



# American Legion

## POST 305 BUGLE

January 2007

Volume 3 Issue 1

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

I trust y'all had a nice holiday season and are ready to get back to reality.

I also trust that you all took advantage of the special on membership and joined at the \$25 level, because now it will cost you \$31. However, the membership is still a real value at that price. You get Legion Magazine, information on veteran benefits, free \$1000 insurance policy, and you belong to one of the best Posts in Texas.

The important items coming up are the Oratorical Contest on January 13<sup>th</sup> at Woodlands Christian Academy 5800 N. Alden Woods Drive at 2 p.m. The contestants will present a prepared speech on a section of the Constitution and then a three to five minute impromptu talk on another aspect of the Constitution. It is a real treat to listen to these young adults and you should take advantage of the opportunity if you are able.

Also, at the meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Chili Cook-off. Seven intrepid cooks, members of the Legion all, will prepare a chili for us to sample after the meeting. The Auxiliary will pick the best chili, and the winner will be idolized by all.

Then, the first weekend in February is the State Mid-Winter Conference. It is a time that the State Committees get together to provide status reports. Also it is a time of training. Last year I attended a class on Robert's Rules of Order and Veteran Affairs

and Rehabilitation. This year the State will be much more involved in training and I, and two others from the Post, will attend The American Legion Extension Course. The meeting is open to all Legionnaires and will be held at the Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark from Feb. 1 to Feb. 4

In this issue of the Newsletter, I will begin a section about the committees of the Post that you can join by letting us know where you would like to help. We have over 300 members and only 50 or so come to meetings and less than that actually help. We need your to help.

I will also be suggesting social activities that can be developed even if we do not have a building or "home".

For God and Country,  
Jim Bolin

### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

In November, we approved an amendment to the Constitution that makes it easier to replace officers who resign during the year. We also elected a Sgt-at-Arms and a Member-at-Large to the Executive Committee to replace the members who resigned those positions.

In December we started a drive to gain wider participation in the Legion business by passing out committee assignments and requesting volunteers to participate in the committee businesses. We also approved paying the registration fee (\$10) for Mid-Winter Conference attendees.

### **AMERICAN LEGION COMMITTEES**

The Americanism Committee shall be charged with the inspiration of patriotism and good Citizenship by arrangements for proper observance of patriotic occasions; encouragement of patriotic and civic phases of instruction in schools; Americanization of aliens; combating anti-American propaganda by education of the general public in American ideals through public forums, etc., and activities for community and civic betterment.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

We currently have 200 members who paid in 2006 but as yet have not renewed for 2007, and we have 100 members who paid for 2005 but have not renewed for 2006 or 2007. We need your help to keep the Legion strong and to make it more effective in keeping Veteran's benefits viable.

### **VETERAN'S ADVOCATE**

FROM SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS AND THE PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION: (a) THE USS ARIZONA MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND VISITORS CENTER IN HAWAII IS DETERIORATING SO FAST THAT IT COULD HAVE ONLY 2 YEARS USE LEFT. IT IS SINKING. IT WAS BUILT ON LANDFILL AND HAS BEEN JACKED UP 4 TIMES. IT HAS SUNK ABOUT 3 FEET. IT OFTEN GETS 4500 VISITORS A DAY, MORE THAN DOUBLE THE NUMBER IT WAS DESIGNED FOR WHEN IT WAS BUILT IN 1980. ON BUSY DAYS THE LINE IS 2 HOURS LONG AND AS MANY AS 1500 ARE TURNED AWAY. THE REPLACEMENT COST IS \$50 MILLION. \$7 MILLION HAS ALREADY BEEN RAISED, BUT \$28 MILLION MORE IS NEEDED BEFORE CONSTRUCTION CAN BEGIN. A 4TH GRADE CLASS IN PUNTA GORDA, FLA HAS RAISED ALMOST \$7000 OF THEIR \$10,000 GOAL. MY OPINION: LET'S NOT LET THIS PRICELESS MONUMENT DISAPPEAR. IT MARKS THE WATERY GRAVE OF 1177 SOULS. THOSE OF US WHO REMEMBER THAT DAY, THE "7TH OF DECEMBER

1941", CAN'T LET IT SINK INTO THE MUD OF PEARL HARBOR. IF IT DOESN'T MEAN ENOUGH TO US, HOW CAN WE EXPECT IT TO MEAN ANYTHING TO THOSE YOUNGER THAN US. PLEASE DONATE IF YOU CAN.

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS: ON 6 DECEMBER 2006 "RUSSELL BUCHANAN" DIED AT THE AGE OF 106 IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS. HE WAS THE LAST KNOWN SURVIVING VETERAN OF BOTH WWI AND WWII. HE SERVED IN THE NAVY IN WWI AND THE ARMY IN WWII. HE HAD SUFFERED A STROKE THE DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING. THE VA REPORTS THERE ARE STILL 14 CONFIRMED WWI VETERANS ALIVE IN THE U.S. WE SALUTE YOU SIR.

IN 1971 THE "POW/MIA" FLAG WAS DESIGNED BY AN MIA WIFE, MRS. MICHAEL HOFF. AS A RESULT OF THE 100TH CONGRESSIONAL ACTION, ON 9 MARCH 1989, THE OFFICIAL "POW/MIA" FLAG WAS INSTALLED IN THE CAPITAL ROTUNDA. IT IS THE ONLY FLAG EVER DISPLAYED IN THE U.S. CAPITAL ROTUNDA OTHER THAN "OLD GLORY". IT HAD BEEN THE FLAG THAT WAS FLOWN OVER THE WHITE HOUSE ON EVERY "NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY" SINCE 1982. IT IS REQUIRED TO BE FLOWN ON ALL GOVERNMENT BUILDING. SO THEN, WHY ISN'T MORE BEING DONE BY OUR GOVERNMENT TO BRING HOME DEAD OR LIVING POW'S AND MIA'S?

Dutch Dettinger

### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

It seems to me there are many ways that we may enlarge our social activities. I would like some feedback on what I am suggesting.

How about a golf league? There must be several golfers among the membership who would like to get together and play golf. I don't have anyone that I regularly play with and I suspect there are others who are looking for partners. Lets get together and see what happens.

How about cards? There are many card games that require few people that could be played at member's homes on a rotating

basis. All we need is the organizer to get it going. Since many of us are retired, it could be in the afternoon when more of us who don't drive at night could participate, or we could have two, one at night and one during the day.

Any other suggestions? Some of you must have a favorite game, sport, etc. that you could suggest. My email is: [jpb20006@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jpb20006@sbcglobal.net). Let me know.

Jim Bolin

### **POST'S POLICY**

A Blue Star Banner has come to mean that the household where it is displayed is the home of a serving military member. The Post will present a cloth Blue Star Banner to a member of the Post who has a family member serving in the military. We will provide you with a paper Blue Star Banner that you can present to a family who has a son or daughter serving in the military.

We will be looking for a person to become our contact with the mail order location where we order all the emblems and other Legion particular items. That person will become the order taker for those items, will have a copy of the Emblem Sales Catalog at all meetings, and will help you to order what you want from the catalog.

### **Post Officers**

Commander Jim Bolin 281-251-2352  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Cdr. Everett Ison 281-298-9524  
 2d Vice Cdr. Chuck Suhr 936-273-2688  
 Adjutant Brad Walls 281-367-0562 W  
 Finance Off. Dave Lips 281-362-1390  
 Service Off. Dayton Denton 832-928-6054  
 Sgt.-at-Arms Carl Smith 713-252-7884  
 Chaplain M. Warren Gartman 930-273-6092  
 Judge Ad. George Bannon 281-298-1588  
 Historian Emery Heuermann 281-362-9193  
 Ex. Comm. Pickens Jones 281-367-7631  
 Ex. Comm. Mike Sorich 281-367-7631  
 Newsletter Jim Bolin 281-251-2352

### **Post Activities**

Day	Date	Activity	Location
Sat	Jan 13	Post Oratorical	Christ. Acad.
Mon	Jan 15	Ex Comm.	Office
Thur	Jan 18	Membership Meet	Rayford Rd
Thur	Jan 18	Chili Cook-Off	At Meeting
Sun.	Jan 21	District Oratorical	Bryan Post
Feb 1-4	State	Mid-Winter Conf.	Austin, TX
Mon.	Feb 12	Ex Comm.	Office
Thur.	Feb 15	Membership Meet	Rayford Rd