



For God and Country

The Post 305 Bugle

American Legion Post 305, P.O. Box 9336, The Woodlands, TX 77387

Volume 4 Issue 2 Sept-Oct 2001

Commander's Comments



After several months at our new meeting location, the Rayford Road Community Center, Post 305 is settling into the routine. It is an exceptional facility, with more room than we had in the past. We hope to see some of you who haven't been to a meeting in a while to "come on out" and enjoy some of the activities and the good fellowship.

Now that we are through the summer and we begin a new fiscal year, let's all put on our recruiting hats. We already have 1/2 of our membership paid up for the year 2001-2002, so keep the dues coming in and continue to support your American Legion. Talk to your friends and neighbors about the Legion right here in The Woodlands. I also want to welcome our newest members, Marge Brown and Marvin Engel.

Our second rummage sale of the year is scheduled for October 20. It will be held in the front yard of our Adjutant, Emery Heuermann, at 203 Heatherwood Dr., Oak Ridge North. Let's

clean out our garages and attics; and check with anyone you know who could donate saleable items to the Post for this fund-raiser. If you have items to donate, call Frank Gray at 281-367-7384 or Rudy Charest at 281-363-9710.

Speaking of fund-raisers, the Post membership has elected not to pursue the possibility of affiliating with a commercial bingo hall, at this time, for the purpose of generating revenue. It is, therefore, more important than ever for the Post to come up with more ideas for raising funds, especially for the acquisition of a Post home. Don't be shy, many of you have experience with other organizations, so bring those ideas to the table and help your Post.

I'll be attending the National American Legion Convention, which is scheduled from August 24 - 30 in San Antonio. This is my first National Convention, and it has been 15 years since it was last held in Texas. I'm looking forward to learning more about the American Legion.

George Bannon

Auxiliary Corner



As the Commander and I get ready to attend the American Legion and Auxiliary National Convention in San Antonio, I am filled with anticipation of another great year for Unit 305. We have made so much progress in areas like Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Girls State, Fundraising and Membership; I know that our accomplishments will encourage us to expand our efforts in the future.

Our most recent A.L.A Bulletin from Department of Texas included a reminder that November is Poppy Month. Please plan to participate in Poppy distribution on November 10. This has been one of our most successful projects because of your support and involvement. We are still looking for someone to help coordinate this year's program, so please call Lee Montgomery or me if you can help out.

Chairmanship for Public Relations is still vacant. This position requires establishing

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and maintaining contact with local newspapers, and letting them know how important it is that the community be aware of our activities. Announcements or articles we submit will be collaborated upon, so you don't need to be a cub reporter to chair this committee. Please give me a call if you are interested.

As I mentioned at the last meeting, Unit 305 has been asked to participate in an upcoming "Coffee Tour" to be held on Sunday, September 9 in Willis. Everyone is invited to attend and asked to provide finger food for visiting District and Division dignitaries. We would like to present our Unit membership renewals to the Division or District President that day, so if you have not yet done so, please send your \$18.00 check to Gene Wilson-Watz today.

I have also received the Convention Call for our District 7 Convention, to be held in Willis on Saturday and Sunday, October 20 and 21. We will elect delegates at our regular meeting on September 20.

That same weekend, the Post will hold its semi-annual Rummage Sale and the Unit will run the refreshment stand. The sale will be held at the home of Emery and Liz Heuermann from 8 am 'til 3 pm on Saturday, October 20.

A final reminder: Our October 18 meeting will be a "cookout" and will be held in Shadowbend Park. The Post will provide hot dogs, sausages, hamburgers and the all-important cooks, and the Unit will provide side dishes and condiments.

I look forward to seeing you all at our meeting on September

20, when we will vote on our budget for the 2001-2002 year.

Sue Ellen Bannon

.Report of Department of Texas Convention

The 83rd Annual Department of Texas Convention was held in Wichita Falls from July 12 through July 15. The Post and Unit were well represented. Only 4 of the 23 Posts in the 7th District were in attendance. George Bannon and Chuck Suhr attended from Post 305, and Sue Ellen Bannon, Mary Lou Suhr, and Rosalie Fryer attended from Unit 305.

Conrad Roberson was elected Department Commander and Jimmy Atchison was elected Department Vice Commander. The resolution to expand American Legion eligibility, which had been passed at the Post, District and Division level, never got out of committee at the Convention, so it was not enacted.

There were also several social functions made available to those in attendance. A dinner dance was held on Friday night, and a bus tour to a casino in Lawton, OK was provided on Saturday night.

"Band of Brothers" to Air

Television audiences around the country will hear firsthand about the hell that sparked an everlasting bond between World War II soldiers from a Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg production. "Band of Brothers" is a 10-part HBO miniseries based on the experiences of E Company (known as Easy Company), 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division.

The series is named after, and based on, the Steven Ambrose book of the same name. The title is

actually a phrase used by Shakespeare in the play King Henry V.

Henry describes the bond of those having served in combat, referring to the victorious battle of Agincourt in 1415, as "we few, we happy few, we band of brothers".

Even Wm. Shakespeare understood the camaraderie that we enjoy because of our shared experiences in the military.

Birdies for Charity

This year's Birdies for Charity Campaign has been more successful than last year's. We have received from the Houston Golf Association a check in the amount of \$2,811.55. This amount represents 96.1% of the monies pledged for this year. If more is received a supplement check will be sent to us. We wish to thank all of you who worked on this campaign, whether you got one pledge or many.

Next year the Shell Houston open will be March 25-31, 2002, which means we will have less time to solicit pledges. Remember this program is a team effort and each one of us in Post 305 is a member of the team, so we must all pull together if we are to do better than this year, which was about \$500.00 better than last year. Again thanks to all who helped, we hope more will pitch in and help next year.

The Old Flag

It is the soldier, not the reporter,
who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the soldier, not the poet,
who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the soldier, not the campus organizer,
who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the soldier, not the lawyer,
who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the soldier,
who salutes the flag,
who serves under the flag,
and whose coffin is draped by the flag,
who allows the protester to burn the flag.

A protest raged on a courthouse lawn,
Round a makeshift stage they charged on,
Fifteen hundred or more they say,
Had come to burn a Flag that day.

A boy held up the folded Flag,
Cursed it, and called it a dirty rag.
An OLD MAN pushed through the angry crowd,
With a rusty shotgun shouldered proud.

His uniform jacket was old and tight,
He had polished! ! each button,
shiny and bright.
He crossed that stage with a soldier's grace,
Until he and the boy stood face to face.

"FREEDOM OF SPEECH", the OLD MAN said,
"Is worth dying for, good men are dead,
So you can stand on this courthouse lawn,
And talk us down from dusk to dawn,
But before any Flag gets burned today,
This OLD MAN IS GOING TO HAVE HIS SAY!!

My father died on a foreign shore,
In a war they said would end all war.
But Tommy and I wasn't even full grown,
Before we fought in a war of our own.
And Tommy died on Iwo Jima's beach,
In the shadow of a hill he couldn't quite reach
Where five good men raised this Flag so high,
That the WHOLE DAMN WORLD COULD SEE IT FLY.

I got this bum leg that I still drag,
Fighting for this same old Flag.
Now there's but one shot in this old gun,
So now it's time to decide which one,
Which one of you will follow our lead,
To stand and die for ! ! what you believe?
For as sure as there is a rising sun,
You'll burn in Hell 'fore this Flag burns, son.

Now this riot never came to pass.
The crowd got quiet and that can of gas,
Got set aside as they walked away
To talk about what they had heard this day.
And the boy who had called it a

"dirty rag",
Handed the OLD SOLDIER the folded Flag.

So the battle of the Flag this day was won
By a tired OLD SOLDIER with a rusty gun,
Who for one last time, had to show to some,
THIS FLAG MAY FADE, YET THESE COLORS DON'T RUN

Post 305 Barbecue

Menu Burgers, Hot Dogs and Bratwurst with my German Sauerkraut on them. The Ladies Auxiliary are bringing the condiments, dessert, and all of the GREAT GOODIES that they are so good about feeding us. There will be beer at this meeting.

I will need three (3) people to bring spatulas for flipping burgers, tongs for doing the doggies and most importantly, a desire to assist in the cooking. They may contact me at the September meeting or call me at 281-362-1390. Since I wander a lot, they can leave a message.

This would also be a good opportunity for members who do not normally attend to join us.

Directions to the Barbecue At Shadowbend Park on October 18

From I45, go west on Research Forest Drive. Pass Gosling Road. Turn to the Left on Shadow Bend Drive. Turn Right on Lake Woodlands Drive. The park is on the Right.

See you there. Dave

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A Challenge From Your New Vice Commander Chuck Suhr

The main responsibility of a Vice Commander is membership. Our Post needs new members. A Post cannot continue to grow unless it continues to enlist Veterans to either transfer or join our Post.

I plan to personally sign three new members to our Post in the 2002 membership year.

To the member who signs the most members, beyond my three, I will personally contribute \$25.00 towards their annual membership, or cash if P.U.F.L.

Adjutants Report

Fall Rummage Sale

Can you believe that fall is almost here? With fall, arrives our second Rummage Sale, scheduled for Saturday October 20. Liz and I have volunteered to Chair this event and to provide our circular driveway. We should have ample room for lots of goods, products and merchandise so start pricing and boxing up. We are certainly in the right location for a Garage Sale...deep in the Heart of Oak Ridge at 203 Heatherwood Drive. The Auxiliary will handle concessions again. We will also have American Legion memorabilia for

sale as well.

So, rather than discarding items you think of as "junk", try selling them at our fall garage sale. Check with friends, relatives, and neighbors to see if they have anything to donate. What a great way to visit and socialize with fellow Legionnaires and raise money for the Post. So hop to it—lets make this the most successful rummage sale yet. Watch your mailbox...we will have more later.

Recent Happenings

The July and August meetings were interesting and informative to say the least. At a normal meeting, we typically cover a lot of ground in a short period of time on a variety of topics and these two meetings were certainly no exception. Meeting just one time per month and trying to be finished by 8:30 is a challenge but the Commander certainly tries to get us into the Chow line on time. Hats off to Commander Bannon for his leadership and vision as he addresses head on important issues that relate to veterans, our local community and the business issues of Post 305.

In July, an extensive report was presented to the membership by one of the representatives of the

Commercial Bingo Hall that is opening in Conroe. There was a lively Q and A session following the presentation that addressed many of the Pros and Cons of our post becoming affiliated with this group. After much discussion and consideration, it was decided at the August meeting to temporarily abandon further negotiations until we are sure of exactly what is in the best interest of Post. 305.

Membership renewal cards are being received in an impressive manner. For a post as small as ours, we have a solid foundation of loyal members and a cadre of participating members. For those of you who cannot come to the meetings, we thank you for your financial and moral support. If you can come, do it...you have an active post that you can be proud of.

Finally, as your new Adjutant, please bear with me as I learn the ropes of how to properly collect, record, and deposit your dues, get your 2001 or 2002 card to you and keep Department happy as well. I promise you...it is a much larger job than I ever envisioned. Thank you Kim Biggerstaff and Chuck Suhr for all of your help.

Later,

Emery Heuermann
Adjutant Post 305

2001, POST 305, BOYS STATE REPRESENTATIVES

From left to right, Brad French, Oakridge H.S.; Timothy Stone, The Woodlands H.S.; Brandon Tyree, John Cooper H.S. Back row, Chuck Suhr, Vice Commander, Post 305; George Bannon, Commander, Post 305



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(THIRD SATURDAYS)

MARCH 17-10AM- 4PM

APRIL 21-10AM- 4PM

MAY 19-10AM - 4PM

JUNE 16-6 - 9PM

JULY 21 - 6-9PM

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OCTOBER 20 - 10AM -4PM

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POST OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOME PHONE</u>	<u>WORK PHONE</u>	<u>OTHER INFORMATION</u>
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Auxiliary Sec'y Treas.	Gene Wilson-Watz	(936) 321-3212		watzline@juno.com

* Members of Post 305 Executive Committee

YEAR 2001 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Any Day	Sep 01	Adopt A Path Pickup	Volunteers	Six Pines —N. Millbend to Mall
Sunday	9 Sep 01	7th District coffee Tour	Volunteers	Willis Post
Thursday	20 Sep 01	Meeting	All	Know your “Vet”?
Any Day	Oct 01	Adopt A Path Pickup	Volunteers	Six Pines Dr —N. Millbend to Mall
Thursday	18 Oct	Meeting	All	Cookout —Shadowbend Park
Saturday	20 Oct	Rummage Sale	Volunteers	
Sat, Sun	20, 21 Oct	7th District Convention	Selected Individuals	Willis Post
Any Day	Nov 01	Adopt A Path	Volunteers	Six Pines Dr.—N. Millbend to Mall
Saturday	10 Nov 01	Poppy Distribution	Volunteers	Location to be announced
Sunday	11 Nov 01	Veterans Day	All	Activities to be announced

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