



American Legion

POST 305 BUGLE

April 2009

Volume 5 Issue 4

COMMANDER'S CORNER

The most important meeting of the year is the April meeting, for that is when we nominate our officers for the next year. The Nominating Committee is working on a list of members to nominate, but nominations from the floor are always solicited. The people chosen will have the responsibility for running the Post for the next year. If you have ideas on how to carry out Legion Programs better than they are now being done, we need you to help by volunteering for a position on the Post Team.

April is also important to us because we hold one of our two rummage sales for the year. This year the sale in April comes on the same date as the District Convention. That means that on Saturday several usual helpers will be unable to help as they will be at the District Convention. As a result, we will need helpers on Saturday who have not usually helped. Please come out on Saturday, April 18th and help.

The next big event coming up after the rummage sale is the Auxiliary's Spring Craft Show. As the Auxiliary helps the Legion with the rummage sale, the Legion helps the Auxiliary with their Craft Show. We need helpers on Saturday May 2nd to work the Legion booth, help the vendors set up, and perhaps man a hot dog booth.

Jim Bolin
For God and Country

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

We began the meeting by determining that we had a quorum, 12 members in good standing. Actually we had 31, but we always have room for more.

The finance officer, **Dave Lips**, reported a General Fund of \$13,415.15 and an Allocated fund of \$20,558.52. 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.

We currently have 354 members for 2009. We need 413 to reach our goal. We have a team of ten members who are actively calling members who have not renewed for 2009 and asking them to renew. We want to reach a goal of 433 members so that we can again become a Hall of Fame Post.

Chuck Suhr, the 2d Vice Cdr. noted that the rummage sale will be coming up on April 18th. Next meeting he will have a sign-up list for people to volunteer a specific time to help at the set-up on Friday and the sale on Saturday. He also recommended that the Post not continue to try organizing attendance at a baseball game. He found little interest among members.

Mickey Fussell, reporting for the Service Officer, asked members who were interested in interviewing boys for Boys State to contact him after the meeting. The picture below shows the interview of the Boys State candidates.



L to R Dayton Denton, Mickey Fussell, Chuck Suhr

Brad Trefz introduced two motions which are of interest to veterans attending college.

The motions are:

A motion to adopt the resolution requiring all institutions of higher learning to accept college credits earned by veterans and service members due to their military service was made by John Nanninga and seconded by Dave Lips. The motion passed.

A motion to adopt the resolution requiring all institutions of higher learning to evaluate and grant all educational credits due to veterans and service members for their military training was made by Bob Jackson and seconded by George Bannon. The motion passed.

In "For Good of the Legion", a picnic on April 26th at North Shore park was announced. The picnic will run from 6 – 8 p.m. There will be entertainment starting at 7 p.m. Bring your own food and drink and maybe a little extra for those who forget.

Because **Everett Ison** missed the February meeting, we did not get a chance to award him a certificate as the winner of the Chili Cook-off for 2009. Everett will also be awarded the Chili Cook-off plaque at our June awards meeting.



Cdr. Bolin presenting certificate to Everett Ison

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

CATEGORY 8 CARE

VA will enroll about 265,000 additional veterans in this category (Non-Service Connected, Income Qualifying). Income cut-off will be increased from \$30,000 to \$32,342 for a single veteran plus \$2,222 for each dependent.
 {PL 110-329, 15 Dec 2008}

VA TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Mileage for reimbursement has been raised from 28.5 cents to 41.5 cents per mile. Current eligibility and deduction rules still apply.
 {VA News Release 17 Nov 2008}

OPERATION CONFORT WARRIORS

National Commander David K. Rehbein reported that more than \$115,000 has been raised for Operation Comfort Warriors. Your

donations are purchasing items such as hooded sweatshirts and sweatpants, which are especially needed by amputees and other wounded service members because of the warmth and flexibility they provide. Operation Comfort Warrior is also buying DVDs, puzzles, iPods, portable electronics and other items that provide welcome distractions for those warriors facing prolonged hospital stays.

Operation Comfort Warrior will continue. It must continue says National Commander, but we need you! You can donate to: Operation Comfort Warrior, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

A.L. Dispatch

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

In December of 2008, Wreaths Across America Houston, a non-profit group, made national history as over 14,000 wreaths were placed at the gravesites of our fallen heroes at the Houston National Cemetery. However our goal was to place a wreath at each of the 53,000 graves, yet due to funding shortfalls we could not finish our mission. With you help and support, together we can make the housing National Cemetery an exceptional place of honor with a wreath on every gravesite.

The wreath laying and ceremony at Houston National Cemetery will begin at 11:00 a.m. on December 12 2009. Support from the entire area will be welcome. To donate send to: Wreaths Across America – Houston, 4582 Kingwood Dr. #247, Kingwood, TX 77345

Wreaths Across America- Houston

HASS DECISION OVERTURNED

The Supreme Court refused to hear the appeal on this matter, so the lower court decision is final. This decision says that veterans who served in Thailand and in

ships off the coast of Vietnam are not entitled to presumptive exposure to agent orange. Claims that have been held in abeyance pending this decision will not be processed.

(Hass v. Peak, 77 U.S.L.W. 3267, 21 Jan 2009; VA Memo 01-09-03, 22 Jan 2009)

AUXILIARY NEWS

Come one, come all! We are going to have a picnic with The Woodlands VFW Post and Unit on Sunday Apr. 26th at Northshore Park The Woodlands from 6 to 8 p.m. Live Country music will be on stage starting at 7 p.m. We plan to start arriving around 4 p.m. with our lawn chairs, enough food for your family and some to share I am looking forward to seeing you.

We are having problems financing the usual 3 girls that we send to Girls State. At this time, we can only afford to sponsor one girl. We would appreciate any donations to help us. The cost of sponsoring one girl is \$375, We are currently interviewing girls from 3 high schools, so notify me ASAP if you are able to help at 281-251-2352.

The Auxiliary's Spring Craft Fair is Saturday May 2nd at the Walmart Supermarket on Sawdust Road, The Woodlands from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please come out and help with the Auxiliary booth and the vendors that might need some help.

The Post rummage sale is Sat. Apr. 18. We will be helping them with set-up on Friday Apr. 17 from 9 a.m. till done (usually about 4 p.m.) Please come out and help either or both days and show our support for the Post.

Mary Bolin
Unit President

POST POLICY

When the American Legion cap is placed down on any surface, the Legion emblem must be facing up.

NEWS of INTEREST

While attending a reunion in South Carolina, **George Bannon** had the opportunity to watch a parade of the cadets of the Citadel. As the Company Commanders were being announced, he recognized one of the names, Richard Whitford (Whit) Jackson, as the name of one of our past Boys State delegates from 2004. So George went to look him up and got the following picture.



Richard Whitford "Whit" Jackson

Whit is currently a senior at the Citadel and is the cadet commander of Oscar Company, 4th Battalion. His younger brother, Ward Jackson, was our Boys State delegate (and the only candidate) from TWCA in 2007, and is currently a freshman at the Citadel.

Post Activities

Day	Date	Activity	Location
Mon.	Apr. 13	Ex. Meeting	Office
Thur.	Apr. 16	Membership Meet	Rayford Rd.
Fri.	Apr. 17	Set-Up Sale	Robinson Rd.
Sat.	Apr. 18	Rummage Sale	Robinson Rd.
Sat.	Apr. 18	District 7 Convention	Madisonville
Sun.	Apr. 26	Picnic w/VFW	North Shore Pk.
Mon.	May 18	Ex. Meeting	Office
Thur.	May 21	Post Elections	Rayford Rd.
Mon.	May 25	Memorial Day	VA Cemetery
Sun.	May 31	Last Day Post has approval to meet	At Rayford Rd. Community Ctn.

Post Officers

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