



# The High Desert BUGLE



**July / August 2014**

**American Legion Post 56, Auxiliary Unit 56, & SAL Squadron 56  
PO Box 2848, Carson City, Nevada 89702**

Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM,  
Veterans Memorial Hall at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Curry Street, Carson City.

Our next meeting will be held on July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Visit our website at <http://american-legion-post56-nv.us/>

## POST 56 OFFICERS

|                                |                 |          |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Commander                      | Ben Casad       | 335-6927 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander | Rick Kaspar     | 684-9757 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander | Gabe Koory      | 246-0907 |
| Adjutant                       | John Dickinson  | 246-4024 |
| Finance Officer                | Marco Manor     | 267-4794 |
| Chaplain                       | Katherine Baran | 888-2088 |
| Sgt-at-Arms                    | TJ Dennington   | 420-0151 |
| Historian                      | John Riggs      | 358-7119 |

## UNIT 56 OFFICERS

|                                |                            |          |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| President                      | Barbara Dickinson          | 246-4024 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President | Vacant                     |          |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President | Vacant                     |          |
| Secretary                      | Irma Manor                 | 267-4794 |
| Treasurer                      | Christine St. Leger-Barter | 783-0502 |
| Chaplain                       | Betty Sherwood             | 575-6219 |
| Sgt-at-Arms                    | Dorothy Bolander           | 883-0345 |
| Historian                      | Kendra Sherwood            | 575-6219 |

## SQUADRON 56 OFFICERS

|                                |                  |          |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------|
| Commander                      | Matthew Sherwood | 575-6219 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander | Jack Ralph       | 882-8269 |
| Adjutant                       | Marco Manor      | 267-4794 |

### Commander's Comments

Comrades,

Much has happened since my last report as your 2<sup>nd</sup> vice- commander.

First, I would like to thank the Post for your unanimous support in becoming your Commander. I would like to thank my fellow officers, Rick Kaspar our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Commander and Gabe Koory our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander. My thoughts and prayers are with you Gabe and wish you a speedy return to our Post. Marco and John I am looking forward to working more with you as Financial Officer and Adjutant, respectfully. Katherine your quiet advice and explanations on technical and other issues are an added plus to your being our Chaplain. Thank you TJ for continuing at the Sergeant-at-Arms position.

I would like to thank Past Commander Leon Werner for a smooth transition and his support. I wish you all the best in Alabama, Leon.

The American Legion Convention was a new experience for me and a humbling one as a Post Commander. To be in attendance at a function with the National Commander, Department Commander and other officers, past and present, was an honor not to be forgotten.

At the E-Board meeting Mrs. Leslie Nixon asked for the Post member's assistance at a golf tournament at Genoa Lakes Golf Club for the Wounded Warriors. Wounded Warriors gives nearly 90% of its proceeds directly to the veterans who benefit. The idea was introduced to have a flag raising ceremony. Mr. Lou Eiguren, Director of golf, has approved the idea. The introduction of Mrs. Nixon to Marco will be done shortly for Honor Guard approval and arrangements. I, personally, think this would be a good event to support.

I received word today that the BBQ grill will be at our, Marco's, disposal for the picnic August 16.

I am running late with this report and I thank Jack for his patience and for continuing on as webmaster for the Post.

For God and Country

Ben Casad

Commander, High Desert Post 56

### Post Adjutant's Report

Fellow Legionnaires,

We start a new Legion year. Your corps of Officers are stepping up to the plate and are ready to go. Membership renewals are in the mail. Remember, you can renew online. Please call me if I can assist in any way.

John Dickinson  
Adjutant  
775-246-4024

### SAL Adjutant's Report

Sons of the American Legion

The election of officers has been completed and Mathew Sherwood has been re-elected as Squadron 56 Commander, Jack Ralph as 1st Vice Commander, and Marco Manor as Adjutant.

Our Squadron has 55 members and the paperwork from a transfer from Arizona is due in. We want to thank everyone for their participation this past year. Several of our S.A.L. members are also members of the High Desert Post 56 Honor/Color Guard.

We just completed our annual convention in Fallon, NV last weekend. Joseph Keiser, from Las Vegas, was elected our new Detachment Commander. Our Squadron Commander was elected Detachment Chaplain, and Squadron Adjutant Marco was elected Detachment 2nd Vice Commander.

If your great grandfather, grandfather, or father served or is now serving in the armed forces, and you want to become a member of the S.A.L., please let me know. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

For God and Country,  
Marco Manor  
Squadron Adjutant

### Honor/Color Guard Report

From the Captain of the Guard

After a necessary leave of absence as the Captain of the Guard, I am now back. I want to thank Katherine Baran for stepping up when we needed her. Our team has started the summer off with three quick funerals and several more on the books.

Before I go any further, I would like to welcome two new additions to our Honor/Color Guard, Bob Higgins-USN, and Jim Hatfield-USA. Both are also new members of Post 56.

On Tuesday, July 2nd our team will be in Fernley doing final honors for one of our brothers. On the fourth of July, we will be in Virginia City leading the parade. From there, four of us will be heading to Genoa to present the colors at their annual Genoa American Celebration where the Reno Orchestra will be performing.

If anyone would like to become a member of this TEAM, please contact me at your convince. There is always room for you.

For God and Country,  
Marco Manor  
775-267-4794

## **Post 56 PICNIC Saturday, AUGUST 16, 2014**

The High Desert Post 56 picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 16, at James Lee Park in Carson City, Nevada.

I would like to invite all those members of our Post from across the country to consider meeting your fellow Post members and enjoying a picnic and the scenic Eastern Sierra Mountain region and the activities and sights offered. Three large lakes; Tahoe, Topaz and Pyramid, hiking, biking, museums all that the Carson/Reno/Tahoe area has to offer.

I would like to have the games and socializing start in the earlier part of the morning with the BBQ starting at 11:00 and everyone enjoying as much of the afternoon as possible.

Games and prizes: Horseshoes, Bocce ball, lawn darts, badminton, and possibly croquet.

We will have music this year. Dancing in the park is an option.

The theme is to have fun and enjoy our friends and families.

For God and Country.

Ben Casad  
Commander

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 04 July: Independence Day Parade in Virginia City - Noon
- 10 July: Post 56/Unit 56 Member Meeting – 6:30 PM
- 23 July: Post 56 Executive Board Meeting – 6:00 PM
- 14 Aug: Post 56/Unit 56 Member Meeting – 6:30 PM
- 16 Aug: Post 56/Unit 56 Summer Picnic – James Lee Park – 10:00 AM until whenever
- 27 Aug: Post 56 Executive Board Meeting – 6:00 PM

#### Legion statement on VA secretary nominee - June 30, 2014



President Obama has nominated West Point grad, former P&G head Bob McDonald to take over Department of Veterans Affairs.

American Legion National Commander Daniel Dellinger expressed hope that President Obama's nominee for secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs is willing to confront the serious issues facing the department and "put veterans ahead of the bureaucracy." "The American Legion, by its own constitution and bylaws, is prohibited from endorsing or opposing political nominees," Dellinger said. "However, we do look forward to monitoring the confirmation hearings and listening to Robert McDonald's plan to correct the policies that have led to the systemic scandals, and ensure that VA can once again provide what has been called, 'the best health care anywhere.' He will need to have complete hiring and firing authority, along with a willingness to see that those who committed illegal acts are prosecuted. The American Legion, through its System Worth Saving Task Force and policy experts, is eager to work with the new VA secretary to make the department a health-care system worthy of the service and sacrifice of the millions of veterans that it was created to serve."

Greatest legislation for the greatest generation  
By National Commander Daniel M. Dellinger - June 19, 2014



Seventy years ago this month, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed what many historians and economists consider the greatest social legislation ever passed by the United States Congress. As popular as the GI Bill remains today, the passage of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 was by no means a slam dunk. "Everything that glitters is not necessarily gold," leaders of four major veterans organizations wrote in an open letter opposing the measure just months earlier. Even Roosevelt was initially opposed, telling an American Legion convention in 1933 that "no person because he wore a uniform must thereafter be placed in a special class of beneficiaries over and above other citizens." Of course, World War II clearly changed Roosevelt's thinking. Moreover, veterans did not want to be placed in a "special class;" they just wanted a shot at the American dream that they fought so hard to defend. While the GI Bill was indeed expensive, critics wrongly focused on cost while ignoring the great return. To be sure, the \$14.5 billion total spent for education and \$20 per week for 52 weeks of unemployment pay were no pittance, but it paled in comparison to the higher tax revenue gained from an educated working class and a housing boom resulting from millions of homeowners. When the initial GI Bill period ended in 1956, 7.8 million out of 15.4 million veterans had enrolled in an education or training program. In 1955, the Veterans Administration backed one-third of housing starts. Levittown and many other communities owed their very existence to the affordable mortgages made possible by the GI Bill. It has been estimated that the GI Bill returned \$7 to the economy for every \$1 of cost. Drafted on stationery at Washington's Mayflower Hotel by Harry Colmery, a World War I veteran and past national commander of The American Legion, the provisions of the GI Bill reflected the input of a committee of prominent Legionnaires, including the organization's then-National Commander Warren Atherton and former Illinois Gov. John Stelle. It also benefited from the strong support of newspaper titan William Randolph Hearst, who believed that the previous generation of World War I veterans were not adequately compensated. Plenty of drama followed, including the dispatch and holding of an Eastern Airlines flight to Georgia to secure the vote of a pivotal congressman. The cultural ramifications of the GI Bill of Rights would shape the nation that America is today. The new benefit was color-blind, enabling African American and women veterans to pursue higher education years before Rosa Parks made her brave stand on a bus. Beneficiaries of the GI Bill included future presidents Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush; Sen. John Glenn, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Chief Justice William Rehnquist, actor Paul Newman, singer Johnny Cash and Americans in every occupational field. University presidents, business leaders, doctors and scientists who made it possible for the United States to win the race to the moon proved repeatedly that America was wise to invest in their educations. And while America thrived in the decades following World War II, it avoided the pre-war unemployment rates that marked the Great Depression. Most importantly, the 16 million returning World War II veterans came home to options. I am proud that my organization, The American Legion, lobbied hard for educational benefits to assist later generations of veterans. In fact, former U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards said that the Post- 9/11 GI Bill would not have happened without The American Legion. And while Roosevelt's signing of the original Servicemen's Readjustment Act on June 22, 1944, remains one of the finest moments in American history, The American Legion will continue to see that all future GI Bills are worthy of their name.

POST 56 DUES ARE STILL ONLY \$25.00 PER YEAR.



# RENEW ONLINE NOW!

**Renew your American Legion Membership quickly and easily online!**  
Simply visit the web address shown below, and follow the easy instructions.  
You can renew your membership and even print out a temporary membership card.  
Quick and secure credit card payment.



[www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew)