



# The High Desert BUGLE



## November / December 2015

*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 at  
Veterans Memorial Hall at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Curry Street, Carson City.

Our next meeting will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

This will be preceded by the Thanksgiving Meal at 5:30 PM.

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

### POST 56 OFFICERS

Commander	Richard Eberly	434-3386
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	John Riggs	358-7119
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	John Lancaster	425-1872
Adjutant	Kim Eberly	315-5784
Finance Officer	Marco Manor	267-4794
Chaplain	Jim Kelley	750-0784
Sgt-at-Arms	Bob Higgins	265-7898
Historian	John Riggs	358-7119

### UNIT 56 OFFICERS

President	Kendra Sherwood	575-6219
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Barbara Dickinson	246-4024
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Vacant	
Secretary	Irma Manor	267-4794
Treasurer	Christine St. Leger-Barter	461-3526
Chaplain	Betty Sherwood	575-6219
Sgt-at-Arms	Dolly Jenkins	884-3147
Historian	Vacant	

### 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

Hello to all our Legionnaires,

I'd like to remind everyone of our dinner for the next meeting and those of you that are going to attend the Christmas party 12/10/2015 need to let our finance officer Marco Manor know and pay for your dinners in advance so we will have the right amount of meals for the attendees. If you do not let us know you are coming and do not pay in advance for your meals, we will not have a meal for you.

Meals are \$25.00 per person and the gift exchange is a \$10.00 gift. Colors are Red Ribbon for women and Green Ribbon for men on the gifts. I hope to see everyone at our next meeting on 11/12/2015. Doors open at 5:30 PM so we can start the dinner before the meeting.

If you are not planning to attend the next meeting or our Christmas party, HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY SEASON AND A REALLY GREAT NEW YEAR.

Thank You.

Richard Eberly  
Commander, High Desert Post 56

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander's Comments

Comrades,

I remember when my Dad, Bob Riggs, an Infantry PFC during World War II, explained what the war was all about and that service to one's country was the highest calling a man could make to his fellow man because he offered his life if needed to keep America free. My Dad fought in the Battle of the Bulge (a freezing horrible Christmas and New Year) thru to the Occupation of Germany. When he came home, he would always watch the Army-Navy football game every year and he was not even a football fan.

I learned from him what Patriotism and Americanism were all about. He inspired me and of course, when I joined the Army he was shocked but proud. It was the Viet Nam war and our country was acting really strange blaming the Viet Nam soldiers for what was happening. This didn't bother me at the time and I went to BASIC and Advanced Training at Fort Ord. CA. From there I went to Germany and served in the 2/14<sup>th</sup> Artillery (Cannon Cocker – Red Leg) and then with the 1/37<sup>th</sup> Armor (Gold tankers but blue infantryman). I volunteered for Viet Nam and served 4/23<sup>rd</sup> (MECH FLAME) INF, 25<sup>th</sup> INF DIV.

All American Legionnaires have had similar experiences and all served our wonderful country faithfully. The Legion serves us all in many different ways. Post 56's Honor Guard offer services at funerals around our area and our Color Guard honors all veterans and citizens in parades. Please remember to let your family know about these services and if you are able, please consider joining.

We have other volunteer services that our Post, Sons of the American Legion and our Auxiliary provide. My Dad and I both received services from the Legion when we were in the VA Hospital and many of you have. Jump in and help our Post to serve the community this year and in the future.

Have a great Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas,

God Bless you,  
John A. Riggs,  
Senior Vice Commander

## Adjutant's Comments

Again, as the Adjutant of Post #56, I would like to encourage anyone that has not paid their membership to remember to pay up. If you have family or friends that have not paid up, please remind them to please pay. All members that pay before the end of 2015 get to still receive the 2015 rate of \$25.00. After the beginning of the year the membership rate is going up to \$35.00. This will be the first time that Post #56 has raised their membership rates since the inception of the post in 2004.

With November approaching fast, let all of us step back and remember all those Veterans in our lives by celebrating Veteran's Day on November 11.

## **Veterans Day Facts**

In 1954, President Eisenhower officially changed the name of the holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill was passed by Congress, which moved the celebration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. The law went into effect in 1971, but in 1975 President Ford returned Veterans Day to November 11, due to the important historical significance of the date.

Britain, France, Australia and Canada also commemorate the veterans of World Wars I and II on or near November 11th: Canada has Remembrance Day, while Britain has Remembrance Sunday (the second Sunday of November). In Europe, Britain and the Commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. every November 11.

## **Veterans Stats**

The brave men and women who serve and protect the U.S. come from all walks of life; they are parents, children and grandparents. They are friends, neighbors and coworkers, and an important part of their communities. Here are some facts about the current veteran population of the United States.

## Did You Know?

There are approximately 23.2 million military veterans in the United States.

9.2 million Veterans are over the age of 65.

1.9 million Veterans are under the age of 35.

1.8 million Veterans are women.

7.8 million Veterans served during the Vietnam War era (1964-1975), which represents 33% of all living veterans.

5.2 million Veterans served during the Gulf War (representing service from Aug. 2, 1990, to present).

2.6 million Veterans served during World War II (1941-1945).

2.8 million Veterans served during the Korean War (1950-1953).

6 million veterans served in peacetime.

As of 2008, 2.9 million veterans received compensation for service-connected disabilities.

5 states have more than 1 million veterans in among their population: California (2.1 million), Florida (1.7 million), Texas (1.7 million), New York (1 million) and Pennsylvania (1 million).

The VA health care system had 54 hospitals in 1930, since then it has expanded to include 171 medical centers; more than 350 outpatient, community, and outreach clinics; 126 nursing home care units; and 35 live-in care facilities for injured or disabled vets.

Sincerely,  
Kim Eberly, Adjutant

## Historian's Article

Per the National Guard Bureau:

*"We recognize December 13th as the birthday of the National Guard. On this date in 1636, the first militia regiments in North America were organized in Massachusetts. Based upon an order of the Massachusetts Bay Colony's General Court, the colony's militia was organized into three permanent regiments to better defend the colony. Today, the descendants of these first regiments - the [181st Infantry](#), the [182nd Infantry](#), the [101st Field Artillery](#), and the [101st Engineer Battalion](#) of the Massachusetts Army National Guard – share the distinction of being the oldest units in the U.S. military. December 13, 1636, thus marks the beginning of the organized militia, and the birth of the National Guard's oldest organized units is symbolic of the founding of all the state, territory, and District of Columbia militias that collectively make up today's National Guard."*

<http://www.nationalguard.mil/AbouttheGuard/Howwebegan.aspx>

National Guard: December 16, 1636

U.S. Army: June 14, 1775

U.S. Navy: October 13, 1775 (Abolished Feb 1781 - Reinstated 7 Sep 1781)

U.S. Marine Corps: November 10, 1775

U.S. Coast Guard: August 4, 1790

U.S. Air Force: September 18, 1947

Members of our Post served in different branches and the birthdays are listed above. You may have family members who served in different branches and one or more yourself. I served in the Regular Army and the Nevada National Guard Reserve. Some of you who have researched your family history found different ancestors all the way back to December 16, 1636. My ancestor was SGT Edward Riggs, MASS Infantry, National Guard and the Pequot Indian War. There are different Lineage Societies you all can belong to if you wish. I can help you with the Union Civil War and info on others.

Our National Guard has served us for 376 years – Happy Birthday!

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas

John A. Riggs  
Post 56 Historian

## **Honor/Color Guard Report**

Our team has been very busy this last two months participating in about 9 ceremonies. November is proving to be very busy as well. We have 4 scheduled so far and we will be heading down to Hawthorne on November 7<sup>th</sup> to do a ceremony for a fellow Legionnaire. On November 11<sup>th</sup> our Color Guard will again lead the Veterans Day Parade in Virginia City. Everyone is invited to attend the parade and march with us.

After the Veterans Day Parade, we will be saying good-bye to one of our original members of the Honor-Color Guard. Joe Hanus will have participated in over 500 ceremonies and has decided to retire his tired body. We can't thank you enough for your dedication to duty and all you have done for our team. You will be greatly missed and welcomed back anytime.

For God and Country,  
Marco Manor  
Captain of the Guard

## **Sons of the American Legion**

We continue to collect pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House in Reno.

Our membership leads the Detachment of Nevada with a 104%.

You may notice that there are little pigs being passed around at our Post 56 meetings. The money collected all goes to the Child Welfare Fund, Hear Today-Learn Tomorrow Program, and the Disaster Relief Fund. So please be generous when it lands next to you.

## **Veterans Hall Report**

Subj: Veterans Hall Advisory Board Meeting

Meeting called to order 10:00 hrs.

Six members present and one guest

### Old business

Flag pole light: haven't heard anything yet. Left message that I could meet them to install light I just need two hrs notice.

Sign on building: forgot to take photos of sign so I couldn't get estimate. Took photos at this meeting I'll deliver them Monday.

### New Business

OPEN HOUSE October 31<sup>st</sup>: Veteran Groups to set up info tables 07:30 Hrs There is going to be advertising inviting all Veterans to come and check out what each group has to offer. Starts 08:00 hrs till 13:00 hrs. Hope to have coffee and donuts.

November 7th Saturday Golden West BOWLING 13:00-16:00

Post 3726 Aux is now Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Post 3726

We talked about getting a counselor from Reno Vet Center to set up group for PTSD or any kind of one on one therapy and other group activities similar to what happens at Reno Vet Center.

Bob Higgins was absent. He's having eye surgery.

Next building meeting Nov 4<sup>th</sup>.

TAKE CARE

Bob Higgins  
Veterans Hall Representative

## **Post 56 Fund Raisers**

### **Calendar Sales**

Our calendar fundraiser is in full swing right now. The calendars are on sale for \$10.00 each and all of the proceeds go to help our veterans and their families. Call Marco at 775-267-4794 if you wish to purchase some.

### **Annual Candy and Nut Sales**

Booklets were passed out at our last general meeting with instructions to turn them in with your sales and money at the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Your orders should be back before the annual Christmas Party. Didn't get one? Call Marco and he will make sure you get one.

## **Annual Christmas Party**

The Post 56 Annual Christmas Party will be on Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Gold Dust Hotel and Casino located on Highway 50 East. No host cocktails will be served from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. A sit down dinner will be served at 7:00 PM. Your dinner choices are roast beef, pork sirloin, or salmon. Each dinner will cost \$25.00 per person, pre-paid.

Please mail your checks and dinner choice to Marco Manor, 961 Desert Court, Carson City 89705-8089. Reservations must be received no later than December 1<sup>st</sup>.

So far we have collected over \$2,000.00 in raffle gifts and Marco and Irma said that everyone attending will receive a gift from them. If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, you may purchase a \$10.00 gift and place a red bow on the gift for a woman and a green bow on a gift for a man.

The door prize this year is a stay in a deluxe suite at the Gold Dust with dinner for two and a breakfast the following morning, a \$225.00 value.

We hope to see as many of you there as possible to end a great year for Post 56.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 01 November: Daylight Saving Time Ends – Set your clocks BACK
- 11 November: Veterans Day – Post 56 Color Guard leads parade in Virginia City
- 12 November: Thanksgiving Meal – 5:30 PM – A \$5 donation is requested
- 12 November: Post 56/Unit 56 Member Meeting – 6:30 PM
- 23 November: Post 56 Executive Board Meeting – 6:00 PM
- 26 November: Thanksgiving Day
- 10 December: Post 56/Unit 56 Christmas Party – 6:00 PM – Gold Dust West Casino
- 21 December: Post 56 Executive Board Meeting – 6:00 PM
- 25 December: Christmas Day
- 31 December: New Year's Eve

POST 56 DUES ARE ONLY \$25.00 PER YEAR UNTIL 2016.  
AFTER THAT, THEY WILL BE \$35.00 PER YEAR.

WHY A DUES INCREASE?

Back in 2003 when High Desert Post 56 was chartered, the Board of Directors decided that charging \$25.00 annually for our dues would be a fair amount as well as give the post some operating funds.

However, over the years we have seen two dues increases from National as well as one from our Department of Nevada. Nationals dues were \$13.50 annually and the Department of Nevada dues were \$8.50. That left the post with \$3.00 left for operational expenses. Out of the \$3.00 we had to pay our District dues that were \$1.00 per member as well as our Department Convention fee each year. That left the post with about \$1.25 per member.

At the recent National Convention in Baltimore, MD, a resolution was passed to raise the annual per capita (the part of our dues that goes to the National Headquarters to support operations) by \$5.00 per year. What that means to Post 56 members is that, starting January 2016, Post 56 dues will become \$35.00 per year instead of the current \$25.00 per year.

If you have not already renewed your membership for 2016, I encourage you to renew your membership before January at the current rate of \$25.00. If you have not received a dues statement yet, you can still pay your 2016 dues by sending in your check with your membership number in the "for" section to PO Box 2848, CC 89702 or you can pay online at MyLegion.Org.

Marco Manor-Finance Officer



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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.

VISA    MasterCard    Discover

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

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