



### ***Thoughts from your MEMBERSHIP Chairman***

As the 2018 – 2019 Legion year begins to pick up momentum, please keep the primary objectives of our great organization in the foremost part of your thoughts. ***Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children and Youth***

Membership is the lifeline of our organization, if we are going to continue to be the voice that insures the needs of our veterans is heard in the state and national capitols, we must increase our membership numbers. We continually see our numbers drop. During the past five years our membership has decreased by 4,466 members. Hopefully this trend has ebbed and is starting to make the much needed turn around. CONGRATULATIONS to the Legionnaires in the Melbourne and Alexander areas, for starting new Post. Welcome aboard Post 28 and 81.

We all need to be recruiters. Stop and think, why did you join the Legion. Maybe it was because you found that Legionnaires 'speak the GI language', or for the camaraderie. Maybe it was because you wanted to be a 'stake holder' in the Nations largest war-time Veterans Service Organization, whose members served their country and are continuing to serve veterans and their communities. For whatever your reason may be, we need to reach out to our fellow veterans, invite them to become a part of The American Legion.

Congratulations to those Post that have attained 50% of their 2019 goal that Commander Kinsey set for them, you have a "step-up" in reaching 100%

District One held the Departments first District Revitalization on August 17 & 18, thank you District Commander Bob Bracy and NW Membership co-chair Rodney Robinson, for all of your efforts. The Revitalization uncovered over 40 Legionnaires who had not been transferred to Post Everlasting, plus we had another 50 or so transferred into an Active Post. I am sure each of the 17 Posts in the District benefited from your efforts.

**WHO IS GOING TO FILL OUR SHOES?** Who is going to lead your Post next year or the year after?

J.W. Smith  
Membership Chairman  
Department of Arkansas