

# American Legion LeBron Post 58 OBSERVER

123 N. 1<sup>ST</sup> Street Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044

Office: 405-282-2589/web: <http://www.lebronpost58.org>

lebronpost58@lebronpost58.org

**FEBRUARY 2015**



## Commander's Message



I would like to start off by saying LeBron Post 58 is right now at 94% in membership. We will, this year have 100% for the first time since 1999. Also we attended the Mid-Winter conference January 10<sup>th</sup> and our new Department leaders have hit the floor running. The Department once again is heading in the right direction thanks to our new Commander Tim Smith and his officers. Fred Speir has had his membership revoked and will not be allowed to be a member of the American Legion again. David Kellerman will also be banned from the American Legion due to the crimes committed against the Department of Oklahoma American Legion. We also had an Executive meeting and we will be soon starting bingo once a week soon. This should bring a \$3000 a month income each month to assist the post in expenses. Any questions can be directed to my email or call the office. This month we will look at the Gulf war being the war ended in February.

The Gulf War (2 August 1990 – 28 February 1991), codenamed Operation Desert Shield (2 August 1990 – 17 January 1991), for operations leading to the buildup of troops and defense of Saudi Arabia and Operation Desert Storm (17 January 1991 – 28 February 1991) in its combat phase, was a war waged by coalition forces from 34 nations led by the United States against Iraq in response to Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait.

The war is also known under other names, such as the Persian Gulf War, First Gulf War, Gulf War I, Kuwait War, First Iraq War, or Iraq War before the term "Iraq War" became identified instead with the 2003 Iraq War (also referred to in the U.S. as "Operation Iraqi Freedom"). The Iraqi Army's occupation of Kuwait that began 2 August 1990 was met with international condemnation, and brought immediate economic sanctions against Iraq by members of the U.N. Security Council. U.S. President George H. W. Bush deployed U.S. forces into Saudi Arabia, and urged other countries to send their own forces to the scene.

An array of nations joined the Coalition, the largest military alliance since World War II. The great majority of the Coalition's military forces were from the U.S., with Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom and Egypt as leading contributors, in that order. Saudi Arabia paid around US\$36 billion of the US\$60 billion cost. The war was marked by the introduction of live news broadcasts from the front lines of the battle, principally by the U.S. network CNN.

## 2014 Post Officers

**Commander**

**Jerry A. Webster**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**

**Myrl Waggoner**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander**

**Leroy Barnes**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander**

**Gregory Rupert**

**SGT at Arms**

**Willie Hartman**

**Finance Officer**

**Marsha Hudson**

**Adjutant**

**Ryan Alley**

**Chaplain**

**Paul Martin**

**Executive Committee**

**Jerry Webster**

**Myrl Waggoner**

**Leroy Barnes**

**Gregory Rupert**

**Marsha Hudson**

**Ryan Alley**

**Albert Hawkes**

**Larry Woods**

**Steve Gentling**





The war has also earned the nickname Video Game War after the daily broadcast of images from cameras on board U.S. bombers during Operation Desert Storm.

The initial conflict to expel Iraqi troops from Kuwait began with an aerial and naval bombardment on 17 January 1991, continuing for five weeks. This was followed by a ground assault on 24 February. This was a decisive victory for the Coalition forces, who liberated Kuwait and advanced into Iraqi territory.

The Coalition ceased its advance, and declared a cease-fire 100 hours after the ground campaign started. Aerial and ground combat was confined to Iraq, Kuwait, and areas on Saudi Arabia's border.

Iraq launched Scud missiles against Coalition military targets in Saudi Arabia and against Israel.

The Iraq–Kuwait dispute also involved Iraqi claims to Kuwait as Iraqi territory. Kuwait had been a part of the Ottoman Empire's province of Basra, something that Iraq claimed made it rightful Iraq territory. Its ruling dynasty, the al-Sabah family, had concluded a protectorate agreement in 1899 that assigned responsibility for its foreign affairs to the United Kingdom. The UK drew the border between the two countries in 1922, making Iraq virtually landlocked. Kuwait rejected Iraqi attempts to secure further provisions in the region. Iraq also accused Kuwait of exceeding its OPEC quotas for oil production. In order for the cartel to maintain its desired price of \$18 a barrel, discipline was required. The United Arab Emirates and Kuwait were consistently overproducing; the latter at least in part to repair losses caused by Iranian attacks in the Iran–Iraq War and to pay for the losses of an economic scandal. The result was a slump in the oil price – as low as \$10 a barrel – with a resulting loss of \$7 billion a year to Iraq, equal to its 1989 balance of payments deficit. Resulting revenues struggled to support the government's basic costs, let alone repair Iraq's damaged infrastructure. Jordan and Iraq both looked for more discipline, with little success. The Iraqi government described it as a form of economic warfare, which it claimed was aggravated by Kuwait slant-drilling across the border into Iraq's Rumaila oil field. At the same time, Saddam looked for closer ties with those Arab states that had supported Iraq in the war. This was supported by the U.S., who believed that Iraqi ties with pro-Western Gulf states would help bring and maintain Iraq inside the U.S.' sphere of influence.



Jerry A. Webster  
jerry.webster@lebronpost58.org

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander's Message



I would like to state that we are starting our preparations for boy state and girl's state without our head man, Bill Wagoner. Therefore, Greg Rupert and I are taking over this task. We will need everyone's help because Bill always did an outstanding job. He will be greatly missed! Contributions to boys and girls are now being accepted. If you would like to contribute please call 405-640-1220. Guthrie businesses have supported us so greatly in the past. Hope to be contacting our supporters soon in order to make this year successful. In regard to our Honor Park, Steve Gentling will be planting flowers to beautify our Veterans Memorial. Larry Woods and I will apply linseed oil to the fence to preserve and prevent weathering as soon as the weather permits.

I want to thank Jerry Webster, our Commander and Albert Hawkes our past Commander for the outstanding job they have done tiling the floors and painting at our Legion building. A very special thank you to Steve

Gentling, our 89'er chairman and Larry Woods our 89'er Finance Officer for their outstanding work. Also a thank you to the Thursday morning coffee group. They are a great bunch who love to give me a hard time about being a Democrat. PS. Victory will be ours!!!

Myrl Waggoner  
lyrl.waggoner@lebronpost58.org

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander's Message



Honor Park still seems to be misunderstood by some people so this is my interpretation according to the standard dictionary.

**HONOR**-Respectful Regard – A nice sense of what the right-that to which respect is due. A synonym for reverence, a feeling of profound respect.

**PARK**-A tract of land for public use in or near a city-a square or plaza in a city usually containing shade trees and benches.

**DISHONOR**-To deprive of honor, disgrace, insult, lack of honor or of honorable character.

Honor Park is for the sole purpose of showing honor and respect to all the veterans that served this country and that paid the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom we all take for granted. This includes those veterans and citizens who chose to dishonor Honor Park and use it for anything other than its intended purpose, to show respect an honor for all veterans.

If you haven' been to the post lately, you need to come see all the improvements being made, thanks to Jerry Webster and Albert Hawkes. New tile has been laid and the walls are being painted. I would like for all members to at least stop in and give us your opinion of work being done, I think you will approve. We have several events coming up that, we would like to have as many members participate as possible check your bulletin or call the Post office for information. Looking forward to seeing you.

By the way our Thursday morning coffee is growing: Albert, Jerry, Myrl, Leroy, Greg, Willy, Steve, Pete, Dave, Ryan, Smitty, and Mark just to name a few who join us. Stop by on Thursday at 9:30am and have a cup of coffee, a doughnut and find out what is going on.

Leroy L. Barnes  
leroy.barnes@lebronpost58.org

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander's Message



Hello to all, my name is Gregory Rupert and I have been recently appointed as your 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander of this outstanding post. I look forward to serving you at the best of my abilities. I would also like to welcome our new adjutant Ryan Alley. He has already "hit the deck running"

In addition to duties as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice, I was asked to be involved with the Boys and Girls States program. I gladly accepted this duty. I will be working with Myrl Waggoner in this program. As you all know we, recently lost Bill Wagoner who was not only a great 1<sup>st</sup> Vice but a profound leader in the boy's and girl's state program. On January 10<sup>th</sup>, myself, Jerry Webster and Albert Hawkes attended the Department Mid-Winter conference. It proved to be an all day affair, but I am sure that all three of us came away with much information and new knowledge of our American Legion and its operation on the Department level. In addition, it was great to

interact with other post members throughout our great state. I would strongly recommend any member to attend at least one of these conferences. Oh, yea I got "busted" when my cell phone went off during one of the presentations. Therefore, I had to pay our Department Commander a \$5.00 fine for this infraction! All in fun though.

On another note, we have submitted a request to the Home Depot for a grant for our post. Basically, this request is for much needed repairs to our building. I will update you all on the progress of this endeavor. Let's all keep our fingers crossed! For what it's worth, I feel optimistic based upon numerous conversations with the grant coordinator

On January 29<sup>th</sup> Albert Hawkes and I met with Brett Howard, Manager at Home Depot, Edmond, Oklahoma. He is in charge of all grants. We had a very good meeting regarding our request for our grant. The grant is going forward as planned. The application will be submitted ASAP for approval, as per Mr. Howard.

Lastly, I would like to let you become aware of an American Legion program dedicated to our wounded warrior. You may have seen the advertisement on television with the Oak Ridge Boys country band acting as spokespersons for this program. For only \$19.00 Contribution/Pledge per month you can become a part of this worthy and much needed program for our American veterans. You can call 1-888-614-4614 to contribute. When you do, you will receive a really nice American Legion challenge coin!

Semper Fi and God bless  
Gregory Rupert

### Adjutant's Message



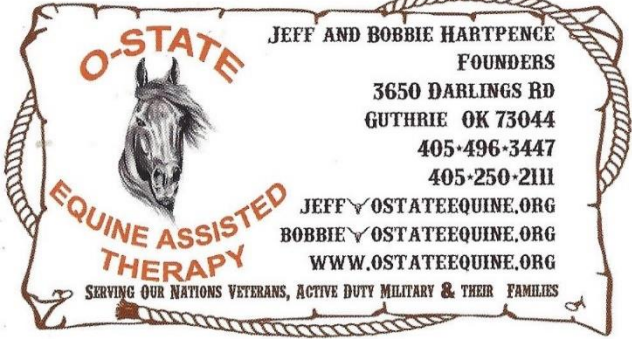
February is quite a month in the history of our Armed Forces. In February of 1945 The U.S. Eighth Air Force launched the most destructive attack in all of history, even more so than Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in an effort to bring the war in Europe closer to a close. That same year, on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, The Marines raised the American Flag on Mt. Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima, one of the most iconic and well-remembered battles in American history. The Persian Gulf conflict in 1991 lasted from February 1<sup>st</sup>, until the 28<sup>th</sup>, when coalition forces (mostly American) drove Iraqi forces out of Kuwait in a 100 hour conflict. The history of our military is a big part of our culture in the American Legion. We celebrate and honor the lives, accomplishments, and sacrifices of those who came before us. As many of you know we are being given the opportunity to celebrate the life of one specific man on March the 15<sup>th</sup>, at our American Legion Birthday celebration. The descendants of Capt. Leo Lebron, our Post's namesake, will be in attendance and we will have a historic chance to honor a service member who paid the ultimate price. I hope all of you can be there to celebrate with us. I also hope to see more of you at our meetings and around the Post in general. We have a lot of exciting things going on and we want you to be a part of them. Remember, the staff and officers of Lebron Post 58 are here to help and serve you. If we can be of assistance give us a call or stop by the Post.

Ryan Alley  
ryan.alley@lebronpost58.org

City of Guthrie Councilman - **John Wood, PHD**  
Ward 1 – Please call him if you have any  
City related needs. Cell: 372-6178  
Fax: 282-0192  
P.O. Box 908 Guthrie, OK 73044  
(USMC) 1989-1997

**WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS SO THAT  
WE CAN START SENDING THE  
NEWSLETTERS ELECTRONICALLY TO SAVE  
MONEY! SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO:  
LEBRONPOST58@LEBRONPOST58.ORG**





**O-STATE**  
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FOUNDERS  
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GUTHRIE OK 73044  
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405-250-2111  
JEFF@OSTATEEQUINE.ORG  
BOBBIE@OSTATEEQUINE.ORG  
WWW.OSTATEEQUINE.ORG  
SERVING OUR NATIONS VETERANS, ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES

### Service Officer's Message

VETERANS – you should take advantage of the VA benefits that you worked so hard to earn!

Post 58 Service Officer Linda Turner is available to help navigate through the paperwork requirements of the VA claim process. You can come and see the Service Officer every Monday from 9:30 – 2:30. It is a first come first serve basis. I encourage each one of you to get what you deserve.

### Auxiliary President's Message



There will be a meeting of the Legion Auxiliary on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at noon. We will be discussing the upcoming garage sale, renting spaces out of the Legion for a craft fair, bingo set-up and other fund-raising activities for the Legion. For all those who sent in membership checks, I have them but so far have gotten NOTHING from state in regards to your membership cards or a roster. I am working to get these to you as soon as I can. Promise. Your checks will be cashed before years end.  
Polly Hawkes, President, Auxiliary

Thanks!! Polly Hawkes, President



If you know anyone that is a son or grandson of the American Legion encourage them to join the Sons of The American Legion. Post 58 is going to start building this group to reach out even more.

### FARM TIP OF THE MONTH:

When you plant your potatoes this spring, try purple potatoes. They may help lower blood pressure. When you buy sour seed this spring, also buy for the fall. Seeds can be hard to find by fall.

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jed.waggoner@fmbankok.com  
fmbmortgage.com

**Jed Waggoner**  
Vice President



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Cell: (405) 919-4572

**TAPS**

If you know of a Legionnaire that has transferred to the Post Everlasting please notify the Legion office at 282-2589.

**HEALTH TIP OF THE MONTH:**

Did you know chocolate may actually help control your weight? A cup of coffee a day may help you live longer, coffee contains antioxidants.

**DOC MYRL**

**GUTHRIE LIBRARY NEWS**

**\*\*Save the Date: Don't miss the Friends of the Library annual book sale on 6-7 February\*\***

**\*\*Free tax preparation and electronic filing for qualified individuals - call 282-0050 for more info\*\***

**\*\*The Library will be closed Monday, 16 February in honor of Presidents' Day\*\***

Mondays from 1 - 2 pm - Eat Better Move More: Classes will teach you how to improve your meals with better nutrition, find simple, fun ways to introduce movement and exercise into everyday routines and develop a plan that will enhance the quality of life you now live. Participants will receive a free pedometer! This series will help you stick with your New Year resolution to live a healthier life!

Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm - Crochet Group: Come to learn the basics or to swap tips with other experienced crocheters- this class is for everyone and all ages! Taught by Joan Kendall. Materials are provided.

Wednesdays @ 10:30 am - Children's Story Time: A fun and educational experience for children. Enjoy stories and nursery rhymes, songs, puppets and much more! Join us for the special holiday party on the 17th- Santa will be there!

Wednesdays, 4 & 18 Feb from 4 - 4:30 pm - Read to Sasha! Kids, come practice reading out loud with Sasha. She is a soft and cuddly certified therapy dog who loves to listen to stories. Don't miss this fun way to practice your reading skills!

Thursdays, 5 & 19 Feb from 3:30 - 5:30 pm - Lego Club: Love LEGOs? We do, too! Get creative and come build with us! Bricks provided, imagination required.

Thursday, 12 Feb from 6 pm - 8 pm - Teen Dirty Cupid: Come spend the evening with your friends- enjoy chocolates and treats and don't forget your gag gift for the Dirty Cupid exchange!

Friday, 13 Feb from 4 - 5 pm - Valentine's Day crafts: Kids, join us for some festive crafts!

Saturday 14 Feb from 11:30 am - 1 pm - Caregiver Support Group: This support group offers a safe place for caregivers, family and friends of persons with dementia to meet and develop a network and mutual support system. Talk through challenges, exchange practical information, share feelings, needs and concerns, and learn about resources available in the community.

Thursday, 19 Feb from 6:30 - 7:30 pm - Preserving Your Family Treasures: Do you have priceless family heirlooms that you want to save for future generations? Dr. Mark Janzen, Director of Museum Studies at UCO, will discuss various preservation techniques. You may also bring your items and receive specific advice.

Saturday, 21 Feb from 11 am - 1 pm - Anime Club: Teens, are you a huge anime and manga fan? Come to the library to meet other people who love it, too! Watch episodes and discover new series, discuss canon and fanfic, and share your own art works. Snacks will be provided. \*Anime may contain material that is considered unsuitable for ages 13 and younger.

Monday, 23 Feb from 6 pm - 8 pm - Let's Talk About It, Oklahoma! This book discussion group, made possible by a generous grant from the Oklahoma Humanities Council, Kirkpatrick Foundation, and Inasmuch Foundation, is meeting for the new Mysterious Fears and Ghastly Longings series, featuring Gothic fiction. Pick up a copy of Frankenstein by Mary Shelley and Mutation by Robin Cook at the library and join us for an enlightening presentation by a knowledgeable and engaging local scholar, refreshments, and group discussion.

Check our website at [www.guthrielibrary.com](http://www.guthrielibrary.com) or call 282-0050 for more information!



**MPW FARMS**  
 \* Angus, \* Maine  
 Bulls & Heifers

**Myrl & Patty Waggoner**

Home (405) 282-5625      10400 W. College Ave.  
 Mobile (405) 640-1220      Guthrie, OK 73044



**JEFF L. HIRZEL**  
 ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

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----- PLACE ON FRIDGE -----

**!!REMINDER!!!!REMINDER!!**

**MEETING REMINDER!!! COME TO THE LEGION FOR YOUR  
 MEETING ON FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> 1830 HRS.**

**AUXILIARY MEETING – FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> AT NOON.**



# MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

I HAVE ENCLOSED A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR EVERYONE TO HAVE SO IF YOU FIND SOMEONE THAT WANTS TO JOIN GIVE THEM AN APPLICATION. LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD A STONG LEGION.

**The American Legion Membership Application**

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Phone) \_\_\_\_\_

(Mailing Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

(City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_ (Post #) \_\_\_\_\_

(Membership ID #... former member) \_\_\_\_\_ (Dues) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check appropriate eligibility dates and branch of service below**

<input type="checkbox"/> Aug 2, 1990 – cessation of hostilities as determined by U.S. Government	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army
<input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 20, 1989 – Jan. 31, 1990	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy
<input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force
<input type="checkbox"/> Feb. 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines
<input type="checkbox"/> June 25, 1950 – Jan. 31, 1955	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard
<input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 7, 1941 – Dec. 31, 1946	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines 12/7/41 – 8/15/45 (only eligibility)
<input type="checkbox"/> April 6, 1917 – Nov 11, 1918	

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

30-009      Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_      Name of recruiter \_\_\_\_\_

**Receipt of Dues**  
*(Please Print)*

From \_\_\_\_\_ for 20 \_\_\_\_\_ Post # \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Retired U.S. Marine Corps First Sergeant, and Mayor of Guthrie Mark Spradlin has written a children's book. You can purchase your copy at: <https://www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore/book.php?w=978-1-62510-609-4>





# American Legion 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration And Capt. LeBron Appreciation Day



On March 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm we are going to have a special ceremony for the American Legion's 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday, but more importantly activating the first annual Capt. LeBron Appreciation Day! Our post is named after a great WWI hero and we are going to learn more about this great soldier. Many things have been learned lately about Capt. Leo P. LeBron and we will share all that has been learned on this great day. Capt. LeBron's family will be attending this event and invitations will be sent out for the city of Guthrie, Governor's office along with the Department of Oklahoma leaders. We have many things we will present during this day. I encourage each and every one of our Legionaries to attend this. We will have a lunch on hand that will be no cost.



## **VFW POST 4578**

Has karaoke every Friday night 8:30pm – 12:30am

Live music & dance every Saturday night 8:30pm – 12:30am

5223 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044