The Honor Society of Women Legionnaires



# THE NATIONAL JEEP

# The Official Publication of The National Twenty and Four Honor Society of Women Legionnaires **December 2023**

Photographer: Tonya Meuiniuer \* Publisher: Lisa Dayhoff \* Editor: Diane Schmidt, PND \* Ethel Matuschka, Editor Emeritus

### Georgiann "Gigi" Callaway, National Director VIP

It is my desire that every Jeepette, Top Hat and everyone in our American Legion family, have a Happy Christmas, a Joyous Holiday Season and a Merry New Year. December is filled with family, friends, and 20&4 camaraderie and it is hopeful that this newsletter finds everyone doing well. It is also a time to remember, particularly during the holiday season, to do a wellness check on our seniors, hospitalized, and shut-in members.

The first quarter of the 20&4 year has ended and as a quick reminder ensure that reports journals are kept up to date. It is easier to make quarterly entries onto the Annual Report to National Bivouac so that end of year one is just adding the entries for last quarter. So far, we were off to a

good start as we headed into the second quarter. The membership report can be found herein. It is suggested that if you are not yet 100 percent, reach out to our Senior Vice Director. Echelons that are 100 percent, your devotion and loyalty to your fellow veterans and Echelon are commendable. Congratulations!

At the end of the second quarter, for the first time we, National 20&4, were officially invited to attend the Lincoln Pilgrimage. "Save the Date" for February 10-11, 2024. This will be an in-person event with a video conference meeting. Details will be forthcoming.

The Bivouac is being planned and information should be forthcoming. It is asked that you "Save the Date" for Bivouac which will be August 22 - 23, 2024. The committee meetings will be held on August 22nd. If you are not on a committee and would like to sit in, you are encouraged to attend. The 23rd begins with the memorial service, followed by the annual meeting. The evening will be our Annual Bivouac Dinner. It will be up to all of us to get invitations out to everyone!

Upon my arrival during a November visit to Echelon 35, it was meet with the weather being exceptionally. There was a warm reception in Arizona. I was invited to speak at the podium to the entire Department followed by addressing Echelon 35 the next day. Thank you to the entire leadership. Especially to Beth, Bobbie, Judy and the entire Echelon 35 members, for making it an amazing trip.

It is extremely important that Echelons continue to communicate to their members. We understand that communication is the key to success. Where are you in that endeavor? What improvements or plans are you enacting? You can "make it happen".

It is always said that December will go by quickly. Together we stand strong.

May you and yours have a Joyous Christmas, Happy Holiday, and Glad New Year!

Warm Regards.
Semper Fortis
For God, Family, Country.



# Mildred Wright Pearson, Senior Vice National Director

**Holiday Greetings** 

My Valued Jeepettes,

I must first apologize for not wishing you a wonderful Veterans Day. It is my hope that you enjoyed the Day to the fullest. If you were recognized in a memorial celebration, this should be shared with the rest of us. Many times women veterans are not recognized as they should be. It is slowly changing. It is up to us to help all women veterans to be recognized for their work done in the military. I personally thank you.

As you know, during the National bivouac, the new membership goals for 2023-2024 that were set is 2 new members. Meaning whatever number you ended with for 2022-2023, you would need to get two or more new members. Remember: you need to replace departed members for our numbers to remain strong. I know this is a challenge for some of you. Failure is only defeated by a successful try. If you are having difficulty in obtaining new members, talk it out with your Echelon members or contact me for any suggestions I can provide. By the way, don't forget about our Top Hats!

I want to end by saying "Happy Holidays" to each of you. May your holiday wishes be fulfilled in accordance with your religious practices. Be safe for New Years Eve activities.

Best health to all,

Mildred S. Wright-Pearson
Mildred S. Wright-Pearson
Sr. Vice Director, VIP
Twenty and Four
Mswp48@gmail.com
(559) 250-8247 (text/voice msg)





### Tweila-Rochelle Cauthen, Sky Pilot

"Tis the season..." lyrics penned by a Welsh composer in 1862 and some English translation dispute in 1877, was supposed to have ushered in a joyous season. I often wonder about the alleged festive era. It is true that after the stampedes on Black Friday, the clerks in stores, staff in restaurants and random strangers are more prone to begin or end interactions with a cheery, "Happy Holidays!". However, by the 6th of January, all parties go back to their respective "Mean Girls" corner and reenact Scrooge's face until next November.

This is a personal peeve. Kindness should be a lifestyle, not a practice dictated by the inked dates on a calendar. The commercialization of this season often causes less financially secure families to be more aware of their daily lack. The pressure to out-buy, out-spend and out-do, causes significant stress, increased financial burden and depression.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if "'Tis the season..." meant more than how far my wallet spends? Let us as Jeepettes practice the redirect. Make it a point this week to email, text or drop a card to someone that we have not heard from for a while, or send a word of encouragement or love to one of our sisters that we might not even know personally. Just because...just because.

Those that have lost loved ones this current calendar year, really could use a thoughtful "just because". Others that lost loved ones in times past during this time of year, are sometimes sullen with reflections, and while they might not become depressed, that void is noted even more during this season.

Jeepettes...let us vow to endear ourselves to each other, "just because"! Make kindness our daily lifestyle.

Echelon Sky-pilots, please reach out to me. I can be reached at yes.tweila@gmail.com. Have a wonderful time, stay safe and look forward to being amazing and kind in 2024!



### Jan Lepinski, Junior Vice National Director

jlepinski@aol.com 312.305.9789.









### Lisa Dayhoff, National Aide

# **Greeting from The National Twenty and Four Honor Society of Women Legionnaires**



We have great things in the works at the National level as work begins on bringing the Twenty and Four into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Below you will find the current membership numbers from the transmittals that I have already received for this year. Echelon Aides and Directors, please reach out to me if these numbers are not correct so that we can get an accurate tally. Please keep in mind that all transmittals are expected to include each Jeepette's name, address, phone number, email address, Legion membership number and Post number. Changes to what information is required can only be made by changing our National Constitution & By-laws.

Please send all correspondence to: Lisa Dayhoff 401 Long Run Liberty Hill, TX 78642



#### **Current membership statistics**

Echelon	New	Renew	Transfer	Reinstate	Total	Goal
Alabama 50	5	12	0	0	17	20
Alaska 29	0	0	0	0	0	14
Arizona 35	0	0	0	0	0	41
California 1	4	20	0	0	24	52
Florida 30	5	12	0	0	17	13
Illinois 8	2	0	0	0	2	30
Massachusetts 2	1	12	0	2	15	10
Montana 9	4	30	0	0	34	34
North Carolina 27	4	10	0	1	15	30
Texas 31	8	13	0	0	21	34
Virginia 24	3	17	0	0	20	21
Washington 3	0	4	0	0	4	11
Wisconsin 11	0	0	0	0	0	10

Submitted by Lisa Dayhoff, National Aide Photo taken at Arlington Cemetery during her recent visit this fall [2023].



### Aide Echelon 9 Montana American Legion

by Chaya Semple

Montana News

Echelon 9 welcomes new Jeepettes: Lacey Bray, Candice Gehring, Rhonda McDowell and Jennifer Oates! We also welcome new Top Hats: John Meacham and Eddy White.

Please keep Jeepettes PND Joyce Babcock, Clancee Collins, Denise Cook, Sue Davidson and Lisa Milner in your prayers for healing and good health. PND Joyce has recently become unwell. (POB 21 Custer, MT 59024) Your cards and letters will cheer her!

Candace Gehring, Carol Gruwell and Kim Kay McCarty Martin are all involved with St. Vincent DePaul of North Central Montana in Great Falls Grace Haven — a women veteran transitional housing facility with the strategy to empower unhoused women veterans to improve their situation through stable housing, addressing mental health/addiction issues and finding stable employment. Access to education and job training will also be available. In February they will be conducting a food drive at Post 341 to support Grace Haven.

Carol Prahl, Top Hat Bob Prahl and Clancee Collins presented two nursing scholarship checks, each for \$1500, from Post No. 5 to worthy recipients in Miles City.

In mid-October, Lisa Milner taped an interview for KJRH news in Tulsa, OK where she spoke about The American Legion and gave information on what her post was doing to serve the community. Segments will be broadcast every two weeks with the first segment broadcast before Halloween where she spoke about Post 1's upcoming Trunk or Treat. To hear her: https://www.kjrh.com/news/local-news/american-legion-to-host-trunk-or-treat

Due to a winter storm that made travel dangerous across the state, we were compelled to cancel our Fall Bivouac scheduled for late October. Planning is in the works with our National Director VIP Gigi to host a Zoom Bivouac after the holidays!

Elizabeth Cook staffed an American Legion Post No. 2
Tailgate at Carroll College on Veterans Day. Tailgates at
college football games are a great opportunity to share
the American Legion Family and educate student
Veterans/spouses on the many programs our great Legion
Family members accomplish and the pillars for which we
stand in addition to recruiting new members.

Director VIP Linda Cousineau, Jen Dalrymple and Sr Vice

Director Janice Dobb all brought greetings from Montana with other Montana Legionnaires while participating in the annual The Coleman/Bellevue Legion Joint Remembrance Day Community Service held just across the border in Alberta, Canada. Jen, a retired USAF Colonel, was the featured special speaker! Jen laid the Montana wreath at the Coleman branch and Linda laid the wreath at the Bellevue Branch. Janice carried the American Flag at the Bellevue Branch.

Chaya Semple served as chaplain at the Veterans Day Ceremony in Helena and along with Denise Cook had the pleasure of meeting our American Legion National Western Vice Commander, Randy Edwards, at the Annual Veterans Day Breakfast hosted by Post No. 2. He had no idea Twenty and Four even existed and was very impressed with our Women Veteran focus!

Ruthie Smith participated in a Veterans Day Breakfast at Post 27 and a Veterans Day Ceremony at the courthouse in Missoula. She is also working with Post 27 to host a "Vetsgiving" Luncheon — engaging cooperatively with other veterans' groups in the area to make it happen.

Denise Cook participated in planning for the International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day held at the Montana State Capitol in Helena on 18 November. Each state hosts this event – often in many cities throughout their state. Jeepettes are encouraged to get involved next year! Please contact your local Suicide Prevention Coordinator at your Health Department to be an American Legion representative at their meetings. Congress designated the last Saturday before Thanksgiving as International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day. It is an opportunity to connect with other survivors, support them and find resources to assist in processing their loss. This year, over 100 people came to the event in Helena.

That's the news from Montana! May all reading this be well!



Aide Chaya Semple with National Vice Commander Randy Edwards at the Post No. 2 Veterans Day Breakfast. He was impressed with our Women Veteran focus.

More Echelon #9 photos continued on page 14

# Director Echelon 1 California American Legion

by Roxanne Jones

From California Echelon 1, we send Greetings to everyone. I am scrambling to make good on my first submission as Echelon Director. We are busy working to meet the goal of 51 or more members for year 2024. It was so nice to see 9 new faces at our meeting at the California Department Convention. We are sending "Love Packages" to our 9 new members. Each package has basic JEEP information that has been out of print. Fortunately, I have a friend who has a print shop and was able to quickly get me what I needed.

I have also had to deal with a dead desktop computer hard drive in the past few days. I thought I could just buy one and be up and running in no time. No such luck! That is what I have a "cable-guy" son for. He managed to locate what I needed and patiently set it all up. AND just in time for this submission.

The holiday scene is upon us and there are lots of festivities between now and January. Please be especially aware of elderly who may need a "helping hand" whether they are 20 & 4 Jeepettes or not. I wear many hats besides The American Legion so I know and see the many events going on around us.

Like many of our "20 and 4" Echelons, our membership has dwindled through death, moves and personal reasons; but it is becoming alive again through the hard work of our members. We are working diligently to follow our mission to assist disabled and needy female veterans.

A big Thank You to the Dept of Illinois for allowing us to meet at the Conventions where we can seek out other female Legionnaires to join with us. At our most recent Bivouac, our newest members shared their talents and strong points which we will use to assist the female veterans who really need us. During our Annual Caravans and Veterans Outreach, we always promote the "20 and 4."

Our next meeting will be held during the Lincoln Pilgrimage on 11 & 12 February 2024 in Illinois. (This will be a first along with the National Director at this event.)

We are excited about reviving our "TOP HATS" -always available to assist as needed.

So, GREETINGS to everyone and have a great new year!

# Director Echelon 8 Illinois American Legion

by Mary E. Kulavic

Illinois Echelon 8 has retired our beloved yellowed flag to a place of honor. We now have a new flag that will stand just as stately as its predecessor at all our future meetings and functions.



National Director VIP, Georgann Callaway, Edna Taylor, IL Echelon #8 Aide, Cheri Stanton, PND and Year 2023 -2024 Echelon #8 Director Mary E. Kulavic



# Echelon 24 Virginia American Legion

Echelon Development Eastern Area

By Millie Hampton

As we embark on this time of Holiday Celebrations (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Boxing Day, New Year's), we look forward

to the excitement and thrill of the season. The decorations and planning, the gathering of family and friends, sharing family news and updates, remembering past events and happenings. And if those veteran friends and family are looking for an Echelon to join, let us know.

There is lots of laughing, fun, food, and gifts. But the most important theme of this time of year is Peace, Love, Joy and the precious gift of Jesus. May we be mindful to pass this on to everyone we meet.

Enjoy your holiday season remember those less fortunate.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa and Happy Boxing Day and Happy New Year.

## Director Echelon 30 Florida American Legion By Diane Schmidt, PND

Echelon #30 At our recent Bivouac, we were thrilled to have a female certified Acupuncture Physician, Lorelei Loudis, as our featured speaker. She spoke about our

specific medical issues and how our body works as a fine tuned machine. She demonstrated how disfunctions of the "flow" can create disharmony and the value of Acupuncture to bring your body in perfect harmony.

#### Need your assistance

Please read the Echelon **Directors and Aides 2023-2024** listing herein. Review the Echelon information. Is the information correct for both the director and aide? If not please submit the corrections to submissions@nationaljeep.org prior to February 20, 2024. Additionally, there a few opening on some of the committees; if you would like a consideration please email the National Director.

### Scholarship Program,

Cheri Stanton, PND

HI everyone,

Just wanted to remind you we have scholarships available. The application was in our first issue and it needs to be sent in for evaluation. We have not received any applications from veterans, children of veterans or grandkids in the last few years.

#### Deadline is. April 1st, 2024

Send materials to:

Cheri Stanton 1441 East Third Avenue Monmouth, IL 61462

#### **IL Echelon Sad News**

By Edna Taylor, Echelon 8 IL Aide

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Diana F. Fecarotta who passed away on July 29,



2023, at the age of 76, leaving to mourn family and friends. She was loved and cherished by many people.

Diana was a a Veteran of the United States Marine Corp, a devoted member of Echelon 8 IL for 29 years and Commander of the Italian War Veterans Guido Belmonte Post #4. She was a teacher for the Chicago Public Schools for 39 years and worked evenings and weekends for Chicago City Colleges for 27 years teaching GED and English. Diana was the Loving and devoted caregiver to her late brother Martin Fecarotta.



#### **Burial in a VA Cemetery**

By Bobbie J Kimelton, Echelon 35

None of us want to face our mortality, but the truth is, we aren't getting any younger. Have you applied in advance to determine if you can be buried in a VA national cemetery? If you haven't, you may want to consider applying for a pre-need determination of eligibility...make the burial planning process easier for your family in their time of need. So, what do you need to do?

- 1. Find out if you are eligible. Do any of these describe you?
  - A veteran who didn't receive an honorable discharge when you separated from the military, or
  - The spouse or dependent child of a service member or veteran even if the service member or veteran has already passed away, or
  - c. The adult dependent child of a service member or veteran (if you aren't married (in some cases).
  - d. Get more information about eligibility at https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/eligibility
- 2. Choose the VA national cemetery where you'd prefer to be buried. Fina a VA national cemetery at https://www.va.gov/find-locations/
  - a. This application is only for burial at VA national cemeteries. If you want to be buried in a state or tribal veterans cemetery, contact that specific cemetery. Make sure you meet their eligibility requirements.
  - b. If you want to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery or the United States Soldiers and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, call 877-907-8585 Monday through Friday 8:00am to 5:30 pm ET and Saturday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm ET.
  - c. REMEMBER: There are no guarantees that you will be buried in a specific VA national cemetery, but pre-application will make sure your wishes will be considered.
- 3. Do what information do you need in order to fill out the application?
  - a. Social Security Number
  - b. Date/Place of Birth
  - c. Military status and service history (service dates, discharge character, and rank) found on a DD214 or other separation documents.
  - d. Discharge paperwork (DD214 or other

#### separation documents)

- 4. If you are applying as a spouse, surviving spouse or unmarried adult child you will also need your personal information, including your social security number. If you are applying on behalf of someone else, you will need
  - a. Appointments of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative (VA Form 21-22)
  - Appointment of Individual as Claimant's Representative (VA Form 21-22a).

Get forms to download at https://www.va.gov/find-forms/

- 5. If you are applying for an unmarried adult child of a veteran or service member, you will need to provide supporting documentation about the child's disability. You will need verification from the child's doctor including:
  - a. Date of disability onset
  - b. Description of disability, mental or physical, and
  - c. Description of how dependent the disabled child is on the veteran, and
  - d. Marital status of the child.

You can apply online if you are interested: https://www.va.gov/burials-and-memorials/pre-need/form-10007-apply-for-eligibility

### Where Are We Going? By Diane Schmidt, PND

Where Are We Going? There is a German Proverb; "Was bilft laufen, wenn man nicht auf den rechten. Weg ist? What is the use of running when we are not going the right way? Are we on a fast track to obtain a certain position? Is it really the right position for us? Have we read, reread and read again all there is about the job? Recently, I ran into an individual who was determined to be "in charge" so she can "change things." She finally got her wish. However, those things she wanted to change? Well, these were traditions that have held up over the years and turned many people against her. Her leadership was questioned. Sometimes, we need to be less in a hurry and more in tune. In tune with ourselves and those around us.



# Holiday Greetings from Washington Echelon #3

Donna Botelho \* Mary Fike \* Cathy Hennie \* Barbara Hoerr Marie Honeywell \* Margaret Reining \* Nancy Robbins Carrol Stripling \* Maria Tye



# Echelon 9 Montana

We wish all Teepettes a festive and joyous holiday season!

May 2024 bring you good health, happiness, joy and prosperity!

Michelle Allen Dottie Goodwin Chris Rangitsch

Toyce Babcock Eileen Greb Dale Reid

Margaret Barrett Carol Gruwell Clara Santopietro

Lacey Bray Kate Hahn Chaya Semple

Clancee Collilus Deborah Hancock Rathie Smith

Denise Cook Cory Hartman Phyllis Viccione

Elizabeth Cook Susan Hocker Rachel Weidner

Linda Cousineau Sylvia Machler Julie Witt

Tennifer Dalrymple Kim Kay McCarty

2 0 /

Sue Davidson Martin

Tennifer Oates Rhonda McDowell

Irene Dickerson Christina Miller

Janice Dobbs Lisa Milner

Candice Gehring Edna Nasca

Melanie Gold Carol Prahl





# Season Greetings from the Great State of FLORIDA Echelon #30

Rachel Ballinger Maria Brown Susan Butler

Donna Chandler

Patricia Erickson

Brenda Evardsson

Jae Franko

Susan Greener

Deanna Hall

Marina Perez

**Judith Richards** 

**Courtney Schmidt** 

Diane Schmidt, PND

**Jody Stump** 

Joy Teter

Juanita Vickers

Elizabeth (Betty) Wagner

TOP HATs: Paul Bosco,

Eldon Erickson, and Jim

Ramos



# Christmas Greetings Echelon #8 IL

Angela R, Baskin
Teresa "Terri" Browne
Georgiann "Gigi" Callaway
Sonja Creekmore
Detrall "Dee" Dearborn
Natalie Dragovich
Diana Fecarotta
Beverly Fitch
Sandra Harker
Christine Hildebrandt
Helen Hull
Iris I.M. Kirschner
Mary E. Kulavic
Jan Lepinski
Patricia Maher

Carolyn Mahoney

Dee Nighsonger
Cindy Joan
Young Rasmussen
Lisabetha Risley
Cynthia Robbins
Nickola Rogers
Cheri Stanton
Jacqueline Meemken Sutherland

Edna Taylor
Annette Tincher
Beverly Walker
Cheryl Walker
Ronnie Turner-Winston
Chevonne Woodard
Robin Vandiver





# Greetings from Echelon #35 Arizona

Tis the season to celebrate friendships and the beautiful connections created throughout the year! Thank you for our connection as amazing Legionnaires. May your holidays be magical and the start of a new season of hope and joy! It is our desire to Be the One for any and all of you!

- Marge Ahrens
- Judi Beischel
- Gerry Berger
- Emily Blaine
- Eszter Blair
- Nancy Browne
- Gilian Burns
- Patricia Carlisle-Thompson
- Tweila Rochelle
   Cauthen
- Theresa A Collins
- Sandi Deatherage
- Rosa DelRosario
- Lisa DeLeclerc
- Lisette Eckman
- Eldora Engebretson
- Rebecca Faris
- Patricia Fite
- Mary Freeman

- Jessica Garcia
- Julia Gusse
- Jennifer Harmon
- Donna Harwood
- Jeri Harwood
- Colleen Heck
- Cris Hinson
- Barbara Hobbs
- Dee Hoisington
- Dale Hutchinson
- Brenda Johnson
- Georgie Jones
- Jennie Jordan
- Zoreda Kennon
- Bobbie Kimelton
- Jennifer Kritzer
- Jacqlyn Kulfan
- Victoria Laria
- Malina Lopez
- Cheryl Mothershed

- Beth Nehring
- Anna Nemecek
- Donaretta Parker
- Katherine Pascoe
- Charee Reckner v
- Nancy Ruiz
- Cheryl Shannon
- Joan Sisco
- Kristi Smith
- Brenda Smull
- Jacqlyn Solace
- Carol Stensby
- Paula Stephenson
- Jeri Strande
- Janet Stripe
- Ellen Truesdedell
- Cheryl Wente
- Felice Wimbish-Tribue
- Karen Young





# 2023-2024 BUDGET

# INCOME

WAYS AND MEANS	\$2,275
MEMBERSHIP	\$4,000
JEEP CHRISTMAS GREETINGS	\$400
DONATIONS	\$100
EMBLEM SALES	\$1,000
OTHER (FINES ETC.)	\$50
BIVOUAC REGISTRATION	\$400
BANQUET TICKETS	\$3,600

# TOTAL INCOME \$11,825

### **EXPENSES**

JEEP INSURANCE NATIONAL AIDE PRINTING	\$1,200 \$450 \$300
ARLINGTON - WIMSA DC VISIT - NATIONAL DIRECTOR NATIONAL DIRECTOR INCIDENTALS	\$400 \$400
AWARDS LOG DIRECTOR	\$250 \$100 \$25
WAYS & MEANS MEMBERSHIP SR. VICE ECHELON DEVELOPMENT	\$50 \$25 \$200
SCHOLARSHIP (NOT INCL./OWN ACCT.)	\$1,000
EXPENSES SUBTOTAL	\$3,400



# **BIVOUAC EXPENSES**

NATIONAL DIRECTOR VIP	\$400
SR VICE DIRECTOR	\$300
JR VICE DIRECTOR	\$300
DISBURSING DIRECTOR	\$300
EMBLEM SALES	\$400
NATIONAL AIDE (ROOM/SHIPPING)	\$500
BIVOUAC NMI (\$350/\$75)	\$425
HONORARIUM (NATIONAL	
DIRECTOR)	\$100
NATIONAL CQ (FLAG SHIPPING)	\$175
NATIONAL SKY PILOT (FLOWERS)	\$25
BIVOUAC EXPENSES	\$5,200
BIVOUAC NATIONAL GUEST (UP TO 6)	\$300
SUBTOTAL - BIVOUAC	
EXPENSES	\$8,425

# TOTAL EXPENSES \$11,825



### **NATIONAL OFFICERS & COMMITTEES 2023 – 2024**

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(by time zones)

<u>Eastern</u>: Lisa McPhee, Millie
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<u>Central</u>: Cheri Stanton PND,
Earnestine Doubek, and Linda
Weston
<u>Mountain</u>: Bobbie Kimelton and
Linda Cousino
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#### **Web Mistress**

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**Future Jeep Deadline Dates:** January 20, 2024 for February's issue. March 20, 2024 for April's issue. May 20, 2024 for June's issue "Proud to be an American". July 20, 2024 for Pre-Bivouac issue. The 68th ANNUAL BIVOUAC and American Legion National Convention will be in New Orleans, Louisiana on August 22 - 29, 2024. This year's Bivouac theme will the *Great Gatsby*.

**Travel Dates:** Tentative travel to Jan. Plans for Echelons in person and virtual at National's Pilgram Challenge in Feb. Plans are being made for Arlington and WIMSA in May!" Hopefully Ech #24 can join me. Tentative plans to visit Ech #2 in June. (Director will reach out for tentative scheduling.)

### **Echelon Directors and Aides 2023-2024**

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#### Echelon #9 photos continued from page 4



Post 5 Jeepettes Carol Prahl, Clancee Collins and Susan Hocker at the District 10 meeting on October 8th. (photo on the left)

Lisa Milner on television in Tulsa, OK in October discussing why the Legion Family is so important to her community and veterans. (photo on the right)



Echelon 9 Director VIP Linda Cousineau saluting the Montana

LISA MILNER

Remembrance Wreath she just placed at the Bellevue High School in Bellevue, AB, Canada. (photo on the left)

Featured Special Speaker Jen Dalrymple placing a Montana Remembrance Wreath outdoors in Coleman, AB, Canada (photo on the right)



Denise Cook is all smiles after meeting National Vice Commander Randy Edwards at the Post No. 2 Veterans Day Breakfast. She was gifted a National Vice Commander Coin in recognition of her volunteer service!

