

Photo pool for Legion events available online  
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Meet Shaney Gober of Fairfield, Ala. She's a four-year member of American Legion Post 137's Auxiliary Unit, and supervises an online photo pool for American Legion-related events and activities. Back in April 2007, Gober wanted to share her photos with friends, so she signed up with Flickr, a photo-sharing Web site affiliated with Yahoo.

Then she came up with a great idea: Why not create a photo pool on Flickr, so that Legion members around the world can share their images? Gober says the photo pool "seemed like the best way for us and other Legion (posts) to easily find Legion-related photos and give us some positive exposure among those who may not know anything about the Legion."

Anyone with a Yahoo e-mail account can access Flickr by using their Yahoo ID and password. "This is a free online global service that allows you to share and comment on user-submitted photographs," Gober says, and she encourages any member of the Legion family to send in photos of their activities and events.

"We get a lot of parade photos, fundraisers, memorial services, post functions, etc." Gober says. "Small movie clips can also be added. I really enjoy the variety from different regions." Once a week, Gober reviews photo entries sent from post members and families. Then she invites the photographers to add material to the Legion photo pool.

Since last year, 152 people have joined the Legion-oriented photo pool, contributing more than 700 photos. "It's a great way for posts all around the country to share ideas," Gober says. "Sometimes, the easiest way to get someone into the Legion family is by reaching out to them. Flickr allows us to do this on a much bigger scale."

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