

THE AMERICAN LEGION WYOMING BOYS' STATE

69TH ANNUAL



JUNE 4-10, 2016

WYOMING STATE FAIRGROUNDS
DOUGLAS, WYOMING



Boys' State Chairman Rusty Ridley

It's my hope you enjoyed the 68th annual Wonderful Wyoming Boys' State session! Being selected as a delegate is an honor and I congratulate you.

I had the privilege of being a delegate in 2001. The program had a profound influence on me as I pursued a career in the Air National Guard and went on to college. You have had some long days, but the week is memorable. You received from the program what you put into it; your experience was determined by your attitude and how much you decided to be involved. It's my hope you took the opportunity to get to know as many of your fellow delegates as possible.



You have had the unique opportunity to get a first-hand look into the function of our government from the local, state and national levels. Better yet, you experienced it. By participating in a city, party, the legislature or courts, you gained an appreciation of the role of public service in our society.

The week culminated with a trip to Cheyenne where you met with the elected or appointed official for the office you held at Boys' State. What a great state we live in where we can have this kind of interaction. Don't take it for granted!

Having served on military staff at Boys' State for nearly ten years and as director, it is an honor to serve as Chairman.

On the behalf of the Boys' State Board of Directors, we hope you had a great week!

For God and Country,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rusty S.E. Ridley".
Rusty S.E. Ridley, Chairman
Wonderful Wyoming Boys' State

Boys' State Delegates



Brayden
Ahlstrom
Frontier Party
City 2



Trae
Albert
Pioneer Party
City 3



Justin
Baker
Frontier Party
City 3



Cody
Cagle
Pioneer Party
City 1



Jesse
Campbell
Pioneer Party
City 1



Bradley
Clark
Pioneer Party
City 1



Clayton
Colvard
Frontier Party
City 1



Ryley
Constable
Pioneer Party
City 3



Luke
DeHoff
Frontier Party
City 2



Taylor
Dodd
Frontier Party
City 2



Michael
Edwards
Pioneer Party
City 3



Ross
Elliott
Frontier Party
City 3



Elias
Ewen
Pioneer Party
City 1



Cooper
Fargen
Frontier Party
City 3



Curtis
Ferrarini
Pioneer Party
City 2



Wyatt
Geis
Pioneer Party
City 2



Dan
Graeff
Frontier Party
City 1



Preston
Gromer
Pioneer Party
City 3

Boys' State Delegates



Jarett
Hamby
Pioneer Party
City 3



Flint
Hossfeld
Pioneer Party
City 2



Morgan
Hummel
Frontier Party
City 2



Michael
Kessel
Frontier Party
City 1



Trevan
Lytle
Pioneer Party
City 3



DeeLynn
Miller
Frontier Party
City 1



Matthew
Mittelstaedt
Pioneer Party
City 2



Scott
Nobel
Frontier Party
City 1



Zachary
Owen
Frontier Party
City 2



Lucas
Perez
Frontier Party
City 1



Matthew
Rasmussen
Frontier Party
City 2



Lucas
Regnell
Frontier Party
City 2



Marshall
Rhoades
Frontier Party
City 3



Benjamin
Romanjenko
Frontier Party
City 1



Sawyer
Ruben
Pioneer Party
City 1



Anthony
Schaff
Frontier Party
City 3



Cody
Schmidt
Pioneer Party
City 2



Dylan
Shaw
Pioneer Party
City 2

Boys' State Delegates



Sam
Staten
Frontier Party
City 3



Conor
Sullivan
Pioneer Party
City 1



Donovan
Tatum
Pioneer Party
City 1



Wesley
Taylor
Frontier Party
City 2



Pierce
Thompson
Frontier Party
City 3



Peter
Victor
Frontier Party
City 2



Zeus
Vigil
Frontier Party
City 3



Wyatt
Voelker
Pioneer Party
City 1



Ryan
Vrieswyk
Pioneer Party
City 2



Taylor
Wagner
Pioneer Party
City 3



Kidd
Warren
Frontier Party
City 3



Ethan
West
Pioneer Party
City 2



Jeremiah
Wilkinson
Frontier Party
City 1



Jacob
Yocom-Blum
Pioneer Party
City 1

Boys' State Staff

THE AMERICAN LEGION Boys' State Staff & Board of Directors



Director/ Member
Bill Frye



Chairman
Rusty Ridley



Vice Chairman
Dave Thompson



Treasurer
Keith Davidson



Secretary
Jean Brown



Member
Jake Jacobs



Publicity
Lea Ann Thompson



Courts
Scott Peasley



Courts
Frank Peasley



Canteen
Frank Wescott

Boys' State Staff



Senior Staff
Brian Schueler



Senior Staff
Joel Defebaugh



Senior Staff
Dan Zwonitzer



Senior Staff
Brett Kahler



Military Advisor
SPC Galloway



Sr. Military Advisor
SSG Sheridan



Military Advisor
SPC Wells



Military Advisor
PFC Winget



Junior Counselor
Quade Palm



Junior Counselor
Ed Bird

Wyoming Boys' State Staff



Staff

Back (left to right): SSG Sheridan, PFC Winget, SPC Wells, SPC Galloway
Middle: Quade Palm, Joel Defebaugh, Bill Frye, Dave McCoy, Rusty Ridley, Brett Kahler, Brian Schueler
Front: Grant Lindbloom, Dan Zwonitzer, Jhon Estes, Jean Brown, Lea Ann Thompson, Dave Thompson



Military Staff

(left to right) PFC Winget, SSG Sheridan, SPC Wells, SPC Galloway

City #1



City #1



(Left to Right) Front Row:

DeeLynn Miller, Jacob Yocom-Blum, Jesse Campbell, Elias Ewen, Donovan Tatum, Daniel Graeff, Clayton Colvard, Cody Cagle

Middle Row:

Jeremiah Wilkinson, Sawyer Ruben, Benjamin Romanjenko, Conor Sullivan, Scott Noble, Wyatt Voelker, Lucas Perez, Michael Kessel, Bradley Clark

Back Row:

SPC Wells, Brian Schueler

Mayor:

Scott Noble - Laramie

Councilmen:

Michael Kessel - Gillette
Lucas Perez - Cheyenne
Ben Romanjenko - Story

Judge:

Wyatt Voelker - Newcastle

Marshal:

Conor Sullivan - Boulder

City #2



City #2



(Left to Right) Front Row:

Taylor Dodd, Ethan West, Matthew Rasmussen, Zachary Owen, Brayden Ahlstrom, Lucas Regnell, Peter Victor, Wyatt Geis

Middle Row:

Matthew Mittelstaedt, Thomas DeHoff, Cody Schmidt, Dylan Shaw, Curtis Ferrarini, Morgan Hummel, Flint Hossfeld, Ryan Vrieswyk, Wesley Taylor

Back Row:

Quade Palm, SPC Galloway, Brett Kahler

Mayor:

Curtis Ferrarini - Kemmerer

Councilmen:

Flint Hossfeld - Newcastle

Dylan Shaw - Cora

Cody Schmidt - Evanston

Judge:

Matthew Mittelstaedt - Laramie

Marshal:

Morgan Hummel - Hulett

City #3



City Three - A Complete Package

Written By: Zeus Vigil

City 3 is a tight-knit group. Everyone has gotten to know everyone on a personal level. New friendships have been forged. As a result, the residents of city three move collectively as one. They strive to be the best. The mayor, Trae Albert, is a respected authoritative figure. Everyone follows his lead. His ideas, intellects and natural born ability to lead proves to be most effective in leading the city to victory. The entire chain of command in the Legislature is filled with city three except for two. Taylor Wagner has won the nomination of Speaker of the House; while Preston Gromer secured the nomination for Speaker Pro Tem. Trae serves as the Chief Clerk, Pierce Thompson is the messenger and Ross Elliot is the Reading Clerk.

The dorm life is vibrant. Since they all get along with each other, they have fun. Pierce, Marshall and Ryley always bring the group together with humor. There isn't a day or night that passes by where the group laughs uncontrollably at jokes. Justin Baker, or Tex, makes everyone feel "at home." He makes sure everyone has their life together and includes everyone in activities. Taylor, Trevan Lytle, and Sam Staten are the bulk of the support of the group. Without them, the city would struggle maintaining the order. Kidd Warren brings a unique vibe to the city. He isn't like the rest. His unique lifestyle and attitude compliments the dorm life. Cooper Fargen contributes to the life of the dorm by simply being there. He is able to find a friend in everyone by just simply being himself. Not many can say that. Michael Edwards gets along with everyone. He never gives anyone grief. JD is a cool kid. But of course, no group of people isn't complete without the quiet ones. Preston, Zéus, and Ross are essential to the group. In a group full extroverts, introverts or quiet ones are revered. These three presences are the eye of the storm. Private Winget has helped everyone evolve into better people.

"Are you going to eat your cornbread?"

"City 3, Eat Out!"

City #3



(Left to Right) Front row:

Sam Staten, Jarett Hamby, Kidd Warren, Anthony Schaff, Pierce Thompson, Micahel Edwards, Marshall Rhoades

Middle row:

Preston Gromer, Justin Baker, Cooper Fargen, Taylor Wagner, Trae Albert, Ryley Constable, Ross Elliott, Zeus Vigil, Trevan Lytle

Back row

PFC Winget, Joel Defebaugh

Mayor:

Trae Albert - Evanston

Councilmen:

Cooper Fargen - Glenrock
Ross Elliott - Cheyenne
Justin Baker - El Paso, TX

Judge:

Preston Gromer - Casper

Marshal:

Taylor Wagner - Lingle

Recreation



Features



Crazy Legislative Actions!

Written By: Zeus Vigil

2016 Boys' State Legislature: This group of future leaders have come together to help maintain and better society through legislation. However, some of the bills they considered were kind of crazy!

The 2016 Boys' State Legislature passed a bill that legalized all drugs and prostitution, and also passed a bill mandating that every household must own a rooster.

Features



Features

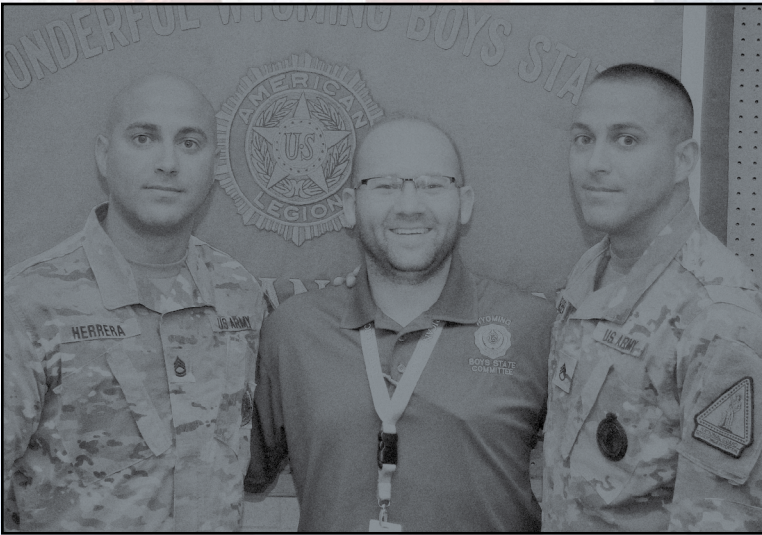
Commemorating The Boys State Class of 1816

*Written By: Ryley Constable and
Matthew Mittelstaedt*

In honor of the 200th Anniversary of the Boys State Class of 1816, we would like to give a special profile for Captain Rusty Ridley (1816), the current Wyoming Boys' State chairman. His service to WWBS has been truly noteworthy, considering his cataracts make reading near impossible.

Born in 1799, Captain Ridley attended Boys' State in 1816, as a member of the Pioneer Party. Like future nominee Ryley Constable, he was defeated by the Frontier Party nominee, this time a fellow named Henry Clay.

After nearly 100 years, Captain Ridley was appointed chairman of Wyoming Boys' State in 1907 by President Theodore Roosevelt. Please thank and congratulate him for his service, and remind him to take his blood thinner and to take his dentures out before he goes to sleep.



CAPITOL

Capitol Day

Written By: Michael Kessel

A moment of realization hits with the alarm clocks' ring that can only mean that it is finally the last full day of Boys' State. A day that follows all of the efforts put in with elections and campaigns that have come to a final conclusion. Moments of pride and disappointment led to this day which was spent with the people at the capital of Wyoming in Cheyenne at the Capitol Building and with the members of our state's government. Capitol day is truly a day filled with promises of new experiences and new people to meet.

The final full day of Boys' State began with the first steps off the bus into the heart of Cheyenne. Meeting with the people who know your elected or appointed position better than you could ever accomplish is how the day started. We found relationships that will last and made connections that will come back into our lives on this day. Many met in the offices of the officials while some explored the world of justice inside the county detention center.



DAY



Capitol Day (Continued)

The day continued to exceed expectations with a trip across town to the Jonah Building where the government is temporarily staying. Meeting the Governor of Wyoming Matt Mead becomes the highlight of lunch with a handshake and a speech. It is an experience that will not be forgotten by many and an experience that opens new doors for all boys who were there. The Jonah Building continued to serve us for the final activity of the day which was legislative and court sessions. Arguments led to one of the five bills passing, while all others failed quickly. Capitol Day ended with the steps onto the waiting bus and a last look over the shoulder. Capitol Day was the high note to end Boys' State and was an experience that will not soon be forgotten.



Representation of the House

Officers of the House

Speaker of the House:
Taylor Wagner Lingle

Speak Pro Tem:
Preston Gromer Casper

Majority Floor Leader:
Luke DeHoff Cheyenne

Minority Floor Leader:
Cody Schmidt Evanston

Chief Clerk:
Trae Albert Evanston

Reading Clerk:
Ross Elliott Cheyenne

Messenger:
Pierce Thompson Laramie



**Here, sir, the people govern; here they act by their immediate
representatives.**

-Alexander Hamilton-



An Act to Derecognize Canada as an Official Nation

Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the 2016 Wyoming Boys State:

Section 1.

(a) The State of Wyoming will remove diplomatic recognition from the country of Canada, thus removing all treaties and agreements formerly held between the State of Wyoming and the Nation of Canada.

Section 2.

(a) Currently (as of 5/17/2016) Canada is seen and treated as an official nation and sovereign state with individual and legitimate power and influence over Wyoming law and engagements. From this point on, the Nation of Canada will be no longer be seen in the eyes of the governing body as legitimate or official.

(b) All citizens of the State of Wyoming will adhere to this law and ignore the nation of Canada and its legitimacy in total.

Section 3.

- (a) This Act will be seen as a misdemeanor with fines imposed on those who infringe on this Act.
- (b) First time offenders will pay a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) with subsequent infractions increasing in five hundred dollar (\$500) increments.
- (c) In the case of five (5) infractions of this Act, criminals are subject to up to three (3) years in prison.

Section 4.

- (a) Act will be effective immediately (5/17/2016).

Reports from the Courts

Civil Trial



Mack vs. Striker, Cowboy & Susie

Defendants' Attorneys:

Cody Cagle
Wesley Taylor
Ryan Vrieswyk

Witnesses for the Defendant

Striker: Morgan Hummel
Cowboy: Matthew Mittelstaedt
Susie: Ryley Constable

District Court Judge:

Hon. Frank Peasley

Clerk of the Court:

Jacob Yocom-Blum

Reporter:

Daniel Graeff

Baliff:

Benjamin Romanjenko

Plaintiffs' Attorneys:

Sawyer Ruben
Jesse Campbell
Wyatt Voelker

Witnesses for the Plaintiff

Chief: Trevan Lytle
Bones: Matthew Mittelstaedt
Beans: Justin Baker
Curley: Peter Victor
Mack: Daniel Graeff

Criminal Case



State vs. Larry & Shark

Attorneys for the State
 Peter Victor
 Benjamin Romenjenko
 Jacob Yocom-Blum

Witnesses for the State
 Larry: Sawyer Ruben
 Snacks: Jeremiah Wilkinson
 Hawk: Cooper Fargen

District Court Judge:
 Hon. Frank Peasley
 Clerk of the Court:
 Cody Cagle

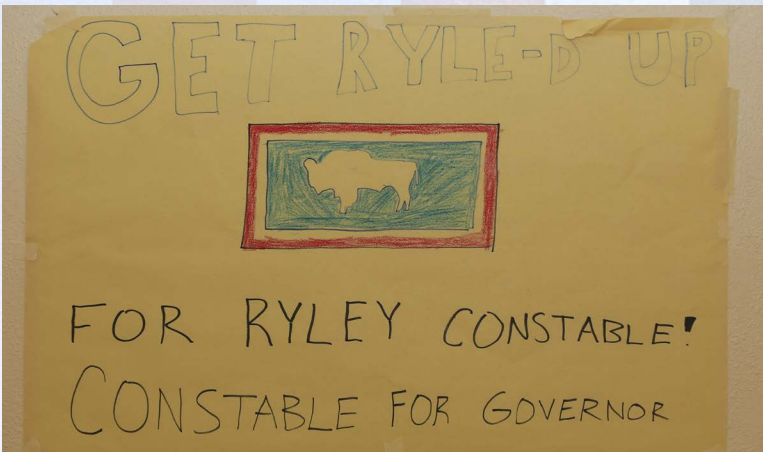
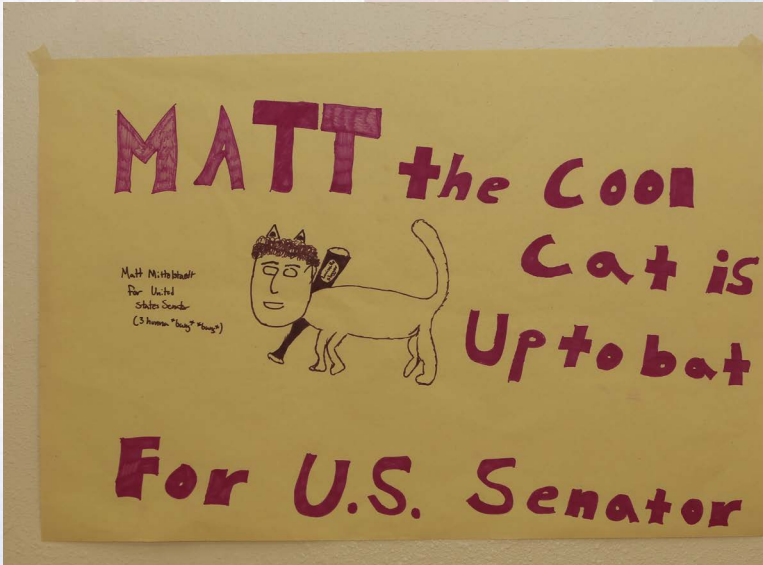
Reporter:
 Wesley Taylor
 Baliff:
 Daniel Graeff

Sheriff Barney:
 Ryan Vrieswyk

Attorneys for the Defendant
 Justin Baker
 Matthew Mittelstaedt
 Ryley Constable

Witnesses for the Defendant
 Larry: Sawyer Ruben
 Snacks: Jeremiah Wilkinson
 Hawk: Cooper Fargen

Pioneer



Party

Pioneer Party Leadership

Chairman

Sawyer Ruben

Cheyenne

Vice Chairman

Trae Albert

Evanston

Secretary

Cody Cagle

Wheatland

The Pioneer Party strives to embody qualities including accountability, respect and discipline. Our party is dedicated to having an open mind and open perspective about the issues and the ideas that others have.

Education : Non-mandatory ACT testing and dismantle PAWS testing

Gun Control: We want to lower the concealed carry age to eighteen (18) and we are Anti-Gun Control

Energy: We are Pro-coal industry and we want to restart the damaged industry

Health Care: We wish to re-open Obamacare and privatize the system

Capital Punishment: We are in favor of the cheapest and most humane form of Capital Punishment.

Pioneer Party Platform

Frontier



Party

Frontier Party Leadership

Chairman
Justin Baker El Paso, TX

Vice Chairman
Peter Victor Cody

Secretary
Dee Miller Evanston

We are for having nuclear power plants in Wyoming

We are for reforming the foster care program, which has been broken for many years

We are for increasing funding towards education

We are for increased inspection for illegal aliens

We are for keeping marijuana illegal in all instances

We are for legalizing state run and taxed casinos

We are for abolishing PAWS Testing

Frontier Party Platform

Party

Pioneer Party Candidates

U.S. Senator

Matthew Mittelstaedt
Preston Gromer

U.S. Representative

Cody Schmidt

Governor

Ryley Constable

Secretary of State

Sawyer Ruben

State Auditor

Dylan Shaw

State Treasurer

JD Hamby

State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Flint Hossfeld

County Clerk

Cody Cagle

County Sheriff

Conor Sullivan

County Treasurer

Bradley Clark

County Attorney

Ryan Vrieswyk

County Assessor

Michael Edwards

Clerk of District Court

County Commissioners

Elias Ewen
Jesse Campbell
Taylor Wagner

County Coroner

Wyatt Voelker

County Surveyor

Wyatt Geis



Elections

Frontier Party Candidates

U.S. Senator

Morgan Hummel
Cooper Fargen

U.S. Representative

Brayden Ahlstrom

Governor

Scott Nobel

Secretary of State

Zeus Vigil

State Auditor

Kidd Warren

State Treasurer

Luke DeHoff

State Superintendant
of Public Instruction

Lucas Regnell

County Clerk

Jeremiah Wilkinson

County Sheriff

Clayton Colvard

County Treasurer

Justin Baker

County Attorney

Sam Staten

County Assessor

Marshall Rhodes

Clerk of District Court

Dan Graeff

County Commissioners

Michael Kessel
Anthony Schaff
Pierce Thompson

County Coroner

Wes Taylor

County Surveyor

Taylor Dodd



Election Results

Wyoming Governor

Scott Nobel

Cora

US Senator

Preston Gromer

Casper

US Senator

Matthew Mittlestaedt

Laramie

US Representative

Brayden Ahlstrom

Pinedale

Secretary of State

Sawyer Ruben

Cheyenne

State Auditor

Dylan Shaw

Pinedale

State Treasurer

Luke DeHoff

Cheyenne

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Flint Hossfeld

Newcastle

County Clerk

Cody Cagle

Wheatland

County Sheriff

Clayton Colvard

Newcastle

County Treasurer

Justin Baker

El Paso, TX

County Attorney

Ryan Vrieswyk

Sheridan

County Assessor

Marshall Rhodes

Gillette

Clerk of District Court

Dan Graeff

Laramie

County Coroner

Wyatt Voelker

Newcastle

County Surveyor

Wyatt Geis

Gillette

County Commissioner

Michael Kessel

Gillette

County Commissioner

Anthony Schaff

Lander

County Commissioner

Pierce Thompson

Laramie

Appointments

Supreme Court Chief Justice
Ryley Constable, Gillette

Supreme Court Associate Justices
Jacob Yocom-Blum, Laramie
Peter Victor, Cody

Governor's Chief of Staff
Matthew Rasmussen, Burlington

Governor's Communications Director
Zeus Vigil, Cheyenne

Policy Analyst - Human Services
Lucas Regnell, Laramie

Policy Analyst - Natural Resources
Benjamin Romanjenko, Sheridan

Attorney General
Sam Staten, Pinedale

Department of Criminal Investigations Director
Morgan Hummel, Hulett

Director of Administration & Information
DeeLynn Miller, Evanston

State Librarian
Kidd Warren, Smoot

Director of Agriculture
Wes Taylor, Wheatland

State Veterinarian
Cooper Fargen , Glenrock

Cultural Resources Administrator
Ross Elliott, Cheyenne

State Parks Director
JD Hamby, Pinedale

Director of Tourism
Taylor Dodd, Laramie

State Lottery Director
Elias Ewen, Greybull

Director of Health
Ethan West, Cheyenne

State Lands and Investments
Trevan Lytle, Byron

State Geologist
Jeremiah Wilkinson, Casper

Homeland Security Director
Cody Schmidt, Evanston

Director of Emergency Management
Taylor Wagner, Lyman

Workforce Services Director
Trae Albert, Evanston

State Mines Inspector
Lucas Perez, Cheyenne

Director of Revenue
Bradley Clark, Laramie

Liquor Commissioner
Curtis Ferrarini, Kemmerer

Director of Environmental Quality
Jesse Campbell, Cody

State Engineer
Conor Sullivan, Pinedale

The Adjutant General
Donovan Tatum, Big Piney

Director of Transportation
Zachary Owen , Manderson

Aeronautics Commissioner
Michael Edwards, Laramie

Samsung American Legion Scholarship

Justin Baker

El Paso, TX

The Samsung American Legion Scholarship funds come from the earnings of a \$5-million endowment given by Samsung. Samsung, in recognition of the sacrifice and commitment of United States servicemen and women who served during the Korean War to maintain the security of the Korean peninsula, joined with the American Legion to offer an educational opportunity to the descendants of war-time veterans who have served honorably. Justin's great-grandfather, served during the Korean War.

The president and chief executive officer of Samsung North America, Dong-Jin Oh, says Samsung wants to recognize "the sacrifices and commitment of U.S. servicemen and women. We believe this is the best way to show our appreciation to the United States and to U.S. war veterans."



Alex Frye Youth Scholarship

Jeremiah Wilkinson

Casper

The Alex Frye Youth Scholarship is awarded in memory and remembrance of Wyoming youth Alex Fry (1998-2012). The recipient is chosen for demonstrating outstanding character, teamwork and leadership. The scholarship is presented by the Alexander G. Frye Charitable Fund.



THE AMERICAN LEGION WONDERFUL WYOMING BOYS' STATE

IN ONE WEEK, EXPERIENCE:

PATRIOTISM

LEADERSHIP

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

MALE HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS
ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

JUNE 3-9, 2017
DOUGLAS, WYO.

**APPLY
ONLINE**



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Yearbook Editors

Distinguished Contributors to the Yearbook



Zeus Vigil



Michael Kessel

Yearbook Writers and Photo Editors



Ryley
Constable



Matthew
Mittelstaedt



Lucas
Perez



Ethan
West



Kidd
Warren

Editor's Note



Wyoming Boys' State is a fantastic program. It has been an honor to have been a Boys' State Delegate in 2010, and to have had the privilege of returning to serve as a junior counselor, and again as a senior counselor and director of the media center.

Dave and Lea Ann Thompson deserve special recognition for their photographic contributions to the yearbook, without which this edition would not be possible.

Thank you to all of the Boys' State Delegates who helped contribute their thoughts and commentary to this yearbook. All contributors were vital, but Zeus Vigil and Michael Kessel deserve specific recognition for the exceptional work they provided.

The impact that this program has had on me and continues to have on Wyoming's youth cannot be overstated. Thank you to all who have contributed to Wyoming Boys' State.

