



# Post Script

Vol. 01 Issue 03  
Sept-Oct 2013

Wm Bloys American Legion Post 2, 2125 S. Industrial Park Av, Tempe, AZ 85282 (480) 967-2968

## The American Legion - Wm Bloys Post 2

### COMMANDER'S GREETINGS

September 1, 2013

Hello Post 2 Family,

I want to thank everyone who participated in the Fourth of July and Bell Ringing ceremony. The Fourth of July is a great day for America and for Post 2. It is the only day we ring the bell in the name of Freedom. With its history, this is quite an honor. Thanks again for all who were there.

Things are slowly changing at the Post. We have a working E-Board that is taking care of business for the Post and its members. The Trustees are trying new ideas to bring back excitement to Kilroy's. We had the Post planning meeting in mid July and we have some new and exciting events coming up in the near future. I want to thank Unit President, Michele Root, and her 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, Sherrie Grey, for coming up with new ideas for the Post at that meeting.

We have teamed up with *ASU Student Veterans Assn.* Sr. Vice, Rob Mattox, and I met with Walter Tillman, Chairman for the ASU Student Veterans, and he likes what we have to offer his group. These are young men and women just back from Iraq &



Afghanistan who want to continue their education at ASU and really do not have anyone there for them, due to the war. We all understand and know what that is like, as the old saying goes; been there and done that. We have a lot to offer these young men and women and they have a lot to offer us; and that is what the American Legion is about. The American Legion was founded in 1919 based on Veterans helping Veterans, and we need to take care of these brave warriors of the USA.

The key word for this year is **VET: Vision, Excitement, and Teamwork.** We all have a **Vision** on how the Post should be. We all want **Excitement** when we come to the Post from our everyday routine and we need **Teamwork** to get this accomplished. This means teamwork from the

Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL, ALR, and VFW. We are one family and together we are unbeatable. The sky is the limit for the future of this great Post...

I am challenging all the members of Post 2 to get involved, attend functions, events and meetings. If you have any ideas or concerns of the Post, take it to the meeting and all members will be heard.

To finish, I want to thank all the Officers, E-Board, Trustees, and all the members who devote their time and dedication to this Post and me... I'm Proud & Honored to serve as your Commander.

#### Thought of the Month

"Stride forward with a firm, steady step knowing that you will reach every goal you set yourself, that you will achieve every aim"

For God and Country  
Always Faithful to Post 2,  
Dave Grey  
Commander

Commander: Dave Grey  
Sr. Vice Commander: Rob Mattox  
Jr. Vice Commander: Pete Tomasek  
Finance Officer: Jeanne Harris  
Chaplain: Fred Handy  
Judge Advocate: Tom Gleason  
Sgt at Arms: Joe Paczkowski  
Adjutant: Andrew Dunn  
Service Officer: [open]

#### Executive Committee

Vern Groves  
Ski Kuczynski  
Mac McMakin  
Rob Potter  
Glenn Russell  
Frank Walley

#### Board of Trustees

Roy Williams - Chairman  
J.T. Frazier  
Fred Handy  
Angelo Lombardi  
Gary Remeikis

#### Good of the Post Committee

Michele Root  
Teri Krantz  
Danny Galvez  
Fred Handy  
Jeanne Harris  
Mac McMakin  
Dave Grey  
Kathleen Walley  
Roy Williams

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### WHAT IF?

As the years creep up on us, we look back and wonder where did the time go! And it seems as we get older, it seems to go by much faster, and this I can attest to. How many times as we look back have we posed the question "what if". What if we had decided something differently than we did when we had to make an important decision.

This question reminds me of a conversation between two men at work I read about many years ago.

For sake of illustration, let's refer to these two men as "Rounder" and "Christian".

One day during lunch at the company lunch room, the question was posed by Rounder to Christian. "I know you are a regular churchgoer, do you really believe there is a God, and when we pass on, there is an eternal after-life in Heaven with God and/or an eternal life in Hell with the Devil, and our destination at the time of passing is determined by how we lived our lives here on hearth?"

Without hesitating, Christian gave an affirmative answer to Rounder's question.

Rounder lived life for the moment, enjoying hanging out with the crowd, having a few brews with the boys and girls that were willing, if you know what I mean, and generally lived for today with no thought of tomorrow. He said to Christian, "you must live a pretty dull life missing out on all the fun you could have had."



Christian answered, "based on what you have told me in past conversations, you have been through two failed marriages and you have two children you do not know their whereabouts since you have lost contact with them. As I understand it, you believe that when life ends, that's it; there is nothing more, so why waste time on all this God stuff as you put it. You seem to think I have led a pretty dull life, missing out on all the things you seem to think are fun in life. Actually, I have had a wonderful life. I have an extremely happy marriage of many years with a beautiful lady I love so very much and who loves me in return. We have three grown, well educated children who are all doing quite well and several grandchildren we love so dearly. To sum it all up, I do not think I have missed out on anything.

Let's say you're right and when life ends, that's all there is. In which case, I have no regrets, and if I had to do it all over again, I would not change a thing.

On the other hand, I do firmly believe there is an after-life in either Heaven or Hell, which is our ultimate destination, depending on how we lived our lives here on Earth. So, the important question here is, what if I am right and you are wrong?"

Gives us something to think about, doesn't it?

Fred Handy  
Post 2 Chaplain

## POST EVERLASTING

Veda Lansberry 8/28/2013

Unit 2 President 1970, 1973

Another leaf has fallen, another soul has gone.

But still we have God's promises, in every robin's song.

For he is in His heaven, and though He takes away,

He always leaves to mortals, the bright sun's kindly ray.

He leaves the fragrant blossoms, and lovely forest, green.

And gives us new found comfort, when we on Him will lean.



### SICK CALL

Peter Gillespie  
Paul Griffin

Please send Sick Call notices to  
wbalpost2@cox.net

# The American Legion Auxiliary - Wm Bloys Unit 2

## UNIT PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

September 1, 2013

Special Thank You to **Trish McElyea** and **The Hampton Inn** for their ongoing donations of bedding and furniture, which are given to MANA House. BIG Thank You to **Danny** and **Judy Galvez**, who have delivered all items to MANA House.

Congratulations to **Lula Belle Vomhof** for her "induction" in the **Forty & Eight** on Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. This is an Honor as an invitation must be extended to you to join. Lula is a dual member of Post 2.

We have great events coming up September and October ~ USO Show honoring Korean War on 9/7; Check presentation to *Military Assistance Mission* from the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Armed Forces FreedomRide on 9/21; VFW Golf Tournament on 9/28; Boys State / Girls State Luncheon on 10/13;

**American Legion Family Post 2  
VFW 3632 and Aux 3632**

### **Boxes for the Troops**

A big thank you to all who donated items, food and their physical help, as well as sponsoring a box for mailing. We sent out 12 boxes. It turned out to be an awesome day. The boxes were filled to the rim with wonderful items. Notes from all the identities of our post were included.

Notes from the Cub Scouts and schoolchildren were also included, with the following sentiments:

"Dear soldier person and Military person, thank you for our freedom and harmony." And so many more, which certainly warmed our hearts and put a smile on our faces. I am sure even in the hardest circumstances, when our military personnel reads them, it will bring a smile that they will carry with them for many years.

It is knowing moments like this that makes our time spent meaningful and reminds us why we are here doing what we do. Thank you for all the help!

Judy Galvez  
Americanism & National Security Chairmen, Unit 2

36<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Carnival at Kiwanis Park on 10/26 and the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Biker Ball benefiting homeless veterans on 10/26. If you would like to attend any of these events and need transportation to the Post, please let us know. We will be more than happy to pick you up and return you home safely.

Reminder that 2014 membership cards are now available - see Karen Charest's comments on Page 11.

Please keep Paul & Helen Griffin in your thoughts and prayers as he was hospitalized in August.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with the family of Veda Lansberry who passed away on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

For God and Country,  
Michele Root  
President



## UNIT OFFICERS

<b>President:</b>	Michele Root
<b>1st Vice President:</b>	Helen Griffin
<b>2nd Vice President:</b>	Sherrie Grey
<b>Secretary:</b>	Barb Gleason
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Lula Vomhof
<b>Chaplain:</b>	Connie Patch
<b>Historian:</b>	Mary Ellen Kohut
<b>Sgt at Arms:</b>	Valerie Griffin

### *Members at Large*

Helen Griffin  
Judy Galvez  
Karen Charest  
Linda Topham

## MEETINGS

First Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

## UNIT BIRTHDAYS

### September

Lois Boen  
Debra Franks  
Judy Galvez  
Carrie Ann Kenner  
Bunnie Kitts  
Michelle O'Donnell  
Lou Remeikis  
Doris Rheam  
Clara Schrieks

### October

Cynthia DaSilva  
Nancy Derby  
Renea English  
Elaine Gillespie  
Helen Griffin  
Francisca Groves  
Julie Holt  
Candace Kent  
Linda Keough  
Brenda McCoy  
Roxie McKay  
Sherry Wood

Apologize if your birthday is not listed - evidently the editor does not have it



Congratulations to Department of Arizona, Sons of The American Legion for their membership achievement (\* "All Time High"):

* #	DETACHMENT	2013 MBRSHP NEEDED FOR GOAL	12/31/13 105% TARGET	2013 MBRSHP NEEDED FOR 105% TARGET	8/13/13 TOTAL	% OF GOAL
14	ARIZONA	6,173	6,481	159	6,322	<b>102.414</b>

## ANOTHER BANNER CWF YEAR

By Brian J. O'Hearne  
National Adjutant

From *National Update*, Summer 2013 newsletter

Congratulations to all of you for a very successful year working with The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. This has been a very special year and we have once again had a very tremendous year. On behalf of the National Commander of the Sons of The American Legion, Christopher J. Huntzinger, I thank each and every one of you for this outstanding achievement and your unwavering support. This year has been very exceptional and with all of the special donations made during the spring National Executive Committee meeting, we have achieved our goal. Once again, the S.A.L. is the highest contributor to the Foundation by raising just over \$453,599 for this very special year.

Special thanks are made to the following Detachments for donations exceeding \$10,000: Ohio, Pennsylvania, Arizona, Illinois, Florida, Colorado, California, Indiana, New York, Virginia, Michigan, and New Jersey. Top honors for the top contributor goes to the Detachment of Ohio for donating \$51,738.17. That's a fabulous effort and we thank all of you.

The Sons of The American Legion continues to be a leader in donations to the Foundation and we have also exceeded the \$5 million mark in donations since we began raising funds for this vital program. Through your efforts, we will again provide grants through The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation during October 2013. Your untiring efforts and fund raising for the Sons of The American Legion is superb and have brought special meaning to "devotion to mutual helpfulness." Our CWF report will be used for computations of awards to be given at the National Convention in Houston in late August. I look forward to seeing you at the National Convention in Houston and hope we can continue a similarly high effort again next year for this very worthy cause.

## LEGION RIDERS

### PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Hello Riders!

It that time of year again when all of the benefit rides are coming upon us. Below are just a few events the ALR plans to attend and support.

#### Upcoming Rides/Events:

- September 7<sup>th</sup> Post 2 USO Show 5:00 p.m.
- September 8<sup>th</sup> ALR Breakfast 9-11:30 a.m.
- September 8<sup>th</sup> ALR Meeting 12:30 p.m.
- September 14<sup>th</sup> Post 5 Legacy 911 run (ksu 8:30 a.m.)\*
- September 14<sup>th</sup> Post 2 Steak Dinner 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- October 12<sup>th</sup> Post 26 Charity Ride (ksu 8:30 a.m.)\*
- October 13<sup>th</sup> ALR Breakfast 9:00-11:30 a.m.
- October 13<sup>th</sup> ALR Meeting 12:30 p.m.
- October 26<sup>th</sup> Post 2 Zombie Run (ksu 1:00 p.m.) ends at Annual Biker Ball
- October 26<sup>th</sup> Post 2 Annual Biker Ball - 6:00 p.m. *\*Post 2 is a stop on these rides*

We are in need of raffle prizes for the Annual Biker Ball. When you are out and about, please ask restaurants, bars, stores, private businesses if they would be willing to donate a gift certificate. Remember all proceeds go to homeless veterans.

Please check or bulletin board at the Post or our website for further details [www.tempelegionriders.org](http://www.tempelegionriders.org)

Ride Safe!  
Scott (Pyledriver)

### SQUADRON 2 OFFICERS

**Commander:** Eric Marble  
**Sr. Vice Commander:** [open]  
**Jr. Vice Commander:** Mike Bennett  
**Finance Officer:** Ariel Rodriguez  
**Adjutant:** Ariel Rodriguez  
**Sgt at Arms:** Barney Mullins

### Meetings:

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.



### 2013-2014 OFFICERS

**President:** Scott Krantz  
**Vice President:** Garry Osborn  
**Secretary:** Teri Krantz  
**Treasurer:** Bob Roberts  
**Chaplain:** [open]  
**Sgt @ Arms:** Robert Mattox  
 Joe Paczkowski

## VFW POST 3632

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### COMMANDER'S GREETINGS

Comrades,

If you didn't have a chance to attend the meetings in July and August, you are probably unaware that a vote was taken to change the name of the Post from Bob Finch to John M Jackson. The name change passed unanimously and will take affect as soon as National give us a new charter. We will remain Post 3632.

The meeting in August was highlighted by a presentation of a birthday card and cake to Al Kitts on his 87<sup>th</sup> birthday. If you want to be in on the fun at these meetings, come on down the second Saturday of each month at 12 noon. We would love to have you there to celebrate whatever we can think of and have fun doing it. The meetings are as short as I can make them and still get the business done. The September meeting will be held at noon on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

The **Golf Tournament!!!** It is coming up on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Please fill in the forms that are available at the hall and have a chance to win a lot of nice things. If you don't play golf, volunteer to work the function. We always need good men to help raise funds to support our work in the Tempe area.

Hopefully, by this time next month we will have confirmation on the Fry's stores where we will be handing out the Buddy Poppies on Veterans Day weekend (November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>). More on that next month.

Don't forget the kids are back in school, Please Drive Carefully.

Serving our Military personnel and Veterans,

Angelo Lombardi  
Commander VFW Post 3632

## VFW POST 3632 AUXILIARY

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### PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Greetings ~ We have been very busy since our last letter. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, we cook breakfast from 8:00 am to 11:30 am with an inexpensive menu that is sure to please everyone, stop in and see us. After that, around 12:30-1:00 pm, we have our monthly meeting, what fun!!! If you are interested in joining the VFW Auxiliary, please contact myself or one of the other sisters and we will find out if you are eligible.

In July we put on a birthday party for members of the Post, complete with pot luck and karaoke. On Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> we assisted the Legion Auxiliary's fund raiser for boxes for the troop's, complete with stick horse races, and of course lots of food and music. TOTAL SUCCESS!!!! AND WHAT FUN. Twelve boxes sent with postage paid by donations and the event; I can hardly wait for the next one in November.

We are gearing up now for the USO Show, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. Once again, we will assist the Legion Auxiliary for a fund raiser for the USO Hospitality Room at Sky Harbor Airport. Always a fantastic show! Hope all of you can make it.

That's all for now,

Peace, Love and Laughter,  
Gwen 'Stolie' Waldron  
Auxiliary President

### AMERICANISM PROGRAM

The goals of the Americanism program are to promote patriotism, teach students about our American heritage, demonstrate the proper care of the U.S. Flag, and ensure that the public will never forget the sacrifices made by America's soldiers. Members are also passionate about helping bring attention to Prisoners of War and those Missing in Action by holding ceremonies to both educate their communities and honor these special veterans. The full accounting of those missing in action is a high priority of the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary VFW.

### HISTORY

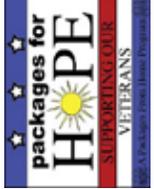
1931—The "Star Spangled Banner Bill" made it to the floor of Congress. Americanism became the third national continuing service program adopted by the Ladies Auxiliary VFW. The program continues stronger than ever.



# SEPTEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Boys State Breakfast 1	 2	3	Unit 2 Mtg - 7:00 pm Post 2 Mtg - 7:30 pm 4	5	USO Show Set Up 6 Kilroy's Dinner 5:30 pm ALR 50/50	 7
ALR Breakfast ALR 2 Mtg - 12:30 pm 8	9	SAL 2 Mtg - 6:00 pm 10	<b>PATRIOT DAY</b> Good of Post Mtg 6:30 pm 11	12	13	Pancake & Sausage Breakfast 10:00 - 12:00 Noon VFW 3632 - 12:00 pm Hall Rented ALR Streak Dinner - 5:00 pm 14
VFW Breakfast VFW 3632 Aux - 12:30 pm District 12 Meeting at Post 41 15	16	CONSTITUTION / CITIZENSHIP DAY 17	Trustees Mtg - 6:30 pm E-Board Mtg - 7:30 pm 18	19	20	21 Check Presentation to MAM ~ 4th Annual Freedom Ride 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Kilroy's Breakfast 22	23	24	25	26	27	VFW Golf Tournament 28 Unit 2 Officers & Chairpersons' Luncheon ~ 1:00 pm
Legion Breakfast 29	30				Kilroy's Dinner 5:30 pm VFW 50/50	

# OCTOBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 The American Legion <b>BOYS STATE</b> American Legion Auxiliary  <b>GIRLS STATE</b>		1	2 Unit 2 Mtg - 7:00 pm Post 2 Mtg - 7:30 pm	3	4 Kilroy's Dinner 5:30 pm ALR 50/50	5 Hall Rented
Boys State Breakfast 6	7	8 SAL 2 Mtg - 6:00 pm	9 Good of Post Mtg 6:30 pm	10 Pancake & Sausage Breakfast 10:00 - 12:00 Noon VFW 3632 - 12:00 pm	11 Kilroy's Dinner 5:30 pm SAL 50/50	12 ALR Steak Dinner - 5:00 pm
ALR Breakfast ALR 2 Mtg - 12:30 pm (sm hall) <b>Boys State/Girls State Luncheon 2 pm - 4 pm</b>	 Columbus Day	15	16 Trustees Mtg - 6:30 pm E-Board Mtg - 7:30 pm	17 Hall Rented	18 Kilroy's Dinner 5:30 pm ALA 50/50	19 Hall Rented
VFW Breakfast VFW 3632 Aux - 12:30 pm	21	22	23	24	25 Biker Ball Set Up Kilroy's Dinner 5:30 pm VFW 50/50	26 <b>36<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Carnival 5-9 pm</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup> Annual BIKER BALL</b> <b>6:00 pm - \$10</b>  
Kilroy's Breakfast 27	28	29	30	31 		

## NEWS FROM NATIONAL

### IRS RULES FOR LEGION POSTS

The IRS now requires American Legion posts to maintain dates of service and character of service records for all members. The penalty for not having the required proof of eligibility is, apparently, \$1,000 per day.

[http://www.irs.gov/irm/part4/irm\\_04-076-026.html](http://www.irs.gov/irm/part4/irm_04-076-026.html)

Note: References to social members within the above linked document do not apply to The American Legion because they are prohibited in our organization.

### PRESIDENT OBAMA SIGNS VETERANS MEASURES INTO LAW

On Aug. 9, President Barack Obama signed into law two bills that stand to help veterans. They are:

**P.L. 113-27, the *Helping Heroes Fly Act*.** This measure would update the Wounded Warriors Screening Program established in 2005 to let disabled veterans and severely injured servicemembers request expedited screening from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). The bill would direct the assistant secretary of Homeland Security for TSA to develop ways of easing airport screenings. Nothing in the bill would prohibit more security screening of a servicemember if law enforcement officials deemed it necessary. As amended by the Senate, the bill would not allow expedited screening for family members accompanying the veterans and servicemembers.

**P.L. 113-26, the *Formerly Owned Resources for Veterans to Express Thanks for Service Act of 2013* or, more simply, the **FOR VETS Act of 2013**.** This legislation, introduced by Rep. Dan Benishek, R-Mich., will add veteran services to the list of eligible uses for surplus federal property offered to not-for-profit groups through the Federal Surplus Personal Property Donation Program. When federal agencies no longer need property such as office supplies, furniture and motor vehicles, the surplus items are eligible to be donated to public service organizations for education or health-care related services. In 2010, Congress added veterans service organizations to the list of eligible organizations. However, under current law veteran service organizations cannot receive surplus property to use toward the full range of services they provide to veterans.

### 2012 BY THE NUMBERS

New Consolidated Post Report shows the many ways Legionnaires are making differences in their communities and beyond.

American Legion posts around the world gave millions of hours, raised millions of dollars and influenced millions of lives in 2011 and 2012. The newest American Legion Consolidated Post Report, released in August, attaches numbers to the Legion's acts of advocacy and outreach.

The number of posts reporting their performance jumped by 485 this year, which means a little over 60 percent of American Legion posts collect data and submit the reports. "It is nice to see an increase in the number of reports compared to the previous year, but we can do better than that," American Legion National Commander James E. Koutz said. "If even 10 percent more of our posts submitted reports, we would make it clearer to veterans, communities and the federal government the important role The American Legion fulfills across the land. It would be great if every post submitted their CPRs."

In addition to traditional paper reporting, posts can fill out and submit their forms online through [myLegion.org](http://myLegion.org), the members-only area of the national website.

Here is a snapshot of some of the activities performed by American Legion posts, according to the 2011-2012 American Legion Consolidated Post Report:

13,807	Number of American Legion posts worldwide
\$946,400	Money spent on Support Our Troops efforts
500,625	Volunteer hours logged for Support Our Troops efforts
\$2,258,893	Money spent by posts providing emergency aid in their communities
3,917,943	Hours of community service logged by American Legion posts
\$4,621,777	Money spent performing community service by American Legion posts
3,175	Number of posts with local Legion Birthday events
1,335	Number of posts with local Four Chaplains ceremonies
7,121	Number of posts with local Memorial Day events
\$1,585,868	Dollars raised by local posts for VA hospitals

## DIGITAL DISPATCH

### COMMUNITY AWARENESS INCREASES POST MEMBERSHIP

The 2012-2013 theme for American Legion Post 5 in Nashville, Tenn., was "Serving Veterans and the Community with Pride and Excellence." The post members showed their commitment to the theme by increasing membership through participation in community activities.

Post 5 increased membership 20 percent by setting up its Legion tent at high-traffic areas — grocery stores, career fairs, community picnics and social events. At each event, post members discussed membership benefits, assisted veterans with their benefits claims questions, and provided information on youth programs. Post 5 started the year with 1,000 members and ended with 1,240 members.

"The post has had a tremendous year with an increase in membership and accountability," said Charles Harrison, the 2012-2013 Post 5 commander. "However, the most gratifying experience for me as commander was our post participating in many activities and events serving our veterans and their families."

Post members provided assistance to homeless veterans, funds raised for the local Fishers House and Honor Flight program, participated in the local Veterans Day parade and Memorial Day celebrations, brought fruit to veterans at Nashville's VA medical center and more.

### NEF DISTRIBUTES GRANTS TO ARIZONA LEGIONNAIRES

The American Legion National Emergency Fund paid out four grants last week to Legionnaires who were displaced by the Yarnell Hill Fire, a blaze ignited by lightning on June 28, near Yarnell, Ariz. On June 30, the fire killed 19 firefighters with the Prescott Fire Department's interagency Granite Mountain Hotshots.

Total payout for the four grants was \$2,790.

The wildfire was fully contained by July 10.

### POST-9/11 GI BILL APPROACHES 1-MILLION USERS MARK

On Aug. 1, the Post-9/11 GI Bill was officially in effect for four years. On that anniversary, VA reports that nearly 1 million servicemembers, veterans and beneficiaries have used the most generous education benefit that our country has ever offered its military.

"I like to refer to them as the next greatest generation," said Curtis Coy, deputy undersecretary for Economic Opportunity at VA. "At VA, we're proud to offer this benefit to, as I said, about 1 million beneficiaries so far."

In all, VA reports that it has paid out more than \$30 billion under the Post-9/11 GI Bill, which offers assistance for tuition, books and housing to veterans who have served at least 90 total days since Sept. 11, 2001. The legislation was expanded two years ago to include vocational training such as flight school and careers in technical fields.

Coy said that VA can also report that it has begun processing payments for tuition and housing within five to seven days. VA's future plans, Coy says, include creating a school guide that helps GI Bill users select an institution that best suits them, a comparison chart of schools and a feedback submission system for GI Bill users who wish to submit complaints and experiences to VA.

VA also hopes to establish wide-ranging conformance from schools to its Principles of Excellence - an executive order from President Obama that urges oversight from schools in their recruitment of veterans and asks schools to help GI Bill users make informed decisions about their education.

"Three thousand six hundred schools have agreed to participate in the principles," Coy said. "They offer guidelines that promote transparency and student success."

The next big goal for VA is to find graduation rates for users of the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Up to this point, these statistics have been mostly speculative and even the subject of controversy, as several media outlets earlier this year incorrectly reported that GI Bill users were graduating at a lower rate than their student counterparts.

VA is currently working with Student Veterans of America (SVA) on a study that both organizations hope will find concrete numbers on graduation rates and correctly measure the success of the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

"Tracking graduation rates for Post-9/11 GI Bill users is imperative because it will allow us to not only defend the GI Bill against any potential cuts from Congress, but it will also give us something to reference when we advocate for extension of current education benefits," Sharpe said. "The American Legion has strongly supported Student Veterans of America in its efforts to find solid, reliable graduation statistics for the Post-9/11 GI Bill and will continue to do so as SVA works alongside VA."

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

<b>Legion</b>	9/4 @ 7:30 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed of ea month
<b>Board of Trustees</b>	9/18 @ 6:30 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed of ea month
<b>Executive Board</b>	9/18 @ 7:30 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed of ea month
<b>Auxiliary</b>	9/4 @ 7:00 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed of ea month
<b>S.A.L.</b>	9/10 @ 6:00 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues of ea month
<b>A.L.R.</b>	9/8 @ 12:30 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun of ea month
<b>Good of the Post</b>	9/11 @ 6:30 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed of ea month
<b>VFW 3632</b>	9/14 @ Noon	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat of ea month
<b>VFW Auxiliary</b>	9/15 @ 12:30 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun of ea month



District 12 Meeting 9/15 at Post 41

### SEPTEMBER EVENTS

<b>USO Show</b>	SET-Up Friday, September 6 <sup>th</sup> . Doors open at 4:00 pm on Saturday, September 7 <sup>th</sup> honoring Korean War
<b>Steak Dinner</b>	September 14 @ 5:00 pm (until 7 pm or food gone)
<b>FreedomRide Check Presentation</b>	September 21 <sup>st</sup> - 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
<b>VFW Golf Tournament</b>	September 28 <sup>th</sup>

### OCTOBER MEETINGS

<b>Legion</b>	10/2 @ 7:30 pm
<b>Board of Trustees</b>	10/16 @ 6:30 pm
<b>Executive Board</b>	10/16 @ 7:30 pm
<b>Auxiliary</b>	10/2 @ 7:00 pm
<b>S.A.L.</b>	10/8 @ 6:00 pm
<b>A.L.R.</b>	10/13 @ 12:30 pm
<b>Good of the Post</b>	10/9 @ 6:30 pm
<b>VFW 3632</b>	10/12 @ Noon
<b>VFW Auxiliary</b>	10/20 @ 12:30 pm

The Board of Trustees and Kilroy's have said "YES" to Bar Bingo. We need volunteers to commit to assisting before we pursue licensing with the City of Tempe and State of Arizona.

If you would like to help, please email your times / days of availability (weekends only, week nights only, once a month, etc) to [wbalpost2@cox.net](mailto:wbalpost2@cox.net) or let a *Good of the Post* committee member know [see page 1].

### OCTOBER EVENTS

<b>Steak Dinner</b>	October 12 ~ 5:00 pm (until 7 pm or food gone)
<b>Boys State/Girls State Luncheon</b>	October 13 ~ 2:00 - 4:00 pm
<b>36<sup>th</sup> Annual Kiwanis Carnival</b>	October 26 ~ 5:00 - 9:00 pm
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Annual Biker Ball</b>	October 26 ~ 6:00 - 11:30 pm - set up on Friday, 10/25

## UNIT 2 MEMBERSHIP

The Auxiliary is now accepting dues for 2014 ~ Seniors are \$24, Junior Members \$5. You may mail your dues (with or without a renewal slip) to American Legion Aux Unit 2, PO Box 26053, Tempe, AZ 85285-6053 or drop them off at the Post where we have an Auxiliary box. When paying your dues please make sure we have your correct mailing address, phone number and an email address. Even if you are not able to attend Post/Auxiliary functions, you are still serving the American Legion Auxiliary by maintaining your membership. Your dues help us continue Service for our Veterans and the Community. Be an Early Bird!

Auxiliary Membership Chairman  
Karen Charest

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:**

Victoria (Tory) Peterson  
Elizabeth Kohut  
Jessica Cannady (Junior)

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3.5 X 2" AD  
\$75 ANNUALLY

**Business owners:** we offer sponsorship opportunities by way of printed advertising in this newsletter, web site advertising on [www.legionfamily.org](http://www.legionfamily.org) and in-house advertising on the media center in our Post. If you are interested in advertising with us, please inquire via email to [newsletter@cox.net](mailto:newsletter@cox.net) or leave your business card and payment with the bartender, in an envelope addressed to *Newsletter*. Your ad will appear in the following newsletter.

**Members:** Please support our business sponsors. Their advertising dollars will help us offset the cost of publishing this newsletter and to provide support for Veterans and their families in our community.

**Special Thank You to Post 2 Legionnaire, Stephen Bradley, and Unit 2 Auxilian, Mary Ellen Kohut, for being our first Business Sponsors.**

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**WILLIAM BLOYS, POST 2**

2125 SOUTH INDUSTRIAL PARK AVE.  
TEMPE, AZ 85282-1919

Phone:  
(480) 967-2968

Email:  
[wbalpost2@cox.net](mailto:wbalpost2@cox.net)

Due date for articles and event  
submissions for the next Newsletter is  
October 15, 2013

Send all submissions to:  
[newsletter@cox.net](mailto:newsletter@cox.net)

Check us out at:

[www.legionfamily.org](http://www.legionfamily.org)  
or on Facebook.

**RED Shirt Fridays - Remember Everyone Deployed**

T-Shirts, Long-Sleeved Shirts, Bandanas, Can & Bottle Holders  
(a.k.a. Koozies) are available. Proceeds benefit *Good of the Post*.  
See the Bartender for information or email [wbalpost2@cox.net](mailto:wbalpost2@cox.net).

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**KILROY'S MENU**

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**Breakfast**

Sunday ~ 9:00 am to 11:30 am

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month  
Pancake & Sausage Breakfast  
10:00 am to Noon with  
**\$1.00 Bloody Marys**

**Lunch**

Tues - Thurs ~ 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
Friday ~ 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Regular Menu ~ Hot Dogs, Pizza

**Dinner**

Friday ~ 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
Regular Menu ~ Burgers, Shrimp, Fish, and Pizza  
Friday Dinner Specials

Come receive your **FREE dinner** on any Friday  
during the month of your **Birthday!**

**\$2.00 domestic beer on Fridays**  
4:00 p.m. to close  
Music 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Fridays

WM BLOYS POST 2  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
2125 S INDUSTRIAL PK AV  
TEMPE, AZ 85282-1919