



American Legion



POST 305 BUGLE

July 2007

Volume 3 Issue 7

COMMANDER'S CORNER

July begins the Legion's new year, and you will be hearing from the State soon with a card to renew your membership for the coming year, 2008. I want to thank all members for continuing their membership for last year. The final membership report had us at 392 members vs. a goal of 317. Because we did so well, the District was also able to make over 100% of its goal, first time in recent memory. However, since we had such a good year, our goal for next year is sure to be much higher than last year. (It will be set at the State Convention next weekend.) So, I would like to urge you to help us out by getting an early start and sending your membership in early.

July 4th is also the big parade in The Woodlands. We will be meeting at the First Methodist Church in the Woodlands at 8 a.m. to participate. (Corner of Lake Woodlands at Grogans Mill.) If you are going to help decorate the float, be there at 7:30 a.m. If you are unable to walk the parade route, come anyway. We will have a ride for you. If you plan to ride the float, bring a lawn chair.

The State Convention will also be held this month in Irving, Texas from June 28th to July 1st. Delegates are **George Bannon**, **Jim Bolin**, **Everett Ison**, and **Jerry Mulvihill**. We will be voting on a new State Commander for next year as well as other officers and resolutions.

At our membership meeting in July, the new Post officers elected in May will be taking over. The line up is pretty much the same and can be seen at the end of the letter. We could use some more participation so that next year some of us could take time off and let someone else have the glory.

Speaking of glory, I hope all of you saw us on the front page of the Villager and the Z4 page 4 of the Chronicle on Thursday June 21st regarding the ceremony for Cory Kosters. The organizer of that event was **Everett Ison**. That explains how we got top billing. Also, keep watching the Villager because sometime in July I will appear in an ad for the adoptions of pets for the animal shelter. (No wise remarks.)

For God and Country

Jim Bolin

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Before the meeting we held a flag disposal ceremony.

Our Scholarship winner, Stephanie Barry attended the meeting and graciously met with many of the members after the meeting. She promised to march/ride with us in the July 4th parade.

We passed two motions to spend money: One for \$50 for ad in Villager newspaper to welcome veterans to march with us on July 4th. One for \$30 to pay for the fried chicken we had after the meeting (since it was a meeting for installation). The ad was to replace the ad we didn't get in the Memorial

Day paper. We were also too late to get this ad in the Villager's 4th of July salute to the military.

We gave out years of service awards for members who passed a multiple of 5 years of being a Legion member.

We gave Certificates of Participation to **Art Magill** and **Bob Jackson**, **Emery Heuermann**, **Dayton Denton**, **Everett Ison**, **Dave Lips**, and District Commander **John Palasota** for participation in various programs and activities of the Post during the past year.

Then we recognized **Mickey Fussells** for culinary excellence as the Chili Cook-Off winner for 2007. And, finally we recognize **Pickens Jones** as **Legionnaire of the Year**. Congratulations and thanks to all those so recognized.

District Commander **John Palasota** installed the Officers of the Post for next year.

FLAG POLE DEDICATION



Everett Ison at Flag Pole Dedication

Scores of neighbors honored Army Pfc. Cory Kusters on Saturday June 16th by dedicating a flagpole to his memory in Clover Park. The Post presented a marble plaque to his parents and grand parents as part of the Fallen Soldier Program. **Everett Ison** was planned the program and was master of ceremonies. Photo was through the courtesy of photosbysuzette.com.

VETERAN ADVOCATE

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Houston VA Regional Center 1-713-383-7842

Montgomery County Veterans Service Office 1-936-539-7842

Your Legislators (Toll Free) 1-877-762-876, 1-888-762-6780

I don't have anything from the Veteran's Advocate this month as Dutch has had a run of bad health. We all wish him a speed recovery and hope to have an article from him next month.

AUXILIARY NEWS

At our June meeting we presented Mary Kay Sanchez with a Past President Pin, a Certificate of Appreciation, and a bouquet of roses for her outstanding leadership as Unit President 2005-2007.

On July 4th we will meet at the First United Methodist Church in The Woodlands at 7:30 a.m. We will help decorate the float for the parade that starts at 9:00 a.m.

I am looking forward to a great year, with the help of all officers and members. If you haven't been to a meeting lately, please come to our next meeting on July 19th at the Rayford Road Community Center.

Mary Bolin
President, Unit 305

POST'S POLICY

Three raps of the gavel are a signal to rise (at attention), and one rap of the gavel signals that members should be seated.

POST'S COMMITTEES

The Public Relations Committee shall be charged with the promotion of public support of the Legion's program by the establishment of proper contact with The American Legion Magazine, Department and national Legion news service and by local publicity of Post programs and activities.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Announcement: Due to lack of funds, future issues of the Bugle will be distributed by email, except for the May issue. It will be announcing the elections in May to the entire mailing list. If you know anyone who gets the Bugle by mail and not by email, please share this information.

ICE - In Case of Emergency

A recent article from the Toronto Star, "the ICE idea", is catching on and it is a very simple, yet important method of contact for you or a loved one in case of an emergency.

As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is program the number of a contact person or persons and store the name as "ICE". A paramedic who found that when they went to the scenes of accidents, there were always mobile phones with patients, but they didn't know which numbers to call thought up the idea.

He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there were a nationally recognized name to file "next of kin" under. Following a disaster in London. . The East Anglican Ambulance Service has launched a national "In case of

Emergency (ICE)" campaign. The idea is that you store the word "ICE " in your mobile phone address book, and with it enter the number of the person you would want to be contacted "In Case of Emergency ".

In an emergency situation, Emergency Services personnel and hospital staff would then be able to quickly contact your next of kin, by simply dialing the number programmed under "ICE".

For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2, ICE3 etc.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

The following is a press release from the National Commanders of the American Legion, Auxiliary, and SOL. In it they ask for donations to help wounded soldiers. The Post can take up what it would like to contribute at the next meeting; however, this deserves more attention than the Post Meeting. Perhaps some of you would like to contribute personally to this worthy cause. There is an address at the end of the article that gives an address to which you can send your personal contribution.

Thanks for your consideration.

Jim Bolin

Landstuhl heroes deserve more

By American Legion National Commander Paul A. Morin, American Legion Auxiliary National President JoAnn Cronin and Sons of the American Legion National Commander Earl Ruttkofsky

Many of the wounded arrive there naked. We are not talking about a hospital in the Sudan , but our very own Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany , a stop on the journey home for most of the severely wounded Americans fighting in the War on Terror.

As Michael M. Phillips explains in his book, “The Gift of Valor,” the clothes of these heroes are often cut off their back by medics and corpsmen as they are evacuated from the battlefield. He adds, “If you make it to Landstuhl, you’re good to go. It was an article of faith among the Marine infantrymen in Iraq that if the corpsman plugged up the hole to keep you from bleeding out, and the field surgeons stitched up the important organs, and the Air Force got you all the way to the Army hospital in Landstuhl , Germany , then you’d live. You might not be the same. Your legs might not be where they were before the war. Your arms might not work as well. Your skin might be disfigured by burns. Your brain might be so badly injured that you might not really be the same person you used to be. But you’d survive and eventually get home to your parents, your wife, your kids, your girl.”

The American Legion wants them to do more than survive. America can never repay the debt it owes these heroes, but it can certainly improve their quality of life. Much attention has been rightly given to substandard conditions at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington , but little is being done to help improve the plight of our heroes at Landstuhl.

Last month, National Commander Morin and National President Cronin had the

honor of visiting this vital DoD facility. Patients there don’t ask for much. Some are even eager to return to their old units so they could fight alongside their buddies. Sadly, some of these wounded warriors had broken television sets in their rooms. Others lack comfort items such as DVDs, MP-3s or even magazines. They do receive a small clothing allowance, but when you arrive with nothing it doesn’t go very far.

We are throwing down a challenge to the entire American Legion family and anyone else who wants to help. Let’s raise \$50,000 by the close of our 89th National Convention on Aug. 30 to ensure that these men and women are given the comfort items that they want. By family, we mean The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion; “anyone else” includes everyone who has the heart to help these brave young men and women.

It’s important that this be a family effort because it is our families that these men and women are protecting. The heroes at Landstuhl are our Band of Brothers and Band of Sisters.

Words such as “support the troops” and “sacrifice” are tossed around so much these days that they are in danger of being dismissed as clichés. Here is another one: “Talk is cheap.” Care packages and cards are nice, but a donation to “Operation Landstuhl” is effortless. Simply visit www.legion.org <<http://www.legion.org>>/landstuhl and use any major credit card to make an online donation. It doesn’t matter how much you give. Just give something. If you prefer, you can mail a check to Operation Landstuhl, c/o The American

Legion, P.O. Box 1055 , Indianapolis ,
IN 46206-1055 .

pickensjones@usa.net
Ex. Comm. Mike Sorich 281-704-2892
cgret96@hotmail.com

Every post, unit or squadron that makes a donation will receive a certificate of appreciation signed by the national commanders and the national president. A strong national security and taking care of veterans are two of the original four pillars that The American Legion has been built on. Operation Landstuhl is yet another way to fulfill that commitment.

Post Activities

Day	Date	Activity	Location
Fri.	Jun 29	State Convention	Irving TX
Mon	Jul 16	Ex. Comm.	Office
Thur.	Jul 19	Membership Meeting	Rayford Rd
Mon	Aug 13	Ex. Comm.	Office
Thur.	Aug 16	Membership Meeting	Rayford Rd

Post Officers

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