



THE BUGLE

MAY 2018

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 305 OF THE WOODLANDS

POST COMMANDER
VICTORIA GLOVER



Goodbye to April showers and hello to May flowers! The year seems to have gone by in a flash. My time as **Commander** is coming to an end and soon there will be a new **Commander**. Though it is only May the Post elections are nigh!

Jim Bolin and **Emery Heuermann** did a great job on getting nominees for the Post Officers! They are listed as presented in the box to the right. If you would like to fill in any one of the open positions, or challenge a candidate, please speak up at the May 17th meeting and let **Emery** and **Jim** know. But, nominations from the floor require the agreement in writing of the person being proposed.

Here is the Boys State update for this year. There were 29 boys interviewed from five different high schools. Two of the young men had to drop out of the Boys State process, leaving us with 27 boys. Each school sponsored a boy; plus, we had several of the Post members and parents sponsor boys.

MEMORIAL DAY EDITION

NOMINEES FOR ELECTION AS OFFICERS FOR 2018=2019

- Commander-----Bruce Carter
- First Vice Commander-----Jim Bolin (incumbent)
- Second Vice Commander----- (open as yet)
- Adjutant-----Pickens Jones (incumbent)
- Finance Officer-----Emery Heuermann (incumbent)
- Service Officer-----Toby Carroll (incumbent)
- Sergeant-at-Arms-----Harlen Thornhill
- Chaplain-----Bill Houghton (incumbent)
- Judge Advocate----- (open as yet)
- Historian----- (open as yet)
- Executive Committeeman-at-Large
 - Position #1----- (open as yet)
 - Position #2----- (open as yet)

I want to thank **Harlen Thornhill** for helping out with the disposal of the retired flags. He has informed me that he is moving to a location where burning anything is prohibited.



However, he is still collecting the aluminum cans for recycling. If anyone is in an area where they are allowed to burn, then please let us know.

Being the **Commander** for the past two years has been fun to say the least. I may have stepped down as an officer for

next year; I have not stepped down out of the Post. I have taken the "bull by the horns" with Boys State and seem to find it a good challenge for me. I feel it is a very important program so I hope to be appointed committee chairman for the next year.

Remember to check on friends and family that are vets. Don't let them go by the wayside though they do not get to come out to our Post activities and meetings. Drop them a line or visit with them so they do not feel forgotten.

Let us ever be reminded to never forget our fallen, our POW/MIA's, our veterans, our active duty personnel and their families. Keep them and our first responders in our prayers!

Victoria Glover, Commander

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (April 19, 2018)

At 7:00 PM sharp, **Commander Victoria Glover** ordered all officers to their stations and rapped the membership to its feet. She conducted the opening ritual aided by **Sergeant-at-Arms Bruce Carter** and **Chaplain Bill Houghton**. The **Commander** asked **Carter** as to a quorum being present. He responded affirmatively, there being 18 members present. Further, **Carter** cited that two guests were present: **District 7 Commander Ed Jarvis** and **Mr. Steven R. Graves**, who asked to address the membership later.

Adjutant Pickens Jones had distributed copies of the Minutes of two past meetings – the March 15 membership meeting and the April 16 Executive Committee meeting. The first item of business was to read for approval those Minutes. With little comment, both were adopted by motion and voice vote. Next, the **Finance Officer, Emery Heuermann**, was asked to report. He also had distributed copies of the Finance Report for the period ending March 31. In summary, the General Fund held \$7,986.91; the Investment Fund was at \$33,461.42; for a Total Assets of \$41,448.33. Value of Fixed Assets was estimated at \$8,064.67. The report was accepted by motion and voice vote, subject to audit. **First Vice Commander Jim Bolin** had no oral report but had distributed an April tabulation on District membership by Post. It showed Post 305 was at 249 paid-up members, with a goal of 322, or 77.3% of goal. That put the Post in fifth place among the

District's 17 Posts. **Bolin** stated the Post had slipped down a notch since the previous month. Post 305 is the second largest of the 17. The largest is Post 618 in Willis, which stands at 46.9% of its goal. The **Sergeant-at-Arms** had no report; neither did **Historian Win Salter**. But, **Salter** did cite an e-mail to all Executive Committee members sent earlier in the day. The import was this was his last meeting for a few months as he had to undergo chemotherapy treatment and that, as a consequence, the Post would produce no History Book for 2017-2018.

Judge Advocate Everett Ison did have a piece of Legion governance to cite. (This was in response to a question raised at the April 16th Executive Committee meeting having to do with transfer of members.) Legionnaires who have been recruited by National (e.g. responded to National ads) are signed up, then assigned to a State Department by address. Thus, Texas Post 345 includes, or included, such joiners. Post 345 includes two types of recruits and the records are so coded; (1) those with "National" as a source, and (2) those without that notation. Regardless of a later transfer to a local Post, the Post 345 history is on the record. Here's the rub: If, say, Post 305 wanted to return a former Post 345 transfer back, the Post would need the member's agreement by signature, if he/she had been a National recruit. If however, the transfer is based on disciplinary action or other cause taken by Post 305, such member's agreement is not needed, but there has to be a clear record of the cause for disciplinary action.



THE BUGLE

The Bugle is the monthly newsletter of American Legion Post 305; "The Woodlands Post"; Department of Texas. All Post and Auxiliary Unit members in good standing are entitled to a copy of *The Bugle*.

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REGULAR FEATURES:	Page
Commander's Corner -----	1
Meeting Highlights -----	2
Veteran's Advocate -----	3
Feature-----	5 - 7
Auxiliary Unit News-----	9
Coming Events Calendar-----	10
Officer Contact Info -----	10

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Monthly Meetings: The Post and Auxiliary meet at the South County Community Center in The Woodlands at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month, except in October*. The Center is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Lake Robbins Drive and Grogan's Mill Road, next to the library. Meetings are followed by a pot-luck supper provided by the Auxiliary.

*In October, a combined, short meeting precedes the Annual Picnic at Henry's Home Horse and Human Sanctuary in Conroe.

Service Officer Toby Carroll was next to report. He had been at the VA hospital (DeBaKey Medical Center) helping a veteran there with accessing benefits. He had to follow the man home so as to get military papers left there. The veteran was so grateful he wanted to join Post 305 right then. And, his wife was interested in the Auxiliary. At any one time, **Carroll** has four or five “open cases” he is helping to get through the VA benefits entitlement and application processes. He recently liberated two copies of the new 2018 Benefits Booklet – Volume 1. Next month, he hopes to have a copy for each member present.

The Commander reported on the Boys State program. The selections are completed and 29 high school juniors from five schools are this year’s pick, but we lack sponsorship for seven boys. (\$295.00 each). She made a plea for added sponsors from among the membership. Continuing, the **Commander** recognized she could still fill by appointment the two vacancies in the officer corps – **Second Vice Commander** and a **Committee-man-at-Large**. (She already had named **Harlen Thornhill** to the **Denton** vacancy.) She was asking for volunteers to serve out those unfinished terms through June.

The Commander reminded all it was Vietnam Veterans Appreciation night and asked all who served during the Vietnam War to stand and be recognized. About half of those in attendance stood and received a round of applause. (Post membership hovers around 62% with War Era Vietnam as first service.)

The next item was nominations for election next month, and Nominating Committee Chairman **Emery Heuermann** was given the floor. He proceeded by handing out a one-page report of the Committee. The proposed slate is displayed on page one in the box, and it shows five incumbents, five open positions, and two new/old names: **Bruce Carter** to be Commander and **Harlen Thornhill** to be Sergeant-at-Arms. **Heuermann** tried to drum up interest in the open positions but no one present rose to the occasion. (It should be noted that dual Post/Unit member **Dora Blue** was in the house, but at the Auxiliary meeting. **Blue**, an ex-Marine and a regular, offers what this slate lacks, but considers the Post too inactive.) Nominations were not closed, but will continue into May until the open slots have names.

Guest Steven Graves was given the floor. He cited the doctorate program he was working on from Walden University. His purpose for being at Post 305 was to gain its endorsement of the premise underlying the theme of his project: Namely, that the Veterans Administration is releasing veterans from hospitals to home care, where the caregivers are inadequately trained and equipped to handle such cases. He has been seeking and interviewing actual caregivers, mostly spouses and other family members, some LPN’s, who can support his argument for greater caregiver training. The action tonight, was to refer the matter of a letter of endorsement to **Judge Advocate Ison**, who will consider precedents.

Lastly, the **Commander** reminded everyone of the District 7 Convention this Saturday at Post 618 in Willis, and of the Second Division Convention on May 18-20 at Post 817 in Beaumont. There being no other business to come before the membership, the **Commander** closed the meeting in the customary manner. All adjourned and joined with Auxiliary members for a pot-luck supper of pasta and meat sauce.

[It must be noted that **Auxiliary President Carroll**, addressing the Post members before the meeting, announced that henceforth the meal will be served in advance of both business meetings at 6:30 PM. This was considered an improvement since we were all there together then, the food was fresher, and the meetings never ended concurrently.]



VETERANS ADVOCATE

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY IS FILLING UP

Only one percent of all veterans are buried or inurned at Arlington National Cemetery, but the cemetery is still projected to run out of space in two decades unless new land is obtained, eligibility requirements change, or some combination of both. That’s why Congress asked the Department of the Army to consider what could be done to preserve

Arlington as an active military cemetery well into the future, and that's why Arlington has launched a second survey to hear from its stakeholders. The first survey was conducted in July 2017 in partnership with several veteran organizations. The proposed new survey would further refine the first. Finding new land that is adjacent to the existing cemetery would be extremely difficult in an urban environment, but would closing Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall be a solution or just prolong the inevitable, since one acre extends the service life of the cemetery by only three months? Should Arlington be reserved for just active-duty deaths, combat deaths, former POW's, high heroism medal recipients, or not? Executive Director of Army National Military Cemeteries Karen Durham-Aguilera states: "Your opinion matters – not only to us, but to our military and civilian leaders as they face a difficult future for our hallowed national shrine."

[Source: VFW Action Corps Weekly; April 6, 2018]

TROUBLE AT THE DEBAKEY VA MEDICAL CENTER

Cat calls NOT welcome. Staring or whistling. NOT okay at the VA. These are some of the messages of a special campaign which kicked off last month at Houston's DeBakey VA Medical Center. The Medical Center's new End Harassment Campaign is aimed at ensuring women veterans receive their health-care in a safe and respectful environment, free of even the hint of sexual harassment. During the month of April, the Center is educating employees, veterans and visitors and

actively working to change the culture at the Center to one of zero tolerance for any type of harassment.

More than 15,000 woman veterans are currently registered for care at the Houston center. Some of those women veterans have reported feeling uncomfortable or harassed while surrounded by their male veteran counterparts, according to Dr. Rola El-Serag, Director of the Center's Women Health Program. She says: "When women feel uncomfortable in our medical center, they are less inclined to come in to receive the medical care they need. This can have a hugely negative effect on their health, both mentally and physically. The thought that a woman veteran who has experienced something like military sexual trauma or is suffering from something like PTSD, would not be comfortable coming to the VA is just unacceptable."

To combat this issue, the Center began training all 5,400-plus employees on ways to recognize inappropriate behavior and equipping them with the tools to intervene on behalf of women veterans in a variety of situations.

In 2017, the Medical Center opened a new Women's Health Center, dedicated to meeting the special needs of woman veterans. It offers woman veterans a private entrance, a growing number of co-located services including on-site mammograms, and primary and mental health care. As the fastest growing demographic of VA patients, woman veterans average about 20 years younger than the male patients at the Medical Center. [Source: Houston VAMC News Update; April 12, 2018.]

MARINE GUNNERY SERGEANT R. LEE ERMEY DEAD AT 74

R. Lee Ermey, legendary Marine and one of the most memorable actors from the movie "Full Metal Jacket", died April 14th at age 74. Ermey passed away from complications of pneumonia. Bill Rogin, Ermey's long-time manager, stated; "He has meant so much to so many people. And, it is extremely difficult to truly quantify all of the great things this man has selflessly done for, or on behalf of, our many men and women in uniform." Rest in peace, warrior.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Post Service Officer Toby Carroll: Tel: (281) 323-498
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VA Houston Regional Office: (713) 383-7842
VA Conroe Outpatient Clinic: (936) 522-4024
Texas Veterans Commission Hot Line: 1(800) 252-VETS
County Veteran Service Centers:
Montgomery County - Conroe: (936) 539-7842
Harris County – Houston: (281) 876-6600
Military Veteran Peer Network: Conroe: (936) 521-6132

STATE LEGISLATORS:

Dist. 3: Cecil Bell Jr. – Magnolia: (281) 259-3700
Dist. 15: Mark Keough – The Woodlands: (281) 419-1090
Dist. 16: Will Metcalf – Conroe: (936) 539-0068
Dist. 126: Kevin Roberts – Houston: (281) 444-1814
Dist. 150: Valoree Swanson – Spring: (281) 257- 4222

~~~ MEMORIAL DAY 2018 ~~~

IN MEMORIAM: JESSE LEROY BROWN (1926–1950)

Ensign Jesse L. Brown died on a cold wintry evening in North Korea. His remains are not in one of the National Cemeteries. He was not missing in action. His body was deliberately cremated by his squadron mates using napalm bombs from above. He was the first black Naval Aviator to earn the wings of gold and the first black Naval officer to die in the Korean War.

Brown was born to poverty in segregated Mississippi. He excelled in schools and was admitted to Ohio State University. In his sophomore year, he

applied for the Navy's V-5 Aviation Cadet Training Program, was accepted and joined the USN Reserve. He graduated from OSU with a degree in aeronautical engineering and went through increasingly advanced Navy training. On April 26, 1947, Brown was commissioned an ensign and awarded his wings. In January 1949, following training and qualification as a carrier pilot, he joined VF-32 and the *USS Leyte* on the east coast. How he got to North Korea to die there, is the rest of the story

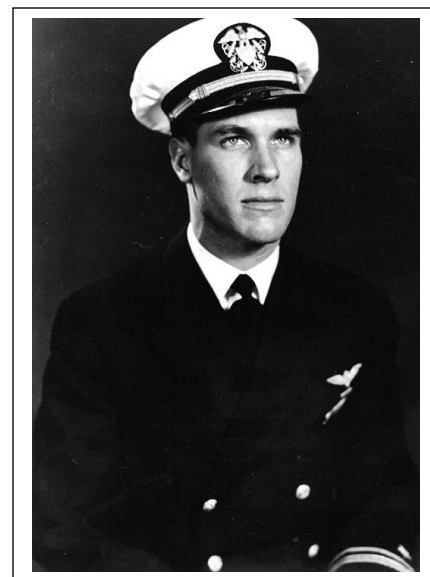


Jesse Leroy Brown

IN MEMORIAM: THOMAS JEROME HUDNER (1924–2017)

On April 4, 2018, with full military honors and an honorary flyover of F-18's in missing man formation, Thomas Jerome Hudner, Jr. was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. His friends and family gathered in Section 54 of the cemetery on the gray and blustery afternoon. The U. S. Navy Band played as a horse-drawn caisson carried Hudner's casket to the grave site. In attendance were General Joseph Dunford (USMC), Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a dozen other Medal of Honor recipients. Hudner had been a Naval Aviator with service spanning from the end of World War II to the Vietnam War and beyond – 1946 to 1973. But, it was as a young fighter pilot of VF-32 flying Corsairs off the *USS Leyte* (CV-32) that Hudner gained fame and the Medal of Honor.

When in June 1950, ten divisions of the North Korean Peoples' Army launched its full-scale invasion of the Republic of Korea, the *Leyte* was a part of the Atlantic Fleet, on duty in the Mediterranean Sea, and no one aboard expected to be deployed to Korean waters. However, President Truman put all U. S. Navy units on alert. On August 8, 1950, the *Leyte* was relieved by another aircraft carrier and ordered to Korea via the Panama Canal, San Diego, Pearl Harbor and Sasebo, Japan. It reached Korean waters, joining Task Force 77 off the northeast coast of the Korean Peninsula, around October 8th. By then, allied forces were driving the North Korean Peoples' Army northward. Squadron 32 and its F4U-4's were providing air cover and



Thomas Jerome Hudner

attacking communication lines, troop concentrations and military vehicles and installations. In late November, the Peoples' Republic of China entered the war, at first surreptitiously, then openly in force. In the northeast, it engaged the U. S. Tenth Corps in an intense battle. Almost 100,000 Chinese troops had surrounded 15,000 U. S. troops, and the pilots of VF-32 were flying dozens of close air support missions every day to prevent the Chinese from overrunning the area.

On December 4, a flight of six Corsairs of VF-32 were directed to provide close air support to Marines trapped by Chinese forces. The pilots were: Lt. Cdr. Dick Cavoli (Squadron XO), Lt. George Hudson, Lt.jg Bill Koenig, Lt.jg Tom Hudner, Ens. Ralph McQueen and Ens. Jesse Brown.

The flight that day had to fly from Task Force 77's location to the Chosin Reservoir, through very harsh, wintry weather for 35 to 40 minutes, to the vicinity of villages Yudam-ni and Hagaru-ni. The pilots began searching for targets along the west side of the reservoir, lowering their altitude to 700 feet in the process. The three-hour search-and-destroy mission was also an attempt to probe Chinese troop strength in the area. Though the flight spotted no Chinese, Koenig radioed Brown at 14:40 that he appeared to be trailing fuel. (It was common to find small-arms fire damage from Chinese infantry firing from cover in villages.) As it turned out, at least one bullet had ruptured an oil line of Brown's plane. He was losing oil pressure and experienced difficulty in controlling his aircraft. He dropped his external fuel tanks

and rockets and attempted to land the plane in a snow-covered clearing on the side of a mountain. But, the plane crashed in a bowl-shaped valley about 15 miles behind Chinese lines in 15 degree F. weather. The plane broke up on impact, and Brown's leg was pinned beneath the fuselage of the Corsair. He attempted to free himself, then removed his helmet and gloves and waved to the other pilots circling above.

Brown was Hudner's wingman, who feared Brown had died in the crash. The flight circling above sent a Mayday radio signal for any heavy transport aircraft in the area, while they searched for any sign of Chinese ground forces. They got a return signal that a rescue helicopter would come as soon

Brown began slipping in and out of consciousness. The rescue helicopter arrived around 15:00 hours, and Hudner and its pilot, Lt. Charles Ward, were unable to put out the fire with a fire extinguisher. They tried in vain to free Brown with an axe, working for 45 minutes to do so. They briefly considered, at Brown's request, amputating his trapped leg. Brown lost consciousness for the last time shortly thereafter. The helicopter, which was unable to fly in darkness, was forced to leave at nightfall with Hudner, leaving Brown behind. Brown is believed to have died of his injuries and exposure due to the extreme cold a short while later. No Chinese forces threatened the site, likely because of the presence of the VF-32 pilots.



as possible. But, Brown's wrecked plane was smoking and a small fire was seen near the internal fuel tank. Hudner tried to rescue Brown via radio instructions, to no avail. He then crash landed his own Corsair near Brown's, running to him to attempt to wrestle him free of the wreck. With Brown's condition getting worse, Hudner tried to drown the fire with snow and pull Brown from the aircraft, but neither were successful.

Hudner begged his superiors to allow him to return to the wreck to help recover Brown's body, but that was denied due to fear of an ambush of vulnerable helicopters. To prevent Brown's remains and the two wrecked aircraft from falling into Chinese or North Korean hands, the Navy bombarded the crash site with napalm two days later, reciting The Lord's Prayer over the radio, as they watched Brown's body be consumed by the flames. Brown was the first

black U. S. Navy officer killed in the Korean War.

The incident grounded Hudner for a month, as he injured his back in the landing, an injury which persisted for six to eight years. He flew 27 combat missions during the Korean War, serving there until January 1951, when the *Leyte* was rotated back to the Atlantic Fleet. In April 1951, Hudner received the Medal of Honor from President Truman and met Brown's widow Daisy. The two stayed in touch for at least 50 years. His act of daring was adversely criticized by some Navy superiors; for risking his life, for losing a good airplane and for risking the rescue helicopter and its pilot. But, none of that seemed to bother him.

Hudner continued his Navy career. By the time of the Vietnam War, Hudner was the Executive Officer of the *USS Kitty Hawk* (CVA-63) and was on station in Vietnam waters in 1966 and 1967, with no combat flying. In 1968, he was assigned as Operations Officer of Southeast Asia Air Operations. His final posting was in Washington, D. C. as head of Aviation Technical Training in the Office of Naval Operations. Hudner retired as a Captain in February 1973.

After retirement, Hudner initially worked as a management consultant, then worked with the United Service Organizations and various veterans groups. In April 2017, with Hudner in attendance, the Navy christened the *USS Thomas Hudner*, an Arleigh-Burke-class guided missile destroyer. It is scheduled for commissioning in Boston in late 2018. After 1991, he lived in Concord, Massachusetts, with his second wife,

Georgea. He died there at age 93 on November 13, 2017.

For actions leading to his death in Korea, Jesse L. Brown was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart and the Air Medal. In February 1973, the Navy commissioned the Knox-class frigate *USS Jesse L. Brown* (FF-1089). It was decommissioned in July 1994, and transferred to the Egyptian Navy, becoming the *Damiyat*. [Source: Reserve Officer Ass'n Bulletin, April 15, 2018; Internet.]

THE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR VALOR THROUGH U.S. HISTORY

From the Medal of Honor bestowed by a President to the Silver Star lost in decades of red tape, hundreds of thousands of men and women have earned decorations for their gallantry beyond even the high standards of the American military. For some their bravery resulted in the ultimate sacrifice and in honors they did not live to receive. What follows are some stand-out examples of the military's valor award mosaic.

James Elliot Williams is the only enlisted sailor to receive the Medal of Honor, Navy Cross and Silver Star Medal, in addition to three Bronze Stars with "V" devices, three Purple Heart medals and multiple other honors. But, he did not start his military service on the up and up. Williams used a forged birth certificate to enlist as a 16-year old in 1947. Williams would serve during the Korean War, but he earned his medals in Vietnam. From July 1966 through January 1967, multiple enemy engagements and rescue operations while in command of a patrol boat, led

to the honors cited above. His two-boat patrol damaged or destroyed 65 Viet Cong boats and took out nearly 1,200 enemy fighters during a single incident.

Like Williams, **Jack Treadwell** earned his service's top three valor awards for actions less than a year apart. Treadwell earned the Medal of Honor for his actions as a first lieutenant in 1945. Capturing six German pillboxes single handedly to free up his stalled company and was cited "as an overwhelming one-man offensive". Decades later, in 1968, then **Major Colin Powell** and Treadwell were aboard a helicopter in Vietnam that crashed. "Powell, with complete disregard for his own safety and while injured himself returned several times to the smoldering aircraft which was in danger of bursting into flames" to assist Treadwell and others to get free. In the following year, while commanding the 11th Infantry Brigade in Vietnam in 1969, Treadwell saw a U. S. convoy strike an enemy mine while he was aboard a helicopter. He ordered the aircraft to land and rushed to the rescue despite follow-on explosions from the ammo laden vehicles. That action earned him the Soldier's Medal, the highest non-combat award for valor.

Eight civilians have received the nation's top honor for military valor, but they would be ineligible for it today. Three were awarded during the Civil War – two earned by civilian Navy employees and the third by **Dr. Mary Walker**, the only female recipient of the award. Walker served as a War Department surgeon and was a POW for four months in 1864. She received the Medal of Honor the following year.

The other five civilian awards went to scouts who served during the Indian Campaigns. The most famous, **William “Buffalo Bill” Cody**, earned his while a civilian cavalry scout in Nebraska in 1872.

Cody and the other five civilians who earned Army Medals of Honor had them revoked in 1917 after a review of all prior recipients conducted by five retired generals. Earlier awardees were not subject to a vigorous vetting process, as implied by the following:

During the Civil War, members of the **27th Maine Volunteer Infantry** who volunteered to remain on duty in defense of Washington, D. C. past their scheduled separation dates were promised a Medal of Honor – after every member of the 25th Maine declined and headed home. But, instead of a few hundred recipients, the War Department received a roster of the entire unit, some 874 soldiers, including those who hadn’t stayed at their posts. Regardless, they all received a Medal of Honor.

Four officers and 35 enlisted members who made up President Lincoln’s funeral guard received Medals of Honor.

Awards for troops who put out a fire, rescued a flag or, in at least one case, wrote directly to the Secretary of War to request a medal, received the Medal of Honor.

In all, 911 awards were rescinded, including all of those given to members of the 27th Maine. The civilian awards were restored in 1989.

Marine Corps and Navy Medals of Honor were not part of the 1917 review and purge, but it is

possible the 52 medals awarded for actions by Marines and sailors in 1898 at Cienfuegos, Cuba, may have raised some red flags. After all, they all came for actions taken on the same day. And, their citations were nearly identical, offering few details. But this was not a nomination process gone awry. These sailors and Marines were ordered to perform a dangerous and critical mission – sail in small boats that could be targeted easily by the enemy garrison into a mined harbor, dredge up communication cables linking the port with the outside world and cut them. Marines laid down covering fire for sailors who hacked at cables with saws and axes. The boat crews ended up severing two large cables, then sailed through heavy fire back to their home ships, the cruiser *Marblehead* and the gunboat *Nashville*.



Nineteen men have earned two Medals of Honor. Eight served in the Navy, seven were Marines, and four were Army. Current Medal of Honor regulations, in place for more than a century, prohibit multiple awards of the medal.

General Douglas MacArthur earned the Medal of Honor in 1942 for his actions during the Japanese invasion of the Philippines. He had been nominated for the honor for his

actions during World War I, but did not receive it, however, he did earn seven Citation Stars, a decoration that was converted into what is now the Silver Star Medal in 1932 at then Army Chief of Staff General MacArthur’s direction. That same year, MacArthur also championed the creation of the Purple Heart Medal, which traces its roots to the Badge of Military Merit awarded to George Washington for “any single meritorious action”, per the Army’s Center of Military History.

These examples are barely the tip of the history of military heroism, much of which is included in the archives. Army **Colonel David Hackworth** earned ten Silver Stars (three in Korea; seven in Vietnam) along with two Distinguished Service Crosses, and eight Purple Hearts. And, **Marine Lt. General Lewis “Chesty” Puller** did not receive the Medal of Honor, but he did earn an unmatched five Navy Crosses and the Army’s Distinguished Service Cross, among other awards. **Audie L. Murphy**, another Army veteran who used falsified documents to enlist underage, served in the invasion of southern Europe in 1943, and gained fame in the battles through southern France. He became one of the most decorated soldiers of WWII, receiving the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, the Legion Of Merit Medal, three Purple Hearts and two Bronze Stars.

The metal of the Medal differs by branch of service – different designs or casting, but the ribbon is common to all – light blue with 13 white stars. [Source: Marine Corps Times; April, 12, 2018; Internet.

PROGRAMS & NEWS OF AUXILIARY UNIT 305

I hope that all of you have been able to enjoy the weather the last few weeks. It proves that Houston can have a Spring season. In many ways, May seems to bring ideas of new beginnings – graduations, the start of new careers, and summer vacation plans. I have some things that I would like you to put on your calendars as you make your plans for the next few months.

May has many military-associated holidays. May 11th is Military Spouse Appreciation Day. We focus so much on our active duty personnel and our veterans that I think sometimes we forget about their spouses. These are the people who take care of everything at home so their spouse can serve without worry. If you know of a military spouse, please let her or him know that we understand and appreciate their service also.

National Poppy Day is Friday, May 25th. Since World War I the American Legion Family has used the Poppy to remind people of the sacrifices American men and women have made to secure our safety and freedoms. We will be distributing Poppies on the 25th, 26th, and 27th. If you would like to help, please contact **Rosalie Fryer** (936-520-8895) so that she can get you on the schedule.

Memorial Day is on May 28th. Once again the Houston National Cemetery will have a parade of flags, laying of wreaths, a speaker, rifle salute and the playing of Taps. The ceremony will begin at 9:30 AM. Our Legion Family participates in the ceremony and all are welcome to attend. There is no admission charge, and it is a

great way to educate the children in your life about the importance of recognizing what our veterans have done for us. Also Flags For Fallen Vets will be putting flags at every gravesite in the cemetery before Memorial Day weekend. If you are interested in helping them, you can contact them at 817-798-9414 to volunteer.

May 19th and 20th the Division 2 Spring Convention takes place in Beaumont. If you are interested in attending, I need to know soon so that I can send in our registration. This year Sharon Phelps is running for Division Auxiliary President. Sharon is from District 7, she is well qualified for the position, and it would be great if we can be there to show her our support.

FYI: The Department of Texas Convention will be held in San Antonio, TX, July 12-15, 2018. Mark your calendar and let me know if you are planning to attend.

Our Unit had a table at The Woodlands Garage Sale on April 14th. We did well thanks to Win Salter's donated items which included some of his original paintings and the baked goods we had. There will be another Woodlands Garage Sale and a craft fair at St. Simon and Jude Church in October that we would like to participate in. When we get the dates, we will let everyone know. I am telling you this now so that this summer when the weather is just too hot to be outside, you can use your crafting skills to make things that we can sell at the craft fair. All the money we earn at these sales goes to our GOF so that



President Kathy Carroll

we can continue supporting the programs that we vote for.

Our May meeting will be an important meeting that I hope all of you will attend. We will be electing our officers for the 2018-2019 year. We still need a couple volunteers to step up and take a position, particularly Secretary. Please call **Rosalie Fryer** (936-520-8895) if you are willing to serve on our Board. Call her before she calls you.

Our next meeting will be on May 17th. Starting this month we will be serving our food before the meeting. We are changing this for a couple reasons – it is healthier to eat earlier, and when we are having a hot meal it will be easier to serve the food hot. Also, if the Post finishes their business before us, they do not have to wait for the food. We will leave the food out so that it will be available after the meeting for anyone who wants to stay and visit. We will begin serving at 6:30 PM, and the Post and Unit will each meet after the meal. Hope to see you there.

God Bless our men and women in uniform, our veterans and God Bless the United States of America.

**Kathy Carroll, President
ALA Unit 305**

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCALE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Tue.	May 8	VE Day (1945)	WWII Ends in Europe	
Sun.	May 13	Mother's Day		
Mon.	May 14	Executive Committee Meeting	South County Community Center @ 7:00 PM	
Thur.	May 17	Membership Meetings (Elections)*	South County Community Center @ 7:00 PM	
Sat.	May 19	Armed Forces Day		
Mon	May 28	Memorial Day (Observed)	Troop the Colors at the National Cemetery	
Wed	June 6	D-Day (1944)	Normandy Beach Landings	
Thru	June 14	Flag Day	Show the Colors!	
Sun	June 17	Father's Day		
Mon.	June 18	Executive Committee Meeting	South County Community Center @ 7:00 PM	
Thur.	June 21	Distressed Flag Disposal Ceremony	South County Community Center @ 6:30 PM	
Thur.	June 21	Membership Meetings (Installation)*	South County Community Center @ 7:00 PM	
Mon.	June 25	Korean War Began (1950)		
Wed.	July 4	Independence Day	The Woodlands July 4 th Parade.	
Mon.	July 16	Executive Committee Meeting	South County Community Center @ 7:00 PM	
Thur.	July 19	Membership Meetings*	South County Community Center @ 7:00 PM	
Sat.	July 28	World War I Began (1914)		

*(Remember: Pot luck suppers are served 45 minutes before the Membership Meetings)

POST & AUXILIARY UNIT CONTACT INFORMATION (2017-2018)

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>TEL. NO.</u>	<u>E-MAIL ADDRESS</u>
<u>POST 305</u>			
COMMANDER	Victoria Glover	(832) 813-9415	ALPostcmdrvickie@gmail.com
FIRST VICE CMDR.	Jim Bolin	(281) 251-2352	jpb20006@sbcglobal.net
SECOND VICE CMDR.	(vacant)		
ADJUTANT	Pickens Jones	(281) 367-7631	pickensjones@usa.net
FINANCE OFFICER	Emery Heuermann	(281) 362-8431	emeryheuermann@charter.net
SERVICE OFFICER	Toby Carroll	(281) 323-4085	toby.carroll@sbcglobal.net
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	Bruce Carter	(281) 844-0836	bruce4482@att.net
CHAPLAIN	Bill Houghton	(281) 367-3159	whoughcloc@aol.com
JUDGE ADVOCATE	Everett Ison	(281) 298-9524	everett.ison@sprint.com
HISTORIAN	Win Salter	(281) 370-1912	flintyeye@gmail.com
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:			
POSITION ONE	Harlen Thornhill	(409) 273-2287	harlen@consolidated.net
POSITION TWO	(vacant)		
<u>AUXILIARY UNIT 305</u>			
PRESIDENT	Kathy Carroll	(281) 323-4085	kcarroll47@sbcglobal.net
VICE PRESIDENT	(vacant)		
SECRETARY (Act'g)	Dayna Salter	(281) 229-1365	dayna.salter@ymail.com
TREASURER	Dayna Salter	(281) 229-1365	dayna.salter@ymail.com
HISTORIAN	Jenny Hamann	(281) 907-3430	ala305pres@gmail.com
CHAPLAIN	Geri Mulvihill	(832) 620-6265	gerimulvihill@outlook.com
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Rosalie Fryer	(936) 520-8895	rcfryer@consolidated.net
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	Annie Smith	(281) 757-3967	carl12024@yahoo.com
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:			
POSITION ONE	Joan Charest	(281) 363-9710	rrge26@aol.com
POSITION TWO	Sandie Holzinger	(281) 364-8590	zing4@earthlink.net
POSITION THREE	Veronica Maiolo	(832) 228-4403	sammaiolo@sbcglobal.net