Coronavirus Pandemic Cause Cancellation of State Convention, Other Programs

The international health crisis known as COVID-19 caused by the coronavirus has had a serious impact on the operation of The American Legion. From the local post to our national organization, planned events and activities have been canceled. Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson issued Executive Order 20-13 April 4th, 2020 banning all public gatherings for an indefinite time. With these constraints in place, it became necessary for the Department Executive Committee to address the 102nd Department of Arkansas state convention scheduled for June 26-28. Not knowing when the pandemic might break and knowing the demographics of attendees to this event, the DEC meet in a teleconference April 16th and voted to cancel the state convention. As Commander Batey stated “I would not want to know that we caused one Arkansas Legionnaire to get sick from us meeting.”

Other action taken up by the DEC and/or Committees include cancelation of the 2020 Boys State encampment and War on Drugs Poster Contest along with increasing the Jack Hodges veterans Assistance fund.

The National organization has taken steps to prevent spreading the virus including cancelation of the Spring Meetings in Indianapolis, National Oratorical Contest, Boys Nation, A/L Baseball, and the Junior Shooting Sports Air Rifle Tournament. Instructions issued by our national organization state that the National Executive Committee has voted to cancel all meetings through the end of September. This means that the National Convention that was scheduled to be held in Louisville, Kentucky August 28th – September 3rd is also canceled. The American Legion National Executive Committee approved a resolution Wednesday, April 8, by email to cancel the annual convention of wartime veterans and their families for the first time in history. The 2020 Sons of The American Legion National Convention is also canceled.

Washington Legislative Conference

Ten Arkansas Legionnaires and Auxiliary members “Stormed The Hill” this year during the Washington Conference March 8th– 11th, 2020. The American Legion's Washington Conference, held annually in our nation's capital gives our organization's leadership a chance to meet with elected officials to discuss legislative initiatives and priorities important to Legion members and their families. It also provides a forum that allows Legionnaires to hear from senators, representatives, and officials from the White House and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as they address our members at the conference.

Arkansas Legionnaires were able to meet with all of our elected leadership or senior members of their staff to discuss issues that directly impact us back home. Team A member Michael Westergren related that “being able to meet directly with our representatives gives us the ability to highlight our personal experience with issues that are most pressing to all Legionnaires.”

The four-day event is packed with meetings and prepares attendees to meet with their state’s Representatives. This year’s Legislative Agenda had 11 issues that were discussed before the 116th Congress 2nd Session. These agenda items can be found at https://www.legion.org/publications.
DEPARTMENT-LEVEL CORRESPONDENCE

Message from the Commander

Doyle Batey, Commander
Department of Arkansas

It has been an incredible year. The COVID-19 pandemic has turned our world upside down. The economic impact of restrictions has affected every part of our society. I know that many posts are suffering because of limited fundraising opportunities. I encourage you to keep the faith and stay the course. We are certain to come out of this sooner or later and we will come back strong. It is your strength and courage that encourages me and makes me proud. I did not know that I would have a year like this but I am honored to serve during these tough times with tough Legionnaires. The Arkansas American Legion Family is awesome.

The National American Legion has postponed the 2020 National Convention until next year. There will not be a National Convention this year. At the same time, National strongly urged all Departments to follow suit and postpone their 2020 conventions until next year. The Arkansas Department Executive Committee voted via teleconference to postpone our 2020 convention until June 2021. It was decided to keep all officers and appointees in place for one more year. We cannot dictate post procedures. We encourage you to follow your post constitution and bylaws.

Now is the time to check the status of your constitution and bylaws. Prepare a set if you do not have one. Update the ones you do have. No one can begin to guess when things will return to normal, or to the new normal, whatever that will be. I hope that all posts are following federal, state, and local government guidance as it relates to this pandemic. Even though our 102nd Department Convention will not be held this year, we are still going forward with our Sweepstakes Drawing in June. Please send in your tickets before the deadline for a chance to win up to $1000. Please donate any amount you can. The drawing will be held at headquarters and winners will be notified soon afterwards. I pray that you all stay safe and that every one of us comes through this unscathed.

National cancelled the 2020 Boys Nation and we have cancelled the 2020 Arkansas Boys State at the University of Central Arkansas. The campus was closed to us and we were not willing to jeopardize the health of our youth. National has cancelled the 2020 American Legion Baseball season. There will not be an American Legion World Series this year. The Arkansas American Legion Baseball season is still on hold. We plan on making a final decision on June 1st. A lot goes into making this decision. The safety of the players, coaches, officials, and fans is first and foremost on my priority list. Will the Governor open up youth sports for this spring and summer? Will the schools and cities open up their parks and ball fields? Our decision will depend a lot on the decisions of others. Just know that I am committed to ensuring safety first. No baseball game, Boys State Legion night, or department convention is worth the life of one of our Legionnaires or Legion Family members. Stay safe and may God bless you and protect you during this pandemic.

NEC Notes

Greetings comrades.

I don’t know about you, but I’m so tired of hearing about nothing but virus related news that I’ve quit watching several of the TV channels that I previously watched religiously. If you’re expecting to read any profound advice, comments or virus related information from me, you may as well stop reading after my next comment.

You probably already know that the national convention was cancelled along with all meetings I would normally attend. That’s it for virus related comments.

I want to encourage all posts to get their Consolidated Post Report (CPR) submitted if it hasn’t been done as yet. I will be sending completion reports periodically to the district commanders to share with post commanders and eventually I will send them a list of posts that haven’t submitted their reports. As of now, only 6% of Arkansas posts have submitted their CPR to national HQ. If you need any assistance with your report, or have any questions on how to do the report, please contact me.

On a personal note, I had major spine surgery at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN on February 5th and am doing very well. You probably don’t know that I used to race competitively and still hold two course records in Arkansas. I’ll never be able to run again but once I get a hip replaced my ultimate goal is to start walking competitively.

I certainly miss seeing my fellow Legionnaires and other friends but one day at a time, this too shall pass.

Don’t hesitate to contact me for any questions, concerns or assistance. I’m at your service.

Mary Erdman, NEC
(501)922-6287(H) (501)454-7357(cell)
maryrdmn@gmail.com
The recipients of the 2020 American Legion Garner and Coudret Trust Scholarships are:

**Northeast Area:**
- Garner $2,500 Carson Clark
  - Hamburg High School
  - Hamburg Post 75
- Coudret $1,000 Annalise Cornett
  - Concord High School
  - Heber Springs Post 64

**Southeast Area:**
- Garner $2,500 Damon Rice
  - Fordyce High School
  - Fordyce Post 78
- Coudret $1,000 Savannah Schafer
  - Carlisle High School
  - Carlisle Post 133

**Southwest Area:**
- Garner $2,500 Mikayla Long
  - Glen Rose High School
  - Malvern Post 11
- Coudret $1,000 Joseph Benson
  - Jessieville High School
  - Hot Springe Village Post 123

**Northwest Area:**
- Garner $2,500 Landon Johnson
  - Heber Springs High School
  - Heber Springs Post 64
- Coudret $1,000 Hannah Jackson
  - Gentry High School
  - Cave Springs Post 274

### CFW: Comparing Department and National Programs

Arkansas Legionnaires and the welfare of our children have a longstanding interrelationship. Children and Youth are one of the Four Pillars of Service which all Legion members stand behind, and this Department has a historic presence in ensuring our kids are properly cared for.

If you ask a Legionnaire outside of Arkansas what CWF stands for you might hear Child Welfare Foundation. Within our state, many will also answer Child Welfare Fund. While different, both programs are rooted in the generosity and dedication that Arkansas Legionnaires have in providing for the welfare of children. In fact, the National Child Welfare Foundation originated through a generous donation by Past Department of Arkansas Commander Dr. Garland Murphy (1952-1953) of fractional rights to 10,000 acres of oil-rich land he owns in the Williston Basin of Montana and North Dakota. Out of this contribution is born the American Legion’s Child Welfare Foundation. On July 9, 1954, the foundation is incorporated as a distinct non-profit organization whose mission is to benefit young people with physical, mental, or environmental challenges.

CWF grant recipients are named during The American Legion’s annual Fall Meetings in October. In 2019, the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation awarded $811,282 in grants to 19 nonprofits. And since the foundation made its first three grants in 1955, nearly $16 million has been awarded to assist the needs of children.

Even before Dr. Murphy’s grant, the Arkansas American Legion was making a difference in the lives of children. Overwhelmed by the plight of veterans and the indigent children impacted after the end of WWII, Arkansas Posts and Districts began seeking additional sources of funding to help the families of fellow veterans. By 1947, the Department Executive Committee was actively discussing methods to establish a permanent funding source to care for these children. The Department sponsored state legislation making grant funds available for meeting the emergency needs of families. Effective July 1, 1949, state funding was secured on a two-to-one matching basis to assist the dependent children of deceased or disabled veterans. With this action, the Department of Arkansas Child Welfare Fund received the boost it desperately needed. The Department of Arkansas was to manage this program and depended on the Posts and Units to provide the matching funds.

Twenty years later, the program has evolved but is still reliant on the generosity of Legion members. During the July 10th, 1971 DEC meeting, the recommendation was made and carried to increase the quota beginning with the 1973 Convention. The Auxiliary had raised their contributions to the fund to $0.50 per member to help offset the increase in demand for assistance. The account was underfunded, it was felt that the Legion should match the Auxiliary amount. No action was taken during this meeting. The question was passed over during the next convention but did come up as a proposal during the January 15th, 1972 DEC meeting. The Policy Committee made the recommendation “that each Legion Post pay $0.50 per member based on the Post membership quota.” A motion was made and carried to increase the quota beginning with the 1973 membership.

Arkansas American Legion manages the Child Welfare Fund through the office of the State Adjutant. Veterans or the custodial caregiver of veteran dependents, regardless of membership, can apply for assistance. These grants are intended to support the immediate need of families where the veteran is the primary provider and is incapable of earning income because of an unresolved condition. They are only intended for the immediate housing, utility, and medical needs of the minor children living in the home. Any Post can initiate the application process to help a veteran in need. Contact Department Headquarters for more information. Additional resources are available through the National Temporary Financial Assistance program to help veterans and their families.

Arkansans are known for their generosity. Arkansas Legionnaires have been providing for the welfare of our children for over 100 years. That 50-cent contribution from each member goes a long way to ensure we live up to our promise to take care of the children of the fallen. Help keep us at the forefront of taking care of this Pillar Program.

Contributed by Michael Westergren, Editor
DEPARTMENT-LEVEL CORRESPONDENCE

CAVHS Begins Way Forward with Limited Reintroduction of Services

Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System is pleased to begin scheduling again for non-urgent appointments starting May 18. For the protection of our Veterans and staff, and to prevent the spread of COVID-19, CAVHS will initially be scheduling a minimal number of Veterans for face-to-face visits as services are reintroduced here.

CAVHS has been selected as a lead site for VA Recovery Operations in the South Central VHA Network - VISN-16. We are working on plans to safely reintroduce services here as a model for VA medical centers across the country.

“While the pandemic has been a journey that has tested our adaptability, agility and, sometimes, endurance, we are starting a new journey that promises to be challenging and rewarding,” said Dr. Margie Scott, CAVHS Medical Center Director.

“What CAVHS will expand operations in an environment that is safe for our Veterans and staff. Our goal is to care for Veterans who have the greatest clinical need while ensuring a safe environment for all.

To minimize the risk of exposure, Veterans are asked to plan to arrive at the clinic no sooner than 15 minutes before the start time of their appointment. Other safety measures include:

- When Veterans arrive at the facility, Veterans will be asked screening questions and have their temperature taken at the entrance to our facility. Please allow up to 10 minutes to complete this process.
- Enter the John L. McClellan Memorial Veterans Hospital only through the South Entrance/Red Atrium (entry nearest I-630).
- Everyone entering our facilities are required to wear a face covering or mask. Masks will be provided at the screening checkpoint for those who do not have one.
- Family members and friends will not be allowed inside the facility, so we ask that Veterans consider coming alone. For Veterans needing assistance getting to their appointment, only one adult over 18 years old may accompany them.
- Strict social distancing will be practiced inside our facilities, so there will be minimal seating space. Our goal is to move patients efficiently to exam areas.
- Veterans may be asked the screening questions again once they get to the clinic.

Several Virtual Care options are still available for Veterans. Virtual care options are easy, effective, and convenient:

**Telephone or Video Appointments** – Veterans can receive care at home—either over the phone or via video using VA Video Connect on their computers, smartphones, or tablets. To set up telephone or video appointments, Veterans can send their provider a secure message on My HealtheVet by visiting myhealth.va.gov. Veterans may also call, but VA is requesting that Veterans only call with urgent needs at this time. To learn more about VA Video Connect, visit mobile.va.gov/app/va-video-connect.

**Prescription Refills** – Veterans can request prescription refills and order and ship medications to their homes using My HealtheVet or the Rx Refill mobile app. Download the app at mobile.va.gov/app/rx-refill.

**Text Message Reminders** – Veterans can use Annie’s Coronavirus Precautions protocol to send automated text messages with information about COVID-19. This application helps Veterans monitor for symptoms and can assist if they need to contact their VA facility for care. Enroll at mobile.va.gov/annie.

**Secure Messaging** – With My HealtheVet, VA’s online patient portal, Veterans can send online secure messages to your VA health care team to ask them non-urgent health questions. Register at www.myhealth.va.gov.
My Thoughts

I have been pondering about the dilemma that our Post, District and Department is facing!

The American Legion came about as a result of the WWI leaders concern for their ‘Dough Boys’. From the foundation of Veterans & Veteran Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth came the largest war time veterans organization today.

Beginning with your Post, then the District, Department and finally National, we find ourselves in trying times. Declining membership, participation, and just a perceived lack of interest for our fellow Veterans! Each post is given the responsibility for their own business and operation, as long as they abide by the broad guidelines contained in the national and department constitution and by-laws. So what’s the problem with our Posts.

To attempt to answer this, I relied on an old saying used by my grandmother frequently, and you have seen me quote it "If you have a problem, look in the mirror, you just might find the answer". At the mirror, I asked ‘Why did you join this organization’; ‘Are you a participant or a by-stander’; ‘Do you continue to speak positively about the Legion to your friends and acquaintances’; ‘When was the last time you attended and participated in a Post meeting’; ‘When was the last time you asked a Veteran to become a member’; ‘When the Post leadership ask for assistance or volunteers, do you speak-up or raise your hand’; ‘When a new idea or program is presented, do you immediately say, “No, we already tried that” or do you listen and agree to try it again’? These are just a few of the questions asked and answered at that mirror. I’ll bet you have plenty you could ask yourself, and could probably find some answers to solve your post, district and department issues.

Membership decline can only be blamed on you and your post. National has done a good job recruiting this year. As of this writing, National has recruited 1094 members for the Department of Arkansas. Seven(7) of them were in my area and are now members of our Post, don’t know about the other 1087. A Post member and myself went to their resident and introduced ourselves, asked them to join our Post, without exception each one stated that they thought they were already assigned to our Post. After explaining that they were members of the National administrative post (1000AD) earmarked for Arkansas, they gladly signed the Member Data Form to transfer to Siloam Post 29.

Has your Post reached out to the Post 1000AD members in your area?

Participation in the post is partially on post leadership shoulders. Do you do the ‘same ole thing’ each meeting? Do you engage the membership? Do you seek new ideas and programs?

You know, we may be in a dilemma, but with just a little more effort from each of us, we can correct this and move forward with bigger and better programs. We need to believe and trust each other, and for heavens sake, listen to the younger members and their ideas!!

J.W. Smith
Department Commander
2016-2017

The coronavirus pandemic has certainly caused a disruption in our activities in Fort Smith with everybody now needing a haircut (although we may have been able to get our ears lowered by the time you read this)...and most of us are suffering from cabin fever but we’re trying to make the best of it. The first casualty at the Post was the pause of our Monday morning "Coffee With The Commander" since we are restricted to gatherings of less than 10 people and we always had more than 10 show up for Monday morning coffee, donuts and lively discussion but we’re hopeful those can resume sometime in May. Second, we had to cancel our April dinner meeting and postpone hearing from Colonel Leon J. Dodroe, Commander of the 188th Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard who was scheduled to give us our annual briefing on the activities of the 188th but we’ll reschedule his talk as soon as we can resume our meetings. We did, however hold our Executive Committee meeting and streamed an abbreviated monthly meeting on Facebook Live at our regularly scheduled time while respecting the social distancing and meeting size restrictions (7 Legionnaires were in attendance). If you’d like to see it, it’s on The American Legion Post 31 Facebook page under "Videos". The third event that was affected is our annual election of officers...the Executive Committee voted at the April meeting to suspend the rules and hold the election by mail and we have mailed ballots to every current member of the Post.

Respectfully,

John Hendrick
Commander
Post 31, Ft Smith

Point Of View

A lot has changed in the past three months. The impact of the coronavirus on our daily lives along with the loss of jobs, security and social engagement has put many of us on edge.

Immediately after the Washington Legislative Conference, everything Legion just went into lockdown.

I miss not being able to meet with fellow Legionnaires; my Post is active in our community and we canceled all events this Spring. Department and National have taken the same steps to prevent the spread of this virus. Gone are the 2020 Boys State and Department Convention along with the National meetings. Still, we Legionnaires carry on.

National Commander Bill Oxford is promoting the “Buddy Check” program. He asks all of us to perform these wellness check-ins with veterans. As American Legion members, our most sacred responsibility is to look out for each other and our fellow veterans. The idea is to reconnect with veterans who may need assistance but don’t know where to go or who to ask. These contacts may be made by a personal visit, phone or email, or a combination. The important part is to reach out to veterans in your community to let them know you care and can provide whatever assistance they may need. It’s what we do for our battle buddies.

Even in isolation, we can still be strong Legionnaires and reach out to our comrades. Please take a minute and call a fellow veteran who may be needing to hear from someone like you.

Be Safe,
Michael Westergren
Department Commander
2017-2018
FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT NANCY

Our hearts, our thoughts and our prayers go out to everyone who has suffered emotional effects or physical damage because of “Mother Nature” recently, particularly those in the tornado area of eastern Arkansas and the thousands of people in southern Arkansas who were left in the dark without power because of severe storms.

Please pass the following information to all members in whatever manner is best for your Unit.

Updates on cancellations of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary are as follows:

♦ On April 8, the Department received an e-mail that the American Legion had canceled the National American Legion Convention scheduled to be held in Louisville, Kentucky at the end of August 2020. The e-mail contained the follow: “All National Officers, Chairmen and Committee members will continue to serve in their rules until the 2021 National Convention or until their resignation.”

♦ On April 16, the American Legion, Department of Arkansas had canceled the state Convention slated for June 2020. The American Legion, Department of Arkansas and American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Arkansas will follow suit with the National officers and all State Officers, Chairmen and Committee members will continue to serve in their roles until the 2021 Convention.

If you have any questions about the above, please refer to the Unit Guide Book, APPENDIX A: UNIT CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS, Article VI, Section 1; Article IV, Section 2 and Article IV, Section 3 (2019 Edition).

Because of reduced action in the Auxiliary office due to cancellation of Girls State and the State Convention and the current pandemic, we are reducing the hours the Department office will be open. Until further notice, the Department office will be open on Tuesday and Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The mail was a concern and this was taken care of by renting a Post Office Box. Please send all mail to:

American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Arkansas
P. O. Box 1010
Little Rock, Arkansas  72203

Please get your year-end reports to the Committee Chairman asap. It is so important that we send correct information to National Headquarters as they compile information from all Departments for their report to Congress. The amount of money the National Organization receives from Congress depends on the information the National Headquarters gives to them.

Since all normally scheduled by and for the American Legion family have been canceled, we will limit further mailings until we have updates that affect the membership. I will be available by phone during this time at 501-413-9026.

Until then, follow the guidelines set forth for staying health by wearing a mask, avoiding crowds, and taking other safe measures.

Nancy
You don’t have to bake anything and you don’t have to sell anything. All you have to do is figure out how much it would cost you and the time it would take you to shop for ingredients, prepare, and bake. Then total up the time, cost involved and make a donation to the President’s Project. All money donated will go to the Department to be used as needed.

Include with your donation, an index card with the name of the recipe you would have donated and the amount of your donation. These cards will be collected a winner will receive a nice prize. In addition, President Nancy will match the donation on the card, up to $50.00.

It is NEVER too late to collect dues for membership! Many members may not realize that they have not paid their 2020 dues, now is the time to call and remind them of the benefits of Auxiliary membership. If the member does not want to be active, their dues are used to help support our mission and the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary.

This is a good time to call your members to not only check on them but to encourage them to continue volunteering and serving our veterans.

This is so important that it needs to be said often – let’s borrow a page from the American Legion and do “Buddy Checks” on the veterans in our communities and Posts. It is so important that we reach out to our veterans to see how they are doing not just during special occasions but 52 weeks a year.

Suicide is a national public health issue and veterans are among higher risk groups. We need to reach out to the veterans in our community and let them know they are not alone and there is help. Encourage veterans to seek help at their local VA facility or other service facility. There is also confidential help for veterans and their families available at: 1-800-273-8255 and press 1; chat online at http://www.veteranscrisisline.net; or text to 838255.

Although many Units are not meeting during the pandemic and are basically shut down for the time being, some Units are having activities. Facebook posts show that Heber Springs Unit 64 has reached out to members to assist in any way they can and that Rogers Unit 100 has made and delivered 773 fabric facemasks to local nursing homes, mailed to other Posts in Arkansas and out of state, friends and family and were gearing up to make them for the VA and Veterans Home in Fayetteville. A member of Manila Unit 336 is offering free facial masks to Auxiliary members during the pandemic. We’re all doing our part and so proud of our members!

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS - Carol Westergren, Chairman

It’s a busy year for Constitution & Bylaws! Due to changes adopted at our 2019 National Convention regarding membership and the passage of the Legion Act, all Unit Constitution & Bylaws must be updated. An updated sample Constitution & Bylaws will be posted on our website soon. Please contact me for any assistance you need.

My email is cwestergr@earthlink.net. Thank you.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION - Iris Murray, Chairman

Coffee and cookies are served at the Little Rock VA the second and third Saturday of each month but due to the coronavirus, we are not serving until it is safe for our volunteers to return to the VA. We would love to have you come and help us serve our veterans! You need to be a certified volunteer and the process is easy. The Voluntary Service Office at the North Little Rock VA conducts training sessions on Wednesdays and the class is approximately one hour. Call the Voluntary Service Office at 501-257-3288 to schedule your training. There are many volunteer opportunities at both VAs in Central Arkansas, there is one for you!

There are many opportunities for volunteering at the Fayetteville VA. Please call the Voluntary Service Office at 479-444-5060 to schedule your training to become a certified volunteer. The veterans always need our help.

The VA&R Committee would like to recognize a special volunteer that has been so helpful to our Christmas Gift Shop. Mary Ann Hodges, a member of Unit 1, has made hundreds of gift bags that are used to “wrap” the gifts that the hospitalized veterans at the Central Arkansas VA choose to send to their immediate family. Mary Ann has spent countless hours and money on making the bags that the committee wanted to recognize her efforts. Thank you Mary Ann Hodges!

QUILT RAFFLE

Tickets are available for the beautiful quilt made by the late Ruth Legan, an avid quilt maker. Tickets are $2.00 each or 6 for $10.00. Contact Charley McAfee at the Department if you want to purchase tickets or get some to sell.

Proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund.

GIRLS STATE

The 2020 Arkansas Girls State has been cancelled.
SPECIAL EDITION

The May edition of *The Arkansas Legionnaire* is typically reserved for all news relating to the Department Convention. With the international pandemic caused by the coronavirus and the cancellation of all meetings and events, this edition is dedicated to all Arkansas Legion Family members who have been affected by COVID-19.

As the world struggles to recover, take time to reflect on how our Nation has overcome past adversity. Just 100 years ago, right at the end of WWI, the Spanish flu was finally subsiding. We overcame and America grew into an international powerhouse.

Be strong as a community, state and nation. We will recover stronger than before.

Scouting BSA Court of Honor
Pack 232 and Troop 3766

Siloam Springs Post 29 supported Pack 232’s Honor Court February 29, 2020. Courts of Honor are gatherings for Scouts, families, and guests where the troop and troop members are recognized for what they have accomplished and achieved. They are presented in a manner appropriate for a special occasion and can feature a variety of impressive ceremonies. In this year’s ceremony six young men crossed over into Troop 3766, also chartered by Post 29. Troop 3766 this year was able to honor its first Eagle Scout, not just one but three Eagle Scouts. These young men are Nathan Hahn, Eston Yandell and Avery Della Rosa.

Arkansas Department Commander, Doyle Batey, and Siloam Post 29 Commander, Stuart Reeves, were on-hand to present awards before the Crossover of the Arrows. Commander Batey presented Citizenship Citation awards to the three Eagle Scouts then presented them with a “Certificate of Recognition” for outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership from National Commander James W. “Bill” Oxford.

Post 29 offers the use of The American Legion Community Hall aka Siloam Community Building at no cost. The Post supplies the pack with a PA system and other items need for their program. They helped with setup and used the Post Color Guard to post the Colors for the program.

Contributed By Less Carroll, Post 29