



American Legion

POST 305 BUGLE

May 2009

Volume 5 Issue 5

COMMANDER'S CORNER

By the Constitution and by-laws, we are required to notify all members of the election of new officers for the 2009-2010 year at the membership meeting on May 21st at the Rayford Road Community Center. This newsletter serves as your notification.

The members nominated for the various offices are as follows: Commander – Everett Ison, 1st Vice Cdr. – Kim Biggerstaff, 2nd Vice Cdr.- Brad Trefz, Adjutant – Pickens Jones, Finance Officer – Dave Lips, Service Officer – Dayton Denton, Judge Advocate – Dutch Dettinger, Historian – Mickey Fussell, Chaplain- Sam Maiolo, Sergeant-At-Arms – Robert Jones, Ex. Comm. Members-at-large Jim Bolin, Syd Ulmer.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the election should anyone else like to run for office. The nominated person must be present or a letter noting acceptance of the nomination. You must be present to vote.

Elected Officers should have a DD Form 214 available for the Adjutant as there is information on that which needs to be sent to Department.

Another important event in May is the Auxiliary's Craft Show on May 2nd at the Super Walmart on Sawdust Road from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please support that if you are able.

Members of the Post have been trying to contact anyone on the rolls of the Post who have not renewed their membership for 2009-2010. Anyone who has not been contacted should either contact me at 281-251-2352 and let me know they don't want to renew, or they should sent their check for \$31 to A.L. Post 305, P.O. Box 9336, The Woodlands, TX 77387.

Jim Bolin
For God and Country

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

We began the meeting of April 20th by determining that we had a quorum, 12 members in good standing. Actually we had 24, but we always have room for more.

The finance officer, **Dave Lips**, reported a General Fund of \$13,188.17 and an Allocated fund of \$20,559.28. 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 360 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, reported that the Rummage Sale net of \$1,236.50. That was in spite of some terrible weather, so it was a good return. Thanks to Chuck and his team.

We accepted nominations for officers for next year and voted to donate \$100 to the American Legion Development Fund.

Information received indicated that we will be able to use the Rayford Road Community Center for meetings for the remainder of 2009.

VETERANS ADVOCATE

IMPORTANT	PHONE	NUMBERS
Houston VA Regional Office		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

A ruling announced in late February by the U.S. Supreme Court gives weight to an argument by the American Legion against the placing of public monuments that could threaten the sanctity of veteran's memorials. Justices ruled unanimously that an obscure religious group, called Summum, cannot use a "free speech" argument to force a small Utah city to erect a granite marker in a local park – home to a long-standing monument to the Ten Commandments.

National Commander David K. Rehbeine said, "The justices have said, in effect, that a local government can choose what donated public displays it cares to exhibit on public land, and what displays it can reject. This reduces the chance that a monument to an enemy or dissenting group, for instance, could be erected in the same space as a monument to our fallen warriors."

AUXILIARY NEWS

At the April meeting we nominated officers for next year. They are: Mary Bolin – Pres., V. Pres. – Paula Ison, Sec./Treas. – Gene Wilson-Watz, Chaplain – Mary Lee Mulvihill, and Historian – Stephanie Marshall.

There is still time for anyone to step up and volunteer to run for an office before the Election in May.

Thank you to all the Auxiliary members who helped the Post with their rummage sale on April 17 & 18 as they will be helping us with our Craft Fair. The Craft Fair is May 2nd at Walmart Supercenter on Sawdust Road. We need help to man the Auxiliary Table, setting up, cleaning up, and helping the vendors as needed.

We will also have a bloodmobile at the fair. Do come out and volunteer to give blood. It is a Community Service project that will help many people.

There were four members who attended the District Convention in Madisonville on April 18th. It was a very informative convention.

On Sunday, April 26th we had a nice gathering of Post and Auxiliary Members at a picnic at the North Shore Park in The Woodlands. The people who were unable to come missed a nice relaxing afternoon. We will do it again. Maybe you can make it then.

Our next meeting is May 21 at the Rayford Road Community Center at 7 p.m.
Mary Bolin
Unit President

POST POLICY

Any decoration or insignia attached to the Legion cap must be done only on the right side.

NEWS of INTEREST

This is important to be sure and vote for this in May even if you aren't 65 yet and you will be there one day and you would want this for yourself then.

Please read and pass on to all your Texas email friends as this applies to all voters.

You must vote in May to keep the

Homestead tax cap for 65 and over, even if you are not 65 yet.

If you are a Texas homeowner then this is important to you. If not, it is important to your friends who are. I want to be sure you are aware of a constitutional amendment that will be on the ballot at the May election. It is an amendment to correct an error made by the lawmakers when they voted for a reduction in school property taxes in 2005.

When the lawmakers voted for a one-third reduction in school property taxes beginning in 2006 and to be completed this year, they forgot about the homestead exemption for senior citizens and people with disabilities. The state constitution caps school property taxes for homeowners 65 years and older and those who are disabled.

However, they **DID NOT** get the same reduction when the property tax cut for schools was voted on two years ago.

So an amendment is on the May ballot to correct this error. The problem is that most voters who are younger than 65 or not disabled probably won't even notice the amendment or care.

PLEASE get out and vote for this amendment if not for yourself, then for your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends. We would really appreciate your getting the word out to all your friends and families to vote for this amendment.. The fear is that with a low voter turnout, the amendment could very well not pass.

So, please, please pass the word and VOTE for the constitutional amendment. Early voting will take place April 30 - May 5 from 7 am to 7 pm; May 6 from noon to 6 pm and May 7 - May 8 from 7am to 7 pm. Election Day is May 12 from 7 am to 7pm.

Post Activities

Day	Date	Activity	Location
	Mon. May 18	Ex. Meeting	Office
	Thur. May 21	Post Elections	Rayford Rd.
	Mon. May 25	Memorial Day	VA Cemetery
	Mon. June 15	Ex. Meeting	Office

Thur. June 18 Installation of New Off. Rayford Rd.

Post Officers

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