A History of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1

The American Legion

Tulsa, Oklahoma 1976-1977



By Frances Liotta

and

George E. Norvell

CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword	1 -
Introduction	4
Monthly Report: July 1976 thru June 1977	7-75
Appendix A	76
Appendix B	77
Index	78-80

Foreword

Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 enjoys a priceless heritage which more than 2,000 members point to with pride. They are proud of its many achievements for the betterment of the community, state and nation. The record of accomplishments has been brilliant since the American Legion was founded 58 years ago.

The Post's original charter bears the date of June 18, 1919, and is proudly preserved in the service office.

In the beginning Post No. 1 was named after Joseph C. Carson, who was killed in action in France, September 28, 1918, and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism" post-humously.

The Post was renamed "Carson-Wilson No. 1" and the charter reflecting the name change is dated January 27, 1947. The Post was renamed in order to accord equal honor to a hero of World War II, PFC. Alex E. Wilson, Jr., who was killed in action in Germany, November 27, 1944. His awards included the Bronze Star with two Oakleaf Clusters and the Purple Heart. The Silver Star was awarded to him post-humously.

The Post observed the 58th birthday of The American Legion at a dinner March 15, 1977, and because the current year has been such an outstanding one, post leaders decided to have the most noteworthy activities and accomplishments recorded in this history book.



Post Leaders

CARL H. WELCH Commander

Post Officers

Clay Arnold	1st Vice Commander
Enlo E. Warma	2nd Vice Commander
Ralph Younger	3rd Vice Commander
Bob Hardcastle	Finance Officer
O. D. Waters	Chaplain
Frances Liotta	Adjutant and Historian
Walter Spengler	Sergeant-at-Arms

Executive Committee

J. Earl Simpson	Evelyn Hohulski
Earl McCamey	Dan S. Woods, Jr.
Bill McEwen	Bob McCann
Walter Browning	Arky Williams
Loy Dale Cordell	

Office Staff

Donald Jacobs	 Service	Officer
Madlyn Burrow	 Se	cretary

OFFICERS, CARSON-WILSON POST NO 1



CARL WELCH, Commander



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Front Row: Carl Welch (Commander), Clay Arnold (1st Vice Commander), Eddie Warma (2nd Vice Commander), Ralph Younger (3rd Vice Commander), Frances Liotta (adjutant). Back Row: Dale Cordell, J. Earl Simpson, Bill McEwen, Earl McCamey, Bob McCann, Walter Browning, Evelyn Hohulski. NOTE: Not present at time picture was taken: Arky Williams and Dan S. Woods, Jr.

OFFICE STAFF



Madlyn Burrow Secretary



Don Jacobs Service Officer



A friendly outfit.

Introduction

When visitors enter the post grounds they are first impressed by the "Flame of Freedom" which was dedicated March 15, 1969, to "The Men and Women Who Have Served with Honor Under the Flag of the United States."

The monument is a reminder that Legionnaires have constantly striven to keep the fires of freedom burning since the American Legion was founded in Paris, France.

Today, as in former years, a welcome mat is out at the post hut where a friendly greeting awaits all Legionnaires and guests, and the spirit of true comradeship prevails.

The first caucus was held in Paris, March 15, 1919 and Lt. Col. Clark, son of Champ Clark, Speaker of the National House of Representatives, presided. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., in the meantime had returned to the United States to promote the organizational work required for the State-side caucus, which was held at St. Louis, May 8-10, 1919.

Clarence B. Douglas, a journalist and secretary of the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce, gave an excellent account of the birth of the Legion in Oklahoma and the founding of Post No. 1 in Tulsa in a "History of Tulsa," published in 1921:

"The history of the American Legion in Oklahoma had its commencement in the interval between the Paris caucus and the meeting at St. Louis. About the middle of April, 1919, the adjutant-general of the state called together a few representative ex-service men and with their aid effected a temporary organization, electing Ross Lillard, of Oklahoma City, chairman, and F. W. Fisher, secretary.

"Immediately after taking this forward step, the temporary officers thus selected issued a call for a state caucus to be held in Oklahoma City on May 3rd for the purpose of perfecting the state organization and choosing delegates to the meeting at St. Louis. Letters were sent out to well known ex-service men in each community, urging them to call local meetings for the purpose of sending representatives to the Oklahoma City caucus. Such a meeting was held at Tulsa on April 24th and Lee Daniel was selected as temporary chairman and Thomas J. Shea as temporary secretary. The following delegates to the Oklahoma City caucus were chosen: Alva J. Niles, Lee Daniel, Horace H. Hagan, G. F. O'Brien, H. W. Fulger, C. E. Wheeler, John Rogers, Dr. Paul Brown, N. A. Thompson, W. W. Tyler, David Weinstein, A. M. Bailey, Thomas F. Shea, Lemoyne Stroud, H. L. S. Halley, William Viner, A. L. Carmichael, Robert Evans and Charles Casey.

"Of the delegates so selected, sixteen attended the Oklahoma City meeting, comprising the largest single delegation from any one county in the state. The Tulsa spirit was in evidence throughout the sessions of the caucus and Lee Daniel was unanimously elected vice commander of the state organization. Horace H. Hagan was selected to represent the First Congregational District on the state executive committee. Ross Lillard was unanimously elected state commander and F. W. Fisher was selected, without a dissenting voice, for state adjutant.

"The Oklahoma City caucus resolved that anyone desiring to attend the St. Louis caucus as a delegate from Oklahoma should be allowed to do so. As a result, Oklahoma's St. Louis delegation of twenty-three included the following Tulsans: Alva J. Niles, Lee Daniel, Horace H. Hagan, Ralph H. Berry, N. A. Thompson, Thomas J. Shea, William Viner, Philip A. Fox and Howard W. Meyer. Most of these men served on important committees and helped to make a creditable record for Oklahoma.

"As a result of the stimulating session at St. Louis, the temporary officers of the Tulsa Post determined, upon their return home, immediately to perfect their own organization. A meeting was called for May 21st for the purpose of selecting a name for the post and electing permanent officers. By a unanimous vote the local unit was designated Joe Carson Post, in honor of a Tulsa hero who had made the supreme sacrifice on the fields of France. The community had known him both as a school boy and as a popular young business man and his unfailing cheerfulness had endeared him to all. At this same meeting the following permanent officers were elected: Post commander, Horace H. Hagan; post vice commander, John Rogers; post adjutant, R. H. Berry; post finance officer, Vergil Jones; post historian, William R. Meyer; post chaplain, L. C. Murray. To these officers there was soon thereafter, added an executive committee, consisting of the post commander, the post adjutant, John Rogers, Dr. W. A. Cook, T. D. Lyons, N. A. Thompson, Alva J. Niles, William Viner and Glenn Condon.

"As a result of the enthusiasm of the ex-service men of Tulsa in thus so speedily carrying through the work of organization, the signal honor of receiving the American Legion charter number one for the State of Oklahoma fell to the lot of Joe Carson Post. --

"The first important step taken by the new officers of Joe Carson Post was to inaugurate a membership campaign. This campaign was held on June 7th under the able directorship of Glenn Condon. Howard Meyer, B. F. Noyes, Dr. Paul Brown, William Viner and P. A. Fox were also members of the committee in charge of the campaign and rendered most active and efficient aid. As a result of the campaign over eight hundred new paid-up memberships were obtained. The feature of the campaign was the stationing in the evening of a team of workers at each theater in the city. The captains of these teams were R. H. Berry, Harry L. S. Halley, T. D. Lyons, Glenn Condon, Alva J. Niles, G. F. O'Brien, John Rogers, Lee Daniel and S. E. Dunn. The team of R. H. Berry secured the most memberships, with that of S. E. Dunn a close second. The result of this campaign was to make Joe Carson Post by far the largest in the state

"Another big event in the early history of Joe Carson Post was the reception to the One Hundred and Eleventh Engineers. This reception was entirely under the auspices of Joe Carson Post and proved to be the greatest gala day in Tulsa history. Its success was largely due to the untiring work of Lee Daniel, who had charge of its many details. A feature of the celebration was the erection, on Main Street, of an imposing arch.

THE FIRST STATE CONVENTION

"When the time of the first state convention, October 21st, arrived, it found Joe Carson Post in a commanding position in state legion affairs. At its regular meeting, held a few days prior to the state convention, Joe Carson Post unanimously endorsed its post

commander, Horace H. Hagan, for the position of state commander. John Rogers was selected as the head of the Tulsa delegation. Owing to the resignation of State Commander Ross Lillard, Lee Daniel, of Joe Carson Post, presided over the deliberations of the state convention, which unanimously selected Mr. Hagan for the office of state commander. John Rogers was chosen as the representative of the First District on the state executive committee.

* *

"Within a few days after the state convention, new officers were selected for Joe Carson Post. The result of the election were as follows: Post commander, John Rogers; post vice commander William L. Eagleton: post adjutant Thomas J. Shea, post finance officer, P. A. McNeal; post historian, J. C. Chatfield; post chaplain, N. A. Thompson. The new executive committee, in addition to the post commander and post adjutant, contained the following names: Dr. Ralph Smith, H. L. S. Halley, Horace H. Hagan, Alva J. Niles, T. D. Lyons, Glenn Condon and S. E. Worthington, E. N. Kenney, who distinguished himself as chairman of the entertainment committee, was later added to the committee in place of Mr. Condon, whose resignation was necessitated by his removal to New York, W. L. Ditzler subsequently succeeded Mr. Chatfield as historian.

"Four members of Joe Carson Post, namely, John Rogers, P. A. McNeal, R. H. Berry and Horace H. Hagan, attended the first national convention held at Minneapolis on November 10th. 11th and 12th The stirring accounts they brought back of the inspiring events of the convention added no little stimulus to the local enthusiasm. At Minneapolis, Mr. Rogers served on the Committee on Resolutions, Mr. Hagan on the Committee on Constitution, Mr. Berry and Mr. McNeal on the Committees on Post Activities and Credentials, respectively.

"On the last Saturday in January, 1920, Joe Carson Post held its second membership drive for the purpose of renewing old memberships and securing new ones. It had been feared that the raise in dues, owing to the increase of the national assessment, might be a serious handicap. This apprehension, however, proved unfounded and February 1, 1920, found Joe Carson Post with more than one thousand paid-up members. This campaign was in charge of P. A. McNeal with C. S. Worthington, H. L. S. Halley, J. P. McBride, W. L. Eagleton and Miss M. Alch as trusted and valuable subordinates. The team of P. L. Long secured the most memberships.

GENERAL PERSHING'S VISIT

"On February 11, 1920, the City of Tulsa had the great privilege of acting as host to General Pershing. Members of the legion formed the escort to General Pershing in the parade from the station to the hotel. Alva J. Niles acted as his personal host while their esteemed comrade, Miss Florence Heald, was his chauffeur. G. F. O'Brien had charge of the arrangements for the parade, while the address of welcome was delivered by the state commander. The outstanding feature of the exercises at Convention Hall was the presentation to Joe Carson Post by General Pershing, on behalf of Fitzhugh Lee Camp of the Spanish War Veterans of Tulsa, of a magnificent stand of the national colors. . . ."

After the American Legion was formally organized, a second charter was executed April 1, 1921 by Frederic W. Galbraith, Jr., of Ohio, National Commander, and National Adjutant Lem-

uel Bolles, of Washington. This charter was countersigned April 10 by Horace H. Hagan, Department Commander, Tulsa, and Josiah C. Chatfield, Assistant Department Adjutant, also of Tulsa.

The "birth certificate" of Oklahoma's first Legion post has been preserved and is displayed proudly in the business offices of the post:

Original Charter

The American Legion Temporary Headquarters, 19 WEST 44th STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.				
Charter for	JOE CARSON	Post, State of O	OKLAHOMA, No. 1	,
This is to the Harry	Certify por the National Executive Con	mmittee of THE AMERICAN LEGION	herrby grants a charter to	
Roland My	Tyrich .			
Shap Tho	Motore.			
For the formation of a Pe	out of THE AMERICAN LLGION at Post, State of OKLAP	TULSA (Name of Team)	. State of OKLAhomA , under the	name of
	anted on the recommendation of the State O			
2. The above na	med Post shall uphold the declared principle	es of THE AMERICAN LEGION and sh	red and confirmed by the National Executive Committ will conform to and abide by the regulations and decis overning body of THE AMERICAN LEGION.	
4 This charter is	e subject to revocation by the National Executarization to be held November 11, 1919,	sutive Committee, on the recommendation and after that date by the proper authors	of the State Organization, prior to the national convey established by the national convention.	rention for
James ,	In Mitness Whereof, we have her lland. Dortel	reunto set our lands this Eighteen	Henry Kindsley	Commisses

Four of the Charter Members are still living.

Past Post Commander William L. Eagleton, is a prominent lawyer; Harry L. S. Halley, a former post commander and a veteran of World Wars I and II, has served as a District Judge in Tulsa and as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Oklahoma; C. C. McCrary; and C. A. Border are among Tulsa's most esteemed civic leaders.

Monthly Report

July 1976 thru June 1977



July, 1976

July literally started off with a bang! On July 3 a Bicentennial parade was held along Riverside Drive in Tulsa. The patriotic observance was sponsored by Carson-Wilson Post No. 1, and Legionnaires Leslie W. Lane (Brig. Gen. Ret), and past Post Commander James R. Thrush served as chairman and co-chairman. They worked hard for several months with other community leaders to make this event the most colorful and meaningful patriotic parade ever to be staged in Tulsa.

The Bicentennial year reached a climax on July 4, 1976. In observance of the nation's 200th birth-day, Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 published a full page salute to the community, state and nation in the Tulsa Daily World. A copy of the page was framed and sent to national headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, where it is on display in the library. (see page 9)

The annual fireworks show was held at the Tulsa Fairgrounds on the evening of July 4. Several thousand men, women and children applauded the display which featured a Bicentennial theme.

The department convention was held in Oklahoma City July 16-18 and Jim Rutherford, of Moore, Oklahoma, was elected department commander, succeeding Howard Shannon, former commander of Post No. 1. Both Legion leaders attended the installation of new officers at the post hut July 27 when the following local officials were installed: Carl Welch, post commander; Clay Arnold, Eddie Warma and Ralph Younger, vice-commanders; Frances Liotta, post historian; Robert Fleming, finance officer; Walter Spengler, sergeant at arms; O. D. Waters, chaplain; and J. Earl Simpson, Walter Browning, Evelyn Hohulski, Bob McCann, executive committeemen.

Outgoing Commander Dan Woods presented life memberships to the following members of the Honor Guard who have served so faithfully on the funeral detail: John Baker, Ray Barton, Roy Bedard, John Carr, Louis Hale, Reverend Marvin Hart, Sam Houston, John Lovejoy, Ira McPherson, Lawrence Meistrell, Roy Parker, Vern Shaffer, J. J. Rogers, Buren Simmons, Tom Slater, C. E. Smith, Harley Tomey, and Otto Zeigler (which was presented posthumously).

Commander Woods also presented life memberships to Jack Naifeh, Clay Arnold and Loy Dale Cordell.

Plaques of appreciation were presented to Floyd Harris (posthumously), Dave Dawson, Bob Ditto and Amos Lewis, all of whom had served frequently on the Post Honor Guard.

During July the post donated two hundred dollars to the American Legion Home School at Ponca City, Oklahoma, to help defray the expenses of the children residing there for a holiday trip to Six Flags Over Texas.



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

FOR THE FOLLOWING PUBPOSES:
To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, To maintain low and actes, To laster and perpetudin one hundred presional Americanes. To preserve the memorise and incidents of our associations in the great wars. To incutate a sense of actividual obligation to the community, state and inductive control and actividual obligation to the community, state and inductive control read the outcome; of both the classes and the masses, To make right the master of might. To promote paper and good-well on earth, to soleguerd and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy. To consecrate and standity our convadeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

THE FOUNDING OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AND POST NO. 1, TULSA, OKLAHOMA

The American Legion was conceived at a caucus which met in Pors, March 15-17, 1919
Listors Joe Carson Poel No. 1, now Carson-Wilson Poel No. 1, vaca the first past to receive a charter in Clidoherra. June 18, 1919 The name of the poel was changed following World Wort ill so that Ascandar E Wilson. Jr. a servicement of lich Wart also might be honored positivenously.

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Major Achievements and Activities 1975 - 1976

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- Sponsored Bicartennial picnic and provided re-freetiments for senior citizens of Central Park, June 15.
- June 15
 Sportained Bicentamnost Parade on Riverside Drive, July 3, 1978
 Sportained onnual freveroits show on July 4, 1978, climating the delectration of our indians bimody with a discretained Freeworks Spechacular of the Teigroundis Longot.

PARADE LEADER



Commander Carl Welch and Americanism Chairman George Norvell look up admiringly at "Uncle Sam" (Bill McEwen) prior to the post sponsored Bicentennial parade on Riverside Drive in Tulsa, July 3, 1976.

BICENTENNIAL PARADE, JULY 3, 1976



James R. Thrush, Post Bicentennial Chairman



Replica of Independence Hall entered by Tulsa chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.



Gen. Leslie W. Lane, Bicentennial Parade Chairman



Showboat entry by Diamond, Missouri High School.



BICENTENNIAL PARADE JULY 3, 1976

Unit Entry—Mrs. Ed "Sandy" Blackburn, a Gold Star Mother and former president of the Unit, is seated on Memorial float.



Donrey Signs featured the American Eagle.



Religious freedom is stressed.

August, 1976

The national pastime held the spotlight during the month of August. Post No. 1 hosted the State American Legion Baseball tournament, August 16-20. The James H. Teel Post 105 Team of Bartlesville, sponsored by Bill Doenges Ford, won the state title and the right to represent the Department of Oklahoma in the Mid-South Regional competition, August 25-29.

Post No. 1 also hosted the regional tournament which was held in Oklahoma for the first time and contributed \$6,000 to defray the necessary expenses. Members of the post rolled out the red carpet for the visiting teams, fans, coaches, sponsors and umpires.

The American Legion Post 175 Team from Metairie, Louisiana sponsored by Schaff Bros. Construction Company, won the regional title. The tournament was the biggest sports events in the history of Post No. 1, and the guests from six states were pleased with the excellent playing field and superior baseball facilities which have been developed by the post at a cost exceeding \$100,000.00

It was a great day when Ralph Younger, past Post Commander, tendered a post check in the amount of \$10,700, as the final payment on the American Legion Baseball Park note, to Jack Porter, President of the National Bank of Commerce.



Mayor Robert J. LaFortune issued a proclamation proclaiming August 16-20, 1976, and August 25-29, 1976, as American Legion Baseball Weeks in Tulsa and commending Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 for hosting the state and regional tournaments on those respective dates.

The Mayor declared that the American Legion baseball program has received nationwide acclaim for developing college stars and big league players and for providing healthy athletic competition for thousands of highschool players across the nation. He praised members of Post 1 "who deserve recognition and commendation for bringing these outstanding athletic events to our city."



Commander Carl Welch and Baseball Chairman Bill Wright receive Mayor La-Fortune's proclamation.

The following pictures, letters and baseball items appeared in the program:

REGIONAL IV — NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD D. (JACK) BARNES ALTUS, OKLAHOMA

ATHLETIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS
High School-All Sports





WELCOME:

The Carson-Wilson Post No. 1, The American Legion, is very proud to be your Host for the State and Mid-South Regional Tournaments, here at beautiful Legion Field in LaFortune Park.

Several years ago, all of this was but a dream. Building and paying for the Baseball Field, and finally the acceptance of our bid to Host these Tournaments. Both became a reality.

Baseball is the number 1 National past-time, but many viewers may very well over-look the real aspect of the game itself. These young participants build strong bodies and character while learning fair play. These reflect the principals of the American Legion.



MR. BASEBALL

Some 10 years ago a very dedicated and honorable man was appointed to the Directorship of The American Legion Baseball for the Carson-Wilson Post No. 1.

Prior to this appointment he spent many hours coaching and managing teams in American Legion Baseball.

After receiving the Directorship, Gene Dunbar started in motion his idea of a baseball facility second to none in the United States





OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

ROBERT J LAFORTUNE

June 30, 1976

Commander Dan S. Woods, Jr. Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 The American Legion 1120 East 8th Street Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120

Dear Commander Woods:

Congratulations are due the members of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 for hosting the American Legion State Baseball Tournament, August 16-20, and for bringing to Tulsa for the first time the Mid-State South Regional Baseball Tournament, August 25-29.

I am happy to join the Tulsa Legionnaires in extending a cordial welcome to our guests for these contests. The best players of our sister states of Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas will be competing with the cream of the crop of Oklahoma, and some exciting baseball games are in store for the spectators.

We also extend a warm welcome to the thousands of visitors who will enjoy the tournaments and the hospitality of our city.

Sincerely,

Robert J. LaFortune Mayor

R.ILF: if



TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74120

American Legion Baseball, a part of the Americanism program, is living proof of your veterans' devotion to the community, state, and nation and not just so many words that are lost among other words.

The young people who participate and who will be the nation's leaders in the near future, learn the discipline and sense of fair play that will hold them in good stead on their pathway through life's many challenges.

Carson Wilson Post #1 is very proud to be a part of this magnificent program. We have what is believed to be the finest program in the nation. The 10 teams that play under the Carson Wilson Post #1 banner are your local high school boys, and we are grateful to the local businessmen and others who sponsor them.

This American Legion program is also a team effort under the direction of our baseball director, Mr. Dunbar, whose guidance of this program has caused it to reach such an enviable position. We are very grateful to Gene whose generous contribution of time and effort has given us this pride of accomplishment. He is our Mr. Baseball.

I can't begin to name everyone who has contributed but the following well deserve our thanks; the late J. A. Lafortune, Ben Ballinger and Chief Benton, who have been so instrumental when they passed this way.

Thanks to everyone who helped.

Now let's play ball,







STATE OF OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OKLAHOMA CITY

DAVID L BOREN

Commander Dan S. Woods, Jr. Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 The American Legion Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120

Dear Commander Woods:

It is most gratifying to extend congratulations to the members of your post and the City of Tulsa who will be hosts to the baseball teams participating in the State Tournament, August 16-20, 1976, and the Mid-State South Regional Competition, August 25-29, 1976, at the American Legion diamond in LaFortune Park.

Tulsa Legionnaires are noted for their hospitality, and I am happy to join them in the warm welcome which I know awaits the coaches, players, and spectators.

As Governor of Oklahoma, I salute the state champions of Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Oklahoma, who are competing in the regional event.

The American Legion baseball program richly deserves commendation for producing so many outstanding college players and major league stars.

Sincerely,

DAVID L. BOREN



Office of the Commissioner

Bowie K. Kuhn

June 28, 1976

Dear Mr. Wright:

American Legion Baseball and professional baseball have had a wonderful relationship through the years. We are happy to support the fine baseball program of the American Legion.

Being a little more specific, I want to wish every success to your American Legion Mid-State South Regional Baseball Tournament co-hosted by the City of Tulsa and the Carson Wilson Post #1.

Sincerely,

Armil Clahin



OK. A.L. BASEBALL





DEWEY F. BARTLETT OKLAHOMA

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to welcome to Tulsa the participants and friends of the American Legion Mid-State South Regional Baseball Tournament.

We call all be proud of the young people who will be vying for the championship in a spirit of cooperation and fair play.

I am pleased to salute the American Legion for sponsoring such a worthwhile youth activity, and I extend my best wishes for an enjoyable week.

Sincerely,

Dewey F. Bertlett

U. S. Senate
OKLAHOMA



JAMES R. JONES
FIRST DISTRICT, OKLAHOMA
MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON WAYS
AND MEANS

DEPUTY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

August 25, 1976

WASHINGTON OFFICEY
225 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDIN
(202) 225-2211

DISTRICT OFFICE: 4536 FEDERAL BURDING TULSA, ORLAHOMA 74103 (910) 501-7111

Dear Friends:

It is my very great pleasure to welcome you to the American Legion Mid-State South Regional Baseball Tournament at Lafortune Park here in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

I know that this is a time of special excitement for the players, their supporters in the American Legion, and the many enthusiastic baseball fans who have come to cheer the tournament on.

Tulsa is proud to host this fine event, where everyone who participates will be a winner.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Member of Congress

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE



PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL CLUBS

I MONE OMES THEFT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA MITOL

June 24, 1976

The American Legion Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 1120 East Eighth Street Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120

Gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure to salute American Legion Baseball and, on behalf of all the National League clubs, to congratulate the fine young men who will be participating in the American Legion Mid-State South Regional Baseball Tournament, August 25-29, 1976 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

I also commend your officials, staff members, coaches and many others behind the scenes who contribute their time and efforts with diligence and enthusiasm to assure the success of this very worthwhile program.

Many American Legion Baseball graduates are playing in the National and American Leagues today, and we hope to see many of this year's graduates on our diamonds in the near future.

With every good wish for success to all of you and my kindest personal regards.

THE AMERICAN LEAGUE OF PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL CLUBS 280 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

July 22, 1976

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To American Legion baseball fans:

The players you see bfore you in this tournament at Tulsa might well include some future major leaguers; many, many of our current players are graduates of the American Legion baseball program. And even those players who do not make it to the professional ranks enjoy a summer of fun and excitement, thanks to this program. The men of the American Legion who donate their time and effort to make this possible deserve our appreciation.

The young men you see at this tournament are all champions. They have proved themselves, and although there will be a winner, truly none of them are losers. My best wishes and congratulations go out to all the players, spectators and American Legion personnel, and I hope the tournament is an excellent and enjoyable one.

La Mac Kil

President, American League

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BILL WRIGHT

Baseball Chairman for

Carson-Wilson Post #1

☆ ☆ ☆

Mr. everything, you name it — Mend the fences, put up a sign, arrange the banquet, ticket salesman, coach, and a professional baseball scout. His devotion to American Legion baseball and the nation's youth is unexcelled. Carson-Wilson Post *1 salutes this great Legionnaire. Thanks Bill from Post *1.

JAMES H. TEEL POST 105 Sponsor: Bill Doenges Ford

	oponoon bin boonge	
No.	Name	Pos.
2	Stanley Baughn	1, 0
10	Kenneth Benge	U, F
22	William Bridendolph	OF
5	Mark Fox	OF
19	Carl Kester	Р
14	Arnold Ketchum	SS
3	Charles McClure	OF
9	Robert McDonald	Р
16	Richard Owen	C
4	Stewart Parham	1
21	Robert Rhodes	P
7	Mathis Saddoris	P
1	Randolph Stayton	1
15	Dallas Tim Tolin	3B
11	Dwight Tyner	OF,
13	Mark Yelken	OF

Coach: Robert Korthase Manager: E. L. Baughn SAME STATE OF THE SAME STATE O



BEPPO ARNOLD - KNOWLES POST 32 Greenville, Mississippi

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Pos.
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OF

Manager: George W. Hood

METAIRIE POST 175 Metairie, La. Sponsor: Schaff Bros. Const. Co.

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No.	Name	Position
8	John Christopher Accardo, Jr.	2B
9	Daniel Bosse	3B
10	Daryl Burckel	C
21	Robert Fiedler	SS
16	Kenny Francingues	Р
7	Blaine Fury	OF
15	Steven Golden	OF
13	William Kampen	Р
5	James Kropog	SS
11	Gustavo Martin Malespin	OF
6	Terrence Murphy	C
12	David Persons	P
2	Donald Rice, Jr.	1B
14	Michael Ryan	Р
18	Donald Schneider	P
20	Stephen Speeg	C
4	David Stokes	3B
1	Michael Warren	OF

Manager: George Beyer Coach: Larry Schneider



SAN LEON POST 291 San Leon, Texas

	Odii Ecoli, Toxao	
No.	Name	Pos.
22	Mark Beers	P, INF
23	Mark Erskine	3B
7	Edward Gonzales	2B
17	Nino Herrera	P, INF
11	Mark Levespere	SS
4	Ray Lee	OF
8	Angel Marshman	Р
18	Mike Matocha	P, INF
9	Darryl Nelson	IF
20	Thomas Penney	С
19	David Rogers, Jr.	OF
24	Neil Woodard	OF





MEMPHIS POST NO. 1 Memphis, Tennessee No. Name

Pos.

110.	Humo	
20	Scott Baker	C
22	Robert Bingham	C, OF
10	Thomas Cochran	OF
21	Sam Cole	P
14	Robert Dunavant	0
8	Donald Ganong	IF
5	Mike Herbert	C
2	Matthew Hutchison	Р
9	Brian Maley	OF
17	Keven Reeves	P, IF
16	Jack Reilly	IF
3	James Skinner	Р
15	Philip Smith	OF
18	John Thetford	P, IF
19	Tommy Turner	0
23	Michael Watkins	1B
12	Wm. Weaver	C, IF
4	T. L. Wilkerson	O, IF

HOARIN — CONNOLLY POST 32 Pine Bluff, Arkansas

	inc bidii, Aikanoao	
No.	Name	Pos.
11	Rusty Barton	OF
10	Richard Brown	OF
4	Dale Cook	OF
3	Ken Gathright	OF
18	Jeff Glover	P/1B
12	Joey Hayes	P/OF
9	Jim Jackson	OF
1	Tommy Jones	INF
20	Randy Locke	C
5	Phil Rogers	C/OF
8	Bryan Scoggins	P/INF
14	Steve Smith	Р
2	Terry Thredkold	INF
6	Mark Whelchel	P/UTL





Sponsor: H&H Protective Coating

No.	Name	Pos.
6	Steve Anderson	OF, F
16	Larry Arnold	С
4	Mike Donley	OF
9	Joey Hood	Р
2	Tom Hughes	UTIL
12	Rob Kauffman	SS
3	Dan King	1B
13	Todd Mariner	Р
1	Jay McDonald	2B
15	Garland Presley	Р
7	Jack Rackleff	OF
18	Scott Rankin	C
19	Terry Sagely	C
17	David Vanderpool	INF.
14	Joey Whitecrow	Р
5	Steve Yoder	3B

Coach: Jim Gifford Manager: Larry Smittle



Post and Auxiliary leaders attending the national convention in Seattle August 20-26 were: J. Earl Simpson, Howard Shannon, Cy Haywood, Dan Woods, Jim Thrush, Zell Benton, Charlotte Thrush, Laney Shannon, Evelyn Woods, and Geneva Younger.

They gave glowing accounts of the convention upon their return to Tulsa. Jim Thrush stated that approximately 75,000 spectators viewed the parade in which the Tulsa delegation participated.

The convention also had its serious aspects. Presidential nominee Jimmy Carter and Admiral James L. Holloway III, United States Chief of Naval Operations were the principal speakers. According to the Tulsa delegates, President Carter, a member of American Legion Post No. 2, Americus, Georgia, was well received by the Legionnaires on all points of his speech except his statement favoring a pardon for draft dodgers.

Admiral Holloway, in his address to the convention delegates, stated that over the past ten years the Soviets have delivered to their fleet a total of 833 naval vessels, while during the same period the United States Navy delivered a total of 265 new ships. The Navy's top uniformed officer further stated that "It is imperative the United States Navy have the requisite number of individual ships which in themselves have the inherent military characteristics which will in aggregate give the Navy a total maritime force able to carry out the United States national military strategy.

During the convention the delegates adopted significant mandates. Among them were:

- (1) The American Legion should use every available means at its command to alert the membership and the general public to the fact that our nation is rapidly becoming a second-rate military power and that the military superiority of the United States should be restored.
- (2) That there should be continued support of the procurement of the F-15 and F-16 aircraft, development and procurement of the B-1 bomber and improvement and modification of our Minuteman missile force, and support for the rapid development and deployment of the Trident Submarine System.
- (3) Opposition to general amnesty to draft evaders and deserters, continuation of the standby Selective Service System, continuation of support of the ROTC and Jr. ROTC programs and opposition to any and all efforts to unionize the personnel of the Armed Forces.

The following Resolution was adopted unanimously:

"Resolved, that The American Legion continue to support the Federal Bureau of Investigation as it continues to intensify its legal and proper programs of lawful surveillance and reporting upon parties and groups and individuals whose actions are inimical to the domestic security of the United States."

J. Earl Simpson advised that the National Children & Youth Commission reported that since the founding of the American Legion, more than 330 million dollars has been expended by the Legion in supporting children and youth activities. He said the Youth Commission also recommended action by the U.S. Congress and various state legislatures to appropriate sufficient funds for school nutrition programs to reflect the increased cost of food and to provide for needed facilities and trained personnel for the purpose of conducting an adequate school lunch program.

On the final day of the convention, William J. Rogers, of the State of Maine, was elected National Commander, succeeding Harry G. Wiles, of Kansas, who had enjoyed a great year and an outstanding convention.



National Executive Committeeman, Tom Smith, and immediate past Department Commander, Howard Shannon also marched in the parade. One lady had a difficult time keeping up with them.



Charlotte Thrush and Geneva Younger bring up the rear of the Oklahoma delegation.

September, 1976

During September the post donated \$100 to the Arizona Museum Foundation and a like amount to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The post also donated \$25 to the United Fund and \$100 each to two highschool musical organizations who performed in Washington, D.C., during "Oklahoma Days" in October.

It was announced at the post meeting September 7 that the team from Santa Monica Bay City's Post No. 123 had won the 1976 American Legion baseball championship at Manchester, New Hampshire, the preceding day by defeating the Des Plaines, Illinois, Post No. 36 by a score of 7-6 in the 15th and final game of the series.

Members of Post No. 1 were pleased to receive the news that Gus Malespin, who played for the Post No. 175 Team, Metairie, Louisiana, and had participated in the Regional Tournament in Tulsa, was selected American Legion Player-of-the-Year. The Louisiana centerfielder also received two other awards as the leading RBI producer in both the Regional and World Series events. Malespin's teammate, third baseman Dave Stokes, was the leading hitter in the World Series games, with a batting average of .442.

At the meeting held September 12, post members congratulated George Norvell, State Bicentennial Chairman for the Department of Oklahoma, for receiving a citation from the National "Spirit of '76" Committee.

With memories of the national convention at Seattle still fresh in their minds, the World War I veterans also shared recollections of former reunions. They recalled the 9th Annual Conclave in Paris, France, September 18-22, 1927.

Former Post Vice-Commander Richard Broach and Unit member, Esther Atkinson Jackson, attended the convention. The Unit 1 member cherishes a copy of the 1927 program which contained the following poem by the late Edwin Markham:

"A song for the heroes gone on ahead To join the hosts of the marching dead; A song for the souls that could lightly fling Sweet life away as a little thing, For the sake of the mighty need of earth, The need of ages coming to birth.

All praise for the daring God who gave
Heroic soul that could dare the grave,
Praise for the power He laid on youth,
To challenge disaster and die for truth.
What greater gift can the high God give
Than the power to die that the truth may
live?"

John J. Pershing, General of the Armies, U.S.A., and Marshal M. Ferdinand Foch, the French military leader, were principal speakers at the Paris Convention.

Legionnaire Alton E. Mathis held fond memories of the 10th Annual Convention held at San Antonio, Texas, in October 1928. He furnished the post with photos showing the Joe Carson Post (now Carson-Wilson) Band marching in the street parade and later posing before the Alamo.



The American Legion Spirit of '75 Committee Salutes

George Norvell

for his enthusiastic promotion of

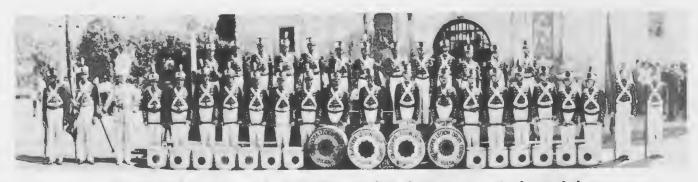
The United States of America's 200 th

Birthday Celebration

in the Department of Oklahama.



The Joe Carson Post #1 Band was a featured attraction at the 10th annual Veterans Day parade which marched through the streets of San Antonio in October 1928.



Members of Joe Carson Post #1 Drum and Bugle Corps pose in front of the Alamo following The American Legion parade during the 10th annual convention.

October, 1976

More than one million people enjoyed the Tulsa State Fair October 1-10. Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 maintained a booth at the fairgrounds and several new members joined.

Legionnaires assisting Co-Chairmen Alex Faulkner and J. Earl Simpson at the fair were Commander Carl Welch, John Lovejoy, Ralph Younger, Roy Parker, C. E. Smith, Bob McCann, Walter Browning, Arthur Tedder, Tom Carr, Rolland Cogeshall, Howard Shannon, Clay Arnold, Dan Woods, Ray Barton, Dave Jewell, Edward F. Myer, Thomas G. Hart, Buren Simmons, H. D. Adams, Bob Ditto, Eddie Roe, Ed Shields and Paul Beck.

During October the Tulsa County Red Cross issued an urgent call for blood and the post supported the effort by offering free Saturday night dance tickets to all donors.

The annual Leadership College for Legionnaires was held in Oklahoma City October 16-17. Members of Post 1 conducting the model initiation were J. Earl Simpson, Howard Shannon, Dan Woods, Ralph Younger, Jim Thrush and Bob McCann, Walter Browning, Evelyn Hohulski, Clay Arnold, Frances Liotta, and Howard Shannon.

Life members were honored at a dinner October 22 and a life membership club was organized. J. Earl Simpson was elected the first president, Jim Thrush, first vice-president and Frances Liotta was appointed secretary-treasurer. (See Roster at end of chapter).

In October Carson-Wilson Post donated \$50 to the heart association and \$50 to the Tulsa Police Pension Fund.

Post and auxiliary members attending the first district convention at Bartlesville October 30-31 were Commander Carl Welch and Mrs. Welch, Eddie and Wilma Warma, Ralph and Bessie Younger, Jim and Charlotte Thrush, Bill and Grace McEwen, Clay and Marie Arnold, Walter and Unit President Jean Browning, J. Earl Simpson, Howard Shannon, Frances Liotta, Arky Williams, Dotty Church, Zell Benton, Reba Orr, Geneva Younger and Billye Cerda.

Those who were unable to attend the convention enjoyed a Hallowe'en party at the post hut.

ROSTER OF LIFE MEMBERS

BAKER, John C. (1976)	,
BALLENGER, Ben B. (1964)	
BARTON, Raymond R. (1976)	7
BEDARD, R. L. (1976)	2
*BELFORD, Guy, Jr. (1958)	
*BENTON, E. B. (1971)	
BLACKBURN, Edmund S. (1971)	
*BLACKFORD, Calvin (1955)	
*BOURLAND, Grover (1958)	
BREWER, E. D. (1963)	
*BURNHAM, Sam (1958)	
CALHOUN, Wayne (1968)	
CARR, John G. (1976)	
CATRON, Jim (1975)	
*CHISM, H. R., Jr. (1957)	
*CRAIG, Sam (1951)	
DEPPE, Walter C. (1956)	
EDDINGFIELD, Marion A. (1972)	
*EVANS, Carl B. (1971)	
FAULKNER, Alex (1952)	
GIBSON, Jay C. (1966)	
GROSS, Clemmie D. (1968)	
HALE, Louis M. (1976)	
HALL, James E. (1966)	
HARTZ, Marvin D. (1976)	

*HERMAN, Joe (1949)	
*HOEL, Carl (1961)	
*HOUSTON, C. V. "Sam" (1976)	
*HUGILL, Frank S. (1964)	
HUNTER, Jesse F. (1965)	
INGLE, Luther D., Jr. (1970)	
*JAMES, Harold L. (1967)	
*JARVIS, Alfred (1954)	
*KING, James F. (1963)	
*KOENIG, Otto (1953)	
LANE, Gen. Leslie W. (1974)	
*LARKIN, Rodney E. (1960)	
LIOTTA, Frances (1975)	
*LITTLE, H. H. (Jack) (1973)	
LOVEJOY, John G. (1976)	
*LYNN, Joe W. (1956)	
McCAMEY, Earl (1975)	
McPHERSON, Ira (1976)	
*MARKHAM, Lon (1959)	
MARSHALL, Floyd (1962)	
MEISTRELL, Lawrence J. (1976)
NAIFEH, Jack E. (1976)	
NORVELL, George E. (1961)	
PARKER, Roy (1976)	
POLSON, Charles (1969)	

*POPE, Harry A. (1959)
ROGERS, J. J. (1976)
*SAXON, Mike, Sr. (1960)
SHAFFER, Vernard C. (1976)
SHANNON, Howard R. (1974)
SIMMONS, Martin V. (1976)
SIMPSON, J. Earl (1949)
SLATER, Tom (1976)
SMITH, C. E. (1976)
TAYLOR, E. J. (1957)
TEDDER, Arthur P. (1973)
THRUSH, James R. (1974)
TOMEY, Harley (1976)
VICTORY, C. C. (1950)
WARMA, Enlo E. (1972)
WATERS, O. D. (1965)
WELCH, Carl (1975)
*WILD, Julius (1967)
*WILSON, A. E. (1955)
*WOODARD, C. C. (1970)
) WOODS, Daniel S. (1974)
YOUNGER, Ralph (1969)
*Zeigler, O. A. (1976)
TOTAL CENT
*DECEASED

November, 1976

The front page of the Carson-Wilson Post News, November 5, heralded the Veterans Day Parade, November 11. The parade annually attracts broad community participation involving all age groups from tiny tots to senior citizens.

An untimely blizzard prevented many of the marching units from participating, but the traditional event began promptly at 11:00 a.m. with the Carson-Wilson Post Color Guard, composed of Joe Al Kitchell, Clair B. Stanley, Paul Kelly and Richard Panther, leading the parade. Legionnaire Bill McEwen, who was dressed as Uncle Sam, marched behind an inter-service Color Guard.

Congressman James R. Jones, Mayor Robert J. LaFortune and Department Commander Jim Rutherford were among the dignitaries who braved the bitter cold and snow to review the parade.

Eddie Warma was elected president of the Past Post Commanders at a meeting November 12. Earl Simpson was chosen secretary and Ralph Younger, treasurer. At the meeting the members voted to donate \$25 for a Christmas party for the Indian children at the Talihina school.

The Oil Capitol Barracks of World War I veterans and its auxiliary held their annual Thanksgiving dinner at the post hut November 17. The delicious turkey dinner prepared under the direction of Alex Faulkner, was enjoyed by the World War I veterans and their families. The following comrades helped Alex in the kitchen: Commander John Lovejoy, Vern Shaffer, C. E. Smith, Ray Barton, Bob Ditto, Ed Brewer and Arthur Tedder.

The Sooner membership dinner, November 19, also featured good food and excellent entertainment provided by the country and western swing band composed of Tulsa senior citizens and directed by Edna Edwards.

During the month, Captain Phil Denton Wiginton was presented a certificate of appreciation by immediate past Department Commander Howard Shannon, a former firefighter. Denton also received a post check in the amount of \$100 which he donated to the Hillcrest Burn Center.

During November the post donated \$200 to the Nu-Life Foundation which provides rehabilitative care for retarded adults, and \$250 for the Tulsa Senior Citizens Association Christmas party to be held at the post hut December 12.

The Post Color Guard in colonial uniforms advanced the Colors at the Oral Roberts University Mabee Center preceding the basketball game between ORU and the college quintet from Quincy, Illinois, November 29, and at other games throughout the season.



Vittum Caldwell, manager of the Veterans Administration office in Tulsa, was selected as Parade Marshal for the Veterans Day parade November 11, 1976. Caldwell has been with the VA for 33 years and is a longtime member of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1. He served with the Coast Guard during World War II.

All Hail The Queen!



Joe Koliha, USMC Capt. Ret., and a member of the Veterans Day Parade Committee, escorted Jeannie Morrissey, "Miss Oklahoma Teen-Ager" and Veterans Day Queen, to the reviewing stand.

VETERANS DAY PARADE



Gen. Leslie W. Lane, life member of Post 1, visits with Jeannie Morrissey, Veterans Day Queen, and Frances Liotta, Post Adjutant, before parade begins.



A Color Guard of Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force servicemen led the Veterans Day parade November 11, 1976.

VETERANS DAY PARADE



The reviewing stand snaps to attention as Colors pass to signal the beginning of the annual Veterans Day parade in Tulsa, which is sponsored by Carson-Wilson Post No. 1.



Paul Johnson is undaunted by the weather and waves as the firetrucks roll along in the Veterans Day parade.

COLOR GUARD AT ORU NOVEMBER 29, 1976





Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 Color Guard served during the basketball season at the Oral Roberts University Mabee Center: Left to Right, Bill McEwen, Eddie Warma, Connie Beams, Ralph Younger, Arky Williams, and Carl Welch.

December, 1976

Post members did much to enhance the image of the American Legion during December. They observed the 35th anniversary of "Pearl Harbor" with an impressive ceremony at the regular meeting December 7. Former Commander James R. Thrush read the War Message of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt delivered to the joint session of the Congress on the morning following the devastating attack by the Japanese on the Hawaiian Islands. The message stirred the memories of many post members who had heard the address via radio on December 8, 1941, and they recalled the "day of infamy".

Post Commander Carl Welch and Historian Frances Liotta, stated that as a part of the Pearl Harbor observance a number of historical items belonging to the post had been placed in a deposit box at the First National Bank and Trust Company in Tulsa for safekeeping. The following article appeared in the Tulsa Daily World, December 5, 1976, concerning the event and future plans.

"Tulsa's Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 of the American Legion will set aside a special gift Tuesday.

"The present is a compendium of Legion history, a collection of post memorabilia and commemorative artifacts from this bicentennial year.

"Post leaders have planned a Pearl Harbor Day ceremony for placing the collection of valuable keepsakes in a vault at the First National Bank of Tulsa.

"They aren't giving themselves a present. The historic objects were collected for the benefit of post members when the legion celebrates its 75th anniversary.

"'These were items that the post members thought would best be set aside for the next generation,' said George Norvell, post Americanism chairman.

"'We wanted to hold on to them, because these things have a way of getting away if you don't preserve them.'

"Norvell, former Tulsa mayor and past post commander, gathered the commemorative items in a collection 'as compact but extensive as possible.'

"The history time capsule prepared and set aside for posterity contains:

"—a set of 24 silver commemorative medals depicting the major victories of the United States armed forces;

"—issues of a national bicentennial newspaper and a state bicentennial newsletter, each dated July 4, 1976;

"—a collection of Carson-Wilson Post memorabilia and items from the post's bicentennial activities,

"-A History of the American Legion by Richard Seelye Jones;

"-and a copy of the Tulsa Sunday World's July 4 bicentennial issue

"The medal collection was donated to the post by the late William F. Moorer, a post life member, in recognition of the bicentennial.

"It contains medals struck in honor of American victories over 170 years, from Concord to Okinawa, and facsimile newspaper accounts of the battles they depict.

"For the remainder of the collection, Norvell gathered bicentennial items, Carson-Wilson Post histories, photographs, maps, legion mementos, and the rare Jones volume of history.

"'Our hope is that the collection will be evaluated and further disposition made by the post leaders on November 11, 1994, when the legion becomes 75 years of age.' he said.

"Norvell hopes the collection will be used at that time to prepare a post history. The Carson-Wilson Post (then Joe Carson Post No. 1) was the first American Legion post to receive a charter in Oklahoma,

"The legion was founded during a Paris caucus in March 1919, and the Tulsa post received its charter in June of that year. Norvell has prepared two post histories, and knows the difficulty of obtaining important information.

"'I hope someone will find this project helpful in preparing a national and post history,' he said. 'We wanted to give future members something to begin with.'"

The Christmas dinner for the past post commanders club was held at the home of Eddie and Wilma Warma, December 10. The former post leaders and their wives enjoyed the evening which was the first of a series of Christmas parties extending throughout the month.

Members of Post No. 1, under the leadership of Chairman Walter Browning, rang the bells for the Salvation Army kettles, December 11.

The post sponsored a Christmas party for member of the Tulsa Senior Citizens Association at the hut, December 12, and gave bright colored tote bags to the women and a crisp new \$1 bill enclosed in a card to the men. Three hundred guests were present for the gala party which included dancing to a live band. The event was such a success that it will be repeated next December.

Two Christmas parties were sponsored by Post No. 1, December 15. In the afternoon 400 bags of goodies were presented to the children under the supervision of the Juvenile Bureau and that evening the post sponsored the annual party for the patients at the VA Hospital at Muskogee. A country and western swing band, with Edna Edwards as the leader, entertained the hospitalized veterans and new \$2 bills were presented to all patients who were unable to spend Christmas at home.

Three Christmas parties were sponsored December 19. The first was held for the young patients at the Oklahoma Cerebral Palsy Center, Norman, Oklahoma. This is an annual event sponsored by the 40 and 8 and Post No. 1 contributed \$100 for the event. The past post commanders club donated an additional \$25 for the party and Voiture 185, which initiated and spearheaded the cerebral palsy program under the leadership of J. Earl Simpson, also gave \$100 for this year's event.

Walter Browning, Chef de Gare of the 40 and 8 and Bob McCann, Chef de Train, reported that this party was one of the best ever to be held at the Center.

Robbie Morehead and Glenda McCann were in charge of the Christmas party for children at the hut December 19. Mary Catron presented the program which featured the following talented youths: Leanne and Mandy DeRoin, Mary and Disa Adams, Bobbie Morehead, Glenda McCann, LaDonna George, Linda Kay Catron, Lisa Harrell, Renee Newberry, Kim Foster, Nancy Bridgewater, Sandy and Debbie Dillard and Sid Catron. A sing-along followed and Christmas carols filled the air before Santa Claus made his appearance to distribute the gifts.

Members of Post No. 1 and Unit No. 1 also had a good time at their Christmas party December 21. Games were played, carols were sung and gifts were exchanged. Evelyn Hohulski and Geneva Younger planned the event. Wilma Warma and Lorena Welch were in charge of the refreshments, and Jean Browning made a big hit as Santa Claus.

Some 400 happy dancers ushered in the New Year at the hut and Post members were pleased that 1976 had been such a banner year.





Post Commander Carl Welch, left, Historian Frances Liotta, center, and First National Bank Chairman Robert Barley hold keepsakes.



CHRISTMAS GOODIES AT JUVENILE CENTER—Judge Joe Jennings and Evelyn Hohulski, executive committee member from Carson-Wilson Legion Post, helped supervise the unloading of holiday sweets at Tulsa Juvenile Center, 315 E. 25th West Ave. Amy Kinzer, 3, and her 10-day-old brother, John David, were more interested in a bottle of milk. The Legion annually provides Christmas treats for youngsters at the Center.



Post Commander Carl Welch and Evelyn Hohulski arranged the goodies for the Christmas party at the Juvenile Bureau.



Evelyn Hohulski, member of the post executive committee, lends assistance to one of the children at the Juvenile Bureau Christmas party. Bessie Younger also helps with the children.



Wilma Warma, former unit president, has a ball making up Santa Clause, Calvin Smith. Eddie Warma, past post commander, is an interested onlooker.



Delicious refreshments were served to the senior citizens at Post Christmas party, Dec. 12. Posed at the refreshment table, left to right, Jean Browning, President of Unit 1; Carl Welch, Post Commander; Mrs. Sam Baird; Grace Lamb; Millie Damron; George Norvell; Frances Liotta; Lucille Bell and Bessie Younger, former Unit 1 president.



SANTA made a hit during party given Sunday by Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 for about 300 Tulsa Senior Citiezns. L to R: Mrs. Dolly Hughes, association president; Carl Welch, post commander, Santa Claus, and Mary Weeden.



Commander Carl Welch and Bessie Younger get into the spirit of the occasion and join the senior citizens on the dance floor.



Tony Alverado and his son, Tony Jr., were among the featured entertaigers for the Christmas party for the senior citizens. Jean Browning, President of Unit 1, joined the group for special numbers.



Post Commander Carl Welch glad-hands senior citizens at Christmas party.



Senior citizens at Post 1 Christmas party enjoy the entertainers.



Lorena Welch and Bessie Younger escort children at Legion Home on shopping spree.



Children at Legion home select own Christmas gifts with \$10 bill provided by Post 1.



Boys at Home School manage to stay within the \$10 price range.



Jim Thrush stands behind veterans enjoying the Christmas party at the VA Hospital, Muskogee.



The VA patients appreciated the entertainment and the \$2 bills which were distributed by Post 1 members.



Children enjoy the Christmas party given for them by Post 1.



Post and Unit members also had a good time at their own party, Dec. 21.

January, 1977

Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 maintained its excellent record for service to others during the first month of the New Year. State Representative George Vaughn, of Big Cabin, a staunch member of the American Legion and supporter of its legislative programs, suffered a fire loss in January which destroyed his home and personal belongings. The post donated \$350 to meet his immediate requirements.

The post also donated \$250 for the recreational fund at the VA Hospital at Muskogee. Because of the severe winter weather, many needy Tulsans were faced with high utility bills, and Post No. 1 donated \$1,000 to the Neighbor to Neighbor organization whose emergency assistance funds had been exhausted.

Members of the post were gratified to receive a plaque and certificate from the Salvation Army: "In Grateful Appreciation of Volunteer Service to the Community and the Welfare of Others through the 1976 Christmas Program." Legionnaires earning this recognition for the post were Chairman Walter Browning, Commander Carl Welch, J. Earl Simpson, Bob McCann, Frances Liotta, Evelyn Hohulski, Ralph Younger, Dan Woods, Eddie Warma and Unit President Jean Browning.

Frances Liotta, Post Adjutant, read the following letter from Charles G. Beck, Acting Director of the VA Hospital at Muskogee, at the regular post meeting January 17:

"Dear Miss Liotta: On behalf of many of our hospitalized veterans who gratefully accepted them, we thank you so much for the good men's clothing recently brought to this Hospital. Your fellow American Legion Post No. 1 members are to be commended for their generosity and thoughtfulness, particularly at this time of the year when warm clothing in good repair is something many of our less fortunate veteran-patients need desperately."

Post members expressed their appreciation to Frances for the service she renders to the hospitalized veterans each Sunday.

The following post and auxiliary members had a happy weekend at the Mid-Winter Conference in Oklahoma City, January 18-19, 1977. Those attending the homecoming banquet for Department Commander Jim Rutherford January 18, were: Bob and Mary McCann, Bill and Grace McEwen, Walter and Jean Browning, Carl and Lorena Welch, Dan and Evelyn Woods, George and Opal Norvell, Jim and Charlotte Thrush, Ralph and Bessie Younger, Howard Shannon, Frances Liotta, Mrs. Evelyn Liotta, Arky Williams and Geneva Younger.

On January 24 Post Commander Carl Welch sent the following telegram to National Commander William J. Rogers, which was delivered with many others to the President of the United States:

"I strongly oppose policy of President of the United States regarding draft evaders. Pardons should depend on individual accountability and mitigating circumstances only. Thousands of veterans of Tulsa County, Ok'ahoma, share my views."

Legion members who had served in the nation's last four wars stood near the Flame of Freedom following the January 31st meeting and paid tribute to the men and women who have served with honor under the Flag of the United States. (see appendix)



Legionnaires Ralph Younger, Carl Welch and Howard Shannon extend a helping hand to Rep. George Vaughn, who suffered a fire loss at his home in Big Cabin.



J. Earl Simpson (WWI); James R. Thrush (WWII); Jack Blackburn (Korea); and Richard Panther (Vietnam) pay tribute to the men and women who have served with honor. (see Appendix)

February, 1977

Post members were justifiably proud of their many worthwhile achievements in February.

Ralph Younger donated his 75th pint of blood to the Red Cross bank during the month and the post presented flags to Boy Scout Troops Nos. 12 and 146 and to Girl Scout Troop No. 1. The post aided the Fraternal Order of Police magazine by a donation of \$50.

The past post commanders met February 11 and enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by Wilma Warma and Lorena Welch. They presented J. Earl Simpson with a birthday cake while all joined in a rousing chorus of "Happy Birthday!"

At this meeting the club voted to donate \$25 to the March of Dimes campaign and to purchase poppy boards in memory of the deceased commanders and to honor the living.

Farrell Thrasher, top-ranking student at Tulsa Central High School, was adjudged winner of the local oratorical contest held February 9. The post also sponsored him to the district contest at Dewey, Oklahoma, February 16.

James R. Thrush served as chairman of the local speech contest. Nancy Foster is Farrell's speech teacher.

Post No. 1 provided two roll-away beds for The American Legion Home School and Lolabelle Summers, Assistant Superintendent of the Home, acknowledged the gifts:

"February 22, 1977

Dear Commander Welch:

Just a note to send our thanks for the donation of two rollaway beds for the use of sick children who need to be isolated. The beds have already been in use because we have had several cases of chicken pox and flu.

We are still trying to get final bids from two firms for the water fountain and I will be sending them to you as quickly as I can.

Hold off on purchasing any Baseball equipment until you hear from us as we have been advised that the cost is very high if we would sponsor a team in the city YMCA league. We are therefore considering allowing the boys to play in the summer league as they did last year on various teams and not try to have a Legion Home team.

Will let you know about the drinking fountain costs as soon as we can. Donations for the fire safety and security fund are now coming in. Regards."

The post made arrangements for the children of The American Legion Home in Ponca City to spend a day at the State Capitol, February 9. Post member, Gene Howard, President Pro Tem of the Oklahoma Senate, issued the invitation and former Post Commander Leon Kaufman, the Senator's administrative assistant, also served as a host for the excited youngsters. Post Commander Carl Welch, Howard Shannon and Ralph Younger accompanied the youths to Oklahoma City.

Senator Howard's letter of invitation appears below, together with letters of appreciation from the Legion Home officials:

"January 17, 1977

Dear Mrs. Summers:

Several years ago I had the wonderful opportunity of visiting with your late husband, Mr. Earl Summers, at the Ponca City Children's Home when he was director. It has always been my pleasure to help the unfortunate children and especially those that The American Legion sponsors at your school.

I have asked my assistant, Leon Kaufman, to contact you regarding a visitation day at our state capitol for you and the young boys and gir's attending The American Legion school. It would be the greatest pleasure to meet them at the state capitol. After hearing from him, I hope you will contact him at the capitol as to whether you will be able to accept this invitation from me. If so, my idea would be for Leon to meet your bus when you arrive at the capitol.

I would like to have pictures taken with your fine group in our beautiful Senate lounge. We will have our tour director, Hank Wade, give your group a personal tour of the state capitol and explain the viewpoints of interest since the capitol was built. There will be a packet of pictures, Senate pencils, capitol literature, etc., presented to each of the students.

According to Leon, he is making arrangements with the Past State Commander, Howard Shannon, through Carson Wilson Post No. 1 of Tulsa to feed the youngsters at the state capitol cafeteria. The Senate session begins at 1:30 p.m., and I would like to have your group attend the afternoon session and see history made for the State of Oklahoma. I will introduce you and your group from the Senate floor.

I have also asked Leon to contact State Commander Rutherford and the Department Adjutant, C. J. Wright, to visit with the young men and women. I believe that this would be a most exciting experience for the young people.

I have heard many wonderful things that you are doing for the young people at The American Legion Home, and I extend to you my sincere commendations on your excellent work.

Hope to hear in the affirmative. Very truly yours."

Gene C. Howard President Pro Tempore Oklahoma State Senate

"Dear Commander Welch:

Our grateful thanks to the members of Post 1 and to you and Ralph Younger, for making it possible for the children of The American Legion Home to enjoy lunch in the Capitol Cafeteria during our tour of the State Capitol and our visit to the Oklahoma Senate. Thanks also for the silver dollar for each boy and girl.

As always, the Tulsa Legionnaires have taken the lead in providing the best for our children, giving of their time and their financial support. We appreciate you!

Sincerely,

Charles F. Danley, Superintendent; Lolabelle Summers, Ass't. Superintendent."

* * * *

"Mr. Ralph Younger, Chrm.

Dear Ralph:

Thank you for taking the whole day off and coming to Oklahoma City to be with us during our visit to the State Capitol and the Senate. We hope you got some fine pictures of our trip.

The children send their thanks to Tulsa Post for their lunch, and for the silver dollar each one received. Please tell the Post members how much we appreciate your making our visit possible. It was a high point of the year for all of us.

As always, your Post and you personally, did everything to assist us in caring for the American Legion children. We value your friendship and we appreciate you.

Sincerely,

Charles F. Danley, Superintendent; Lolabelle Summers, Ass't. Superintendent."

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES



Ralph Younger donates his 75th pint of blood to the Red Cross.



Post Commander Carl Welch delivered two roll-away beds to The American Legion Home.



Commander Welch gave each child from the Home School spending money for trip to the State Capitol.



Commander Welch, Lolabelle Summers, Charles Danley and Dept. Commander Jim Rutherford stand by State Seal.

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES



Senator Gene Howard commissions Lolabelle Summers as Ambassador of Good Will. Senator Howard also presented Supt. Charles F. Danley with a commission.



Department Commander Jim Rutherford, Home Superintendent Charles F. Danley and Assistant Superintendent Lolabelle Summers pose with the children who enjoyed the trip to the State Capitol at the invitation of Senator Gene Howard.

March, 1977

The following timely article appeared in the Carson-Wilson Post News March 4, 1977, in conjunction with the announcement of the 58th annual birthday dinner, March 15:

THE AMERICAN LEGION'S 58th BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE

Fifty-eight years ago this March 15-17 a group of representatives from the various divisions of the American Expeditionary Forces met in Paris, France, over a three-day period and formed what is today the world's largest veterans organization, The American Legion.

Those far-sighted men, who had just fought the "war to end all wars" met and formulated plans that would have a direct bearing on the social changes that would take place in America over the next several decades.

The reason they met together was to form an association that would have its primary concern, and is still the primary concern of our organization today, the care and welfare of the veterans of American war-time service.

Also of primary concern was the care and welfare of the widow and children of those veterans who gave their lives, the most precious gift any American can give in the defense of his country.

We suppose it would be safe to assume that you are asking the question "Why would a group of men, combat weary, meet in such a place as Paris, to form a group with the humanitarian goals such as came out of that historic meeting?"

The answer is quite simple. The United States had never engaged in such a World War before, taking men from their homes and transporting them thousands of miles to fight a strange enemy on a strange continent.

The most pressing problem was to assist those veterans who returned to America with no hope of rehabilitation.

There were no hospitals, no beds, no medical care, no government compensation in fact, no provisions whatever for looking after the battlefield wounded cases of the first World War.

What the fledgling American Legion did to overcome these obstacles, as mentioned earlier, is dramatically linked with the entire social progress of the American nation following World War I. Yet, few have ever given a second thought to The American Legion as a great modern social force in these United States.

One only need look at the accomplishments of The American Legion down through the years to realize what a vibrant and visible force it has been on the American scene. For example, the establishment of the Veterans Administration with its hospital medical care program for veterans: aid to the sick and handicapped; programs for the protection and well-being of the nation's children; and advanced education and training for America's war veterans under the Legion sponsored and supported G.I. Bill of Rights, are just a few.

While these programs are and should be the priority, The American Legion's main program has been its rehabilitation program. It is one of service to those who served their nation in time of national emergency and to their dependents and beneficiaries, wherever they might reside, without cost or obligation on their part. This concept as seen and practiced by the American Legion, includes physical, mental, vocational and economic rehabilitation. The Legion believes that it is the public policy of this nation to make available to its veterans the highest quality of rehabilitation services, and to grant to those who are disabled, or to their widow and orphan, compensation and pension benefits commensurate with their needs.

Today, 58 years and three wars later, The American Legion is still vigorously pursuing these goals for the veterans of America, just as the founders did in 1919. As the American Legion grew from a struggling infant in 1919 to America's foremost veterans organization, teamwork has played a major role in the success of it's rehabilitation programs. The American Legion is justly proud of this program, which has provided a service unequalled by any other organization in this nation. But the Legion is also justifiably proud of the fact that this program became the pattern which our government followed in setting up the entire Social Security System of protection for our civilian population.

While our primary concern is for the veteran and his family, The American Legion is in step with the issues that are national and international in scope. The American Legion has always been counted in the cause of a strong system of national security and forthright dealings with other nations.

It is ironic that the founders of the American Legion believed that the organization would one day phase itself out of existence, since they had just fought the "war to end all wars" and certainly the world would not come to grips with this kind of horror again. In the late 1930's, the Legion was already contemplating that within a few short years, the organization would reach its peak and begin to fulfill the destiny its founders had envisioned.

It is also ironic that within this same time frame, The American Legion was urging that the United States should keep itself prepared militarily, something the Legion had been doing since its beginning. The Legion was calling for an Army and Navy, adequate in size, strength and training, to maintain the safety and dignity of the nation. And as we all know, the Legion's warning was drowned out by the terrible attack on Pearl Harbor.

Another generation of veterans joined the ranks of the Legion with the hope that perhaps they would be the last. We can assure you that every American Legionnaire dreams of that day when there will be no more war, but the reality of life and the perversity of man has not permitted that dream to come true. We now have in our ranks veterans of the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

Almost as a matter of course, it seems that prevailing American public sentiment urges the dismantling of the military forces following a long period of conflict. This was true following World War I and it is true again today following the long cold war years and the Vietnam conflict.

The American Legion has again taken up the task of urging our government to maintain a strong national defense posture. And members will continue to be staunch advocates of the maintenance of such military strength as is necessary to insure the security and freedom of the American people.

While the Legion is concerned with these programs nationally, the American Legion is basically a hometown organization and has been during the 53 years of service to God and Country. Its members are to be found in nearly sixteen thousand local Legion Posts scattered throughout the United States and 28 foreign countries, including Canada and Mexico.

Many of the important things the American Legion members do are being done in the local community. This is where Legionnaires are providing programs for young Americans, such as American Legion baseball, Boy Scout sponsorship, American Legion Boys State and High School Oratorical Contests.

The American Legion seeks to lend a helping hand to the returning veterans by helping them find employment and educational aids. The organization reaches out to the veterans and their families to assist them wherever possible.

The American Legion is, as the founders intended, an excellent vehicle for continued and important service for the veterans who served their nation in war. The ranks are not closed. New members can always find opportunities for service in this many faceted organization.

The American Legion bridges all racial and re'igious differences and crosses all social and economic barriers in building a force of nearly three million American men and women for good in our society. In brief, the American Legion is comprised of men and women who simply want to make their war services and sacrifices count for something positive for America. They truly believe in America!"

The First District meeting was held at Claremore. Oklahoma, March 6-7 and the following Post 1 members attended: Commander Carl Welch, Ralph Younger, Eddie Warma, J. Earl Simpson, James R. Thrush, Frances Liotta, Bob McCann, Walter Browning, Arky Williams, Bill McEwen, Evelyn Hohulski and Connie Conard.

The popular Post 1 Bicentennial Color Guard, composed of Ralph Younger, Eddie Warma, Arky Williams, Connie Beams and Bill McEwen, dressed as Uncle Sam, advanced the Colors at the opening of the business session March 7.

The preceding evening was devoted to social activities. Among the ladies enjoying the dance and banquet were Auxiliary members Jean Browning, Unit 1 President, Reba Orr, Wilma Warma, Bessie Younger, Odessa Simpson, Billye Cerda, Mary McCann, Geneva Younger, Zell Benton, Charlotte Thrush, Evelyn Hohulski, Lorena Welch and Dottie Church. Department Commander Jim Rutherford was the banquet speaker and stressed the importance of the role of the American Legion in national defense.

In a newsletter, dated March 4, George J. Kolczun, chairman of the Greater Tulsa Chapter, National Foundation, March of Dimes, gratefully acknowledge the Post's donation of \$50.00.

During the month the Post donated \$100.00 for plaques to be awarded the winners of the regional oratorical contest for high school students.

James R. Thrush did an outstanding job as chairman of the 58th annual birthday dinner honoring past post commanders life members, and former presidents of Unit 1. More than 200 attended the festive event which was highlighted by Unit President Jean Browning's presentation of the birthday cake to Commander Carl Welch and by the stirring message of Department Commander Jim Rutherford.

During the evening, Charles Schnake, president of the advertising firm of Schnake & Associates, was presented a plaque for his expertise in preparing the full page Post "Bicentennial Salute to the Community, State and Nation", which appeared in color in the Tulsa Daily World, July 4, 1976.

Commander Welch presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Farrell Thrasher, winner of the local highschool oratorical contest and delegate to Boys State in 1976. A certificate also was presented to former Post Commander Leon L. Kaufman for his meritorious service to the American Legion.

The birthday dinner was prepared by the following World War I veterans: Alex Faulkner, John Lovejoy, Vern Shaffer, Bob Ditto, Louis Hale, Arthur Tedder, Ray Barton, Jop Rogers, C. E. Smith, Bill Melton, Lawrence Maier, Lawrence Meistrel and Ed Brewer. Members of Unit 1 and the Junior Auxiliary served.

Cecelia Easky, Department President, graciously brought greetings from the Auxiliary. All attending were unanimous in acclaiming the 58th birthday party one of the best ever and commended Jim Thrush and his committee for their efforts.

The birthday program included the names of the following ladies who have served as presidents of Unit 1:

1922—Mrs. Patrick J. Hurley*	1943—Mrs. Reba Orr	1961-Mrs. Mary A. Turner*
1923—Mrs. Ira Reeves*	1944—Mrs. Harry Tomlins*	1962-Mrs. Reba A. Orr
1924—Mrs. J. Harry Powers	1945Mrs. H. Lacy*	1963—Mrs. Charlotte Glaser*
1925—Mrs. Elizabeth Hundley*	1946—Mrs. Russell Sullivan*	1964—Mrs. James F. Catron
1927—Mrs. Ralph Kirkland	1947—Mrs. James B. Ford	1965-Mrs. Richard Hatch
1929—Mrs. Paul Brown*	1948-Mrs. John B. Allred	1966-Mrs. Laura Trout
1931-Mrs. U. B. Killingsworth	1949-Mrs. Sam Craig	1967-Mrs. Mae Pearce Webb
1932-Mrs. A. H. Bronson*	1950-Mrs. C. O. Gittinger	1968-69-Mrs. Geneva Younger
1933-Mrs. Blanche Welch*	1951-Mrs. J. Earl Simpson	1970-Mrs. Lillian Hammons*
1934—Mrs. E. B. Benton	1952-Mrs. Gladys Pope Rath	1971—Mrs. Wilma Warma
1935—Mrs. C. C. McCrary	1953—Mrs. E. B. Benton	1972-Mrs. Charlotte Thrush
1936—Mrs. Walter J. Petty*	1954—Mrs. L. A. Burns*	1973-Mrs. Bessie Younger
1937—Mrs. Esther Cyphers	1955—Miss Nettie Smith*	1974-Mrs. Evelyn Hohulski
1938-Mrs. Arthur Anderson	1956—Mrs. Elizabeth L. Cole	1975-Mrs. Gale Benton Hall
1939—Mrs. Effie Blanchard	1957—Mrs. Mary Waymire	1976-Mrs. Sandy Blackburn
1940-Mrs. L. J. Mangan	1958-Mrs. Mamie P. Simmons	*Deceased
1941-Mrs. W. I. Rainwater	1959-Mrs. Gladys Pope Rath	
1942-Mrs. P. C. Wheeler*	1960-Mrs. A. N. Harper*	

Photos of Past Post Commanders appear on the following pages:



*HORACE HAGAN 1919



JOHN ROGERS 1920



W. L. EAGLETON 1921



*R. A. BEARD 1922



*ALVA J. NILES 1923



*CHARLES ALLEN 1923



C. S. SUMMERS 1924



*E. L. ALLISON 1925



*ALVIN L. CHAPMAN 1926



*J. A. PORTER 1927



*P. J. HURLEY 1928



*VICTOR F. BARNETT 1929



T. P. GILMER 1930



GUY C. TETIRICK 1931



*WALTER W. EASTMAN 1932



*GEORGE L. WATKINS 1933



*L. W. McFETRIDGE 1934



*FRANK S. HUGILL 1935



*JOE PAYNE 1944



*OTTO KOENIG 1945 & 1954



*WALTER J. PETTY 1946



EVERETT A. WOOD 1946



*GLEN H. CODDINGTON 1947



JUDGE HARRY L. S. HALLEY 1948



CLINTON J. BOHANNON 1948



*GUY BELFORD, JR. 1949



*N. H. DAVIS 1950



*ARTHUR H. BRONSON 1936



*JOSEPH W. LYNN 1937



*MIKE SAXON 1938



*ALBERT E. GALLOWAY 1939



SNOOKS STAFFORD 1940



J. EARL SIMPSON 1941



*JOSEPH F. HERMAN 1942



LESLIE L. SPAIN 1943



*JIM HUNT 1944



*ALEX E. WILSON, SR. 1951



*HERSCHEL R. CHISM, JR. 1952 & 1956



WALTER C. DEPPE 1953



*OTTO KOENIG 1954



*GEORGE HUNT 1955



GEORGE E. NORVELL 1956



*SHELBY W. MARR 1957



THOMAS D. FRASIER 1958



BILL KELLY 1959



* CLARENCE W. COX 1960



*BEN B. BALLENGER 1961 & 1962



FLOYD R. MARSHALL 1963



JESSE HUNTER 1964



JAY GIBSON 1965



JOHN CHRONISTER 1966



CLEMMIE D. GROSS 1967



ENLO E. WARMA 1968



MARION A. EDDINGFIELD 1969



LEON L. KAUFMAN 1970



JAMES C. CATRON 1971



JAMES R. THRUSH 1972



HOWARD R. SHANNON 1973



RALPH YOUNGER 1974 & 1975



DAN S. WOODS, JR. 1976





Flame of Freedom to pay tribute to "the men and women who have served with honor under the Flag of the United States."



Over 200 stand for the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance at the birthday dinner.





Charlotte Thrush, former Unit 1 President, was seated by Department Commander Jim Rutherford who was the principal speaker.



Leno Easky and Dept. President Cecelia Easky joined other distinguished guests at the head table.



Birthday Dinner Chairman Jim Thrush, Post Commander Carl Welch and former 1st District and Unit 1 President Geneva Younger posed just before Jim went on duty as the MC for the dinner.



Zell Benton, former Vice President Southern Division. J. Earl Simpson, former National leader of the 40 et 8 and Odessa Simpson, past Dept. President, were three of the most "elite" to sit at the head table.





Chef de Gare Walter Browning, Unit President Jean Browning, life member Gen. Leslie W. Lane (Ret) and Eddie Warma, President of the Past Post Commanders Club, were special head table guests.



Howard Shannon, immediate past Dept. Commander, and Laney also shared honors with the other dignitaries.



W. L. "Bill" Eagleton and Judge Harry L. S. Halley, charter members of Post 1, enjoyed the evening as did Bill's beloved Pauline.



Charlie Clark, who auctioned off a poppy board and brought down the house with his tearful pleas for more money, is in a jovial mood as he greets C. C. McCrary, Putty Gilmer and gracious Grace McCrary at the dinner.





Eddie and Sandy Blackburn, former Unit 1 President; C. C. McCrary, charter member, and T. P. "Putty" Gilmer, former Post and Dept. Commander, enjoy the dinner and their old friends.



O. W. Bruce, Commander, A-1 District and Mrs. Bruce; 1st Dist. President Ethyl L. Hargraves and her husband, Mayor Hargraves of Ralston, were among the most distinguished guests.



Those who helped with the dinner: L to R: Dottie Church, Josephine McDonald, Belva Fellinger, Bea Yoakum, Zoe Sturgis, Suzanne Burrow, Marge Boyd, and Frances Liotta.



Jack and Maxine Naifeh were among the VIPs attending the dinner. Bessie Craig, former Unit 1 President, was seated next to Maxine. Jack is a member of the Oklahoma War Veterans Commission and is a life member of Carson-Wilson Post 1.





Jean Browning flashes a winning smile as she presents the birthday cake to Post Commander Carl Welch while Jim Thrush, birthday dinner chairman, smiles with approval.



Former Post Commanders Dan Woods and Leon Kaufman sit with their attractive wives, Evelyn and Virginia.



Charles Clark, the crying auctioneer, brought down the house when he auctioned specially made poppies, while Bob McCann, poppy chairman, finds it hard to keep a straight face.



Evelyn Fullhart, immediate past president of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 577, her sister, President Grace Williams (center) and Joe Williams represented their respective organizations at the Legion birthday gala.



The younger set also enjoys the dinner. Left to right: Banks Burrow, Madlyn Burrow, Suzanne Burrow, Deanna Panther, Baby Theresa & Richard Panther.



Nancy Foster, speech instructor at Central High School, stands by Farrell Thrasher, winner of the 1977 Tulsa County Oratorical Contest, and 1976 delegate to Boys State, at the birthday dinner, March 15. Post Commander Carl Welch presented Farrell with a certificate of appreciation for participation in Legion activities.

April, 1977

Governor David Boren and Tulsa Mayor Robert J. LaFortune gave strong support to the spring poppy sales. The Mayor issued a proclamation declaring April 9, 1977, as the special date for the sales of poppy boards and May 23, 1977, as the date for the street sales of individual poppies by members of the American Legion and VFW Auxiliaries.

Governor Boren invited Post Commander Carl Welch, city chairman, Unit President Jean Browning and Grace Williams, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 577, to his Tulsa office to discuss the drive and was presented poppy boutonnieres by the ladies.

Bob McCann served as poppy chairman for Post 1 and reported that 2,500 Legion poppy boards were sold and that the money would help the hospitalized veterans who made the memorial flowers and would augment the child welfare and rehabilitation fund.

Bill McEwen, dressed as Uncle Sam, presented a Flag to Girl Scout Troop 146 at Bates Elementary School and gave a brief history of the national emblem, April 12. The Post Color Guard, composed of Arky Williams, Connie Beams, Ralph Younger and Eddie Warma, wore colonial uniforms for the occasion. As a part of the program, George Norvell, Americanism Chairman, emphasized that our National Flag should always be cherished, respected and recognized as the greatest emblem of freedom the world has ever known.

Norvell stressed that the months of April and May marked the 35th anniversary of the fall of Bataan and Corregidor and recited the tragic events which took place in the spring of 1942. He recalled that the Bataan Peninsula was surrendered by American servicemen April 9, 1942, and that 7,000 brave soldiers, sailors and Marines held on to the Island of Corregidor for twenty-six more days.

He said that men suffering from malaria, dysentery, heat exhaustion and wounds were shot, bayonetted, beheaded, or beaten to death and that news of the atrocities were concealed from the world for eighteen months.

Norvell recalled that as soon as the barbaric acts became known, Lyle H. Boren, Congressman of the Fourth District of Oklahoma and father of present Governor, David Boren, delivered an address eulogizing the brave defenders of the Pacific Island Fortresses, which was published in the Congressional Record February 9, 1944. Norvell quoted the following extracts from Congressman Boren's stirring message:

* * * *

My friends, I salute the men of Bataan. It has been 1 year, 8 months, 28 days, and 10 hours since the bravest army of the world staggered and fell with broken sword and shattered shield on that dark day when the flag of hope and glory went down in blood and tears.

The men of Bataan fought from tree to tree from hill to hill. We know and feel the true accounts of ready valor and grim courage. If one could gather up the tales of bayonets crossing, hand to hand combat in the bogs and swamps, men who marched into cannon's mouth scorning bombs and machine guns' hell, what vivid and terrible volumes they would make. If the ether's magic could yield up the whispered hopes, the muttered prayers—or if one could touch the unshed tears held back by the grim courage that masked haggard faces he would then truly know that around their broken shards are spun the greatest events of history.

The angry ocean lashes a Bataan that is changed. The jungle sounds, the leap of the rabbit, the start of the deer, are there no more—only reptiles, the insects, and the enemy.

It has been 1 year, 9 months, and 3 days since Corregidor scarred and broken, crumbled in exhaustion and changed from a fort to a tomb. Its decimated army too exhausted from ceaseless battle, too weak from starvation to rally another attack, lay wounded in the caves beneath the battered crumbling walls and stacked their arms in the anguish of defeat. (Ah, it is a sacred temple. Every crumbled stone is a consecrated part of freedom's shrine.) There was the tattered remnant, stung by the lash of torture, battered by the storms of death they held on. Hearts sick with the horror of war clung stubbornly to a cause that held no hope but death. The Christians in the catacombs were no more resolute than they. Facing cruelties that chill the heart and make it cold, they too knelt in quiet prayer. There were no atheists on Corregidor. Valiant youth, suffering unspeakable privations, performing deeds of matchless valor, they stood firm. Their example steeled the nerve of millions. They were martyrs, yes—who never knew the fear of death.

Shot through the heart by a cowardly enemy, Corregidor died as a fort but valiant blood marked her stones and corridors and sanctified her with glory. From that death Corregidor will be resurrected and the glory of her yester eve will live in the splendor of her morrow.

Norvell said a number of survivors of Bataan and Corregidor held a reunion in the Philippines during the month of April 1977, and that Tulsan Leslie L. Brown, who was a prisoner in the Hoten Camp in Manchuria for nearly three years during World War II, was one of those who attended.

Norvell stated he (Norvell) was among the first contingent of Americans to reach the notorious prison after the Japanese surrendered August 14, 1945, and recalled that it was an unforgettable and highly emotional experience for him to see the American Flag hoisted over the Japanese prison camp for the first time and to realize that our valiant fighting men were at last free.

"The American Flag has had a special significance to me ever since, and I hope you will love and cherish it as all Legionnaires do," he concluded.

The annual children and youths conference was held at The American Legion Children's Home at Ponca City, April 16 and 17, and the following Post and Unit members attended: Carl Welch, Lorena Welch, Bob McCann, Mary McCann, Ralph Younger, Bessie Younger, Walter Browning, Jean Browning, Geneva Younger, Zell Benton, Howard Shannon, Dan Woods, Evelyn Woods, and Cy Haywood.

The principal speaker at the conference was National Vice-Commander Frank L. Kelly, who had high praise for the legionnaires of Oklahoma who founded and have maintained the home for the children of veterans.

Carson-Wilson Post Chairman Ralph Younger and Commander Carl Welch presented the Home with a \$2,000 donation during the meeting. Home Superintendent Charles Danley expressed his gratitude to Post 1 for the generous gift and also for providing the new drinking fountain.

Post and Unit members paused for a social break April 17 and enjoyed the monthly "jam session" at the hut. It was a covered dish affair. The good food and dancing to a live band were enjoyed by all, and Erma Wilson-was commended for serving as chairman for the event.

The following legionnaires conducted an initiation for 14 new members April 19 after which refreshments were served: James R. Thrush, J. Earl Simpson, Howard Shannon, Dan Woods, George Norvell and Bob McCann.



Jean Browning, President of Unit 1, pins poppy boutonniere on Governor Boren while Post Commander Carl Welch and Grace Williams, President of VFW Post 577 Auxiliary watch with smiling approval.

PROCLAMATION

* * * *

WHEREAS, April 9, 1977 has been designated by Tulsa's American Legion Posts and Veterans of Foreign Wars as the date for the Easel and Poppy Board sales; and

WHEREAS, May 23, 1977 has been selected as the date for street sales of single poppies by their respective Auxiliaries; and

WHEREAS, the poppy is the memorial flower of these outstanding service organizations, and their sales furnish funds for service work; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion poppies are made at the V.A. Hospital, Muskogee, Oklahoma, and the sales of all poppies provide compensation and therapy for the hospitalized veterans:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert J. LaFortune, Mayor of the City of Tulsa, do hereby proclaim April 9 and May 23, 1977 as

"SPECIAL DATES FOR THE SALE OF VETERANS POPPIES"

in the City of Tulsa, and urge the citizens to generously contribute to this worthy cause and to proudly display and wear the memorial flower on the aforementioned dates.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Tulsa to be affixed on this third day of March in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-seven.

Robert J. LaFortune, Mayor City of Tulsa, Oklahoma

May, 1977

The Oklahoma Veterans Memorial Building in Oklahoma City was dedicated at impressive ceremonies May 4, 1977. Governor David Boren commended the veterans organizations and their auxiliaries for the unselfish service they had rendered to the veterans of Oklahoma and the event was climaxed when he signed unto law the legislative measure vesting title to the property in the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs.

Governor Boren gave the pen he used to Legionnaire Coleman Nolen, former department commander of the American Legion and chairman of the War Veterans Commission. The pen will be preserved in the Memorial Building.

A large conference room is available for meetings of the War Veterans Commission and committee conferences. The building will serve as headquarters for The Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, The American Legion and Auxiliary, The Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary, The Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary, The Veterans of World War I and Auxiliary, and the Oklahoma State Accrediting Agency.

Twenty-eight school certificates and medals were presented to elementary, junior and senior high school students at assemblies held in May. The following schools participated in the American Legion awards programs sponsored by Carson-Wilson Post No. 1: Holmes Elementary, Perry Elementary, Park Elementary, Lynn Lane Elementary, Owen Elementary, John Ross Elementary, Mingo Elementary, Lowell Elementary, Gilcrease Junior High, Foster Junior High, Lewis & Clark Junior High, Monroe Junior High, Keystone Public School, Leonard Public School and Monte Cassino High School.

Bill Wright, post baseball chairman, and Bill Coyle, director, announced the following 200-game schedule beginning May 10, 1977, and continuing through the summer months. Twelve Tulsa County teams will compete in American Legion play during the 1977 season, according to Coyle. The schedule is as follows:

The annual hamburger and bean dinner for the Tulsa County delegates to Oklahoma's Boys State was held at the hut May 27. Lorena Welch and Bessie Younger headed the kitchen detail and Post Commander Carl Welch, Boys State Chairman George Norvell and James R. Thrush briefed the high-school juniors.

The delegates left by bus for Northeastern State University at Tahlequah at 6:30 a.m., May 28. Bus transportation was also provided by Post 1 for their return to Tulsa June 4. The following delegates allotted to Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 attended the 1977 session. The names of their schools and sponsors are also listed below:

Shawn M. McWilliams—Union—World War I Barracks Kurt A. Webber-Mason-Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 Robert T. Willis—Washington—Past Commanders Club John C. Melton—Webster—Forty and Eight Pete S. Abbey—East Central—Forty and Eight Marlin R. Garrett—Central—Spirit of '76 Committee Jim R. Whitehead—Cascia Hall—Mayor Robert J. LaFortune Clayton Vaughn Bell-McLain-Tulsa County Bar Association Dale A. Lunsford—Central—John Rogers Tim D. Travis-Will Rogers-Kiwanis Club Glenn A. Fogle—Edison—Sertoma Club David A. Blakely-Memorial-Rotary Club of Tulsa Stephen E. Connery—Memorial—Downtown Lions Club Paul M. Coury—Bishop Kelley—First National Bank Mark S. Griffith-Hale-Whisenhunt Funeral Home Phillip R. Carroll—East Central—Checker Cab Company Ronald C. Lee—Union—R & M Music Jeffrey A. Stone-Hale-Bank of Commerce

The Memorial Day Services were held at the American Legion section of Memorial Park Cemetery May 30. Farrell Thrasher, a Central High School senior and 1976 delegate to Boys State, delivered the address. The Honor Guard of Post 1, which has conducted 55 military graveside rites during the past twelve months, provided the firing squad for the Memorial Day services. Those serving on the firing squad were: Alex Faulkner, O. D. Waters, Reverend Hartz, Earl Simpson, Vern Shaffer, Ray Barton, John Lovejoy, Roy Parker, Buren Simmons, Harley Tomey, Lewis Hale, Lawrence Meistrell, Lawrence Maier, Ira McPherson, Richard Panther, Jack Blackburn and Amos Lewis.



When the beautiful dogwoods bloom on the post grounds, Bill Coyle, baseball director for the post, knows that it's time to play ball.



Veterans of four wars serve as Color Guard at the annual memorial service of the Rotary Club of Tulsa, May 11, 1977 (L to R): Joe Al Kitchell, WW II; Roy Parker, WW I; Richard Panther, Vietnam; Jack Blackburn, Korea.

Beverly Blackburn smiles as she finishes the monumental chore of adressing 3,000 letters and enclosing season baseball tickets to fans,

For the first time two highschool seniors were chosen to speak at Memorial Day services in Tulsa May 30, 1977. Farrell Thrasher, the top senior in his class at Central High and a 1976 delegate to Boys State, spoke at the early morning service sponsored by Carson-Wilson Post No. 1.

Kirk Freeman, a Memorial High honor student who placed second in the VFW Voice of Democracy contest, spoke at the Boulder Park Memorial Service sponsored by VFW Post 577 at 11 a.m.



FARRELL THRASHER



Memorial Day Services

Sponsored By CARSON-WILSON POST NO. 1

> Memorial Park Cemetery 51st and Memorial Tulsa, Oklahoma

Monday, May 30, 1977 - 8:00 A.M.



KIRK FREEMAN

Carl Welch, Post Commander George E. Norvell, Chairman Eddie Warma, Co-Chairman

Concert (8:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M.) _____Tulsa Community Band Lew Norris, Director J. Earl Simpson, Flag Ceremony ____ Past Post Commander, in charge _James R. Thrush, Past Post Commander ... Carl Welch, Pledge of Allegiance Post Commander Solo, "My Buddy" _____ ...John LovejoyFarrell Thrasher, Address 1976 Delegate to Boys State Presentation of Wreaths Organizations, Ladies Auxiliaries and Patriotic and Fraternal Societies Bill McEwen Benediction _Firing Squad Three Volley Salute to Honored Dead The American Legion Honor Guard, Alex Faulkner, in charge

The Tulsa Community Band played concerts for both programs. The Honor Guard of the American Legion also served on the Firing Squad at the eleven o'clock service. Amos Lewis sounded taps for both ceremonies.



Alex Faulkner, dedicated Legionnaire and commander of the Post 1 Honor Guard, paused for a moment of meditation at the Legion War Memorial in Memorial Park Cemetery, while Legionnaire John Lovejoy sang "My Buddy".

June, 1977

Delegates to Boys State and their parents, teachers, and sponsors were special guests at the Post meeting June 7. The delegates reported on their activities and accomplishments at the state meeting of outstanding highschool juniors. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

Post 1 members urged residents of Tulsa to fly the Flag June 14, 1977, in commemoration of the 200th birthday of the first official flag of the United States, which was adopted by the Congress June 14, 1977.

Carson-Wilson Post 1 furnished 350 senior citizens with a chicken dinner at a picnic held in Central Park June 26.

Members of Post 1 finalized plans to host the Department Convention in Tulsa during the regular post meeting June 28.

The red carpet will be awaiting early delegates who are expected to arrive July 7. Committee meetings will be held July 8 and the convention will officially convene when Department Commander Jim Rutherford raps the gavel at 9 a.m., July 9.



Madlyn Burrow, post secretary, proudly holds plaque awarded to Post 1 by the Department of Oklahoma in 1976 for "Outstanding and Dedicated Service". Many other plaques and awards adorn the walls in the business office, and post members are grateful that the number increases each year.

The following members were elected delegates and alternates to the State Convention to be held at the Camelot Inn in Tulsa July 8-10:

DELEGATES TO THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION JULY 8-10, 1977

Argodale, C. G. Arnold, Clay Asher, Norman

Baker, Jim
Barton, Ray
Beams, Conrad
Belyeu, Jack
Billings, Cyrus L., Jr.
Blackburn, Edmond S.
Blaylock, Lorena
Bleakley, Ed
Bowman, Clyde M.
Bradley, Sam
Brenner, Sam J.
Brewer, Ed
Browning, Walter
Burrow, Banks B.

Caldwell, Vittum Calhoun, Wayne Catron, Jim Cherry, Verlie R. Chronister, John Clark, L. E. Clarke, H. A. Cline, Charles E. Coatney, Elmer U. Cobb, Lee E. Cobble, Bob G. Cochran, Milton Coggeshall, F. R. Coghill, Harold B. Cordell, Lester Cordell, Loy Dale Cornelius, R. S. Cox, Clarence

Degarimore, Olen Deppe, Walter Dodd, Paul Dodge, Jerry A.

Eagleton, James R. Eagleton, W. L. Eastman, Robert Eddingfield, M. A. Elliott, Uel C. Estrada, Jack

Faires, Louis E. Farrar, G. L. Faulkner, Alex Faulkner, Dave Finley, A. E. Fleming, John Foster, Joe Freeman, K. F. Frost, Olen L.

Gale, Harry B.
Gibson, Jay
Gish, Earl
Glass, Joseph F.
Gorey, W. H.
Gross, Clemmie

Hagen, Eugene Hale, Louis Hale, Loren Hall, D. A. Hall, Jack Halley, H. L. S. Hammond, Robert C. Hanks, Felix D. Hanner, Thomas E. Hardacre, Ray V. Hardcastle, Robert Harkey, Albert R. Harris, Clyde E. Harris, Raymond Harrison, Ralph T. Hart, Thomas G. Harvey, Joseph E. Haskins, William A. Hatch, Richard Hayden, Harold Haynes, Sam Haynes, William H. Haywood, Cy Hedrick, Loren Hedrick, Sam Helmerich, W. H. Helmerich, W. H., III Helmstetter, Leo E. Henderson, Richard Henshaw, R. F. Hernandez, Joseph Hewgley, James M., Jr. Hill, Fred H. Hinton, Ole V. Hogan, Milton L. Hohulski, Evelyn Hohweiler, Alex Holloway, Lloyd C. Hopkins, Howard Howe, Irene Howe, Robert L. Hudson, Ted E. Hunt, Jerry F. Hunter, Jess F. Hunter, Luther

Irby, Dewey L.

Jacobs, Don Jinkens, Robert E. Johnson, William P. Jones, Charles E. Jones, James R.

Kaufman, Leon King, Homer K. Kirkham, Fred Kitchell, Joe A. Klima, Miles Koliha, Joe

Lancaster, Wm. D.
Lane, Leslie
Lawrence, J. F.
Lehman, Margaret
LeRiche, G. A.
Liotta, Frances
Lomax, Harold
Lovejoy, John
Lush, Everett

Mahnke, Louis O. Marshall, Floyd Martin, Joe L. Martin, Willard Martin, W. H. Pepper May, J. D. McCamey, Earl McCann, Bob McCarty, William R. McClintock, H. H. McCormick, Joseph C. McCrary, C. C. McCune, John McEwen, William McGilless, J. H., Jr. McIntosh, W. E. Medlin, Monroe J. Meistrell, L. J. Merz, John Arthur Meyer, H. W. Miller, Ken H. Moore, Bill B. Moore, Charles C. Moore, Ray G. Morris, Thomas J. Moskowitz, Frank Mullin, E. D.

Naifeh, Jack E.
Naifeh, Nimmer
Nelson, H. K.
Nelson, J. Allen, Jr.
Norman, W. B.
Norvell, George E.

O'Brien, G. W. Ohlhaes, Daniel M. Olson, Robert

Pang, Kim L.
Parker, Harold
Parker, Roy
Patterson, Clyde A.
Peacock, Bob
Perry, William M.
Peters, Donald L.
Pillow, Ray D.
Pitcher, George
Polson, Charles
Potter, Donald
Powers, J. H.
Prewett, Harold W.
Provost, Albert

Quackenbush, J. H.

Ragan, William L.
Ramsey, Don R.
Rankin, Edward E.
Rea, William J.
Reavis, James K., Jr.
Reynolds, C. W.
Rice, Walter L.
Ritchie, William S.
Roads, Gene
Roberts, Robert G.
Rogers, John
Rogers, John A.
Royal, James T.
Rumohr, Kenneth

Shaffer, Vern Shannon, Howard Shepler, G. W. Shields, Ed Shipley, Jim Simmons, Buren Simpson, J. Earl Slater, Tom R. Smith, C. E. Smith, Harvey H. Smith, Hubert Smith, Dr. Norvall Sparks, Conrad I. Spengler, Walter Steele, Bernard W. Stewart, Cliff H. Sullivan, Max Summers, Dr. C. S.

Tallamounts, Carew H.
Taylor, Fred
Tedder, Arthur
Thornburg, Charles R.
Thrush, James R.
Tomey, Harley

Vance, Robert L.

Warma, Eddie Warren, Frank T. Waters, O. D. Welch, Carl Wheeler, Ed Whitchurch, Robert Wiggins, Russell E. Williams, Arky Wilson, Steven C. Woods, D. S., Jr. Worsham, Roy W.

Younger, Ralph

Zenor, Paul Zorn, William W.

ALTERNATES - DEPARTMENT CONVENTION JULY 8-10, 1977

Adams, Byron Adcock, Robert L. Alberson, J. E. Alexander, L. H. Amos, J. K. Anderson, Edward Arnell, Richard S. Ats, B. L., Jr. Deaton, William E.
Dillon, William J.
Dix, Walter E.
Dodson, Sam R.
Doty, Max A.
Douglass, G. N.
Douthit, Burt A.

Baker, Percy V.
Barnes, Olen C.
Barnett, D. N.
Bartlett, Dewey
Batterson, B. B.
Bauhaus, Joe
Baumer, Jack J.
Baxter, C. H.
Bell, Michael L.
Bivens, Cull
Blevins, Rex W.
Boyer, William J.
Bred, Robert M.
Brown, C. H.
Brown, Hobart
Brown, John D.

Buckner, Wm. J.

Burch, Paul L. Burns, Paul P. Burris, Charles L. Ebsen, H. E.
Edwards, T. H.
Eiziks, Jack
Emert, Fred
Engle, Luther, Jr.
Esche, John

Felts, Ray Ferguson, Leslie Finley, Jack D. Fisher, Bobby J. Freeman, Paul J.

Gold, Lynn E.
Green, Harold M.
Green, Lloyd R.
Green, Michael
Green, Richard L.
Greenlee, Roland P.
Gresham, Sam A.
Guinn, James S.

Caphart, S. D., Jr. Carlson, Arthur J. Carr, John G. Casanova, John Champion, Michael W. Chick, John A. Clark, Charles F. Clark, Luther J. Clark, Marson Clinton, Walton S. Cloud, James R. Coulson, L. H. Cox, Clifford N. Crews, Ira D., Jr. Crocker, James L. Croft, Cora Crow, Gerald R. Cupps, George W.

Haddock, George L.
Hahan, Elmer P.
Hair, William O.
Hale, Emmett M.
Hall, Clifford W.
Halley, Paul J.
Halsey, Marion A.
Hamilton, Harry H.
Hampton, Jimmy H.
Hancock, Geo. L.
Haney, Wm. C.
Hansen, Walter H.
Harden, Roy L.
Hardesty, Douglas G.
Harmon, Bill C.
Harris, Albert D.
Hayes, Bobby G.
Heald, Glen F.
Huffman, Bill Hugh

Dannenberg, L. L.

Kirbert, J. H.

Lampkin, James E.

Maddolin, Michael H., Jr.
Maxwell, Robert
McDaniel, Calvin E.
McKee, Thomas E.
McPherson, Ira
Metavelis, D. G.
Michael, Roy E.
Mihos, Paul G.
Milholland, Harry W.
Miller, Edward S.
Miller, John A., Sr.
Mitchell, Thomas A.
Moderow, Ray H.
Monson, LaVern W.
Moore, Dr. Clyde
Moore, George B.
Moore, Gordon
Morris, Clifford M.

Nesbitt, Robert B. Nicholson, Gordon D. Niman, Alfred V. Noble, G. A. Noland, Wm. F. Noteware, Wilbur C.

O'Bannon, M. E. Owen, William C. Owen, Wm. O.

Philbrick, H. S. Phillips, Jack Phillips, Ray Pittman, Nelson Prayson, Stephen A.

Rabun, G. Arthur, III Rainwater, Wm. I. Ralston, C. K. Randolph, Kenneth C. Reed, Robert L. Reinhard, Bill J. Rumohr, Vernon F. Russell, Paul W.

Sanditen, Ira E.
Sawyer, W. L.
Scharr, Alice D.
Schrivner, Howell L.
Shaw, Carl E.
Stewart, Tommy H.
Stillings, Beverly M.
Sumner, Levi M.
Sutherland, George R.

Teaney, Fred L. Thetford, Max Thompson, Edmond Thompson, George Thompson, John D. Thompson, R. F. Tolson, Geo. L. Townes, Chas. E. Tuley, Billy J. Turner, Vernon Tuttle, Glenn

Utley, E. D.

Vernon, James R.

Walenta, Louis J.
Walker, William
Warren, Buddy R.
Warren, James B.
Warren, Robert E.
Waters, Dr. Wm. A.
Watkins, Coy
Watson, Floyd
Weatherly, H. D.
Webb, Chas. G.
Weir, Guy L.
Welch, Bill
Wellhousen, Homer J.
Westmoreland, C. E.
Whisler, Joe F.
White, Dr. Eric M.
Wiggs, Noble A.
Wilkens, L. C.
Wilkerson, J. W.
Wilson, Tom



Extracts From

Memorial Day Address

(Delivered at Memorial Park Cemetery, May 30, 1977)

—by Farrell Thrasher

The patient ocean quietly washes the shores of distant lands, stirring to motion sands that have long been still. Similarly, on a day such as today, the waves of recollection stir memories that have long lain quiet. Today is a day of recollection of the sacrifices made by Americans, both living and dead. We reverently gather in remembrance of the deeds done at home and on foreign soil to preserve American ideals. Memories such as these make us sad. This is natural, but perhaps we should look more closely at the losses suffered by our loved ones, and examine the reasons that they gave so much. Perhaps they did not always agree with the diplomatic reasons the wars were fought but the basic principles of freedom and equality prompted these men to give their all. From the beginning of America, men have fought, and men have died that America would survive. There is where our importance lies, America survives.

This is what we should feel today; sadness, yes, but even more, happiness in the fact that these men gave to us something that people in many other countries never have the chance to experience — an active Democracy. For this we should be thankful. If we take today as a day of peaceful recollection and thankfulness for the gifts we have been given, we can rededicate ourselves to the ideals of the democratic system and its continuance. Once we do this, today will have a far greater meaning to us, we will gain strength as will America.

America is only as strong as her people. When we dedicate ourselves to the continuing fight for freedom that the men we honor today carried on so bravely, we can be sure the fight will never be lost, freedom will never disappear, and America will be as persevering as the quiet tide and as eternal as the ocean.



NOTE: News has just been received that Farrell Thrasher has been awarded a scholarship by Yale University. Farrell is a 4.0 student at Tulsa Central High School and will enroll at Yale for the fall semester 1977.

APPENDIX B

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AND DEATHS IN SERVICE DURING ALL WARS, AND THE POST-KOREAN CONFLICT; NUMBER OF LIVING VETERANS, AND VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS ON COMPENSATION AND PENSION ROLLS, JULY 1, 1976

Revolution (1775-1784)	World War II (Sept. 16, 1940-July 25, 1947)	
Participants 290,000	Participants116,535,000	
Deaths in service 4,000	Deaths in service 406,000	
Last veteran died Apr. 5, 1869 age 109	Living veterans 213,385,000	
Last dependent died Apr. 25, 1911 Age 90	Veterans and Dependents on Compensation	
War of 1812 (1812-1815) Participants 287 000	and Pension Rolls	
Participants 287,000 Deaths in service 2,000	Parents 104,485	
Last veteran died May 13, 1905 Age 105	Widows 452,116	
Last dependent died Mar. 12, 1946 _ Age 89	Children	
Mexican War (1846-1848)	Veterans1,897,819	
Participants 79,000		
Deaths in service 13,000	Korean Conflict (June 27, 1950-Jan. 31, 1955)	
Last veteran died Sept. 3, 1929 Age 98	Participants	
Last dependent died Nov. 1, 1962 Age 94	Deaths in service 55,000	
Civil War (1861-1865)	Living veterans25,954,000	
(Union Forces Only)	Veterans and Dependents on Compensation	
Participants 2,213,000 Deaths in service 364,000	and Pension Rolls	
Deaths in service 364,000	Parents 23,241	
Last veteran died Aug. 2, 1956 Age 109	Widows 51,690	
Veterans and Dependents on Compensation and	Children	
Pension Rolls (Union and Confederate Forces)	Veterans 299,038	
Widows 158	veterans 255,000	
Children	Service Between Korean Conflict and Vietnam	
Indian Wars (Approx. 1817-1898)	Era Only (Service on Active duty between Janu-	
Participants 106,000	ary 31, 1955 and August 5, 1964)	
Deaths in service 1,000	Participants3,195,000	
Last veteran died June 18, 1973	Deaths in service 20,000	
Veterans and Dependents on Compensation	Living veterans3,085,000	
and Pension Rolls		
Widows 58	Vietnam Era (August 5, 1964-May 7, 1975) Participants39,834,000	
Children 13	Deaths in service 107,000	
Spanish-American War (1898-1902)	Living veterans48,070,000	
Participants 392,000	Living veterans 0,070,000	
Deaths in service 11,000	Veterans and Dependents on Compensation	
Living veterans 687	and Pension Rolls	
Veterans and Dependents on Compensation	Parents 22,155	
and Pension Rolls Widows 20,978	Widows 41,371	
Widows	Children 99,477	
Children 1,280	Veterans 467,065	
Veterans 687 World War I (1917-1918)	Total—All foregoing periods through July 1, 1976	
Participants4,744,000	Participants*44,482,000	
Deaths in service 116,000	Deaths in service 1,099,000	
Living veterans 867,000	Living veterans29,607,000	
Veterans and Dependents on Compensation	Veterans and Dependents on Compensation	
and Pension Rolls	and Pension Rolls	
Parents 323	Parents 5164,056	
Widows 568,620	Widows61,186,366	
Children 25,821	Children	
Veterans 374,879	Veterans83,235,778	
*Persons who served in more than one war are counted as partici-	lar Establishment (peacetime), veterans with service between Jan.	
pants in each.	31, 1955 and Aug. 5, 1964, and veterans of the Mexican Border	

31, 1955 and Aug. 5, 1964, and veterans of the Mexican Border with service between May 9, 1916 and Apr. 5, 1917.

¹Includes 1,476,000 who served in both WWII and Korean conflict.

²Includes 1,238,000 with service in both WWII and Korean conflict. 3 Includes 887,000 who served in both Vietnam Era and Korean conflict

⁴Includes 517,000 with service in both the Vietnam Era and the Korean conflict.

⁵Includes 13,852 parents of deceased former members of the Regular Establishment. (peacetime), and veterans with service between

Jan. 31, 1955 and Aug. 5, 1964. Blncludes 33,375 widows of deceased former members of the Regu-

⁷ Includes 19,810 children of deceased former members of the Regular Establishment (peacetime), veterans with service between Jan. 31, 1955 and Aug. 5, 1964, and veterans of the Mexican Border with service between May 9, 1916 and Apr. 5, 1917.

Sincludes 196,290 former members of the Regular Establishment (peacetime), veterans with service between Jan. 31, 1955 and Aug. 5, 1964, and veterans of the Mexican Border with service between May 9, 1916 and Apr. 5, 1917.

INDEX

Adams, H. D.—29	Burch, Pa
Adcock, Robert L.—74	Burnham
Alberson, J. E.—74	Burns, M
Alexander, L. H.—74	Burns, Pa
Allen, Charles—53	Burris, C
Allison, E. L.—53	Burrow,
Allred, Mrs. John B.—52	Burrow,
Alverado, Tony—41	Burrow,
Alverado, Tony, Jr.—41	
Amos, J. K.—74	Caldwell
Anderson, Mrs. Arthur—52 Anderson, Edward—74	Calhoun,
Argodale, C. G.—73	Caphart,
Arnell, Richard S.—74	Carlson,
Arnold, Clay-1, 2, 8, 29, 73	Carr, Joh
Arnold, Marie—29	Carr, Tor
Asher, Norman—73	Carson, .
Ats, B. L., Jr.—74	Casanova
,,,	Catron, .
Baird, Mrs. Sam-39	Catron, /
Baker, Jim—73	Cerda, B
Baker, John—8, 29	Champio
Baker, Percy V.—74	Chapman
Ballenger, Ben B.—29, 58	Cherry, \
Barley, Robert—37	Chick, Jo
Barnes, H. D.—15	Chism, H
Barnes, Olen C.—74	Chroniste Church, I
Barnett, D. N.—74	Clark, Cl
Barnett, Victor F.—54	Clark, L.
Bartlett, Dewey (U.S. Senator)—18, 74	Clark, Lu
Barton, Ray—8, 29, 30, 52, 68, 73	Clark, M
Batterson, B. B.—74	Clarke, F
Bauhaus, Joe—74	Cline, Ch
Baumer, Jack J.—74	Clinton,
Baxter, C. H.—74	Cloud, Ja
Beams, Conrad—34, 51, 65	Coatney,
Beard, R. A.—53	Cobb, Le
Beck, Paul—29	Cobble,
Bedard, Roy—8, 29	Cochran,
Belford, Guy, Jr.—29, 55	Coddingt
Bell, Lucille—39	Coggesh
Bell, Michael L.—74	Coghill,
Belyeu, Jack—73	Cole, Mr.
Benton, E. B.—29	Conard,
Benton, Zell—24, 29, 51, 52, 61, 66	Cordell,
Billings, Cyrus L., Jr.—73	Cordell,
Bivens, Cull—74 Blackburn, Beverly—69	Cornelius
Blackburn, Edmond S.—29, 62, 68, 73	Coulson,
Blackburn, Mrs. E. S. (Sandy)—10, 52, 62	Cox, Cla
Blackburn, Jack—45, 68, 69	Cox, Clif
Blackford, Calvin—29	Coyle, Bi
Blanchard, Mrs. Effie—52	Craig, Sa
Blaylock, Lorena—73	Craig, M
Bleakley, Ed—73	Crews, I
Blevins, Rex W.—74	Crocker,
Bohannon, Clinton J55	Croft, Co
Border, C. A.—7	Crow, G
Boren, Governor David-17, 65, 66, 68	Cupps, C
Boren, Hon. Lyle H65	Cyphers,
Bourland, Grover-29	
Bowman, Clyde M.—73	Damron,
Boyd, Marge—63	Danley, (
Boyer, William J74	Dannenbe
Bradley, Sam—73	Davis, N.
Bred, Robert M.—74	Dawson,
Brenner, Sam J.—73	Deaton, 1
Brewer, Ed—29, 30, 52, 7 3	Degarimo
Bronson, Mrs. A. H.—52, 56	Deppe, V
Broach, Richard—26	Dillon, V
Brown, C. H.—74	Ditto, Bo
Brown, Hobart—74	Dix, Wal
Brown, John D.—74	Dodd, Pa
Brown, Leslie L.—66	Dodge, J
Brown, Mrs. Paul—52	Dodson,
Browning, Jean- 29, 36, 39, 41, 44, 51, 52	
61, 63, 65, 66	Douglass
Browning, Walter-1, 2, 8, 29, 36, 44, 51, 61	, Douthit,
66, 73	Dunbar,
Dama 70	
Page 78	

Adams, Byron-74

Adams, H. D.-29

Buckner, Wm. J.—74 Burch, Paul L.—74 Burnham, Sam—29 Burns, Mrs. L. A.—52 Burns, Paul P.—74 Burris, Charles L.—74 Burrow, Banks B.—64, 73 Burrow, Madlyn—1, 3, 64, 72 Burrow, Suzanne—63, 64
Caldwell, Vittum—30, 73 Calhoun, Wayne—29, 73 Caphart, S. D., Jr.—74 Carlson, Arthur J.—74 Carlson, Arthur J.—74 Carr, John G.—8, 29, 74 Carr, John G.—8, 29, 74 Carr, John—29 Carson, Joseph C.—1 Casanova, John—74 Catron, Jim—29, 59, 73 Catron, Mary—36, 52 Cerda, Billye—29, 51 Champion, Michael W.—74 Chapman, Alvin L.—53 Cherry, Verlie R.—73 Chick, John A.—74 Chism, Herschel R., Jr.—57 Chronister, John—58, 73 Church, Dottie—29, 51, 63 Clark, Charles F.—62, 64, 74 Clark, L. E.—73 Clark, Luther J.—74 Clark, Marson—74 Clarke, H. A.—73 Cline, Charles E.—73 Clinton, Walton S.—74 Cloud, James R.—74 Coatney, Elmer U.—73 Cobb, Lee E.—73 Cobble, Bob G.—73 Cochran, Milton—73 Coddington, Glen H.—55 Coggeshall, F. R.—29, 73 Codfill, Lester—73 Cordell, Lester—73 Cordell, Lester—73 Cordell, Lester—73 Cordell, Loy Dale—1, 2, 8, 73 Cornelius, R. S.—73 Cox. Clifford N.—74 Cox, Clarence—58, 73 Cox. Clifford N.—74 Coyle, Bill—68, 69 Craig, Sam—29 Craig, Mrs. Sam—52, 63 Crews, Ira D., Jr.—74 Crooker, James L.—74 Crook, Gerald R.—74 Cupps, George W.—74
Cyphers, Mrs. Esther—52 Damron, Millie—39 Danley, Charles F.—47, 48, 49 Dannenberg, L. L.—74 Davis, N. H.—55 Dawson, Dave—8 Deaton, William E.—74 Degarimore, Olen—73 Deppe, Walter—29, 57, 73 Dillon, William J.—74 Ditto, Bob—8, 29, 30, 52 Dix, Walter E.—74 Dodd, Paul—73 Dodge, Jerry A.—73 Dodson, Sam R.—74 Doty, Max A.—74 Douglass, G. N.—74 Douthit, Burt A.—74 Dunbar, Gene—15

```
Eagleton, James R.—73
Eagleton, W. L.—7, 53, 62, 73
Eagleton, Mrs. W. L.—62
Easky, Cecelia-52, 60
Easky, Leno-60
Eastman, Robert-73
Eastman, Walter W.--54
Ebsen, H. E.—74
Eddingfield, M. A.—29, 58, 73
Edwards, Edna—30, 36
Edwards, T. H.—74
Eiziks, Jack—74
Elliott, Uel C.—73
Emert, Fred—74
Engle, Luther, Jr.—29, 74
Esche, John—74
Estrada, Jack—73
Evans, Carl B.—29
Faires, Louis E.-73
Farrar, G. L.-73
Faulkner, Alex-29, 30, 52, 68, 70, 71, 73
Faulkner, Dave-73
Feeney, Charles S. (Pres., National League)-19
Fellinger, Belva-63
Felts, Ray-74
Ferguson, Leslie-74
Finley, A. E.-73
Finley, Jack D.-74
Fisher, Bobby J.-74
Fleming, John-73
Ford, Mrs. James B.-52
Foster, Joe-73
Foster, Nancy-46, 64
Frasier, Thomas D.-57
Freeman, K. F.—73
Freeman, Kirk—70
Freeman, Paul J.—74
Frost, Olen L.—73
Gale, Harry B.—73
Galloway, Albert E.—56
Gibson, Jay—29, 58, 73
Gilmer, T. P.—54, 62
Gish, Earl-73
Gittinger, Mrs. C. O.-52
Glaser, Mrs. Charlotte-52
Glass, Joseph F .-- 73
Gold, Lynn E.-74
Gorey, W. H.-73
Green, Harold M.—74
Green, Lloyd R.-74
Green, Michael-74
Green, Richard L.-74
Greenlee, Roland P.—74
Gresham, Sam A.—74
Gross, Clemmie-29, 58, 73
Guinn, James S.-74
Haddock, George L.—74
Hagan, Horace—53
Hagen, Eugene—73
Hahan, Elmer P.—74
Hair, William O.—74
Hale, Emmett M.-74
Hale, Louis-8, 29, 52, 68, 73
Hale, Loren—73
Hall, Clifford W.—74
Hall, D. A.-73
Hall, Mrs. Gail Benton-52
Hall, Jack-73
Hall, James-29
Halley, H. L. S.-7, 55, 62, 73
Halley, Paul J.—74
Halsey, Marion A.—74
Hamilton, Harry H .- 74
Hammond, Robert C.-73
Hammons, Mrs. Lillian—52
Hampton, Jimmy H.—74
Hancock, Geo. L.—74
```

Haney, Wm. C.--74 Hanks, Felix D.-73 Hanner, Thomas E.-73 Hansen, Walter H.-74 Hardacre, Ray V.—73 Hardcastle, Robert-1, 73 Harden, Roy L.—74 Hardesty, Douglas G.-74 Harkey, Albert R.-73 Harmon, Bill C.-74 Harmon, Bill C.-74
Harper, Mrs. A. N.-52
Harris, Albert D.-74
Harris, Clyde E.-73
Harris, Floyd-8
Harris, Raymond-73
Harrison, Ralph T.-73
Hart Thomas G. 28, 7 Hart, Thomas G.—29, 73 Hartz, Rev. Marvin—8, 29, 68 Harvey, Joseph E.—73 Haskins, William A.—73 Hatch, Richard-73 Hayden, Harold-73 Hayes, Bobby G.-74 Haynes, Sam-73 Haynes, Wm. H.-73 Haywood, Cy-24, 66, 73 Heald, Glen F .-- 74 Hedrick, Loren-73 Hedrick, Sam—73 Helmerich, W. H.—73 Helmerich, W. H., 111—73 Helmstetter, Leo E.—73 Henderson, Richard—73 Henshaw, R. F.—73 Herman, Joe—29, 56 Hernandez, Joseph—73 Hewgley, James M., Jr.—73 Hill, Fred H.—73 Hinton, Ole V.—73 Hoel, Carl—29 Hogan, Milton L.-73 Hohulski, Evelyn—1, 2, 8, 29, 36, 37, 38, 44, 51, 52, 73 Hohweiler, Alex—73 Holloway, Lloyd C.—73 Hopkins, Howard—73 Houston, Sam-8, 29 Howard, State Sen. Gene C .- 46, 47, 49 Howe, Irene-73 Howe, Robert L.-73 Hudson, Ted E.-73 Huffman, Bill Hugh-74 Hughes, Dolly—40 Hugill, Frank S.—29, 54 Hundley, Mrs. Elizabeth-52 Hunt, Jerry F.—73 Hunt, Jim—56 Hunt, George-57 Hunter, Jesse F.—29, 58, 73 Hunter, Luther—73 Hurley, P. J.—54 Hurley, Mrs. Pat J.—52

Irby, Dewey L.-73

Jackson, Esther A.—26
Jacobs, Don—1, 3, 73
James, Harold L.—29
Jarvis, Alfred—29
Jennings, Judge Joe—37
Jewell, Dave—29
Jinkens, Robert E.—73
Johnson, Paul—33
Johnson, William P.—73
Jones, Charles E.—73
Jones, James R. (Congressman)—18, 30, 73

Kaufman, Leon—46, 47, 52, 63, 69, 73 Kaufman, Virginia—63 Kelly, Bill—57 Kelly, Frank L.—66 Kelly, Paul—30 Killingsworth, Mrs. U. B.—52
King, Homer K.—73
King, James F.—29
Kirbert, J. H.—75
Kirkham, Fred—73
Kirkland, Mrs. Ralph—52
Kitchell, Joe A.—30, 69, 73
Klima, Miles—73
Koenig, Otto—29, 55, 57
Koliha, Joe—31, 73
Kuhn, Bowie K. (Baseball Commissioner)—17

Lacy, Mrs. H.-52 LaFortune, Robert J. (Mayor)-14, 16, 30, 65, 67 Lamb, Grace-39 Lampkin, James E.-75 Lancaster, Wm. D.-73 Lane, Gen. Leslie W.-8, 11, 29, 32, 61, 73 Larkin, Rodney E.-29 Lawrence, J. F.-73 Lehman, Margaret-73 LeRiche, G. A.-73 Lewis, Amos-8, 68, 70 Liotta, Frances-1, 2, 8, 29, 32, 35, 37, 39, 44, 51, 63, 73 Liotta, Mrs. Evelyn—44 Little, H. H. Jack—29 Lomax, Harold—73 Lovejoy, John—8, 29, 30, 52, 68, 70, 71, 73 Lush, Everett-73 Lynn, Joe W.—29, 56

MacPhail, Lee (Pres., American League)-19

Maddolin, Michael H., Jr.-75 Mahnke, Louis O.-73 Maier, Lawrence-52, 68 Mangan, Mrs. L. J.-52 Markham, Lon-29 Marr, Shelby W.—57
Marshall, Floyd—29, 58, 73
Martin, Joe L.—73
Martin, W. H. Pepper—73
Martin, Willard—73
Martin, Willard—73 Mathis, A. E.—26 Maxwell, Robert—75 May, J. D.—73 McCamey, Earl—1, 2, 29, 73 McCann, Bob—1, 2, 8, 29, 36, 44, 51, 64, 66, 73 McCann, Glenda-36 McCann, Mary-44, 51, 66 McCarty, William R.—73 McClintock, H. H.—73 McCormick, Joseph C.—73 McCrary, C. C.—7, 62, 73 McCrary, Mrs. C. C.—52, 62 McCune, John-73 McDaniel, Calvin E.-75 McDonald, Josephine-63 McEwen, Grace-29, 44 McEwen, William-1, 2, 10, 29, 30, 34, 44, 51, 65, 70, 73 McFetridge, L. W.-54 McGilless, J. H., Jr.—73 McIntosh. W. E.—73

McKee, Thomas E.-75

Medlin, Monroe J.-73

Merz, John Arthur—73 Metavelis, D. G.—75 Mever, H. W.—73 Michael, Roy E.—75

Mihos. Paul G.—75

Milholland, Harry W.—75 Miller, Edward S.—75

Miller, John A., Sr.—75 Miller, Ken H.—73

Mitchell, Thomas A.-75

McPherson, Ira-8, 29, 68, 75

Meistrell. L. J.—8, 29, 52, 68, 73 Melton, Bill—52

McPhail, Lee—19

Moderow, Ray H.—75
Monson, LaVern W.—75
Moore, Bill B.—73
Moore, Charles C.—73
Moore, Dr. Clyde—75
Moore, George B.—75
Moore, Gordon—75
Moore, Ray G.—73
Morehead, Robbie—36
Morri,s Clifford M.—75
Morris, Thomas J.—73
Morrissey, Jeannie—31, 32
Moskowitz, Frank—73
Mullin, E. D.—73
Myer, Edward F.—29

Naifeh, Jack E.—8, 29, 63, 73
Naifeh, Maxine—63
Naifeh, Nimmer—73
Nelson, H. K.—73
Nelson, J. Allen, Jr.—73
Nesbitt, Robert B.—75
Nicholson, Gordon D.—75
Niles, Alva J.—53
Niman, Alfred V.—75
Noble, G. A.—75
Noland, Wm. F.—75
Nolen, Coleman—68
Norman, W. B.—73
Noteware, Wilbur C.—75
Norvell, George E.—10, 26, 27, 29, 35, 36, 39, 44, 57, 65, 66, 68, 70, 73
Norvell, Opal—44

O'Bannon, M. E.—75 O'Brien, G. W.—74 Ohlhaes, Daniel M.—74 Olson, Robert—74 Orr, Reba—29, 51, 52 Owen, William C.—75 Owen, Wm. O.—75

Pang, Kim L.-74 Panther, Deanna-64 Panther, Richard-30, 45, 68, 69 Panther, Theresa-64 Parker, Harold-74 Parker, Roy-8, 29, 68, 69, 74 Patterson, Clyde A.-74 Payne, Joe-55 Peacock, Bob-74 Perry, William M.-74 Peters. Donald L.-74 Petty, Walter J.-55 Petty, Mrs. Walter J.—52 Philbrick, H. S.—75 Philbrick, H. S.—75 Phillips, Jack—75 Phillips, Ray—75 Pillow, Ray D.—74 Pitcher, George—74 Pittman, Nelson—75 Polson, Charles—29, 74 Pope, Harry A.—29 Porter, J. A.—54 Porter, J. A.-54 Porter, Jack-13 Potter, Donald-74 Powers, J. H.—74 Powers, Mrs. J. Harry—52 Prayson, Stephen A.—75 Prewett, Harold W.—74 Provost, Albert-74

Quackenbush, J. H.-74

Rabun, G. Arthur, III—75 Ragan, William L.—74 Rainwater, Wm. I.—75 Rainwater, Mrs. W. I.—52 Ralston, C. K.—75 Ramsey, Don R.—74 Randolph, Kenneth C.—75 Rankin, Edward E.—74

Rath, Mrs. Gladys Pope-52 Rea, William J.-74 Reavis, James K., Jr.-74 Reed, Robert L.-75 Reeves, Mrs. Ira-52 Reinhard, Bill J.-75 Reynolds, C. W.-74 Rice, Walter L.-74 Ritchie, William S.-74 Roads, Gene-73 Roberts, Robert G.-74 Roe, Eddie-29 Rogers, John-53, 74 Rogers, John A.-73 Rogers, J. J.-8, 29 Rogers, Jop-52 Royal, James T.-74 Rumohr, Kenneth-74 Rumohr, Vernon F.—75 Russell, Paul W.—75 Rutherford, Jim (State Commander, 1, 30, 44, 48, 51, 52, 60

Sanditen, Ira E.—75 Sawyer, W. L.—75 Saxon, Mike, Sr.—29, 56 Scharr, Alice D.—75 Schnake, Charles-52 Schrivner, Howell L .-- 75 Shaffer, Vern-8, 29, 30, 52, 68, 74 Shannon, Howard-24, 25, 29, 30, 44, 45, 46, 47, 49, 61, 66, 74 Shannon, Laney-24, 61 Shaw, Carl E.-75 Shepler, G. W.-74 Shields, Ed-29, 74 Shipley, Jim-74 Simmons, Buren-8, 29, 68, 74 Simmons, Mrs. Mamie-52 Simmons, Martin V.—29 Simpson, J. Earl-1, 2, 8, 24, 29, 30, 36, 44, 45, 46, 51, 56, 61, 66, 68, 70, 74 Simpson, Odessa—51, 52, 61 Slater, Tom R.—8, 29, 74
Smith, C. E.—8, 29, 30, 39, 52, 74
Smith, Harvey H.—74
Smith, Hubert—74 Smith, Mrs. Nettie—52 Smith, Dr. Norvall—74 Smith, Tom-25 Spain, Leslie L .- 56 Sparks, Conrad 1.-74 Spengler, Walter—1, 8, 74 Stafford, Snooks—56

Steele, Bernard W.—74
Stewart, Cliff H.—74
Stewart, Tommy H.—75
Stillings, Beverly M.—75
Sturges, Zoe—63
Sullivan, Max—74
Sullivan, Mrs. Russell—52
Summers, Dr. C. S.—53, 74
Summers, Lolabelle—46, 47, 48, 49
Sumner, Levi M.—75
Sutherland, George R.—75

Tallamounts, Carew H.-74 Taylor, E. J.-29 Taylor, Fred—74 Teaney, Fred L.-75 Tedder, Arthur-29, 30, 52, 74 Tetirick, Guy C.-54 Thetford, Max-75 Thompson, Edmond-75 Thompson, George-75 Thompson, John D.-75 Thompson, R. F.—75 Thornburg, Charles R.-74 Thrasher, Farrell—46, 52, 64, 68, 70
Thrush, Charlotte—24, 25, 29, 44, 51, 52, 60
Thrush, James R.—8, 11, 24, 29, 35, 43, 44, 45, 46, 51, 52, 59, 60, 63, 68, 70, 74 Tolson, Geo. L.—75 Tomey, Harley-8, 29, 68, 74 Tomlins, Mrs. Harry—52 Townes, Chas. E.—75 Trout, Mrs. Laura-52 Tuley, Billy J.-75 Turner, Mrs. Mary A.-52 Turner, Vernon-75 Tuttle, Glenn-75

Utley, E. D.-75

Vance, Robert L.—74 Vaughn, State Rep. Geo.—44, 45 Vernon, James R.—75 Victory, C. C.—29

Walenta, Louis J.—75
Walker, William—75
Warma, Eddie—1, 2, 8, 29, 34, 36, 39, 44, 51, 58, 61, 65, 70, 74
Warma, Wilma—29, 36, 39, 46, 51, 52
Warren, Buddy R.—75
Warren, Frank T.—74
Warren, James B.—75
Warren, Robert E.—75
Waters, O, D.—1, 8, 29, 68, 74

Waters, Dr. Wm. A.-75 Watkins, Coy-75 Watkins, George L .- 54 Watson, Floyd-75 Waymire, Mrs. Mary-52 Weatherly, H. D.-75 Webb, Chas. G.-75 Webb, Mrs. Mae Pearce-52 Weeden, Mary-40 Weir, Guy L.--75 Welch, Bill-75 Welch, Mrs. Blanche-52 Welch, Carl—1, 2, 8, 10, 14, 15, 29, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 44, 45, 48, 51, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 68, 70, 74 Welch, Lorena-29, 36, 42, 44, 46, 51, 66, 68 Wellhousen, Homer J.—75 Westmoreland, C. E.—75 Wheeler, Ed-74 Wheeler, Mrs. P. C.-52 Whisler, Joe F.—75 Whitchurch, Robert—74 White, Dr. Eric M.—75 Wiggins, Russell E.—74 Wiggs, Noble A.-75 Wiginton, Phil D.-30 Wild, Julius-29 Wilkens, L. C.-75 Wilkerson, J. W.—75 Williams, Arky-1, 29, 34, 44, 51, 65, 74 Williams, Grace-65, 66 Wilson, Alex E., Jr.—1 Wilson, Alex E., Sr—29, 57 Wilson, Steven C.-74 Wilson, Tom-75 Wood, Everett A.-55 Woodard, C. C.-29 Woods, Dan S., Jr.-1, 8, 16, 17, 24, 29, 44, 59, 61, 66, 74 Woods, Evelyn-24, 44, 63, 66 Worsham, Roy W.—74 Wright, Bill—14, 20, 68 Wright, C. J.-47

Yockum, Bea—63 Younger, Bessie—29, 38, 39, 40, 42, 44, 51, 52, 66, 68 Younger, Geneva—24, 25, 29, 36, 44, 51, 52, 60, 66 Younger, Ralph—1, 2, 8, 13, 29, 34, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 51, 59, 65, 66, 74

Zeigler, Otto—8, 29 Zenor, Paul—74 Zorn, William W.—74



Stanley, Clair B.-30

Preamble to the Constitution

of

The American Legion

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; To maintain law and order; To foster and perpetuate a one h u n d r e d percent Amercanism; To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars; To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; To make right the master of might; To promote peace and good-will on earth; To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.