



# American Legion

## POST 305 BUGLE

August 2008

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### COMMANDER'S CORNER

July is the month when the Post must reestablish the committees that do the work during the year. For the past 5 years, as long as I have been here, the same 15 or so people have run these committees, and the Post. Now some of them have asked to take a much-needed break and we need someone to step up and become involved. These committees that I am talking about are relatively short duration and don't involve coming to a lot of meetings. We have people who have done them and would be willing to help, but they have to have someone to help.

Specifically I am talking about the Oratorical Contest, the Boy's State Selection Committee, and the Entertainment Book Committee.

The Entertainment Book Committee is practically a one-person operation. It requires working on your own time, perhaps coming to a couple of membership meetings to distribute and collect the books. We need to get this started quickly because they begin in November. Last year we made over \$1300 selling these books, and we need to do it this year also. Just have the books sent to you, distribute them to members for sale, and collect the money, pay the bill and turn the proceeds into the Treasurer.

The Oratorical Committee is next beginning with coordination in the fall with the schools, when Department publishes its guidance

and disseminates the contest material. This year we sent them a "heads up" in May so the students could begin working on their speech. The school level of competition must be completed by 12/31. The primary focus of the chairman should be to personally communicate with the debate coach, or other responsible individual at each school to generate the interest. This will require someone who can contact the various high schools speech/debate teachers in our region early in the school year and coach them to have a student write a speech on the Constitution. This has been done every year for the past few years, so we have someone who can give you names and help in other ways. The Post does not conduct a contest, but lets each school choose one person to compete at the District level. You have to give the names to the District Oratorical Contest Chair (me), and get the students to the contest.

Next we need someone to select Boys State participants from our local High Schools. Coordination begins in January, when Department distributes the literature and the goal is to complete the selection of delegates by the end of February. In this case, the schools provide us with the applications of interested students and we interview them to select one from each of the major high schools and one from the private high schools and one as a best alternate from the above. All total that adds up to the 5 boys we send to Boys State. This involves keeping in contact with the

counselors at the respective high schools, interviewing the applicants, and selecting the winners. Again, we have been doing this and we have people who can help.

If we don't get people to fill these jobs, we will be unable to fulfill our plans for this year with money and contestants. Please help.

Coming up in August, we will have the Boys State representatives from this year at the meeting to tell us about their experiences at Boys State. If you were interested in helping, this would be a good time to see the finished product and ask questions.

For God and Country  
Jim Bolin

### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Commander Bolin reported that we are negotiating with the Ramada Inn in Conroe as a venue in which to hold the District Conference in October.

He also noted that the Post won the first place trophy in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade for Best Military Entry, and \$250.

We approved a motion to buy a \$50 gift certificated for **Skip Weatherford** as a thank you for letting us use his trailer for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July float.

Commander Bolin presented a Certificate of Appreciation to **Brad Wall** for supplying a convertible for the parade. He also gave a 30-year service award to **Joe Hammond**.

We also sold raffle tickets for a 19in TV donated by **John Nanninga**. We completed selling 50 tickets for \$10 each by Wednesday, and held the raffle. **Sam Maiolo**, Post Chaplain, won it. The money will be used to buy school supplies for needy children.

### VETERANS 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

There is no report from the veteran's advocate this month.

### AUXILIARY NEWS

Clayton Hall was a guest at our last monthly meeting. Clayton won the American Legion Auxiliary National President's Scholarship . We were his sponsors.

Our Unit gave two \$1000 scholarships, one to Ciara Miller and one to Ryan Harris to help with their continuing education.

July was our meeting in which we presented Certificates of Participation to many of our members for all the work they have done for the Unit and our veterans.

Our Unit is well represented on Division II committees. **Rosalie Fryer** is Membership Chairperson and **Sue Ellen Bannon** is Constitution and by laws Chairperson.

Our next meeting will be August 21<sup>st</sup> at Rayford Community Center at 7:00 p.m. We will be having pot luck refreshments after the meeting.

Mary Bolin  
Unit President

### POST'S POLICY

No one is permitted to come between the Commander's Station and the Colors.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future issues of the Bugle will be distributed only by email, except for the May issue, due to lack of funds. The May issue, announcing the elections in May, will be sent to the entire mailing list. If you know anyone who gets the Bugle by mail and not by email, please share this information.

## THINGS TO PONDER

1. The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.
2. Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.
3. If you don't have a sense of humor, you probably don't have any sense at all.
4. Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.
5. A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.
6. How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?
7. Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.
8. Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?
9. Scratch a cat and you will have a permanent job.

10. No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.

11. There are no new sins; the old ones just get more publicity.

12. There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4 AM. - Like this: It could be a right number.

13. No one ever says "It's only a game." when their team is winning.

14. I've reached the age where the happy hour is a nap.

15. Be careful reading the fine print. There's no way you're going to like it.

16. The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.

17. Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos? (And rap music will be the Golden Oldies ! )

18. Money can't buy happiness -- but somehow it's more comfortable to cry in a Corvette than in a Yugo.

Always be yourself. Because the people that matter, don't mind.

And the one's that mind,  
don't matter.

Thanks to Sue Ellen Bannon

#### Post Activities

Day	Date	Activity	Location
Mon	Aug. 18	Ex. Comm. Meet.	Office
Thur.	Aug. 21	Member Meet.	Rayford Rd.
Mon	Sep 15	Ex. Comm. Meet.	Office
Thur.	Sep 18	Member Meet.	Rayford Rd

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