AMERICAN LEGION
POST 305 BUGLE

June 2005 Volume 1 Issue 4

COMMANDER'S CORNER

The month of June will see some important events in the life of the Post.

Prior to the Post Meeting on June 16th we will have a ceremony to dispose of worn American Flags. The ceremony will begin at 6:15. Come early and honor our flags which have completed their duty.

Later, at the meeting, we will install the Post Officers for the year 2005-2006. More on that later.

We took sealed bids from Post members for the 2000 Mercury Grand Marques and the winner was Brad Walls. The winning bid was for $3400. Brad said that he would fix the car up and try to sell it. If he was able to make additional money after deducting expenses and a small commission, he would donate that money to the Post.

Thanks to Chuck Suhr for his work in both the Nominating Committee and the rummage sale. Both were a lot of work, but Chuck handled it with efficiency and class.

Thanks also to Rudy Charest who ran the Birdies for Charity program for the fifth time. He raised more money this time than ever before. We will need to replace him next year as he has asked for a pass. Big shoes to fill. Volunteers accepted.

We have a couple of income producing programs that are continuous. Harlen Thornhill collects aluminum cans brought to the meeting and converts them to cash for the Post. Also, junk mail brought to the meeting can be sold for one dollar per pound. We just got a check for $90.

Another program that doesn't make money, but is very successful and important is the collection of magazines and books. We have a member, Tony Straka, who takes any type of book or magazine to the VA Hospital in Houston. I think we are up to about 600 units so far this year. Thanks to Mr. Straka for his efforts on behalf of our comrades.

Emery Heuermann

MEETING EVENTS

The opening ceremonies included honoring a departed comrade, Ted Henderson, by Draping the Charter.

The Service Officer, Brad Wall introduced two guest speakers. The first was Mrs. Shirley Engle Who gave a very touching account of her husband's, Marvin Engle, inurnment at Arlington National Cemetery. She emphasized how helpful the cemetery administrators were in planning the ceremony and then how wonderful the ceremony was to her and to her family. Next was Ms. Dwana Stowe who is with the Department of Labor office of senior placement. She is helping seniors find work. She can be reached at 936-760-4705.

The Finance Officer, Dave Lips, reported that the Post has total assets of $19,796 in several different accounts. Since the first of the year, income has been $7,378 while expenses have been $4,150 for a positive cash flow of $3,228.

The Vice Commander, Carl Smith, reported that new membership notices will be mailed out on July 1st for 2005-2006. We currently have 298 members for the year, and our quota is 312. We have until June the 6th to turn in any unpaid members' dues for the 2004-2005 year. If you have not paid your dues, please mail a check for $25 to the Legion office as soon as possible.

The Post 305 $500 Scholarship was awarded to Julie Roach at The Woodlands High School. Joe Hammond represented the Post at the presentation

George Gannon reported that they had a successful orientation for Boy's State attendees for the coming summer. The Post is sending five boys.

George Bannon then read and explained the changes to the by-laws for the second time. A brief discussion followed before the changes were unanimously approved. The main change reduces the number of members required for a regular meeting quorum from 10 percent of the membership (about 30) to 12 members.

There was an animated discussion about whether to accept a sealed bid of $3400 for the Mercury Grand Marquis, as the bid was well below market value. The motion was made to accept the bid and passed with one abstention and one no vote.

The Post elections were held as the membership voted on the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee chaired by Chuck Suhr. The motion was made to have the Adjutant cast one vote for each of the nominated members . The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting conclusion was followed by a dance exhibition by five teen age dancers from Trick'd Out.

VETERANS' ADVOCATE

The last week in April, the House approved (214-211) the Congressional Budget Resolution (HConRes 95) for 2006-2010. This approval by both House and Senate projects spending $2.6 trillion and a $382 billion deficit for Fiscal Year 2006. This includes tax cuts of $106 billion through 2010, which includes a $35 billion cut in entitlement programs. Those cuts are $10 billion for Medicaid, environmental protection, housing, education and *veterans' programs.* It does increase spending for defense and homeland security.

My opinion: The poor, the sick and the veterans lose again, with big business on top.

The House urged (417-4) that future spending for Iraq and Afghanistan be a federal budget item and the more than $200 million that has already be appropriated for the war and reconstruction be treated as *emergency spending,* and thus be exempt from fiscal controls.

My opinion: That means no accounting to voters for funds spent, as required. Our kids and grandkids get one heck of a mortgage on their futures.

Keep in touch with your legislators. I have some legislators' e-mail address. Contact me at 281-419-1631. Dutch Dettinger

ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 2005-2006

Commander	M.D. (Dutch) Dettinger
Vice Commander	Jim Bolin
2d Vice Commander	John Nanninga
Finance Officer	Dave Lips
Adjutant	Everett Ison
Service Officer	Dayton Denton
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jerry Bradshaw
Historian	Gerry Mulvihill
Judge Advocate	George Bannon
Chaplain	Pat Turner
Ex. Comm. At Large	Pickens Jones
Ex. Comm. At Large	Ray Shubert

POST 305 ACTIVITIES

DAY	DATE	ACTIVITY	PARTICIPANTS	REMARKS
Monday	Jun 13 2005	Meeting 7 pm	Executive Comm.	Legion Office
Thursday	Jun 16 2005	Meeting 6:15 pm	All Available Members	Rayford Road Comm. Ctn.
Sunday	July 3 2005	Parade Float Prep	Volunteers	TBA
Monday	July 4 2005	Parade	All Available Members	Start at Methodist Church
10 Day after El	TBA	Meeting 7 pm	Executive Comm.	Legion Office
Saturday	July 9-11	Dept. Convention	Delegates	Dallas, Texas
Thursday	July 21 2005	Meeting 7 pm	All Available Members	Rayford Road Comm. Ctn.

FREE CREDIT REPORTS NOW AVAILABLE

Beginning June 1, 2005 an amendment to the Fair Credit Reporting Act requires each of the nationwide consumer reporting companies to provide you with a free copy of your credit report, at your request, once every 12 months.

A credit report contains information on where you live, how you pay your bills, and whether you've been sued, arrested, or filed for bankruptcy. There are three nationwide consumer reporting companies, Equifax, Experian, and Trans Union.

You must get you free report through a central agency. To order, click on www.annualcreditreport.com, call 877-322-8228, or complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form and mail it to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. The Form is available from the Adjutant Everett Ison or from www.ftc.gov/credit. For more info contact Everett Ison.

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