

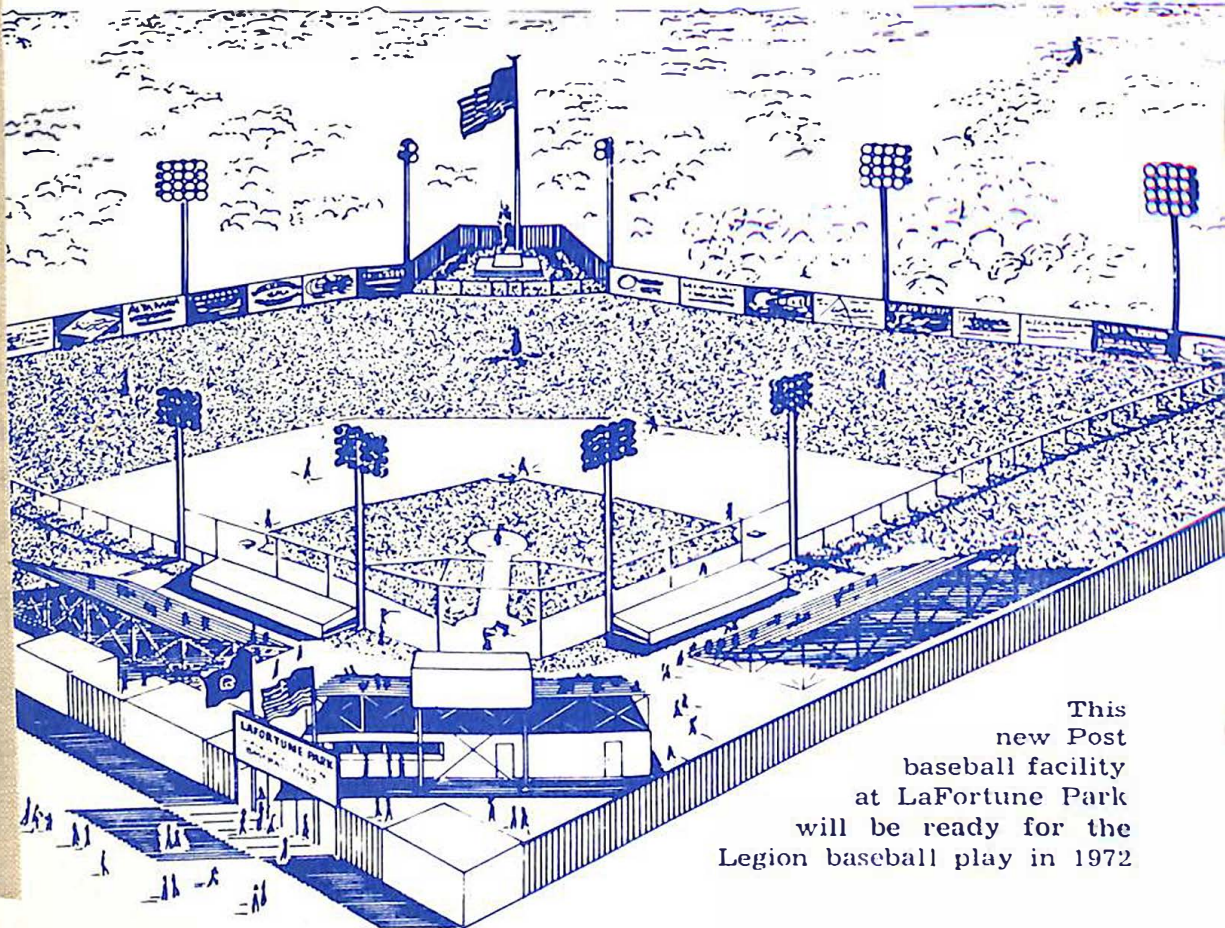
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HISTORY OF



Carson-Wilson Post No. 1

Tulsa, Oklahoma



This
new Post
baseball facility
at LaFortune Park
will be ready for the
Legion baseball play in 1972

For Reference

R00029 92821

This Post History is dedicated to the faithful Legionnaires who perform the graveside rites for our departed comrades, and to the Carson-Wilson Post Band which furnishes the music for our Memorial Day services and numerous Post activities.

OKT

FOREWORD

The American Legion Manual emphasizes the value of a Post History:

“ * * The future can only be judged by the past. Be mindful that the lamp of recorded experience may do much in guiding the footsteps of those who follow. Ever remember that without the recorded history of this Post, its policies and accomplishments will be a blank to the ones who come after we are gone.”*

As we go to press, we wish to express our gratitude to the Tulsa World, Tulsa Tribune and Post Photographer Ralph Younger for furnishing many interesting photos.

GEORGE E. NORVELL,
Post Historian

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OFFICERS OF CARSON-WILSON POST NO. 1



Seated left to right — Elwood J. Taylor, Howard Shannon, Herman Deere, James F. Catron, members of the Executive Committee. Standing, left to right — LeRoy Foutch, Eddie Warma, members of the Executive Committee; Warren Grubbs, second vice Commander, Jim Thrush, Post Commander; J. Earl Simpson, Ralph Younger, M. A. Eddingfield, members of the Executive Committee and Bob McCann, third Vice Commander. Officers absent when picture taken were: Ben B. Ballenger, Finance Officer; O. D. Waters, Chaplain; Jess Hunter, Executive Committee and Luther Ingle, Sergeant-at-Arms.



Gloria Jinkens, Secretary



Joe Herman, Service Officer

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James R. Thrush,
Post Commander

Commander's Message

Proud of our past ,involved in the present, prepared for the future; this is Carson-Wilson Post 1, Oklahoma's first Post formed June 18, 1919.

The abundant harvest of pictures with comments in this supplement to our Post history depicts some of the accomplishments of this past year.

Support and contributions to community activities continue to increase in tempo each year. The membership is to be commended for its participation in beneficial programs executed over the past 52 years.

This year we shall complete a new American Legion baseball park. The young adults who participate in this program are the citizens and leaders of tomorrow. This investment in young Americans will pay dividends.

As we travel down the pathway of life together, I pray that we shall continue to have the mental, physical and spiritual strength to serve God and our country with honor and devotion.

It's great to be a Legionnaire!

JIM THRUSH,
Post Commander

Roster of Post Commanders

- *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. Tetrick, 1931
- *Walter W. Eastman, 1932
- *George L. Watkins, 1933
- *L. W. McFetridge, 1934
- Frank S. Hugill, 1936
- *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
- *Joe Payne, 1944
- *Otto Koenig, 1945, 1954
- *Walter J. Petty, 1946
- Everett A. Wood, 1946
- *Glen H. Coddington, 1947
- Harry L. S. Halley, 1948
- Clinton J. Bohannon, 1948
- *Guy Belford, Jr., 1949
- *N. H. Davis, 1950
- *Alex E. Wilson, Sr., 1951
- Herschel R. Chism, Jr., 1952, 1956
- Walter C. Deppe, 1953
- *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, 1961-62
- 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 Kaufman, 1970
- James F. Catron, 1971
- James R. Thrush, 1972
- * Deceased

Roster of Life Members

J. Earl Simpson, 1949	George E. Norvell, 1961
Joe Herman, 1949	Floyd Marshall, 1962
C. C. Victory, 1950	E. D. Brewer, 1963
*Sam Craig, 1951	*James F. King, 1963
Alec Faulkner, 1952	Frank S. Hugill, 1964
*Otto Koenig, 1953	Ben B. Ballenger, 1964
*Alfred Jarvis, 1954	Jesse F. Hunter, 1965
*A. E. Wilson, 1955	O. D. Waters, 1965
*Calvin Blackford, 1955	Jay C. Gibson, 1966
*Joe W. Lynn, 1956	James E. Hall, 1966
Walter C. Deppe, 1956	Harold L. James, 1967
E. J. Taylor, 1957	Julius Wild, 1967
H. R. Chism, Jr., 1957	Clemmie D. Gross, 1968
*Sam Burnham, 1958	Wayne Calhoun, 1968
*Guy Belford, Jr., 1958	Charles Polson, 1969
*Grover Bourland, 1958	Ralph Younger, 1969
*Lon Markham, 1959	Luther D. Ingle, Jr., 1970
*Harry A. Pope, 1959	C. C. Woodard, 1970
*Mike Saxon, Sr., 1960	E. B. Benton, 1971
Rodney E. Larkin, 1960	Edmund S. Blackburn, 1971
*Carl Hoel, 1961	Carl B. Evans, 1971
	*Deceased

JANUARY, 1971



Post Commander James F. Catron awarded a distinguished service certificate to Don Ecker, Tulsa policeman, at the post meeting, January 5, 1971. The police officer was cited by Carson-Wilson Post for preventing a passenger from forcing a flight to Cuba. Ecker, although unaided, boarded the aircraft, arrested the passenger and took him off the plane, December 19, 1970. In making the presentation, Commander Catron stressed the Legion's strong stand to maintain law and order, which is set forth in the Preamble to the Legion's Constitution.



James F. Catron

Don Ecker

Sergeant-at-Arms Luther Ingle, Jr., acting on behalf of the post, presented the Flag of the United States to the Reverend David W. Cone, pastor of the Rogers Heights Christian Church at the church service, Sunday morning, January 10.

Oscar Olson was named orchestra leader to succeed veteran director Ray Hillman at Post dances. Thousands have enjoyed the music of Maestro Hillman through the years and he will continue to entertain with his accordion at many other Post functions.

Legionnaires were heartened by the announcement that the Lions Clubs of Oklahoma have pledged all out support to the Legion's campaign to find jobs for veterans.

L. W. McFetridge, who served as post commander in 1934, retired as vice president of the Newspaper Printing Corporation, January 1, 1971, and the following tribute was published in the Tulsa Daily World:

* * *

L. W. McFETRIDGE RETIRES AFTER 58 YEARS AT NPC

"Mr. Mac"—who for 58 years has been a part of the newspaper industry in Tulsa is retiring January 1, 1971.

L. W. McFetridge, a 78-year-old dynamo, began his career as a street seller of newspapers and went into the mailing room of the Tulsa Daily World when he was 20 years old. He worked up through virtually every phase of the business and production areas and became an executive of the agent corporation of two Tulsa papers for business and production.

"It's been a wonderful half-century plus," he said as he discussed his career. The smoke from one of his ever-present cigars circled his head as "Mr. Mac" reminisced about the years and the changes.

He has been one of the most honored members of the Tulsa Daily World and the Newspaper Printing Corp. In 1967, "Mr. Mac" won the Editor and Publisher Magazine's coveted Distinguished Service Award. It was the first time in 5 years the award has been made.

The International Circulation Managers Association, of which McFetridge was treasurer for 25 years, also participated in the award presentation.

In 1912 when he joined the company, the Tulsa Daily World had a 9,000 daily circulation. When McFetridge stepped aside as Vice president and business manager of NPC, the circulation of the Tulsa Daily World was about 113,000 daily and 180,000 on Sunday.

"I'm one of those 7-day-a-week men," McFetridge said. "I'm not sure just what I'll do in retirement. But I plan to spend a month playing golf and visiting my daughter in California," he said.

"Mr. Mac" passed away July 22, 1971.



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American Legion Post No. 1 hoisted the flag in ceremonies at the Oklahoma Epileptic Adjustment Center. The flag was donated to the center by Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Carl Albert in recognition of its nationally known work with epileptics. It flew over the capitol building in Washington on Jan. 21, 1972, the day of his investiture as House Speaker.

Legionnaires Ben B. Ballenger, J. Earl Simpson, Joseph F. Herman and Ralph Younger received current year cards "for securing 71 or more Legion members," at the regular meeting, February 2.

Rollie McCartney Post No. 97, hosted the first district convention at Pawhuska, February 6-7. Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 was ably represented by Commander James F. Catron, Ralph Younger, J. Earl Simpson, Eddie Warma, Jim Thrush, Carl Evans and Jay Gibson. The highlight of the meeting was the address by J. Milton Patrick, past National Commander, who stressed the Legion's accomplishments and future goals.

The Tulsa County oratorical contest was held at the post hut, February 9. Chris Blair, a junior at Charles Page High School, Sand Springs, was the winner. The post provided his transportation and expenses to the district contest held February 19. Blair won this event and also was chosen as one of the two winners at the regional meeting at Tecumseh High School, February 22.

The Junior Auxiliary of Unit No. 1 sponsored a chili supper, February 12. This fund-raising event was to obtain money for the group's trip to the American Legion national convention at Houston, August 22 to September 3.

Mary Gondles, capable post secretary, resigned February 15, to return to her home duties, and Gloria J. Jinkens, a member of Unit No. 1, was chosen to succeed her.

Thirty-five new members were initiated at formal rites held February 23. Each new member was presented a post history, an

American Flag, a Legion car decal, and lapel button. Past Post Commanders Joseph F. Herman, J. Earl Simpson, Jess Hunter and George Norvell conducted the ceremonies. They were ably assisted by Post Chaplain O. D. Waters and Sergeant-at-Arms Luther Ingle, Jr. Commander Catron congratulated the initiates and refreshments were served by Mary Turner, Geneva Younger and Bessie Younger.

Chaplain O. D. Waters, Post Bugler Amos Lewis, and a Color Guard composed of J. Earl Simpson, Luther Ingle, Jr., and Ira McPherson participated in a special flag-raising ceremony held at the Oklahoma Epileptic Adjustment Center, February 26, 1971. The Flag used in the ceremony was the one which was flown over the Nation's Capitol at the time Oklahoma Congressman Carl Albert was sworn in as Speaker of the House of Representatives. The event attracted wide publicity and both state and city leaders participated in the program.

The annual joint poppy meeting of all participating veterans organizations was held in the post hut, Sunday afternoon, February 28. At the meeting Nevin Black, Commander of VFW Post No. 577, was elected city poppy chairman. Frances Cowdrey, member of Mohawk Unit No. 308 was chosen secretary, and George Norvell was named publicity chairman for the spring campaign.

BIG FOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAMPS



Ben B. Ballenger



J. Earl Simpson



Joe Herman



Ralph Younger



Commander
James Catron
receives
birthday cake
from Unit
President
Wilma Warma

MARCH, 1971

Members of the Junior Auxiliary of Unit No. 1 conducted a tree-planting ceremony in the front yard of the post hut, March 13. Two dogwood trees were planted in memory of Edmund S. Blackburn, Jr., who was killed in Vietnam, February 10, 1971. Prior to entering Army service, Edmund had been a member of the Sons of the Legion and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Blackburn, long have been faithful workers in the post and auxiliary. The tree-planting took place near the Flame of Freedom, and was conducted by Ada Farringer and Sharon Coe.

The 52nd American Legion birthday dinner, honoring past post commanders and former unit presidents, was held Tuesday evening, March 16. Department Commander Tom Smith made an effective speech strongly emphasizing legislative goals and urging the recruitment of Vietnam veterans. J. Earl Simpson served as chairman for the occasion and also as master of ceremonies.



(L to R) Geneva Younger, former Unit President; Beth Gillman, 1st District President; and Zell Benton, former Unit and Dept. President and National Vice President enjoy birthday dinner.



(L to R) — Louise Webb, Chris Stagl "Chick" Woodard, "Puny" James, Lawrence Meistrell and Alec Faulkner do their part to feed birthday dinner guests.

The annual dinner of the Magic Empire Council of the Girl Scouts of America was held at the Eastside Christian Church, March 31. George Norvell, Post Americanism Chairman, was the speaker, and presented Katherine M. Burgess, Executive Director, with a distinguished service citation. The Girl Scouts participate in Veterans Day parades and each year make Christmas gifts for the children and grandchildren of patients at the VA Hospital at Muskogee.



Back Row: (L to R) Odessa Simpson, past Unit and past Department President; Margaret Elgin Smith, National Executive Committeewoman Tahlequah; Wilma Warma, Unit President; J. Earl Simpson, past Post Commander and Birthday Dinner Chairman.
 Front Row: (L to R) James F. Catron, Post Commander; Mary Catron, past Unit and past First District President; Department Commander Tom Smith; Mrs. Robert L. Parker, National Vice President, and Robert L. Parker.



Honored guests attending the 52nd birthday dinner: Standing, left to right, George Hunt, Wilma Warma, Eddie Warma, T. P. (Putty) Gilmer, Shelby Marr, Ben Ballenger, Clarence Cox, Snooks Stafford, Jess Hunter, John Chronister, Joe Herman, Earl Simpson, and George Norvell. Seated: Mesdames Hunt, Marr, Ballenger, Cox, Chronister and Simpson.



Clockwise L to R: Mrs. Reba Orr, Mrs. Gene Sullivan, Mrs. Cora Anderson, Mrs. C. O. Gittinger, Mrs. Walter J. Petty, Mrs. Laura Trout, Mrs. Bessie Craig, Mrs. Gladys Pope Rath, Mrs. Richard Hatch, Mrs. Lillian Hammond, Mrs. Nettie Smith. Former presidents attending but not in photo, Mrs. E. B. Benton, Mrs. Geneva Younger, Mrs. Mary Catron, Mrs. Wilma Warma, Mrs. J. Earl Simpson and Mrs. Effie Blanchard.



BIRTHDAY DINNER K.P.'s — Back Row: Dennis Warma, Christ Stagl. Front Row: Kerry Watashe, Neta Grubbs, Glenda McCann, Rebecca Vance, Mary McCann, Denise Blackburn, Ruth Lewis and Gail Benton.

Court martial proceedings and the resulting conviction of William L. Calley, Jr., which sparked a nationwide protest, received immediate action by Carson-Wilson Post. At the regular post meeting on March 30, a motion supporting Lt. Calley was passed unanimously. An Associated Press story carried on the first page of the Tulsa Daily World the next morning stated:

“James F. Catron, post commander of the Carson-Wilson Post of The American Legion here, announced a motion passed unanimously among post members Tuesday night.

“The Motion read: ‘The American Legion is deeply concerned at the court martial conviction of Lt. Calley and disapproves said decision and supports his right to exhaust all appeals available to him to gain complete exoneration in military and civilian courts and to the President of the United States.’”





APRIL, 1971

Commander Catron and members of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 appreciated a letter from the White House, dated April 1, 1971. The communication from Noble M. Melencamp, staff assistant to President Nixon, acknowledged the receipt of the 1970 History and conveyed the Commander-in-Chief's best wishes.

During the month Mayor Robert J. LaFortune issued the following proclamation urging citizens of Tulsa to support the annual poppy drives of Tulsa veterans organizations and their auxiliaries:

"WHEREAS, May 1, 1971, has been designated by Tulsa's Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion Posts as the date for Poppy Board sales; and

"WHEREAS, May 17, 1971, has been selected as the date for the street sale of individual poppies by members of their Ladies Auxiliaries; and

"WHEREAS, the poppy is the memorial flower of these outstanding service organizations, and has been immortalized in poems and prose during and since World War 1; and

"WHEREAS, the sale of poppy boards and flowers furnishes funds to the respective veterans organizations for service work, and the program also provides therapy and monetary compensation for hospitalized veterans who make the flowers:

"NOW THEREFORE, I, Robert J. LaFortune, Mayor of the City of Tulsa, do hereby proclaim May 1 and May 17, 1971, as

POPPY DAYS

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."



Volunteers of all ages assisted veterans groups in distributing memorial poppy boards May 1. Getting an early start are Jim Thrush, of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 (left) standing behind his granddaughter, Shelly, 5, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Thrush, Jack Miller, of Tulsa VFW Post 577, and Ann Dorman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William S. Dorman.

James R. Thrush, post poppy chairman, and Jack Miller, chairman for VFW Post No. 577, posed with youthful supporters, Shelly Thrush and Ann Dorman, for advance publicity April 30.

Ralph Younger attended the Child Welfare Conference in Ponca City, April 17 and 18.

Chris Blair, a junior at Charles Page High School, who was a sectional winner in the Legion oratorical contest in February, won the Oklahoma championship in extemporaneous speaking at Oklahoma State University in April and was chosen to compete in the national tournament at Stanford University, June 16. Chris credited the "basic training" he received in The American Legion contest with his later success in the speech tourney at OSU.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

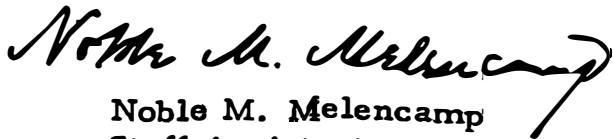
April 1, 1971

Dear Commander Catron:

On behalf of the President, I want to thank you for your letter and for sending him the first copy of the 1970 History of Carson-Wilson American Legion Post Number 1. He appreciates your thoughtfulness in writing.

With the President's gratitude for your support and with his best wishes,

Sincerely,



Noble M. Melencamp
Staff Assistant
to the President

Commander James F. Catron
Carson-Wilson Post Number 1
The American Legion
1120 East Eighth Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120

.....
M A Y May proved to be the busiest month of the year.
..... James R. Thrush directed one of the most successful poppy campaigns in the history of the post. Twenty-one hundred poppy boards were sold during the drive. Jack Little, loyal post member for many years, set the tempo of the campaign by purchasing 300 boards in memory of his beloved wife, Estelle.

American Legion Certificates and medals were presented to 25 outstanding boys and girls at awards assemblies during the month.

General Leslie W. Lane, member of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1, and Assistant Division Commander of the 95th Training Division (USAR), shared honors with Governor Hall, Lt. Governor Nigh, and other state dignitaries at a joint session of the Oklahoma Legislature held in the House Chambers, May 17. The assembly was called to pay tribute to the courageous families of the Oklahoma Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia and other servicemen missing in action.

General Lane gave the following address which received the acclaim of the Oklahoma Legislators and the appreciation of the families present:

Governor Hall, Lieutenant Governor Nigh, Distinguished Leaders and members of the State Senate and House of Representatives, honored guests, and my fellow Americans:

It is an honor to appear before this joint session on such an important occasion. First, I should like to pay tribute to the wives and other members of the families of the prisoners of war who are here this afternoon.

It is to you, loved ones and friends of our gallant prisoners of war, that I speak. Certainly I want to honor these fine men. But it is not just to honor them that I address these remarks.

Also it is to honor you: Mothers, Fathers, Wives, Sons, Daughters, and friends of these brave men. Our comrades, held captive in North Vietnam, require no eulogy. Their personal sacrifice for us . . . for our country . . . is their honor and it stands before us today, unquestioned, loud and clear . . . and it gives us strength.

American men have shown bravery and gallantry in every period of our nation's history: That great tradition is not dead today; Your loved ones and many others have seen that it continues to live.

Many men are called upon to serve their country, to preserve this nation and our freedom; they have given of themselves to assure a future that is uniquely of our own design. Americans have always refused to live by the designs and rules of other nations, for better or worse, whatever the issue, in any event, we will be uniquely Americans and we will fight for the privilege of letting our children choose their particular style of freedom . . . Even when at first it may seem to differ from our own . . . As seems often the case as we raise our young people. Certainly, change, constructive change, is our American heritage. I suggest to you that revolution, too, is change, but it ends our options to further change. "Evolution with change" not revolution, is the traditional American lifestyle.

But some give more and sacrifice longer for these basic American freedoms. More than serving in the Armed Forces, more even than dying for their country . . . Our prisoners of war make the ultimate sacrifice . . . Our prisoners of war are this day, through living, giving of themselves for their country. And they worry most that their loved ones worry about them. I can assure you

that not only do they desire their freedom; They desire more . . . That you live in freedom . . . Head high, proud, having faith and hope and a special feeling that their sacrifices have not been in vain.

And if it tears at your heartstrings that others cannot see that these men's sacrifices are the greatest of contributions, I must remind you that it has always been so. Always there have been critics who care too much about their "own welfare" . . . And too little for the welfare of others. Our prisoners are sacrificing this day . . . Yesterday . . . And perhaps tomorrow for every citizen in this country. History will record that their effort was not in vain.

Today we want to share with you an assurance that those who remain in North Vietnam and Viet Cong prison camps will not be forgotten.

Have faith . . . share hope . . . and know you are not alone in caring. Our debt to these men is great; as honest citizens, we intend to remember the debt we owe them and fulfill our obligation to the trust they have placed in us.

Now, more than ever, it is exceedingly important to take time for all of us to stand up and be counted. Our communities, state and nation need our support. We should take time to teach our children about patriotism and their responsibility to our great nation. We must continue to safeguard the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy.

In this hour, the power of public opinion throughout the world cannot be minimized as a great force in aiding and bringing about the emancipation of the prisoners of war.

In addition to our human efforts, the greatest power on earth is available to us — the power of prayer!



Brig. Gen. Leslie W. Lane addressed joint session of the Oklahoma Legislature, May 17, 1971.

The Memorial Day services held May 31, 1971, at the American Legion cemetery in Memorial Park were most impressive. Mrs. Robert L. Parker, National Vice President of The American Legion Auxiliary, of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, gave an inspirational message. On this occasion, Mrs. Parker said:

"We remember today that our first heroes at the birth of America nearly two centuries ago by their sacrifices bought the right of our nation to freedom. Other heroes, each in their time, by their sacrifices, caused that freedom to endure. Each in his time proved with his precious blood that freedom is not free, it never has been and it never will be. It is priceless, I must emphasize . . . if any American, young or old, on this day needs to have such a reminder.

"In his address at Gettysburg, President Lincoln challenged Americans to rededicate themselves to the task of rebuilding a strong new nation, based on the proposition that all men are created equal.

"The same challenge that he issued that day has currency for us today — to unite among ourselves for the common good and to get on with solving the challenges facing our society. Such challenges are extended today even to the inclusion of the good earth itself because here our greed and carelessness has exacted a toll that you and other coming generations must face if we do not act with a sense of intelligent urgency. The very quality of our life is in jeopardy.

"Basic to the solution of all these problems . . . just as it was when our 16th president spoke that long ago day in Gettysburg . . . is the one . . . the always continuing one . . . of making the democratic process or system work.

"There can be no more appropriate moment than this to reaffirm our faith in America and her institutions. Let each of us never forget that the responsibility for building America and her institutions even stronger is an individual one. It is the individual's responsibility in a free society and I need not emphasize that with this responsibility there is no buck passing. It also a responsibility for which there is no age limitation."

Memorial Day Services

George Norvell, Chairman

Concert (8:00 A.M. to 8:30 A.M.)	Carson-Wilson Post Band, Jim Munson, Director
Flag Ceremony	J. Earl Simpson, in charge
Invocation	Post Chaplain, O. D. Waters
Pledge of Allegiance	Post Commander, James F. Catron
Solo, "My Buddy"	John Lovejoy
Address	Mrs. Robert L. Parker, National Vice President, American Legion Auxiliary
Presentation of Wreaths	Gold Star Mothers, Veterans' Organizations, Auxiliaries, and other Patriotic Societies
Benediction	Post Chaplain, O. D. Waters
Three Volley Salute to Honored Dead	Firing Squad Charles Polson, Commander
Taps	Amos Lewis



JUNE, 1971

At the first Post meeting during the month congratulations were extended to Harold "Puny" James, Chairman of the Flag Decoration Committee, and the members who placed 2,971 flags on veterans' graves in Tulsa cemeteries for Memorial Day.

Those helping the chairman were: Joe Herman, William E. Hanks, O. A. Zeigler, Charles Polson, L. M. Hale, Otis Trickett, Alec Faulkner, Dee Burns, Ray Barton, John Carr, R. C. Cornelius, William A. Hasting, Jack Hall, Jay Gibson, Glen Larkin, Jr., Herman S. Vernon, George Myers, Lawrence Shurman, Charles Koger, Paul Anderson, Lloyd Willis and Charles McFarland.

Teenager Anna Kehler, volunteered her services again this year and Boy Scout Troop 274 also helped to place the flags and collect them after Memorial Day.

Youth activities dominated the action in June. Larry Lane, son of post member Brig. Gen. Leslie W. Lane and Mrs. Lane, attended the first National President's Congress for Explorer Scouts held in Washington, D.C., June 2-6. Over 4,200 Explorer Scouts enjoyed sightseeing, leadership seminars, current-issue discussions with government officials, and attended a "Congressional Dinner."

The climax of this first Explorer Scout Congress was the opportunity to meet and hear the President of the United States. The post was proud that it sponsored a lad of Larry's calibre.

Ben B. Ballenger, Boys State Chairman, presided over the meeting of the 1971 Tulsa delegates and their parents at a get-acquainted meeting and briefing held at the post, June 1. Ben also served as head chef at the hamburger fry held in their honor on the eve of the youths' departure for Oklahoma State University, June 5.



Ben Ballenger, Post finance officer, presents Larry Lane, son of General Lane, expense check to attend Explorer Scout conference in Washington, June 4.

Nineteen Tulsa delegates enjoyed the state event, and a Nathan Hale High School junior, Walker Hanson, was elected lieutenant governor. It was heartwarming to receive many thank-you letters from the Tulsa lads after they returned from Boys State at Stillwater.

Memorial services for Dennis Lee Sagely were held at The American Legion baseball installation at LaFortune Park, June 4, 1971. Following the flag ceremony under the direction of Joseph F. Herman, post service officer, and the invocation by Post Chaplain O. D. Waters, the following eulogy was given by Americanism Chairman George E. Norvell:

EULOGY

We are met to eulogize and pay tribute this evening to Dennis Lee Sagely, age 17, who departed this life on June 3rd, 1971, as a result of an injury sustained while wrestling following practice with the Pipeliners American Legion Baseball Team.

Dennis, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Sagely, was a junior at Central High School, had been elected "Most Valuable Player" of the school baseball team, and had also earned letters in football and wrestling.

He belonged to the Junior Board and Tops Club at Central High, and was a member of the Bethany Baptist Church in Tulsa. Survivors include his parents and two brothers, Wayne and Terry, and grandparents Ted Gaston and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Sagely, of Cave Springs, Arkansas.

Our deepest sympathy and heartfelt prayers go out to the members of the family and to many friends who are saddened by his sudden and untimely passing.

At times like this we search for inner strength and pray for spiritual fortitude that transcends human frailty and limitations.

Dennis exemplified The American Legion Code of Sportsmanship. He kept the rules. He kept faith with his teammates. He kept his temper and himself fit. He possessed a stout heart in defeat and kept his pride under in victory. He maintained a sound soul, a clean mind, and a healthy body.

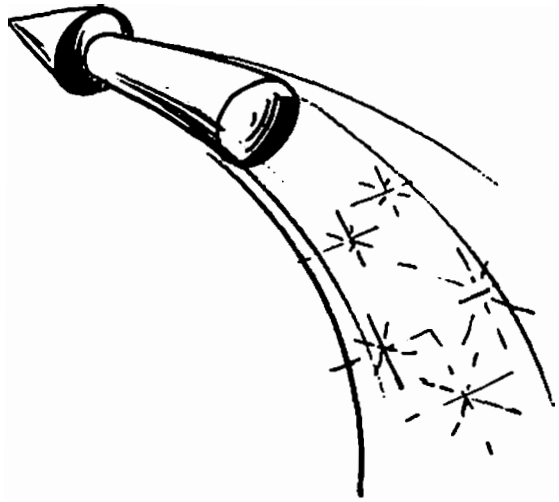
Our community is a better place because he lived, loved, worked, played and prayed here. May his splendid example guide us now and forevermore.

The Child Welfare report for the year reflected that the post had expended \$11,799.44 in youth activities during 1970-1971.

The following officers were elected to lead the post for the Legion year 1971-1972 at an election held June 29, 1971: James R. Thrush, commander; Ralph Younger, first vice commander; Warren Grubbs, second vice commander; Bob McCann, third vice commander; Ben B. Ballenger, finance officer; George E. Norvell, historian; O. D. Waters, chaplain; and Luther D. Ingle, Jr., sergeant-at-arms.

James F. Catron, outgoing Commander, automatically was placed on the executive committee for a one-year term. Elected for a two-year term were: Jesse F. Hunter, Eddie Warma, Howard R. Shannon and LeRoy Foutch. Other members of the committee who have one more year to serve are: J. Earl Simpson, E. J. Taylor and M. A. Eddingfield.

JULY, 1971



July 1971 will be recorded as one of the greatest months in the history of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1. The 41st annual fireworks program was presented at the State Fairgrounds grandstand, July 4th to an enthusiastic crowd of 11,000. Carl Evans served as general chairman for the event, and he was ably assisted by Ben B. Ballenger, co-chairman. Joe Hernandez was master of ceremonies for the spectacular, which featured music by the Carson-Wilson Post band, the Sweet Adelines chorus, and entertainment by the Junior Auxiliary.

One of the finest accomplishments of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 will be culminated in the Spring of 1972 with the dedication of the \$200,000 baseball facility in LaFortune Park. It will be the best American Legion baseball facility in the Nation. (See cover)

The Post has actively supported the Legion's baseball program from its inception, and during the past twenty years has spent more than \$50,000 in operating costs and in addition has contributed countless man hours.

The following sports release July 21, 1971, received wide coverage by the news media:

Tulsa, Oklahoma, July 21, 1971 . . . Plans for construction of a new Tulsa American Legion Baseball Stadium and Field to be located at the site of the present facility in LaFortune Park was announced jointly today by Mr. Jim Chandler, acting for J. A. LaFortune, chairman of the Tulsa County Parkboard; Gene Dunbar, director of Tulsa American Legion Baseball; George Norvell, chairman of the Post Americanism Committee; and Robert Newhouse, District 3 County Commissioner.

Initial construction of the youth baseball park is scheduled to commence on August 15 and will be completed for Spring play in 1972.

In making the announcement of the \$180,000 plant, it was stated that the new stadium would include seating for 2,000 persons as well as a press box and broadcasting facilities, public rest-rooms, a new building to house the concessions, ticket sales and shower and locker room facilities for the teams.

The present field is to be expanded to professional regulation size with an increase in present lighting. In addition, the new field is to be resodded with an underground sprinkling system installed.

The new park will be enclosed with an 8-foot board fence and new street lights will be installed to service the parking area which will be paved. Existing bleachers and other present facilities are to be utilized to the fullest extent in the expansion and renovation program.

Most of the necessary funds have been pledged by private sources and from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation which extends matching funds once the construction is complete.

The Mabee Foundation laid the base for the present American Legion Baseball Park in 1964 with a donation of \$15,000 for the lighting system now being used which will also be added to in the new facility. They have extended further financial assistance toward the new project by granting \$60,000 to insure the continuation of the Legion's worthwhile and sorely needed program.

Also agreeing to participate in the project is the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation which has approved funds of \$69,000 as a partial underwriting of the total cost.

Tulsa American Legion Baseball began using the present baseball diamond at LaFortune Park through arrangement with Mr. J. A. LaFortune and the Tulsa County Commission. The Legion baseball program is geared to boys of High School age and is a complete summer development and conditioning program for boys of this age group.

The new plant, while servicing the Legion Baseball Program in the summer, will be available to all area High Schools, Junior Colleges and Universities for their use in the spring and fall seasons. Other responsible baseball associations may also use the facilities when not in service otherwise.

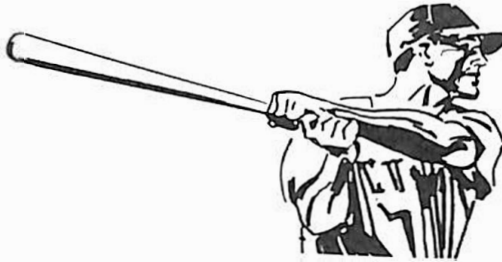
When finished, the plant will serve as the base for a proposed expansion to include another regulation size diamond on the grounds immediately to the South. The new concession stand, rest rooms and locker room buildings will be able to serve both diamonds. The second diamond is necessitated by the fact the Legion's current program is at the saturation point as the present facility can only accommodate eight to ten teams playing two games nightly throughout the summer season. There are presently several teams in the area that would enter the league and need to be playing in a program such as the Legion extends to the community.

The Tulsa American Legion Post joined the National American Legion Baseball program in 1930. The program was originally started in the late 1920's to provide a means to help teach the youth of our nation the true meaning of Americanism. With baseball as the vehicle, the Legion has sought to teach the American standards of integrity, respect, cooperation, citizenship, sportsmanship, general good conduct and love of country.

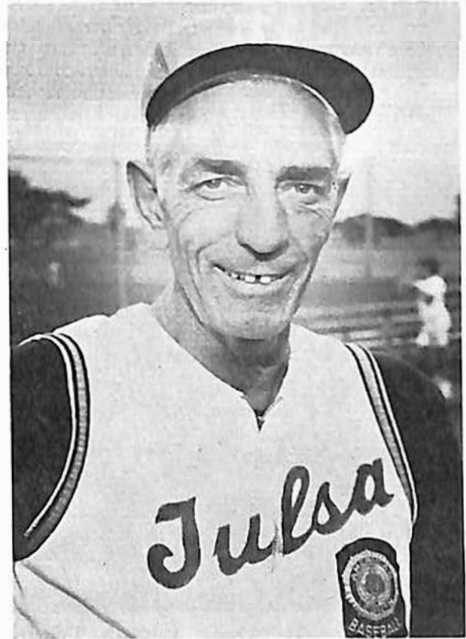
Besides Dunbar, members of the post who deserve the greatest credit for the success of the American Legion baseball program in Tulsa are Ben B. Ballenger, Bill Wright and Wayne Calhoun.

The following sponsors entered teams in 1971 to compete in the Tulsa district: Dean Bailey Olds, Inc., H&H Protective Coatings, Pipeliners Union 798, Mid-Continent Casualty Co., Malone Metal Fabricators, Inc., Ventaire Corp., Oil Capitol Optimist Club, Guaranty National Bank and Arkansas Valley Bank.

The Guaranty National Bank "B" Team won the district championship. The Malone Metals Team, which was second runner-up in the 1970 World Series, lost its state crown to Fort Cobb at the 1971 state championship tournament held at Guthrie. The team sponsored by the Ventaire Corporation won the Tulsa District 9 "A" Championship and was second runner-up in the 1971 State tournament.



GENE DUNBAR
Baseball Director



BILL WRIGHT
Baseball Chairman



The Guaranty National Bank Team, champions of Tulsa District 9 "B" Tournament:—Left to right (top row) H. B. Franklin, coach; Steve Taylor, catcher and outfielder; Forest Alton, catcher; Rick Thayer, 1st base; Larry Smith, outfielder; Bill Barnes, pitcher and outfielder; Les Brown, pitcher; Mark Smith, outfielder; Ronnie Tate, manager. Front Row: (L to R) David Dowler, pitcher and outfielder; Danny Gann, infielder; Toby Lamon, pitcher and infielder; Mark Slankard, outfielder; Dan Franklin, 2nd base and infielder; Jack Tate, shortstop.



Ventaire American Legion Team, Zone 9 champions and second runner-up in the 1971 state tournament:—Standing (L to R) Dr. Lloyd Barron, coach; Ken Palmer, P; Andy Anderson, C; Jeff Stewart, LF; Joe Spence, SS; Art McIlroy, OF; Steve Buckingham, SS; Jim Hitter, manager. Kneeling (L to R) Rick Davis, P; Jim McCommas, 1B; Randy Nagy, CF; John Wilson, 3B; Phil Merry, 2B; Kurt Barron, P; Mike Miller, P. Batboy, David Thomas.

AUGUST, 1971

The 53rd annual department convention was held at Camelot Inn July 30 to August 1. Harry G. Scoufos, Okemah, was elected department commander succeeding Tom Smith of Yukon. Ray Thomas, of Bethany Post No. 12, Oklahoma City, was elected department vice commander, and Thomas Downes, of Post 35, Oklahoma City, was chosen department sergeant-at-arms. Bill Redmon, of Goltry, was elected national executive committeeman, and Jack Swank, of Enid, was reelected alternate.

Keynote speakers were National Commander Alfred P. Chamie, Governor David Hall and Congressman Ed Edmondson. They were cheered by approximately two thousand Legionnaires who attended the convention, which was acclaimed by many as one of the best in the history of the department.

Officers for Carson-Wilson Post and Unit No. 1 were installed at impressive ceremonies held at the post hut August 10, at which former department commander Tom Smith, officiated.

James R. Thrush, World War II Army veteran, was installed as commander and the following officers and members of the executive committee also were given their obligations:

First vice commander and membership chairman, Ralph Younger; second vice commander, Warren Grubbs; and third vice commander, Bob McCann. Ben B. Ballenger, finance officer; George E. Norvell, historian; O. D. Waters, chaplain; Luther D. Ingle, Jr., sergeant-at-arms; J. Earl Simpson, E. J. Taylor, M. A. Eddingfield, James R. Thrush, James F. Catron, Jesse F. Hunter, Eddie Warma, Howard R. Shannon and LeRoy Foutch, executive committeemen.

Charlotte Thrush, wife of the post commander, was installed as the Unit president along with the following officers of the ladies auxiliary:

First vice president and membership chairman, Bessie Younger; second vice president, Clara Wild; third vice president, Geneva Younger; secretary, Odessa Simpson; treasurer, Zell Benton; historian, Neta Grubbs; chaplain, Violet Downs; sergeant-at-arms, Alice Lanting; parliamentarian, Reba Orr, Wilma Warma, Lillian Hammond and Nettie Smith, were installed as members of the executive committee.

Commander Thrush presented a meritorious service citation to members of the Tulsa Police Department August 31 for superior, faithful and valiant service in the performance of their duties and for the maintenance of a high level of security and peace in the community. Also present for the ceremony held before the City Commission were Joseph F. Herman, Alec Faulkner, O. A. Zeigler, C. C. Woodard, Floyd Harris, L. J. Meistrell, Harry Fry, J. C. Baker, Luther Ingle, Jr., Charles Polson, John G. Carr, and Jack Hall.

Legionnaires who secured the most members for the post during the year 1970-1971 were listed in the August 20th issue of the Carson-Wilson Post News as follows:

CENTURY CLUB

(100 or more)

Ben B. Ballenger	355
J. Earl Simpson	355
Joseph F. Herman	206
Ralph Younger	105

CURRENT YEAR CLUB

(71 or more)

Charles Polson	84
Edmond Blackburn	82
Jim Catron	78

50 OR MORE

E. J. Taylor	56
Alec Faulkner	51

SILVER STAR AWARD

(25 or more)

Herman Deere	39
Walter Deppe	37
Amos Lewis	36
Julius Wild	35
Eddie Warma	34
W. H. Martin	32
Jay Gibson	28
C. C. Woodard	26

15 OR MORE

Art Lewis	22
Jim Thrush	21
Jess Hunter	21
Donal Jacobs	20
Dexter Moss	20
George Norvell	17
George Hunt	15



George Norvell presents key to city, on behalf of Mayor LaFortune, to National Commander Alfred P. Chamie, at State Convention, August 1. Department Commander Tom Smith presided over convention.

SEPTEMBER, 1971



MRS. ROBERT L. PARKER
National President,
American Legion Auxiliary

On hand to cheer for Mrs. Robert L. (Bertha) Parker, who was elected National President of the Ladies Auxiliary at its 52nd annual convention at Houston, August 29-September 2, were Mr. and Mrs. James F. Catron, Mr. and Mrs. J. Earl Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Ben B. Ballenger, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Younger, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald L. Benton, Mrs. Zell Benton, Mrs. Jack Farringer, Mrs. Carolyn Williams, Mrs. Teresa Dillard, Mrs. Ruth Howe, Mrs. Belva Felling-er, Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Chism, Mrs. Emmajean Sullivan and Mrs. Sally Belford. Also present and playing star roles at the installation ceremony were the following members of the junior auxiliary; Lydia and Loretta Chisum, Madelyn Smith, Linda, Jo Nell and Margaret Williams, Linda Benton, Kay, Sandy, and Debbie Dillard, Barbara Belt, Patricia Howe, Paula Peace, Judy Frye, Ada Farringer, Cretia Gillispie and Kim Foster. The Junior Auxiliary color guard led the Oklahoma delegation into the installation ceremonies and for the first time in the history of the American Legion Auxiliary junior members participated.

John H. Geiger, Des Plaines, Illinois, was elected National Commander, succeeding Alfred P. Chamie, Los Angeles.

Post and Unit members and guests enjoyed hamburgers, salad and all the trimmings at a Constitution Day observance held September 17. Department Commander Harry G. Scoufos, Jr., was presented the Ed Brewer Award for his post. The beautiful Legion emblem display was designed, donated and presented by Legionnaire Brewer. George Norvell spoke to the appreciative crowd and reviewed the Constitution of the United States and "Bill of Rights." The Carson-Wilson Post band, under the direction of Jim Munson, provided the music for the observance. At the close of the meeting E. B. "Chief" Benton was presented with a life membership by former Commander James F. Catron. Other life members selected by Catron were Carl Evans and Edmund S. Blackburn.

The crack Post band under the direction of Jim Munson played a concert which was enjoyed by the large crowd.

Post Chaplain and Mrs. O. D. Waters celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at a reception in the parlor of the First Christian Church, September 26.

OCTOBER, 1971

JOHN H. GEIGER
National Commander



More than a million persons visited the State Fair, Oct. 1-10 and Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 maintained a booth throughout the event. Veterans benefits were explained by Legionnaires who manned the booth and a number of new memberships were acquired.

C. C. "Chick" Woodard, Chairman, and Co-chairmen Alec Faulkner and J. Earl Simpson were in charge of the booth. Others who were on duty during the fair included Orr C. Riley, Paul Zenor, Bob McCann, Eddie Warma, O. A. Zeigler, Warren Grubbs, Ralph Younger, Paul Beck, Louis Hale, J. J. Rogers, Milton

Cochran, Vern Shaffer, O. D. Waters, Howard Shannon, Gerald Benton, Luther Ingle, Jr., Howard Moore, Harley Tomey, Floyd Harris.

The Carson-Wilson Post Band played a concert at the fair booth on the evening of October 7 and its fine music attracted a large and appreciative crowd.

National Commander John H. Geiger, Des Plaines, Illinois, and his charming wife, were royally received at the Tulsa International Airport at noon October 9 upon their arrival to attend the gala homecoming party for National President Bertha Parker held at Tahlequah that evening.

Jim Catron and Howard Shannon were in charge of the hospitality room at the airport where "goodies" galore were served. The Eucha Post Clown Band, composed of Howard Swarhout, John Snider, Hugh Gwinn, Ralph Baston and E. A. Peerce, was on hand to play at the gate and also performed in the reception room at the airport.

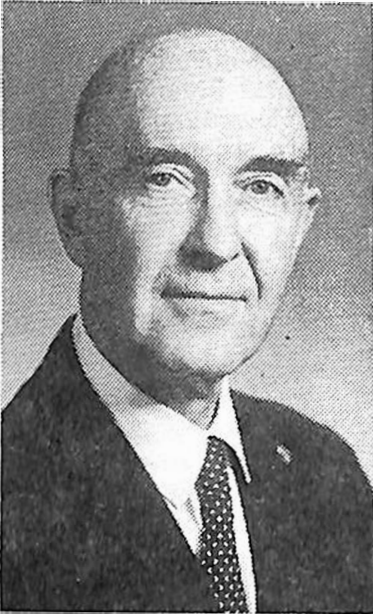
Other Legionnaires representing the post were J. Earl Simpson, Bob McCann, Gerald Benton, Carl Evans, Amos Lewis, Herman Deere, Harley Van Cleave and George Norvell.

The Post Color Guard led the homecoming parade at Tahlequah, honoring National President Bertha Parker. The Guard was composed of Harry Fry, Eddie Warma, Ralph Younger and Luther Ingle, Jr. National Commander Geiger was pleased with his warm reception at the Tulsa Airport for he wrote the Legionnaires as follows:

"Thank you so much for your warm reception for Bertha Parker's homecoming and for your part in the arrangements. It was an unexpected pleasure to be greeted with such a rousing welcome when we came off the plane. * * *"

Carson-Wilson Post No. 1 received the coveted annual Children and Youth citation and the annual Americanism citation which were presented on behalf of the National Organization by Department Commander Harry Scoufos at the District Convention held at Claremore, October 24. Attending the convention were Commander James Thrush, J. Earl Simpson, Eddie Warma, Warren Grubbs, Ralph Younger, Herman Deere, Carl Evans and Joe Herman.

The month of October closed on a happy note with the annual Hallowe'en dance held at the American Legion Hut. Oscar Olson and his orchestra provided the music.



WILLIAM E. HALL

Post Commander James R. Thrush and Veterans Day Parade Chairman George Norvell announced that William E. Hall, Senior Adjudicator in the Regional VA Office at Muskogee, would serve as Reviewing Officer for the event, November 11.

Hall was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for action in the Coral Sea against the Japanese May 7-8, 1942

His citation reads as follows:

"Navy Lt. William E. Hall, for extreme courage and conspicuous heroism in combat above and beyond the call of duty as pilot of a scouting plane in action against enemy Japanese forces in the Coral Sea on May 7-8, 1942.

"In a resolute and determined attack on May 7, Lt. Hall dived his plane at an enemy aircraft carrier, contributing materially to the destruction of that vessel.

"On May 8, facing heavy and fierce fighter opposition, he again displayed extraordinary skill as an airman and the aggressive spirit of a fighter in repeated and effectively executed counterattacks against a superior number of enemy planes in which three enemy aircraft were destroyed.

"Though seriously wounded in the engagement, Lt. Hall, maintaining the fearless and indomitable tactics pursued throughout these actions, succeeded in landing his plane safe."

Brig. Gen. Leslie W. Lane was chosen Parade Marshal. He served with the famous Merrill's Marauders in Burma during World War II and received the Purple Heart.

Tulsa's Chief of Police Jack Purdie, who served with the intrepid Rainbow Division during World War II, was chosen Chief of Staff for the parade.

NOVEMBER, 1971

Robert G. Fry, 75, gets help adjusting his old cap from daughter Gina Dee, age 10.



Among the most notable accomplishments during the month was the Job Fair for Veterans held at the Tulsa Civic Center, November 2. More than 100 employers interviewed approximately 5,000 unemployed veterans and 500 jobs were secured in the one-day period.

A permanent job center for veterans, under the Oklahoma Employment Program, has been established and continues to render outstanding service to veterans seeking work.

Much credit for the success of the Job Fair is due to J. Milton Patrick, former National Commander, who initiated the program on a nationwide basis and to Walter Rapp, National Chairman of the undertaking.

The largest and most colorful Veterans Day Parade in Tulsa's history was held at 11:00 a.m., November 11.

Veterans Day Parade Chairman George Norvell, Co-Chairman and Post Commander James Thrush, and Committee Members Brigadier General Leslie W. Lane, Dode McIntosh, Howard Shannon and Bruce Mullins acknowledged the help and participation of the following individuals and organizations:

William E. Hall, reviewing officer
Department Commander Harry Scoufos
Broken Arrow High School Band and Director Paris York
Don Linde, Director of Instrumental Music, Public Schools
Memorial High School Band and Director James Benedetto
McLain High School Band and Director Steve Snider
Edison High School Band and Director Ed Gibble
Sperry High School Band and Director Harvey Price
Berryhill High School Band and Director Gene Chandler
Eucha Post Band and Director Howard Swarthroat
Mayor Robert J. LaFortune and City Officials
Dr. Gordon Cawelti, Superintendent of Tulsa Schools
The Tulsa Daily World
The Tulsa Tribune
Norval Baldwin, Superintendent of Broken Arrow Schools
Potentate R. W. Sewell and Uniformed Units, Akdar Shrine
Major Maurice E. Bettinger, Jr.
Tom Summers, County Superintendent of Schools
Chief Jack Purdie and the Tulsa Police Department

Chief Stanley Hawkins and the Tulsa Fire Department
National Officer Josephine Scott, President Ann Johnson
and all members of the Gold Star Mothers Organization
Division Commanders J. Earl Simpson, James F. Catron,
Ralph Ruppiller, Charlotte Thrush, Howard Crager and
Stanley Hawkins

Claremore Junior College Marching Units
All Military Organizations, including Recruiters AFROTC
and Angel Flight of the University of Tulsa

Four Wheelers and Director Carl Bradley

Dune Buggies and Director Bill Harmon

Go Carts and Director James Mason

Midget Racers and Director Joel Call

Magic Empire Radio Communications

All Veterans Organizations and Auxiliaries

American War Mothers

Daughters of Union Veterans

Grand Army of the Republic

Walter Deppe

Eddie Warma

Sam Hedrick

Checker Cab

Bill White Chevrolet

Crager GMC

Ed Brewer

Harry Connolly

W. H. Pepper Martin

Joe Herman

John Lovejoy

Harley Van Cleave

Brummett Echohawk

Joe Koliha

Kenneth Nixon

Jack Miller

Ralph Younger

Bob McCann

Luther D. Ingle, Jr.

Bill Hulsey

Herman Deere

USMCR Color Guard

Salvation Army

Sundowners

Mini Marchers

Wheelettes

Girl Scouts

Boy Scouts

Cub Scouts

All other youth groups

John Hawkins

William S. Dorman

**A former WAVE prefers
cold feet to tired feet.**



Gene Hodges
 Jack Naifeh
 Paul Freeman
 Col. John Horne
 Col. Jack C. Eisenschmidt
 Col. Jack Jernigan, Jr.
 Col. Calvin G. Bass
 Lt. Col. Hal Hefner
 Lt. Col. Harold J. Wages
 Lt. Col. Wayne A. Breeland
 Lt. Col. George W. White
 Capt. Simpson Evans, Jr., USNR
 Capt. Phillip W. Foster, USMCR
 Capt. B. P. Westmoreland, USMCR
 Major George C. Markert.

Special thanks go to Ben B. Ballenger, Chairman, and all members of the Open House Committee, and also to Post Secretary Gloria Jinkens and her mother, Mrs. Gladys Davis, who manned the desk in the front office.

The Sooner Membership Dinner was held at the Hut, November 19. Ralph Younger, Membership Chairman, Post Commander James R. Thrush, and Warren Grubbs, Entertainment Chairman, were in charge of the program. A choral group of Sweet Adelines and a dance trio of "Hula Belles" provided the entertainment, which was emceed by genial Charles Clark.



Brig. Gen. Leslie W. Lane, Dept. Commander Harry Scoufos, Col. John Horne, President of Claremore Jr. College, and Akdar Shrine Potentate R. W. Sewell reviewed the Veterans' Day Parade. Walter Deppe, immediately back of Gen. Lane, served as his aide.

VIP'S PLUG JOBS FOR VETS



Governor David Hall, member of Carson-Wilson Post No. 1, and Mayor Robert J. LaFortune, spoke at opening ceremonies of Tulsa Jobs Fair, November 2.



Post Commander James R. Thrush adjusts the nameplate on car of 3rd Division Commander and Unit No. 1 President Charlotte Thrush. Note: Charlotte seems to enjoy her husband's subordinate role.



Howard Shannon, member of the Veterans Day Parade Committee, and VFW Post Commander Ralph Ruppil get a bang out of the premature extra of the Washington Times, which was published November 7, 1918.



DECEMBER,

1971,



During December the Post sponsored three Christmas parties, the first of which was held December 16 for all children under the supervision of the Juvenile Court of Tulsa County. Commander James R. Thrush delivered 300 gifts of goodies to the Juvenile Center for the occasion.

Mary Catron presented the program at the annual family Christmas party held at the Post Hut, December 19. Members of the Sundowners provided an entertaining program of songs, drills and dances. The Junior Auxiliary group also performed at the VA Hospital Christmas party at Muskogee, December 20. J. Earl Simpson, chairman for the latter event, was assisted by James F. Catron, Eddie Warma and James R. Thrush.

Gail Benton, Chairman of the Junior Auxiliary and Co-Chairman Mary Catron and Carolyn Williams deserve much credit for arranging the interesting programs. The Junior Auxiliary entertainers included: Bessie Younger, Zo Ella Farringer, Belva Fellingner, Mr. and Mrs. Trickett, Paula Peace, Patricia Howe, Denise Blackburn, Linda Benton, Robbie McCann, Glenda McCann, Ada Farringer, Judy Frye, Janet Gervais, Madelyn Smith, Evelyn Smith, Linda Williams, Jo Nell Williams, Barbara Belt, Kim Foster, Darlene Trickett, Kay Dillard, Terry Dillard and Theresa Schoonover.

Charles Clark, emceed the hospital program and Ray Hillman's orchestra provided the music. Chester Martindale sang popular numbers and each patient received a Christmas card and a new dollar bill from the Post.

Two other main events were on the busy December schedule. Herman Deere, J. Earl Simpson, Ralph Younger, Bob McCann, Ray Cornelius and Robert Adcock rang bells for the Salvation Army kettle fund, and the New Year's Eve dance climaxed an eventful year.

Early in the month the following letters were received from the youths sponsored by the Post at The American Legion Home School in Ponca City:

December 6, 1971
Ponca City, Okla.

Carson-Wilson Post No. 1,
1120 East 8th Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120
Dear Sponsor:

Hi! How are you, fine I hope. I am in Senior High now and will graduate next year. I am 16 and will be 18 when I graduate. I have a job at Hatfields IGA, and I plan on keeping it. My brother Carl worked there two years ago. I am getting 50c an hour, and plan on getting a raise soon. I work from noon till three thirty and in school for three hours in the morning. I work all day if my boss wants me to.

I have no real want for anything for Christmas. But I would like to have a radio, or suitcase, or some clothes. You will need my size if you do decide to get clothes. My shirt size is 14-14½ small mens and my pants size is waist 29 inches and 31 inch length. Tell everyone Hi for me, and to have a Very Merry Christmas'

Sincerely,
Roger Benham

* * *

Dear Sponsor:

Well, this is the first Christmas letter I have ever wrote, so don't think it took 5 minutes. I don't write letters very good but I'll try.

You'll probably want to know what I've been doing, since the last time you saw Rogers Denifer and I. I had to take summer school the second semester because I failed once before I come up here.

We (everybody) got our Report Cards not very long ago—got a D in Biology, C in English, C in Mathematics, B in American History. I'm planning to join a Photography Club in the near future. Well I guess I'd better cut short and go ahead and ask you to play Santa Claus. I would like to have a camera or a foot locker.

Well I guess I'd better close now, wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Years. I'll be

Gratefully yours,
Tom Trevining

The Post didn't disappoint Roger and Tom.

At midnight New Year's Eve Oscar Olson and his orchestra ushered out 1971. Members and guests alike joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne," and in shouting a warm welcome to 1972.



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Preamble of 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 hundred per cent Americanism;
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."*