

# THE AMERICAN LEGION

## FLOYD W. MAGNUSON, POST 30 INC

### MARCH 2012 NEWSLETTER



### POST 30 OFFICERS

COMMANDER

**KEN MCMILLON**

1<sup>st</sup> VICE COMMANDER

**PAUL RELIMAN**

2<sup>nd</sup> VICE-COMMANDER

**DUANE CARLTON**

FINANCE OFFICER

**MERV GUNDERSON**

DEPUTY FINANCE OFFICER

**DUANE CARLTON**

SGT. AT ARMS

**MO VOLKMAN**

SERVICE OFFICER

**BILL PAYTON**

DEPUTY SERVICE OFFICER

**HANK ADAMS**

CHAPLAIN

**BRIAN DAUM**

HISTORIAN

**DON WALTERS**

PUBLIC RELATIONS

**PAUL REILMAN**

PAST COMMANDER

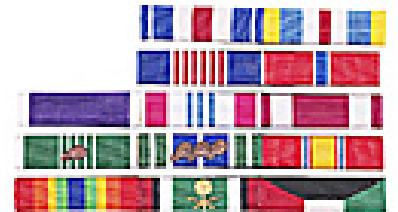
**JOSHUA CLEMENT**

### 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.

# March

## 2012

**Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday**

				1	2	3 District 7 Meeting Big Timber 10 AM 1945-US forces capture Manila
4	5	6	7	8 Exec. Com. Mtg. Post 30/ Unit 30  Meetings 7:00 PM Readiness Center	9	10
11 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS	12	13	14	15 American Legion Birthday March 15-17, 1919	16	17 
18	19 2003-Start of "Operation Iraqi Freedom"	20	21	22	23 1953-Battle of Pork Chop Hill	24
25 National Medal Of Honor Day	26	27	28	29 1973- US Involvement in Vietnam ends	30	31

**THE AMERICAN LEGION  
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**POST 30 OFFICERS**

<b>Commander</b>	<b>Ken McMillon</b>
<b>Vice-Commander</b>	<b>Paul Reilman</b>
<b>Jr. Vice-Commander</b>	<b>Duane Carlton</b>
<b>Adjutant/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>Brian Daum</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>Don Walters</b>
<b>Public Relations Officer</b>	<b>Paul Reilman</b>
<b>Past Commander</b>	<b>Joshua Clement</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, 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



**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. Red Lodge Pilsner, Mikes Raspberry Margarita Hard & Infused (Dry Hopper Ale)



In talking with Club 30 Manager Jerry, they are considering doing some new things in the future. Bingo is being looked at. More Cribbage Tournaments.

This is the month when we elect new officers of our Post 30. We have a Chairman that is taking nominations for Executive board members. If you would like to become a Board member, contact Hank Adams at 388-2477.

**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

**While reading through my flag Etiquette book, I come up on some interesting questions that have been asked. We as American Legion member's, should be aware of what the flag code is. We have the responsibility to set a good example to the people of our community in the way that we adhere to the rules and regulations of this flag code.**

**Question-** While wearing a American Legion cap, is it proper to render the military salute while reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance?"

**Answer-** No. If a person in uniform renders a military salute during the "pledge" they are to "remain silent."

**Question-** If everyone in our American Legion meeting is wearing an American Legion cap, how is it possible for us to "Pledge Allegiance" to our country, given the answer above?

**Answer-** the National Americanism Commission has deemed appropriate for legionnaires to come out of uniform (uncover), placing the cap and right hand over the heart, and reciting the "Pledge. " To do otherwise would be a violation of the flag code revisions or regulations all of the American Legion.

**Question** - it is improper for women legionnaires ( cap or complete uniform) to remove their legion caps during the " Pledge of Allegiance," National Anthem and during prayer?

**Answer-** since it may be inconvenient for women legionnaires to remove their caps, it is permissible to conduct themselves as if they were wearing a cap, i.e., place the right hand over the heart to recite the pledge and during the National Anthem, and stand in proper manner during prayer. Should she elect to render the military salute during that pledge, she must "remain silent."

**Question-**Is it proper to fly the flag of the United States at night?

**Answer-** The flag code states that it is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationery flagstaffs in the open. However, When a patriotic the fact is desired, if the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day and properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

**Question-** May an American Legion Post display the flag 24 hours a day and during all kinds of weather without regard to illuminating the flag or using an all-weather flag?

**Answer-**American Legion posts are to be guided by the same provisions of the flag code as civilian displays. The National Americanism Commission, in fact, encourages American Legion Posts to take a special care to adhere to these provisions as a proper example for the community.

**Question-** What is considered proper illumination when flying the flag at night?

**Answer-**" Proper Illumination " it is a light specifically placed to illuminate the flag(preferred) or having a light source sufficient to illuminate the flag so it is recognizable as such by the casual observer.

**Question-**Is it permissible to fly the flag of the United States during inclement weather?

**Answer-** the flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is an intimate, except when the all-whether flag is displayed. (All-weather-nylon, synthetic, or other none absorbent material)

**Question-** Is it permissible to display another flag or pennant above the flag of the United States?  
**Answer-** No, except during the church services conducted by Naval Chaplains at sea, the pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for the personnel of the Navy.

**Question-** What is the proper placement of two or more United States flags in a church or auditorium?

**Answer-** regardless of the number of the United States flags, each would be displayed in accordance with the flag code provisions. For most of functions more than one flag is unnecessary. For a patriotic display as a show of color, the flags maybe this played as common sense or good taste would dictate.

**Question-** Is it proper to use a set of the desk flags in lieu of staff that flags for legion meetings?

**Answer-** While not inappropriate, but National Americanism Commission strongly recommends, whenever possible, to use staffed flags, properly presented, for all meetings of American Legion meetings.

**Question-** is it proper for any American legion post to lower the United States flag to "half staff" to honor a deceased member of the post?

**Answer-** No. The lowering of the flag is only authorized on Memorial Day, from sunrise until noon, and by executive order of the President or State Governor. If it is so desired, the organizational flag may be lowered for this purpose.

**Question-** Can a Mayor for the flag to be half-staffed?

**Answer-** No, only the President of United States or the Governor of your state may order a flag to be half-staffed.

**Question -** What happens to the State Flag when the flag of the United States is half staffed?

**Answer-** The state flag or any other flag or pennant in a display is lowered or removed when the United States flag is at half staff. As indicated in the flag code, no flag or pennant should be placed above the flag of the United States.

**Question-** is the flag to be have staffed for National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day ( December 7 ), National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day ( July 27 ) and Patriots Day ( September 11)?

**Answer-** In accordance with the U.S. code, Title 36, Chapter 1, the President of the United States is request to issue a proclamation to display the flag at half staff for the entire day.

**Question-** What is the significance of displaying the flag at half staff?

**Answer-** this gesture is a sign to indicate that nation mourns the death of an individual or individuals. This is a Naval and Military custom.

We have our own Distinguished Service Cross Recipient, (Captain) John "Stan" Milesnick for his action during WW2. Here are some more awardees.

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS



Travis W. Atkins

Date of birth: December 9, 1975

Date of death: June 1, 2007

Burial Location: Bozeman, MT

Place of Birth: Great Falls, [Montana](#)

Home of record: Bozeman, [Montana](#)

Status: KIA

Travis Atkins attended one year at Kemper Military School in Booneville, Missouri, and subsequently joined the Army in 2000, serving in Kuwait in 2002 and making the initial assault into Iraq. He was honorably discharged as a Sergeant upon completion of his first tour of duty in Iraq and fulfillment of his military commitment. Returning to Bozeman, Montana, he worked in various jobs and attended classes at the University of Montana before re-enlisting in the U.S. Army in December 2005, subsequently serving another tour in Iraq.

Awarded **posthumously** for actions during the [Global War on Terror](#)

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918 (amended by act of July 25, 1963), takes pride in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) to Staff Sergeant Travis W. Atkins, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving with Company D, 2d Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2d Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, on 1 June 2007. Staff Sergeant Atkins distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry at the cost of his life in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. While conducting route security in the town of Abu Sarnak, Iraq, Staff Sergeant Atkins apprehended and began to search a group of suspected insurgents. However, one insurgent resisted and engaged Staff Sergeant Atkins in hand-to-hand combat. As Staff Sergeant Atkins attempted to subdue the man, he realized the insurgent was attempting to trigger a suicide vest which he wore under his clothing. Despite Staff Sergeant Atkins' efforts, the insurgent finally succeeded in reaching his vest. Staff Sergeant Atkins selflessly tackled the suicide bomber, pinning him to the ground and shielding his Soldiers from the imminent explosion. In this critical and selfless act of valor in which he was mortally wounded, Staff Sergeant Atkins saved the lives of three other Soldiers who were with him and gallantly gave his life for his country. Staff Sergeant Atkins' undaunted courage, warrior spirit and steadfast devotion to duty reflect great credit upon himself, the 2d Brigade Combat Team, and the United States Army.

**Action Date:** June 1, 2007

**Service:** [Army](#)

**Rank:** Staff Sergeant

**Company:** Company D

**Battalion:** 2d Battalion

**Regiment:** 14th Infantry Regiment, 2d Brigade Combat Team

**Division:** 10th Mountain Division



## Erik Oropeza

Date of birth: July 22, 1986

Place of Birth: Los Angeles, [California](#)

Home of record: Los Angeles, [California](#)

*Awarded for actions during the [Global War on Terror](#)*

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918 (amended by act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Specialist Erik Oropeza, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism at the risk of his life while serving with the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 2d Infantry Division, in action on 22 May 2007, in support of Operation IRAQI Freedom, in Iraq. Specialist Oropeza demonstrated the highest degree of physical courage coupled with uncommon fortitude while engaged in combat operations against a fanatical enemy. His valorous actions following a deliberate ambush were directly responsible for preventing his vehicle and crew from being overrun by a superior enemy force. His own carbine destroyed, Specialist Oropeza defended his severely wounded crewmembers with the nearest available weapon and defeated a five-man enemy ground assault force maneuvering against him. Specialist Oropeza's extraordinary heroism and selflessness at the risk of his own life are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade,

2d Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

**Action Date:** May 22, 2007

**Service:** [Army](#)

**Rank:** Specialist

**Battalion:** 4th Battalion

**Regiment:** 9th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team

**Division:** 2d Infantry Division



- **Stephen C. Sanford**  
• Home of record: Muskegon, [Michigan](#)  
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*Awarded for actions during the [Global War on Terror](#)*

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918 (amended by act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Private First Class Stephen C. Sanford, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with the 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, 172d Stryker Brigade Combat Team, on 19 November 2005, during combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Private Sanford displayed extraordinary courage during the evacuation of casualties from a home in Mosul, Iraq, while under intense enemy fire. Although shot through the leg during his squad's initial assault attempt, he accompanied his squad during their second assault. Once inside the house, he provided a heavy volume of suppressive fire while the casualties were evacuated. He continued to engage the enemy while escorting the wounded Soldiers from the house. He returned to the house a second time to provide vital covering fire and security for the final withdrawal of the casualties. When the last Soldier leaving the house was shot in the neck, Private Sanford, with complete disregard for his own safety, moved to the Soldier and began performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation. While attempting to revive the other Soldier, he was shot twice more in the back. Protecting the fallen Soldier, Private Sanford returned fire and killed an insurgent while receiving two more potentially fatal gunshot wounds. He continued to return devastating fire on the enemy while helping his wounded comrade until he was incapacitated by his own loss of blood. Private Sanford's gallant deed was truly above and beyond the call of duty and is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service, reflecting great credit upon himself, Charlie Company, 2d Battalion, 1st Infantry, the United States Army, and the United States of America.

**General Orders:** Department of the Army, General Orders No. 3 (November 6, 2007)

**Action Date:** November 19, 2005

**Service:** [Army](#)

**Rank:** Private First Class

**Battalion:** 2d Battalion

**Regiment:** 1st Infantry, 172d Stryker Brigade Combat Team