



American Legion

POST 305 BUGLE

February 2009

Volume 5 Issue 2

COMMANDER'S CORNER

The big event last month was the Chili Cook-off. We had six entries. The winner as judged by the Auxiliary was **Everett Ison**. **Dayton Denton**, last year's winner was second, and I was third. Dayton's entry was beaver tail chili, and the beaver's tail or what was left of it was displayed on the table, along with the tomahawk he would like you to believe he used to kill it. Everett's entry was from his mother. He doesn't even have a recipe as he makes it by taste. "When it tastes right, it is done."



Everett Ison ready to sample the cooking.

February is Americanism Month for the Legion. Through the Americanism Program the American Legion strives to further a strong sense of patriotism and loyalty. It is a part of the Legion's four Pillars, and one in which we are particularly strong. The program is youth and community oriented. Some of the programs in which you will recognize that we participate are; American Legion baseball, Boys State/Boys Nation, High School Oratorical Contest, Flag Education, and Scholarship Information. Help us to participate in these programs by participating in the Post.

February is also the month in which we celebrate the Four Chaplains heroism with a joint service between the Post and the Auxiliary.

At the February meeting we will have a program by Paul Lance, a new member of our Post who works with U.S. VETS. He will be speaking about the program. Highlights of the program are noted under the Veterans Advocate section of the newsletter. If helping veterans is of interest to you, you will not want to miss this presentation.

Also at the Feb. meeting we will have Birdie for Charity chances available to distribute. This is a major fund raising program for the Post. It involves guessing the number of birdies that will be made during the Houston Open golf tournament. The grand prize this year will be a trip, destination TBD. We only have till the end of March to collect the guesses. If you will not be at the meeting

and would like a birdie chance, call Dave Lips at 281-362-1390. All money donated will be returned to the Post; however, not to the donor.

Jim Bolin
For God and Country

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The finance officer, **Dave Lips**, reported a General Fund of \$13,983.84 and an Allocated fund of \$20,557.08. The General Fund is used to pay the every-day expenses while the allocated fund has allocations for a post home, veteran affairs and rehab (VA&R) among others.

The First Vice Cdr., **Everett Ison** reported that we had achieved our goal of 423 members for 2007-2008 and we spent \$130 of the \$208 allocated to pay for comrades who were in pecuniary distress. By achieving 423 members before the end of 2008, we won a Hall of Fame award.

The Second Vice Cdr., **Chuck Suhr** reported that thanks to **Dayton Denton** we have two storage spaces to store items for the rummage sale.

The Service Officer, **Dayton Denton** said that he had donated a new VCR to the U.S. Vets program for their shelter. He also said that we will shortly have a list of items which will be places in a basket and given to each vet passing through the system in to his own apartment. The basket will contain items useful in starting up an apartment, i.e. silverware, towels, soap, cleaning supplies, etc.

We welcomed back a new member, **Jay Cadmus** who joined at the last meeting, after the meeting without a Welcome. Also, **Ron Para**, who joined a few months ago, was welcomed. Ron had yet to attend a meeting but was lured out by the promise of

Chili. Both the men are veterans of Vietnam. Say hello next time you see them.

District Commander, Larry Eary, presented George Bannon with a swagger stick in appreciation for the help he provided the Commander over the past two years. Commander Eary said the swagger stick illustrated getting pointed in the correct direction by George.



Fr. L-R, George Bannon, Commander Eary

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

In 1993 United States Veterans Initiative (U.S. VETS) opened the doors to its first facility in Inglewood, California. U.S. VETS is now the largest non-profit provider of services for homeless and at-risk veterans in the United States. Tonight more than 2,000 formally homeless veterans have a place to call home at one of twelve U.S. VETS' housing sites across the country.

U.S. VETS provides housing, employment assistance, counseling, and hope to the men and women who have defended our nation. Every day, veterans are learning new job skills, regaining their self-esteem and becoming self-sufficient again.

U.S. VETS programs are designed to provide stability and foster the work and life skills that are necessary for every veteran to become a productive and successful citizen in the community. All programs include housing and a combination of case management, counseling and employment assistance. These are the core programs.

As they reached out to homeless veterans they discovered critical areas of need that require specialized attention; therefore, they have developed programs to overcome the barriers that have kept them homeless in the past. These programs are tailored to the needs of the veteran.

The Post has elected to become more involved with the U.S. VETS and plans to provide them with supplies needed by the homeless veteran as he/she moves into a new home.

AUXILIARY NEWS

The Auxiliary Spring Craft Fair will be May 2nd at the Walmart Supercenter on Sawdust road. We will need people to help with organizing it, making crafts for our booth, and manning the booth on the day of the craft. Please call me at 281-251-2352 to volunteer.

At the meeting in February, we will be participating in a Memorial Service for the "Four Chaplains" with the Post. Please come out and attend this service.

Joan Sparks purchased a book "The Impossible Patriotism Project" for Metzlers Klein Elementary School library to be used for Americanism.

The Unit decided to raise the Junior dues to \$5.00 as the Department has a motion pending vote at the Department Convention to raise the dues to \$5.00. We believe that the motion will pass.

The Unit gave a membership pin to **Joan Charest**. **Annise Nanninga** was voted in as a new member. Welcome Annise next time you see her at a meeting.

A birthday card was sent to long time member **Colenia Canfield** who now resides in Corsicana, TX.

The next Unit meeting is February 19th at 7 p.m.

Mary Bolin
Unit President

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.

POST POLICY

American Legion baseball caps, tee shirts, and other items of "civilian" apparel, with the American Legion logo and/or name, are available through the Emblem Sales catalog. That is a good way to publicize the Legion and Post, on a day-to-day basis.

POST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

American Legion Post & Auxiliary 305, The Woodlands provided over 100 stockings for the Veterans at the VA Outpatient Clinic in Conroe. "We want our Veterans to know we're here for support, and the holidays can be pretty tough on some of these families.

Many people take for granted that families will gather together for Christmas

celebrations, but for the military family, that may not happen. Loved ones are deployed, families are separated by duty stations, and we want to ensure they don't feel forgotten", said Everett Ison. "This year alone, we have provided school supplies for over 100 students, cookie & Poppy trays to Senior Facilities, participated in Wreaths Across America, helped with Hurricane Ike relief, provided holiday meals for Veterans families for Thanksgiving, partnered with Tillman Troops for Welcome Home Banquet, working with US Vets Inc. with support to our homeless Veterans, and the list goes on. We are always striving to make a difference in our community." If you would like more information on The American Legion Post or Auxiliary 305, please contact Everett Ison, 281-298-9524.

The above information was sent to the local newspaper. It is an example of the kind of proof we will need to achieve the Commanders Excellence Award. If you see this article, make a copy and send it to me.

LETS SAY THANKS FROM XEROX

If you go to this web site, www.LetsSayThanks.com you can pick out a thank you card and Xerox will print it and it will be sent to a soldier that is currently serving in Iraq . You can't pick out who gets it, but it will go to a member of the armed services.

How AMAZING it would be if we could get everyone we know to send one!!! This is a great site. Please send a card. It is FREE and it only takes a second.

SAFETY TIP

Put your car keys beside your bed at night, and if you hear someone trying to get in, press the panic button on your car keyless entry. The horn on your car will ring until

you turn it off, or the battery dies.

Post Activities

Day	Date	Activity	Location
Mon.	Feb 16	Ex. Meeting	Office
Thur.	Feb 19	Membs. Meet.	Rayford Rd.
Mon.	Mar. 16	Ex. Meeting	Office
Thur.	Mar. 19	Membs. Meet.	Rayford Rd.
Sat.	Apr. 18	Rummage Sale	Robinson Rd.

Post Officers

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