



American Legion  
Donald C Thompson  
Post and Auxiliary Unit 135

## United for Veterans Newsletter

March – April 2022

Volume 36

### Post Commander

Ken Johnson

Hello Comrades!

I would first like to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers and well wishes during my recent illness. I am improving every day and look forward to seeing you at our meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.



The Semi-Annual Post/Auxiliary Yard-Sale is coming up on March 19<sup>th</sup> and we could use your help setting up and tearing down afterward. It is a great time to meet other members of the Post or Auxiliary and even find a few “treasures” to take home. If you have any “treasures” you would like to donate, please let us know so we have enough tables to accommodate them. We can also make arrangements to pick up larger items if needed. We will start setting up at 6:30 am and will have coffee and donuts so come join us!

In also invite you to join us on March 9<sup>th</sup> for our regular meeting at 6:30 pm at the Cornville Fire Station. Your input is important and appreciated.

Any questions give me a call 805-714-9369 or send me an email at [kennyj52@aol.com](mailto:kennyj52@aol.com) .

*Ken*  
Commander

### Auxiliary President

Jonnie Maddox

Spring is just around the corner..or so I hope! That being said, there are many activities that are coming up in March and April, so warm weather would sure be a blessing. I'll just highlight a couple here.



March starts off with our meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm at the Cornville Fire Station. The Sedona Chamber Paper Shredding event on March 16<sup>th</sup> from 9-10:30 am in the parking lot at Sedona Red Rock High School. Volunteers are needed to help direct traffic. You can even bring your own documents that need to be shredded!

There will also be a Verde Valley Standdown in Cottonwood this year. More about that in the Service Officer Notes.

Maren from the Cornville Community Association will be at our March meeting to let us know how we can help. In the past we have filled the plastic eggs with candy and donated funds for a bicycle. so please plan to join us at our meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*For God and Country*  
*Jonnie*



## Membership

### Memberships – it is a challenge!

As we head into the last quarter of the membership year, Post and Auxiliary membership numbers are running “neck and neck” – as of this article’s writing, the post is sitting at 69 out of 91 for 62.59%; while the auxiliary is posting 49 out of 68 for a 72.05%. Not sure where you went to school, but I went to a small school and we learned the 3Rs “reading, (w)riting and (a)rithmetic” and from where I sit, the auxiliary is kicking the post’s butt! Legionnaires let’s fight back and get out there and find some new members!

Sadly, on both sides of the path, both organizations have suffered member loses due to death, disinterest, and displacement! You ask how do we overcome this problem?

Answer – And this works for both organizations:

1. **Be receiving to meeting new folks** – determine if they have a military presence (look for giveaway signs like wearing a military insignia baseball cap, veteran plates or maybe a “support the military” magnet on their vehicle). If they say, “I don’t like attending meetings or don’t have time for meetings”, just say it’s OK – participation is NOT a requirement! Yes, we want them to attend meetings and get involved, but we also need numbers. Those numbers tell Congress we support veterans and veteran’s interests.
2. **Be friendly and open** – if they’re new to the area (and there’s a bunch of those folks out there) inquire about what brought them to this area; hobbies; likes/dislikes.

3. **Remember we’re looking not just for numbers**, but “*Volunteer Engagement*” that is to say: talk about not only our organizations, but the community that we serve like the Cornville and Sedona HS students, clothing drives and benefit counseling for vets, providing honors for our fallen comrades, sponsoring a local family during Christmas, and examples are endless.

You’ve heard it before – “Membership is the lifeline of our organization” and with effort we can give each organization a “blood transfusion” and end the year at 100%! Need some helping in recruiting, call me – I’m happy, willing and able to help!

For God and Country,

**Jeri**

Jeri Strande,  
Post Adjutant & Auxiliary Vice-President



**Whoooo  
Have YOU asked  
To join the  
American Legion  
or Auxiliary????**



## The American Legion Brand Mark



Since 1919, The American Legion has been represented by its emblem. As we look to the next era of The American Legion, the time has come for a new brand mark to be used in marketing, communications, and promotional materials.

The new brand mark does not replace the emblem. Instead, both the emblem and the brand mark are to be used in specific applications that will better serve The American Legion going forward. On this page, guidance is provided on the manner and types of applications that will apply to both the emblem and The American Legion brand mark.

## Purpose of the Brand Mark

The American Legion brand mark was created to address the need to modernize The American Legion brand to appeal to the next generation of veterans. Moreover, the new brand mark takes into consideration a host of applications that the original emblem could never have anticipated. Those include digital and social media, special event and sports marketing, lifestyle apparel and more.

For more information visit: [www.legion.org/brand](http://www.legion.org/brand)

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*Quality Repair Because We Care*



4630 N Culpepper Ranch Rd,  
Rimrock, AZ 86335

**Curtis Rask**  
**(928) 567-7345**

## Education Opportunity

The American Legion College will sponsor a course at American Legion Post 25 in Cottonwood on April 29, 30 and May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The course is open to Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members. **Basic Training** online course is a prerequisite for Legionnaires and certificate of completion must be submitted with the application. The course is available at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). You will need your membership number to establish an account on the website and then locate the course under the "Services" tab and you will see 'Basic Training'.

Auxiliary members that wish to attend the Legion College are not required to complete the Basic Training Course but may want to take the **Auxiliary 101** course online at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org). You will need your membership number to create an account and then go to the "Meetings/Trainings" tab and select 'ALA Academy'. You would then select the online course you wish to complete.

For the application, use the following link:

[https://www.azlegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Arizona\\_Legion\\_College\\_information\\_and\\_Application\\_FY2020.pdf](https://www.azlegion.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Arizona_Legion_College_information_and_Application_FY2020.pdf)

Once completed, sign and send (with applicable documentation) to Post 135, P O Box 172, Cornville, AZ 86325 **NO LATER THAN April 5<sup>th</sup>**. The cost is \$100 and should be paid to Post 135 who will forward payment and application to Department.

Legionnaire's contact: Jeri Strande, Post Adjutant  
928-649-3374

Auxiliary contact: Jonnie Maddox, President.  
760-413-5912





## Chaplain's Corner

"A man may fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else."

– John Burroughs

Well, before I found this saying, I was gonna say it "was Jonnie's fault", but I've changed my mind. So – instead I'll say a little prayer, for each and every one of you:

*May the hand of God touch you; may you know the Love He has for you and may you receive all that is freely given you.*

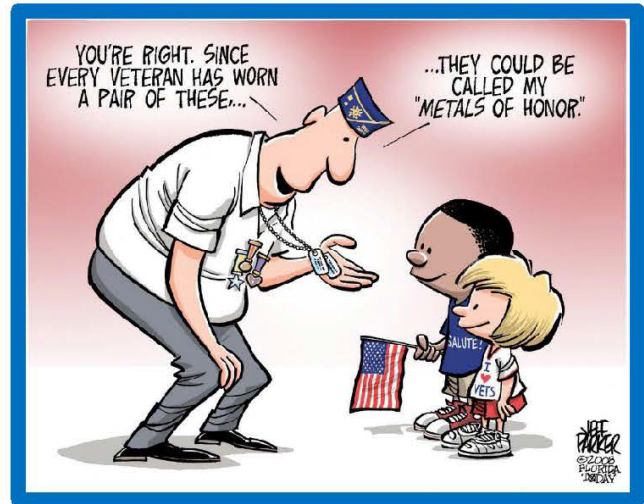
All that's asked in return, is to "Believe"

Enjoy the coming of Spring!!!!

Chaplain John

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## The Honor / Color Guard is looking for additional members...

Post and Auxiliary members are welcome to join the Honor / Color Guard and make a difference in the lives of our community members.

The Color Guard performs flag ceremonies at the request of area organizations such as Opening Day of Little League or opening ceremonies for Special Olympics. They also participate in teaching flag etiquette, folding of the flag and flag disposal.

The Honor Guard, at the request of families of veterans who have gone on to Post Everlasting, performs a military service as part of the memorial services.

**Contact Honor Guard Commander, Keith Tucker at 928-301-2618 for more information.**

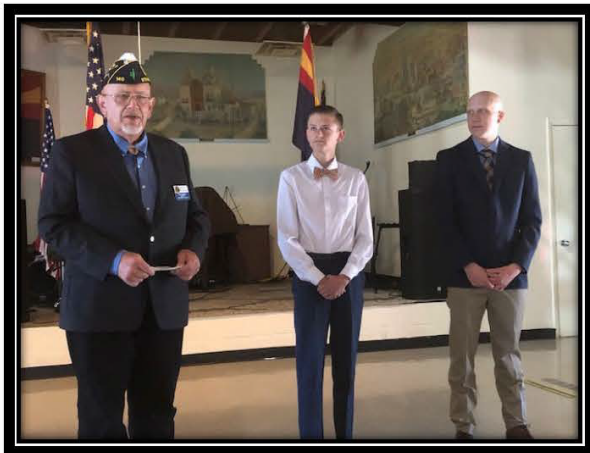


## Oratorical

Post 135 is sponsoring a young man by the name of Mitchell Gordon in the Oratorical competition. He is seen here with Commander Ken Johnson and Post Adjutant Jeri Strande.



Mitchell competed at the District 8 competition on February 20<sup>th</sup> at Post 25 in Cottonwood. He was impressive with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place victory. He moves on to the Area C competition on February 26<sup>th</sup> at the Camp Verde Public Library. We wish him all the best!



L-R District 8 Vice-Commander Philip Whitehead, Mitchell Gordon, Caleb Cook

## American Legion Department of AZ

### National Security Commission Updates

Recent updates have been published and are on the Department of Arizona Legion website. If you are interested in what the American Legion is doing to raise awareness for our veterans and the various needs that exist. The link to the reports is: [National Security Commission Updates – The American Legion Department of Arizona \(azlegion.org\)](https://www.azlegion.org/national-security-commission-updates)



\*Not a true representation

### Post Home\*

As we all know, from the inception of the American Legion Post 135 in Cornville, we have been working toward building a Post Home. In 2021, the Post purchased the property located on Cornville Road across from the Old Corral. This move was strategic in that now, as owner, the Post has some leverage to seek out financial opportunities.

Sgt-At-Arms James Golden has been, with the help of the Building Committee, looking into grants and finance options that would allow us to construct a building on the property so we can expand our services to the veterans, their families, and members of the community in Cornville, Page Springs and Sedona.

It is anticipated that a proposal will come before the membership at the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting and your input is appreciated.

## Post/Auxiliary Yard Sale



**Saturday, March 19, 2022**  
**8am – 1pm**  
**11350 Cornville Road**

*American Legion  
Donald C Thompson  
Post & Auxiliary 135  
Cornville AZ 86322*

*Proceeds go toward a new  
Post Home & Auxiliary Programs*

**Breaking News**



common sense is now  
an endangered species.  
stupidity has taken  
over the world and  
unfortunately there is  
no known cure.

## Sedona Chamber Paper Shredding Event

The American Legion Post and Auxiliary is looking for volunteers to assist with traffic control on March 16<sup>th</sup>




from 9 am – 10:30 am at the Sedona Red Rock High School Parking Lot. Volunteers should arrive at 8:30 am for position assignments and instructions. No lifting is involved but bring a chair if you will need to sit down.

Please let **Jeri Strande (928-649-3374)** or **Jonnie Maddox (760) 413-5912** know if you can volunteer for this event. You may also bring your documents that need to be shredded.

The American Legion is a member of the Sedona Chamber of Commerce.

1632 E. Cottonwood St.  
Cottonwood, AZ 86326



**928-646-7288**



## Calendar of Events

### March

- 2 Building Committee 4:30pm
- 2 **Auxiliary Meeting 6:00pm**  
**Cornville Fire Station**
- 9 **Post Meeting 6:30pm**  
**Cornville Fire Station**
- 16 Sedona Chamber Paper Shredding:  
9a-10a Red Rock HS
- 19 Post/Auxiliary Yard Sale 8a-1p  
Set-up 6:30a
- 25 Verde Valley Standdown - Cottonwood  
Community Center

### April

- 6 Building Committee 4:30pm
- 6 **Auxiliary Meeting 6:00pm**  
**Cornville Fire Station**
- 9 Craft Show - Verde River RV Resort  
10a-3p 1472 W Horseshoe Bend, CV
- 13 **Post Meeting 6:30pm**  
**Cornville Fire Station**
- 16 CCA Easter Egg Hunt  
Windmill Park, Cornville

### Post Officers

Position	Name	Phone
Commander	Ken Johnson	805-714-9369
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Cmdr.	Jan Allbright	300-2386
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Cmdr.		
Finance Officer	Tom Rounds	202-9992
Adjutant	Jeri Strande	649-3374
Chaplain	John Maddox	760-964-2651
Sgt at Arms	James Golden	300-4617
E-Committee	John Maddox	760-964-2651
	Tom Royer	649-9673
Service Officer	Jan Allbright	300-2386
Honor Guard		
Commander	Keith Tucker	301-2618

### Auxiliary Officers

Position	Name	Phone
President	Jonnie Maddox	760-413-5912
Vice President	Jeri Strande	649-3374
Treasurer	Phyllis Kennedy	300-7411
Secretary	Barbara Spude	301-8874
Chaplain	Jeanette Volk	639-4292
Sgt at Arms	<i>Position Open</i>	
E-Committee	Eleanor Mooney	606-4930
	Stephanie Marquez	626-255-0024
Historian	<i>Position Open</i>	

*NOTE: Unlisted area codes are 928*

Newsletter Editor Jonnie Maddox 760-413-5912 Email: [mimi2twins@gmail.com](mailto:mimi2twins@gmail.com)

**Legislative:** Contact your representative and ask for their support for this legislation:

**Address Toxic Exposure & Burn Pits** (Source: [legion.org/legislative](http://legion.org/legislative))

A disturbingly high percentage of veterans have been exposed to airborne toxic hazards, often the result of proximity to local environmental hazards during their military service. For decades, The American Legion has fought for service-connected disability benefits for adverse health conditions linked to exposures from a variety of toxic substances. The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation that (1) creates a list of presumptive illnesses based on scientific evidence, (2) requires VA to presume exposure for veterans deployed to areas with known environmental hazards, and (3) mandates VA toxic exposure studies.

*H.R.3967 - Honoring Our Promise To Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act Of 2021*

*S.3003 - Comprehensive and Overdue Support for Troops (COST) of War Act of 2021*





# CORNVILLE

## COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT WINDMILL PARK

SATURDAY, April 16th, 2022, 9:30 AM

FOR AGES, 0 through 3rd Grade

*Park will open at 9:00 AM for registration only*

BIKES

RAFFLES

PRIZES

SPONSORED BY THE CORNVILLE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Please bring a bag or container to collect your eggs

### Easter Hat Parade - For All Ages

**GIRLS** - wear your decorated Easter hats / bonnets. **BOYS** - decorate a hat or cap and participate.

Prizes for:

Prettiest GIRLS Hat

Most Unusual Hat, Boy or Girl

Best Decorated BOYS hat

*There is no fee to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt*

*The event will be held depending on weather.*

*Separate hunt areas for infants, tots, and older children.*

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American Legion

Donald C Thompson Post 135

P O Box 172

Cornville, AZ 86325