

I am so very honoured to represent District 11. We have three members on the National Legislative Council and one on the Washington State Veterans Legislative Coalition. That does not include those post members that are working with the legislatures at all levels of our government. Our very own Rafael A. Munoz-Citron has been recognized by National for his work with Adam Smith.

The National Association of Parliamentarians has at least one member from District 11.

We also have a member serving on the National Guard and Reserve Committee.

Post 19, 79, 127 and 227 host what has been come known as Heroes Café. These posts invite veterans to share coffee and comradeship at a minimum once a month, sometimes more often and on different days. Please be sure to stop by during these events to see the outreach into the veteran's community that takes place.

A true jewel in the crown of District 11 is the volunteering that takes place at Tahoma National Cemetery. On average over 150 hours are spent serving as Honor Guard at the internment of veterans and various other volunteer activities to assist in this most important part of the farewell to this nation's heroes.

In addition to all the Boy Scout units, posts in the district support the Girl Scouts, Civil Air Patrol, Sea Cadets and Young Marines. Members also attend year end ceremonies at the local junior ROTC and present the American Legion Certificates for Distinguished Achievement and Honorable Mention.

Several posts make available educational scholarships.

We are working hard to increase membership and will be requesting revitalization assistance from National.

Of course, there are the Legion Riders who do amazing work in the community with regard to outreach. Sons of the Legion are active in the district and look forward to hearing of their adventures at the campout. Those posts with an auxiliary unit are enriched by their assistance in supporting the goals of the post.

The Jake Kanstrup Fund is a program overseen by the district officers and is available to meet the needs of veterans within the district that need emergency aid.

Another program that is unique to the district is Sweats for Vets. We will begin our fund raising for this project within the next few weeks.

Sadly, we experienced the closing of a post in Tukwila, but the members have been transferred to posts of their choosing and once the department is active again, we can move forward in completing this process for them.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrol M. Stripling, Commander  
District 11, The American Legion