



THE AMERICAN LEGION



March 2011

Upcoming Events

- **March 5:** Karaoke
- **March 17:** St. Patrick's Day 1st Draw \$1
- **March 19:** Bull Fry, Karaoke. Baseball Raffle drawing
- **March 28:** Membership Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- **Every weekend in March:** Rowe Sanctuary Concessions, 10a.m.-2p.m.
- **Every Sunday thru March:** Pool Tournaments

**Support
our
Troops!**



Legion Officers

Commander
Randy Stocker

Vice Commander
Eugene Giger

Financial Officer
Mick Ross

Adjutant
Julie Schnitzler

Sergeant at Arms
Jim Myrick

Chaplain
Frank Spotanski

Service Officer
Marlin Westberg

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Meet Troy Legg

Troy Legg, a 1983 Gibbon graduate, enlisted in the Nebraska National Guard on March 3, 1983. Troy retells that he was walking down the Gibbon School hallway with his buddy Joe Strickland and asked him to join the National Guard with him. The recruiter came to Troy's house and asked the boys what job they'd like to perform. Troy and Joe didn't have a job in mind, so the recruiter mentioned the \$2,000 signing bonus for the Armor Unit in Broken Bow. Both boys took the bonus and left for Basic Training in Ft. Knox, Kentucky on May 26. Thirty young men from Nebraska, including 11 graduates from the wrestling team in Tekamah trained together for nine weeks. Troy took the split training option, so he returned to Nebraska upon completion of Basic Training and returned to Ft. Knox the following summer to train as an armor crewman (19E), training on the M60A1. He was assigned to the 1/195th Armor Charlie Company for three and a half years before switching to the Armor HQ unit in Kearney where Troy served as a radio operator. In 1989, Troy's six year enlistment was over and he got out to work at Coleman's. When Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, Desert Storm began and National Guard units were deployed to the Middle East. Troy re-enlisted hoping to get orders for combat duty; he didn't receive them and got out of the National Guard after seven years. He was out for two and a half years, missing the military, so he joined the 735th Transportation Company in Lexington. After one year of service in the 735th Trans CO, Troy and his unit (



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February Membership Meeting Minutes

Commander Randy Stocker opened the membership meeting at 7:31 p.m. on Monday, February 28, 2011. Sixteen members, manager Ryan Brehmer and guest Mike Reimers, District 6 Vice Commander, were present. Mike Reimers made several announcements: 1) District 6 convention in St. Paul on March 13. District dues are 20 cents a member, 2) State convention in North Platte on June 25-26, 3) Nebraska native, Mike Helm, is running for National Commander and funds are being raised to support the campaign, 4) donate to the National Emergency Fund. DONATIONS: Memorials- Kermit Belau, Kay Moffett, Charlotte Leisinger. Other donations: Art Carpenter - \$100 and Gary Chramosta: computer and monitor. Auxiliary donated \$44 for newsletter stamps. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: One hundred twenty-one members have paid. We need ten more members to pay to reach our 2011 goal. OLD BUSINESS: The next bull fry is March 19th. The Baseball raffle will be held that night. Rick Lange suggested paying two workers to wash dishes during the bull fries. The Legion will open a concession stand during weekends in March at Rowe Sanctuary. Please volunteer for a Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. - 2p.m. Jim Myrick pulled up a piece of carpet in the back room and painted the cement floor with garage floor paint for a test plot. NEW BUSINESS: Lange made a motion to spend \$2011.25 to install a DVR and three cameras to secure the Legion building. Motion carried. The Volunteer Banquet will be

held on Sunday, April 10th at 5 p.m. Legion, Auxiliary and SAL members need to turn in nominations to recommend any volunteer that deserves recognition. Five members will be selected by the executive team on March 21st and their names will be engraved on a plaque. Mick Darnell was selected to receive the Citizenship Award. Marlin Westberg made a motion to send Junior Trent Mackley to Cornhusker Boys State. Motion carried. Bud Stall made a motion to donate \$50 to the campaign of Mike Helm. Motion carried. Rick Lange made a motion to give \$20 gift certificates to Gibbon Post Prom, Shelton Post Prom and Gibbon Public Schools for the employee recognition. Motion carried. Frank Spotanski made a motion to pay \$40 to renew Gibbon Chamber membership. Motion carried. Mick Darnell made a motion to donate \$50 to the Gibbon Tractor Pull. Motion carried. **MANAGER REPORT:** Thank you for all the help the past 60 days; we've hosted many events and volunteers were invaluable. New menus were provided by the Pegler Food Company. **SERVICE OFFICER:** Sent cards to Joe Rayburn, Terry Carpenter and Eugene Giger. **SGT OF ARMS:** Thank you to those who assisted with funeral during the Christmas season. It was a bitterly cold day. **SAL LI-AISON:** We're committed to helping with bull fries and funerals. Three more caps and ties have been ordered. **GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Spring Cleaning will be held on Saturday, April 16 from 8 a.m. – noon. Lunch will be provided to all volunteers to help. The executive meeting will be held on March 21 and the membership meeting on March 28. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

(TROY LEGG continued from page 1) were called to Kuwait with the mission of Force Security: patrolling bases, protecting United States personnel and assets for one year (2004-2005). his life. The bomb squad told us that only the blasting caps had detonated. If the explosive material would have exploded, the 50 cal soldier would have been killed. " Troy also served 30 missions serving as rear security and assistant convoy commander. Troy has served 21 years in the Nebraska National Guard. He recently re-enlisted for another three years and still serves in the 1074th in Sidney. Troy married Kari HemThe unit was stationed at Camp Doha; the soldiers worked 12 hour shifts controlling the entry and exit points in the distribution center. Over 600 foreign nationals worked in the distribution center, so Troy's unit was responsible for searching each worker before and after each shift. Troy served as the NCOIC (non-commissioned officer in charge) on a QRF (quick reactionary force). When cars would slowly drive along the perimeter of Camp Doha, members of the United States military would stop them. "Many times girls were being taught to drive along the long, smooth road," said Troy. While Troy was serving as NCOIC, a big explosion occurred. It was 140 degrees and the foreign nationals were stacking acetelyn bottles in the sun. One of the bottles exploded, badly burning a hand of one of the foreign nationals. "I always had a cooler with a bottled water on ice for the soldiers, so I took a t-shirt and soaked it with water and ice and wrapped the guys hand in it." Troy also saw a head on collision between two locals right outside the gate and had been in Mosul just before a suicide bomber blew the roof off the chow haul. "His family was held hostage and he was to bomb the Americans; he liked the Americans, so went into the chow hall and got as far away as he could from the troops before he triggered the explosives."

Troy recalls a 600 mile convoy in vehicles that weren't uparmored. Before leaving base, the Troy and others gathered steel from a scrap pile and "up-armored" their vehicles as they moved. "When we pulled into a base at night, we went to the maintenance shed and asked to use their tools to add the steel to our vehicles." Troy's unit returned to the United States and he was offered a promotion to E6 in the 1074th Transportation Company located in Sidney, Nebraska. After transferring, Troy was told he was not eligible for a promotion because he was not 88M (truck driver) qualified. Even though Troy had a civilian truck license and was a certified instructor, he wasn't qualified through the military, so he had to train at Ft. Hunter Legget California, to become certified. In October 2006, the Sidney unit was called to Camp TQ, a Marine base in Iraq. It was located 50 miles west of Baghdad and five miles east of Fallejuah. "Because it was a Marine base we had no extras, just a base exchange and chow hall."



The 1074th's mission was to serve as convoy security; they traveled in armored security vehicles (ASV) that had mounted 50 caliber and Mark 19 (belt-fed grenade machine gun). "We used the 50 cal but weren't given grenades for the Mark 19 as it would cause too much collateral damage; but our vehicles looked tough with the mounted weapons. The ASVs weighed 14 ton and would go 70 mph. "For 30 missions I served as the Convoy Commander; we escorted supply convoys that had up to 20 semis in them. We loved going to Baghdad because we could stay in air-conditioned tents and buy fast food to take back to Camp Doha. "Guys would give us money and ask us to purchase



Thursday, March 17

**Celebrate
St. Patrick's Day at
the Gibbon Legion**

Corned Beef & Cabbage
Green Beer
First draw \$1

February 2011 Bull

**Volunteer
Banquet**

**Sunday, April 10, Gibbon
Legion at 5 p.m.**

**Submit your nominations
to the Commander Randy
Stocker or Manager Ryan
Brehmer.**



TROY LEGG CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Popeye Chicken, CinnaBun, Burger King or Taco Bell." Troy also served as the RAT (traveling a mile or two in front searching for incendiary explosive devices. When we checked out suspicious objects along the road, we would put chem lights on them, so the convoy knew they were cleared. We ran at night and we missed two IEDs. The first one blew up a diesel truck; the shrapnel caused many holes that the diesel poured from. The second one could have cost my 50 cal crewmember life. Troy and Kari married in September 2003, just before deploying in January 2004. They have four children: Jaci (13), Rylee (6), William (5) and Danelle (1) year. Troy is a semi truck owner/operator and has the hobby of motocross. Troy is the son of Kirby and Doris Legg of Gibbon and his sister is Tricia Reglin who is married to Brian; they have a two year old daughter named Whitney and live in Cozad.



CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP PINS

The members listed below will be recognized with membership pins at the April 25 Legion meeting. If you have a question about your continuous years, please contact Adjutant Julie Schnitzler. Congratulations to all Gibbon members who have made a milestone this year.

- 5:** Robert Kutsch, Rick Lange, Terry Moffett
- 10:** Ron Catlin, Joseph Hehner, Kenneth Macek, Ray McLaughlin, John Rinaker, Mick Ross & Orville Schuster
- 15:** Kelly Murr, Martin Schmidt, Jerry Winslow
- 20:** Elmer Jurgens
- 25:** Frank Spotanski
- 30:** Neil Avery, Terry Eatherton
- 35:** Delbert Johnson, Ray Moffett
- 40:** Rick Musil
- 45:** Stephen Clark, William DeBrie, James Nutter
- 55:** Robert Thomsen

