



Department of Oregon District 5 *December Update 2018*

District 5 Commander's Message

IT'S ORATORICAL CONTEST TIME. The Posts should be working with the Schools in their area to get students interested in participating in The American Legion Oratorical Contests. Information on the Oratorical program can be found in the Programs section of The Department of Oregon website (www.orlegion.org) and on the national website (www.legion.org). Department no longer sends out the packets as in the past, so it is up to the Posts to search for the information. The District 5 Oratorical contest committee is comprised of Committee Chair Lance Trowbridge (Post 86 Sisters, OR), Kathie Downey (Sisters Post 86) and Phyllis York (LaPine Post 45). Contact information for the committee members are: Lance Trowbridge e-mail: ltrowbridge7@gmail.com, Kathie Downey e-mail: imkadesha@yahoo.com, Phyllis York e-mail: yorkphyllis@msn.com

If you have anyone interested in the Oratorical Contest or want more information about the program, please contact any of the members.

It's also time for Posts to be working with their local Police Departments and Fire Departments to honor the outstanding Police and Fire officers in their communities and forwarding these to Department for the Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the year awards. District 5 has done very well with The Department Law Enforcement Officer the last two years, both coming from Ray Johnson (Bend) Post 44. I am sure that most of communities in the District have outstanding Police and Fire personnel that deserve to be honored also. Once again Department is not sending out the packets for these awards. The information can be found at the Department website under the Media-Resources-Awards drop down menu. The application forms for both need to be downloaded from the National website. The Posts must have their winners sent in to Department by January 15, 2019 so the Department winners can be selected at the Mid-winter DEC meetings January 18 -20, 2019. If you need further information you can contact me by e-mail at gmarvin_us@yahoo.com.

All three of these programs are worthwhile and easy for the Posts to administer and great community

service project that will get your Post noticed favorably in your communities. Thank you for your service.

Greg Marvin, District 5 Commander

Wreaths Across America Ceremonies Sat. Dec. 15

Posts and Units in Bend, Redmond, LaPine and Sisters are placing ceremonial wreaths or having remembrance ceremonies, being a part of over 1,500 locations across the USA and beyond.

Ceremonies will begin at 9 a.m. sharp in District 5. The public is invited to attend and help lay wreaths on the graves of veterans. Contact your local Post for locations and details.

DEC and District 5 Meetings

Mid-Winter DEC will be held Jan. 18-20, 2019 at the Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum, 500 NE Captain Michael King Smith Way, McMinnville. National Cdr. Brett P. Reistad will be in attendance. See your Commander for the agenda, lodging and meal registration.

John Sloss Post 125 and Auxiliary will host the Feb. 2 District 5 meetings, tentatively to be held at the Jefferson County Senior Center, 860 SW Madison, in Madras. Watch your email for any updates.

Following is the schedule for the balance of the DEC meetings and our D5 meetings:

Mar. 29-31	Crook Co. Round UP, Prineville
Mar. 30	Dist. 5 - Crook County Post #29
Apr. 5-7	DEC - LaPine Post #45
May 2	Dist. 5 - Eugene Green #48, Warm Sprgs

What's Happening in District 5?!!

Several of our District 5 Posts and Auxiliary Units held events in connection with Veterans Day including dinners and parade participation.

CROOK COUNTY UNIT #29 marched in the Prineville parade then cooked and served a free spaghetti dinner to about 90 folks. The Ladies of the VFW furnished the dessert and helped clean up. They have helped with this event for several years now, starting

when Louise Carter was president. Unit 29 shopped for the Tree of Joy on Dec. 9th and will include Veterans. The Unit also has enough money to buy for 100 this year. Then the gifts are wrapped and taken to the Holiday Partnership Program where they are distributed.

STEVENS-CHUTE POST 4 AND AUXILIARY entered a float and banner carriers in Bend's Veterans Day parade, which included Living History actors in WWI uniforms.



(l to r) Unit 4 President Katie Terry, Dept. Treasurer Karen Banks, Bonnie Wilkins, Cheryl Wanous (WWI Red Cross volunteer costume), Carol Wilson, Leigh Anne Denney and District 5 President Yvonne Drury

Unit 4 gave Thanksgiving dinner baskets to two female veterans, and are now preparing baskets and gifts for the families of three female veterans needing assistance.

Annual Christmas dinner for Post 4 veterans was held Dec. 4 with lots of raffles and door prizes and special music by Jeff Jackson. Through members generosity, \$255 was raised to support our missions of serving our veterans.

Oregon Veterans Home Christmas Shop Opening Held

The Dec. 1 opening was well attended by District 5 Posts and Units as well as Dept. officers. Several District 5 Units provided many dozen cookies for the event. Despite a virus outbreak at the home, the volunteers assisted the veterans in choosing gifts for their families. Cookies were bagged and distributed to the veterans.

Special thanks from Unit 4 to Ginny and Willie Williams who carried their 44 dozen cookies to The Dalles, after Unit 4's plans to attend fell through.

Viking Wars Membership Challenge Continues

How is everyone doing in getting their renewals and new members for the 2018-19 year?

Auxiliary District 5 is currently in 5th place, and it looks like the percentages of some of our most active units are low. Renewal notices are mailed out in January to all members not yet renewed, so hopefully that will bring in more.

The most effective way to gain renewals is a conversation either in person or on the phone. The personal touch cannot be beat in helping members feel wanted and valued.

Contact Your District 5 Officers

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***SEE YOU JANUARY 18-20 FOR DEC AND
FEBRUARY 2 FOR DISTRICT 5 MEETINGS.***

***Please submit your pix and events for the
next newsletter to Commander Greg
Marvin or President Yvonne Drury!
(see emails on contact list.)***