

Thoughts from your MEMBERSHIP Chairman

The 2018-2019 Legion year in the Department of Arkansas has begun. I know our Membership Team of *Wally Rosier, Jessie Horton, Rodney Robinson* and *Joy Hendrix* are looking forward to assisting your Post in the quest to grow its' membership!!

I am of the opinion, that each of us needs to "take a deep breath" and reflect on the 'why's' and 'what fors' of our almost 100 year old organization. Why and how did the largest War-Time Veterans Service Organization begin. How have we survived for 99+ years with only one change to the preamble to our constitution?

Let's take time to reflect on why we, as an individual, joined this organization and why we have continued as a member. Then let's take those thoughts and share them with our non-member veteran friends and encourage them to become a part of our great organization. Let's use those thoughts and feelings to encourage our new Legionnaires to renew their 2019 membership and show them how to become involved in the Post.

Let's ask our spouses, sons and daughters to become a part of our Legion family. Think about this basic idea; if each member of your Post would recruit just one new member this year, and encourage the current members to renew their 2019 membership, your Post, District and Department would double its membership in one short year!!!! I know that probably won't happen, but one can dream, can't he?

This new Membership team is looking forward to a great and exciting year, let's all learn and support the four founding principles of our organization. **Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation; National Security; Americanism; and Children & Youth.** Let's all seek ways to become involved in our communities, and to assist local veterans and/or their families, that possibly could use a "hand-up".

I invite each of you to contact myself, or a Membership Team member, if you have questions, concerns or ideas of how we can improve our membership.

Our Team looks forward to helping Commander R.D. Kinsey lead the Department of Arkansas to another level.

Stay tuned folks.

J.W. Smith
Membership Chairman
Department of Arkansas