-12, submitted by Post 4471

Veterans in the Classroom

The deadline for submission of information to receive a “Veterans in the Classroom” certificate from National VFW is **April 30, 2017**. To receive a certificate, the post must submit the names, post number, post city and school name to Don Mack at dcmack22@yahoo.com. Members who receive certificates should have participated in student-oriented activities in a school classroom. Participation, type of activity and number of hours are not defined by National VFW so posts will need to use their discretion in determining whose names will be submitted to receive this honor. Certificates will be presented at the Department Convention.

Community Service

April 30, 2017 – Post special project and outstanding post are due to National. If you want your post to be considered, please contact Willis Cain, cainjrw@gmail.com **early in April!**

The final year-end report to National is due May 31, 2017. Please get your reports to Willis well before that date.

Membership Program

Membership Chair is Ray Cassell, raycassell@yahoo.com.

1. All posts that finish in first place, in each of the four membership divisions as of June 30, 2017 will receive a plaque (minimum of 25 members).
2. All posts achieving 100% membership by June 30, 2017 will receive a plaque and a pin for the post commander and quartermaster (minimum of 25 members).
3. Members who recruit new or re-instated members will have their names entered, one entry for each member recruited, for a drawing for one \$100 VFW Emblem and Supply gift certificate. It is the responsibility of the post quartermaster to provide the Department Membership Chair with the names of post members who qualify for this drawing no later than May 31, 2017.
4. Each post achieving 100% by the last working day of May 2017 will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 VFW Emblem and Supply gift certificate for the post commander and quartermaster (minimum 25 members).
5. The top three recruiters on the last working day of May 2017 will receive an expense allowance of \$100 to help defray the expense of attending the Department Convention. It is the responsibility of the post quartermaster to submit the recruiter's name and number recruited to the Department Membership Chair by May 31, 2017.
6. The post that recruits the most re-instated members will receive a \$100 VFW Emblem and Supply Gift Certificate.
7. District Commanders will receive a bonus of \$25 for each percentage point over 100% membership their district achieves by the last working day of May 2017. Maximum award of \$100.

District Meeting Reminders

District 2 Spring Meeting: April 1, 2017, 10:00, Post 1560, Sheridan

District 1 Spring Meeting: April 2, 2017, 10:00, Post 2281, Thermopolis

District 4 Spring Meeting: April 8, 2017, 10:00, Post 4274, Jackson

District 3 Spring Meeting: April 29, 2017, 10:00, Post 9439, Casper

District 5 Spring Meeting: May 20, 2017, 10:00, Cheyenne

Location: Post 1881 Host: Post 11453

National Purple Heart Hall of Honor

The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is located in New Windsor, New York. The 7,500-foot facility includes exhibits, artifacts, and Purple Heart recipient stories, which offer visitors an incredible journey through our country's military history. Our primary function, however, is to appropriately recognize and honor those men and women who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

The Purple Heart is one of the most recognized and respected medals awarded to members of the U.S. armed forces who were killed or wounded by enemy action, and The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is the nation's sole repository dedicated to the collection and preservation of the stories of human sacrifice and the cost of freedom.

Through enrollment in our Roll of Honor, Purple Heart recipients' profiles and stories are preserved on our electronic database, which is accessible to the public in our main gallery and on our website (www.thepurpleheart.com). Because there is no comprehensive list of recipients upon which to draw, the database represents only a fraction of the estimated 1.8 million people who have received the Purple Heart. They must, therefore, rely on friends, family, and the recipients themselves to share their information with us in order to properly honor them for their sacrifices.

We can help by sharing our information with those veterans and families who you service and encouraging them to share their stories with us. Enrollment is free. Purple Heart recipients simply need to complete the enrollment form and send it to the Hall of Honor along with copies of the supporting documents. Please do not hesitate to contact them at 845-561-1765 if you would like additional information or have any questions.

If you would like the enrollment form, contact the Department Headquarters.

Contact information for the Headquarters:

VFW Department of Wyoming

7534 Robin Drive

Cheyenne, WY 82009

Phone: 307-514-5087

Cell: 805-757-2125

Email: tlapples@yahoo.com

Trish Peoples, A/Q