

# THE AMERICAN LEGION

## FLOYD W. MAGNUSON, POST 30 INC

### APRIL 2012 NEWSLETTER



### POST 30 OFFICERS

COMMANDER

DUANE CARLTON

1st VICE COMMANDER

HANK ADAMS

2nd VICE-COMMANDER

JOSHUA CLEMENT

FINANCE OFFICER

MERV GUNDERSON

DEPUTY FINANCE OFFICER

DUANE CARLTON

SGT. AT ARMS

MO VOLKMAN

SERVICE OFFICER

BILL PAYTON

DEPUTY SERVICE OFFICER

HANK ADAMS

CHAPLAIN

KEN MCMILLON

HISTORIAN

DON WALTERS

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MERV GUNDERSON

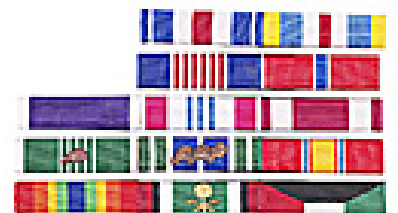
PAST COMMANDER

KEN MCMILLON

### MVAD ASSISTANCE

This is an important address and phone number for veterans.

350 Airport Road.  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
406-388-4601



The medal we are made of.

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
FAMILY  
SERVING VETERANS, THEIR  
FAMILIES, THE COMMUNITY  
GOD AND COUNTRY.



2012

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

|  |   |    |    |   |  |                                    |
|--|---|----|----|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <p>1 <br/><b>April Fool Day</b></p> <p>U.S. forces land at Okinawa-1945</p> | <p>2 American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Week</p>  | 3  | 4  | 5   | <p>6 Good Friday</p> <p><b>US Entry WWI 1917</b><br/>Battle of Shilo begins-1862</p> | <p>7 Battle of Shilo ends-1862</p> |
| <p>8 <br/><b>Easter</b><br/>Club 30 Closed</p>                              | <p>9 <b>Lee surrenders ay Apomattox-1865</b><br/>Special Forces becomes a separate branch of the Army</p> | 10 | 11 | <p>12 Exec. Com. Mtg. Post 30/ Unit 30</p> <p>Meetings 7:00 PM Readiness Center</p> | 13   | 14                                 |
| 15   | <p>16 <b>TAXES DUE</b><br/>Pain Killers @ Club 30</p>   | 17 | 18 | 19  | 20   | 21                                 |
| 22   | 23  | 24 | 25 | 26  | 27   | 28                                 |
| <p>29 U.S. forces invade Cambodia-1970</p>   | 30  |    |    |   |  |                                    |
|  |   |    |    |   |  |                                    |

**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
FLOYD W. MAGNUSON, POST 30 INC  
APRIL 2012 NEWSLETTER**

**POST 30 OFFICERS**

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Commander</b>                | <b>Duane Carlton</b>    |
| <b>Vice-Commander</b>           | <b>Hank Adams</b>       |
| <b>Jr. Vice-Commander</b>       | <b>Joshua Clement</b>   |
| <b>Adjutant</b>                 | <b>Rob Swanekamp</b>    |
| <b>Finance Officer</b>          | <b>Mervin Gunderson</b> |
| <b>Sgt. at Arms</b>             | <b>Maurice Volkman</b>  |
| <b>Service Officer</b>          | <b>Bill Payton</b>      |
| <b>Chaplain</b>                 | <b>Ken McMillon</b>     |
| <b>Historian</b>                | <b>Don Walters</b>      |
| <b>Public Relations Officer</b> | <b>Merv Gunderson</b>   |
| <b>Past Commander</b>           | <b>Ken McMillon</b>     |

**CLUB 30 MANAGER'S CORNER**

Beer Specials Daily  
Happy Hour Daily – (9 am to 11 am and 5 pm to 7 pm)  
Free coffee and Popcorn  
Freshly Made Sandwiches Every Day  
Homemade Soup is now on the lunch menu  
(Stop by to enjoy Jerry's soup with your lunch)

**Boxers Club 30**

At Club 30, THE SPORTS PACKAGE is always on. Go by and watch. Stop by to wet your whistle for a couple hours with those that stop by for their favorite libation and some time enjoying friends.

Soup is back on the schedule for lunch.  
OHHHH.....they're good



**M. V. A. D. ASSISTANCE**

This is an important address and phone number for veterans. It is the Post 30 veteran's contact for support that we need.

Belgrade  
350 Airport Rd.  
Belgrade, MT 59714  
406-388-4601

**CLUB CORNER**

Jerry and the girls have been doing a wonderful job at Club 30. The \$11.00/5 Beer Buckets are back. And here's a new thing. JELLO SHOTS. That's right boys and girls, you can have your desert and drink with it. Or if you prefer, drink your desert. \$1.50 a bar. Stop in and enjoy. Wednesday Night has become special for you ladies. It is Ladies Night Out. Ok girls, go out and live it up. New beers on tap. Samuel Adams Noble Pils, Pabst Blue Ribbon.



In order to allow the employees to enjoy their time with family on

Easter Sunday, Club 30 will be closed.

**A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE  
OUTGOING COMMANDER.**

These past two years have been quite an experience for me as Commander. When I was the Vice-Commander, I thought I was busy. WOW!!!!

Things and duties just doubled. But it was an exacting time. We have seen many new things this year: The dedication of the Veterans Park and Fishing site in Logon, a Japanese/American Soldier monument, Participating in the Bozeman Memorial Day festivities, involvement with the Belgrade Senior Center, Belgrade Schools, 911 remembrance with the Belgrade Fire Department, the first Montanan to be elected to American Legion National Vice-Commander.

Things were never dull. Service to our community is important to our area as well as to our Veterans. We never lose sight that we are needed in many ways to others.

My prayer is that we can and will continue to be of service to all that need it.

Kenneth W. McMillon

Two weeks ago, Post 30 held their elections of officers at the monthly meeting. These are your New Executive Board members for 2012.

**COMMANDER**



Duane Carlton LT COL. U.S. ARMY (retired)

**VICE-COMMANDER**



Hank Adams LT COL. U.S. ARMY (retired)

**JR VICE-COMMANDER**



**FINANCIAL OFFICER**



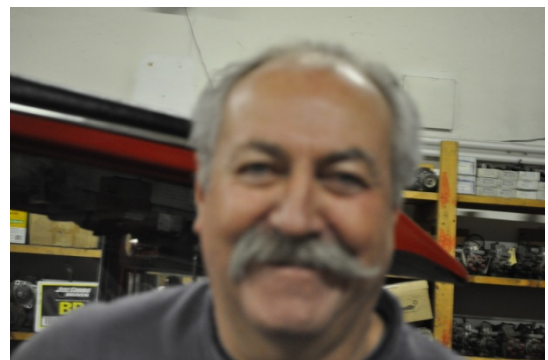
Merv Gunderson U.S. ARMY

**ADJUTANT**



Rob Swanekamp CAPTIAN U.S. NAVY (retired)

**SARGEANT AT ARMS**



Maurice "MO" Volkman U. S. ARMY

# NURSES

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Down through the ages, no group of soldiers/sailors have ever been forgotten more than the Nurse Corps. Whether you were/are Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, the nurse may have been an important part of healing for many wounded personnel. All the way from the civil war to the modern day field hospital and the recovery hospitals, any fighting man would find comfort from a smiling face when they needed it most. Some of the coolest heads, were/ are nurses when the pressure is on. Following are some stories of these valiant ladies.

**N**o one in war has a purer mission than nurses. Even doctors must sometimes inflict pain for the better good of a patient, but a nurse is there only to soothe and comfort. The ideals that a nurse carries into any wartime hospital are challenged by the daily arrival of bodies broken in battle. Every personal experience -- camaraderie with fellow nurses, relations with superior officers, romantic entanglements -- is magnified by the intensity of a profession that demands courage, compassion and above all, composure.

## Frances M. Liberty



## Frances M. Liberty



Frances Liberty

**War:** World War, 1939-1945; Korean War, 1950-1953; Vietnam War, 1961-1975  
**Branch:** Army Nurse Corps;  
**Rank:** Lieutenant Colonel;  
**Place of Birth:** NY

Frances Liberty's saga in military nursing covers three declared wars as well as the Cold War--she cared for John Foster Dulles at Washington's Water Reed Hospital. She saw a sea change in the Army; when she enlisted in 1943, she notes, "They weren't really prepared to handle women." She maintained a reputation as a self-described disciplinarian who was also a bit of a maverick. "Medical people aren't good at saluting," she admits, but her 28-year military career clearly attests to a fondness for serving her country.

## Jayne H. Cooley



Jayne Cooley, 2003.

**War:** Persian Gulf War, 1991  
**Branch:** Army Nurse Corps  
**Unit:** 31st Combat Support Hospital  
**Service Location:** Saudi Arabia  
**Rank:** Colonel  
**Place of Birth:** NY

Like many Baby Boomers, Jayne Cooley had a father who served in World War II, but she had no designs on a career in the military. However, in 1978, a friend persuaded her to join the Army Reserves for a chance to supplement her income as a private duty nurse. Twelve years later, Cooley was called up to serve in the Persian Gulf War. She worked in the operating room of a 400-bed hospital that was 10 miles from the front lines, treating American GIs and Iraqi POWs alike. The Army made sure that its women and men were treated exactly the same, but things were different when Cooley went off base and had to deal with traditional Arab views of women.

## Sharolyn Walcutt



**War:** Vietnam War, 1961-1975  
**Branch:** Navy Nurse Corps  
**Unit:** USS Repose (AH 16)  
**Service Location:** St. Albans, New York; Oakland, California (Oaknoll Naval Hospital); Vietnam  
**Rank:** Lieutenant Commander  
**Place of Birth:** OH

"We would sunbathe on the deck, and it would be like the 4th of July, and you knew a lot of casualties were coming in, so you'd hurry and get your uniform on."

Stationed on the Repose, a hospital ship anchored off the coast of Vietnam, Sharolyn Walcutt was among the first group of nurses to serve in Vietnam, arriving in 1965. The war was something that was close enough to sometimes see and hear and yet the Repose was a kind of refuge, too. Following her one-year stint, Walcutt literally saw the world, taking the long way back to the States through India, the Middle East, and Europe.

Walcutt formed many close, long-running relationships from her days aboard the Repose.

## Dorothy Walters Cutts



Dorothy Walters, 1940s.

**War:** World War, 1939-1945; Korean War, 1950-1953

**Branch:** WAAC (Women's Army Auxiliary Corps); Army Nurse Corps

**Unit:** 74th Hospital; 74th Hospital

**Service Location:** Fort Des Moines, Iowa; Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia;

Fort George Meade, Maryland;

Walter Reed Hospital, Washington,

DC; Tripler Hospital, Hawaii;

also: Fort Des Moines, Iowa; Fort

Oglethorpe, Georgia; Fort George

Meade, Maryland; Walter Reed

Hospital, Washington, DC; Tripler

Hospital, Hawaii

**Rank:** First Lieutenant; First Lieutenant

**Place of Birth:** NY

World War II was both a frustrating and fulfilling experience for Dorothy Walters. She wanted to make a significant contribution to the war effort, so she went to work in a defense plant. But that wasn't enough, and she joined the new Women's Auxiliary Army Corps, first as a clerk, then as part of the Medical Corps, practicing giving injections on oranges. She then decided she wanted to be a nurse and entered the Cadet Nurse Corps of the Public Health Service, but the war ended before she graduated. After working at a children's hospital with victims of polio, Walters finally got a chance to serve as a full-fledged military nurse during the Korean War, stationed in Washington, D.C. and Honolulu.

## Jeanne A. Urbin Markle



2nd Lt. Jeanne (Urbin) Markle, shortly after her wedding. Springfield, Ohio. 1966. [detail]

**War:** Vietnam War, 1961-1975

**Branch:** Army Nurse Corps

**Unit:** 93rd Evacuation Hospital;

24th Evacuation Hospital

**Service Location:** Fort Sam

Houston, Texas; Fort Carson,

Colorado; Vietnam

**Rank:** First Lieutenant

**Place of Birth:** IN

**"We ran out of bandages one week and had to use the Stars & Stripes newspaper."** Born, raised, and trained to be a nurse in Indiana, Jeanne Urbin joined the U.S. Army in 1965 as a way of seeing the world. A year later, she got her wish when she married an officer who was about to ship out to Vietnam. The Army needed nurses to go to Southeast Asia, Jeanne didn't want to be separated from her husband [Brian](#), and she soon found herself caring for wounded and ill soldiers in conditions far more primitive than the sterile confines of a Midwestern hospital.

## Carolyn Hisako Tanaka



Carolyn Hisako Tanaka, 2000.

**War:** Vietnam War, 1961-1975  
**Branch:** Army Nurse Corps  
**Unit:** 24th Evacuation Hospital  
**Service Location:** Fort Sam  
Houston, Texas; Fort Ord,  
California; Long Binh, Vietnam  
**Rank:** Captain  
**Place of Birth:** CA

**"I could not believe I was coming home to the same reception I received twenty-three years before, following World War II. This time I was not the enemy, but I was there saving lives, perhaps their loved ones."**

Nicknamed Road Runner for her unflagging energy and enthusiasm, Carolyn Hisako Tanaka served in Vietnam in spite of a scarring childhood memory. At the age of six, she saw her family evicted from their California home in the wake of Pearl Harbor and relocated to an internment camp in Poston, Arizona. When the family returned to California after the war, they found their home burned to the ground. In 1966, as an emergency room nurse, she decided to enlist in the Army, telling skeptical friends, "I have a skill that is needed in Vietnam, and I'm going there to do my duty for my country." Ironically, she returned from that war to a "welcome" that brought back bitter memories.

## Vera Cecelia Gustafson Palmer



Vera Gustafson, 1944.

**War:** World War, 1939-1945  
**Branch:** Army Nurse Corps  
**Service Location:** Fort Devens,  
Massachusetts; Casablanca,  
Morocco; Oran, Algeria; Naples,  
Monte Cassino, and Rome, Italy;  
Saint-Tropez, Baccharat, and  
Marseilles, France; Bavaria and  
Dachau, Germany  
**Rank:** First Lieutenant  
**Place of Birth:** IL

**"At the time of her capture, she had spoken seven languages, and here she was, just worried about getting her food." (Spoken of a Hungarian political prisoner at Dachau)**

From Morocco and Naples to the Battle of the Bulge and Dachau, Vera Gustafson accumulated a lifetime of memories in only three years of service during World War II. She used her leave time to squeeze in some of the sights in Europe and, more importantly, managed a semi-secret romance with a mess sergeant attached to her hospital, a man who later became her husband.