



American Legion



## POST 305 BUGLE

September 2009

Volume 5 Issue 9

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Dear Legionnaires',  
It is my sad duty to report that Sam Maiolo (Post Chaplain) died on Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. He was a real trooper and supported the Legion in many ways. He will be truly missed and our prayers go to Veronica and her family.

The meeting was very informative with Jerry Beard (7th District Commander) for the Sons of the Legion. He answered questions and informed the post about the benefits in having a squadron within the post. This is something that we have discussed and I would like to explore all options in moving toward establishing a squadron for Post 305.

We also had Ed Reyes (Legion Service Officer) providing updates on the VA Hospital and programs and benefits. We had several questions and I hope invite him back in the near future.

We are still looking over the budget and seeing if we can cut expenses as we move into the fiscal year. These cuts will not impact the membership, but looking at ways we can better communicate with our membership. We need to inform our fellow legionnaires on our programs and events that impact our veterans and community as well.

I am still looking for volunteers to serve on several committees that we have in the Post. These include Americanism Such As Oratorical Contest, Boys State, Scholarship, Flag Etiquette; Flag Disposal; Funerals; Color Guard; Membership; Fund Raising; Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation; Public Relations; Children & Youth; Adopt-A-Path; Legislative; POW/MIA; Employment; Boy Scouts; July 4th Parade. So if you would like to assist in any one of these programs, just let me know and I will pencil you in.

Remember that our annual picnic is approaching quickly. The date is October 15<sup>th</sup> and it will be held at Shadowbend Park on Lake Woodlands Drive. This is a great time to relax and enjoy the comradeship with each other. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and bratwurst will be provided by the post. More information will be discussed at our next meeting as we put the final touches at our September meeting.

Our next meeting is September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

For God and Country,  
Everett Ison

**Past Commander's Picture Taking  
Formation at Sep. 17th Meeting.  
Look Sharp!**

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

After the opening ceremonies, we had Jerry Beard, Sons of the American Legion District Commander and Ed Reyes speak to us. Ed is a Legion employee stationed at the VA hospital. Jerry spoke about starting a squadron of Sons at the Post, and Ed spoke about processing VA Claims.

The finance officer, **Dave Lips**, reported a General Fund of \$12,338.39 and an Allocated fund of \$20,421.25. 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.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Kimberly Biggerstaff** reported that our membership goal for this year is 486 people and that we have 193 renewals towards that goal. See discussion about Paid Up for Life later in the newsletter.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Brad Trefz** submitted an article, Social Corner.

**Service officer:** Officer **Dayton Denton** showed a sample of the tubs we have given U. S. Vets. He called for donations of household items or money to fulfill our promise to provide 50 tubs this year. A donation of \$50 would provide enough goods to fill one tub.



Everett Ison (L) and Dayton Denton (R) present Service Officers of the Year Award to Ed Reyes

We approved a donation of \$100 to the Auxiliary to purchase school supplies for



LtoR, Mary Bolin, Everett Ison, Tiffany Driver, Jim Bolin, Annie Smith with delivered school supplies.

the children of Regent's Care Center workers. All together we delivered 91 bags of school supplies for students from pre- kindergarten to eighth grade.

## SOCIAL CORNER

As a way of promoting activities for our post members, I'll be including this column in every Bugle providing information about upcoming social activities at our post and other events occurring in the area that might be of interest to our members.

First up, if you haven't heard already, we've initiated a new "social hour" event. The first was held at Papa's Ice House on August 24<sup>th</sup> – thanks to everyone who showed up – a great time was had by all. We will be holding a social event like this every month on the Monday following the regular post meeting. These are informal events and all are welcome. We will be meeting to enjoy some time together, maybe watch a little football and have some fun. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next function September 21<sup>st</sup> – when we'll be meeting at Steel City Pizzeria located at

501 Sawdust Rd, Spring, TX 77380-2368 at 7:00 pm. For directions visit - [www.steelcitypizzeria.com](http://www.steelcitypizzeria.com).

We have also made an addition to our regular business meetings – each month we will have speakers, informational programs, and the occasional entertainment at the beginning of the meeting! Coming up in September we will have representatives from the Girls and Boys State programs that our Post supports locally to talk about the program and its impact on local students. With the picnic in October, our next speaker will be in November when we will have Dottie Wainwright from the Daughters of the American Revolution to speak about the DAR's Library of Congress project in conjunction with the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC to record Veteran's histories.

Of course as I mentioned - our annual Post Picnic is coming up in October in place of our monthly meeting. We'll have more information on that and other events next month. If you have any questions on these or other events or know of something that may be of interest to our members be sure to let me know.

Brad Trefz  
Second Vice Commander  
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### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

WELCOME BACK VETERANS, CADETS AND STUDENTS LUNCHEON AND RE-SOURCE FAIR - September 10 – 10:00 AM - University of Houston, University Center in the Houston Room (2nd Floor). Use Main Campus Entrance of University Drive. Free lunch at

11:30. More information and Luncheon RSVP call Sandra Glass at U of H at 713-743-5486 or Mike McReaken with the Texas Veterans Land Board at 713-383-2729.

36TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEETING - September 12 - The monthly meeting of the Houston Chapter of the 36th Infantry Division Association is at the PAPPADEAUX SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, 13040 NW FWY.(HWY 290) with the fellowship starting at 11:30. Future Meetings: Second Saturday

AMERICAN LEGION POST 305 MEETING – September 17 – 7:00 PM Rayford Road Community Center.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 305 SOCIAL HOUR – September 21 – 7:00 PM Steel City Pizzeria 501 Sawdust Rd, Spring, TX 77380-2368

GOLF TOURNAMENT –OPERATION LONE STAR - TEXANS SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS - September 24 WindRose Golf Club, 6235 Pinelakes Blvd, Spring, TX 77379-2599, Four-man scramble format with registration starting at 12:30pm and a 2:00pm tee-off time. \$100/player registration fee. Registration send name, address, and phone number, along with fee to Operation Lone Star – Texans Supporting Our Troops, P. O. Box 12122, Spring, TX 77391-2122. For more info e-mail [OperationLoneStar@hotmail.com](mailto:OperationLoneStar@hotmail.com).

U.S. VETERANS INITIATIVE GOLF TOURNAMENT - October 5 Website: [www.golfdigestplanner.com/13317-USVets2ndAnnualGolf/](http://www.golfdigestplanner.com/13317-USVets2ndAnnualGolf/)

2ND ANNUAL VIETNAM VETERANS REUNION - October 9 – 11 The 2nd annual Vietnam Veterans reunion will be held October 9 – 11, 2009, at VFW Post 8905 21902 Hempstead Hwy, Cypress, Texas. For more information, call 281-469-6632 or 832-494-5746.

Website: webpages charter.net/vietnamvetreunion

### **PAID UP FOR LIFE**

The last time that PUFL dues were increased was in January 2004, and the last time that regular dues went up was in January 2007, when we also increased our Post dues. When Department increased dues by \$2.50 in 1999, we did not increase our Post dues, but absorbed the difference.

Quite a few Legionnaires took advantage of the 2004 and 2007 pending dues increases by becoming PUFL members in either December 2003 or December 2006. That same opportunity will present itself with the new increase. Converting Regular members to PUFL members is not necessarily going to increase membership, but it reduces the number of members who may not renew in the future.

An advantage of being a PUFL member is that it insulates the Legionnaire from any future increases in either Regular dues or the cost of a PUFL membership. By comparison, PUFL costs alone increased by 15% in 2004, and the Post's dues (as well as PUFL costs) increased by 24% in 2007. There ain't no free lunch, so future increases are inevitable.

The October 2009 change in PUFL membership both spreads out the payments to 36 months from 12 months (a good thing) and increases the total cost of PUFL membership by approximately \$240 (a bad thing). In addition, the change in the PUFL cost represents a percentage increase of from 30% at age

40 to 65% at age 70, with percentages of other ages spread accordingly.

As in the past, this should be widely disseminated with the appropriate explanations and analyses, accompanied by encouragement for members to convert to PUFL membership.

In case the subject comes up, I still don't think that our Post is in the position to discount the cost of PUFL membership, which is a practice employed by some Posts that have considerable financial resources and do not need the annual payment from National for each PUFL member. What that means is that the PUFL cost would be based on annual Post dues of \$26, which is what goes to National and Department, rather than the \$31 which is our actual dues amount. This had been considered in the past, but was determined not to be financially prudent.

George Bannon

### **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



Everett Ison presents 2d Div. Award to Legislative Liaison Officer Dutch Dettinger

## AUXILIARY NEWS

**Sharon Phelps**, District 7 President, visited our Unit meeting. She presented the Unit with many Certificates of our accomplishments during the past year. Also visiting the Unit was **Nell Beard**, the wife of **Jerry Beard** 7<sup>th</sup> District Cdr. of SAL.

The Unit voted to donate \$100 to Cancer Research in memory of **Sam Maiolo**.

One of our Americanism projects is to give flags to Dunn Elementary School as some of their classrooms are without flags. **Joan Sparks** will be purchasing the necessary flags for a later dedication.

We presented **Joy Hudson** with a new membership pin.

The Unit collected and helped deliver 91 bags of school supplies to the Regent Care Center. Accepting the school supplies for the children from pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade was Regent's Care Director **Tiffany Driver**. The children for whom the supplies are destined are the children of the employees of Regent Care.

**Katherine Frangos**, a Girls State delegate, came to the meeting to share her experiences with the Unit. The Unit sponsored her to Girls State this past summer.

The district Conference is Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> at the Willis Post. We hope quite a few members will be able to attend.

Our next meeting is Sep. 17<sup>th</sup> at the Rayford Road Community Center at 7p.m.

Mary Bolin  
President

## POST POLICY

No one will be admitted to the meeting room during opening, initiation, or closing ceremonies of an American Legion meeting.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Post collects aluminum cans as a fund raising program. We will take them in any form, but crushed cans would be most appreciated. Bring your crushed cans to the meeting for collection.

The Post would like to get a portrait quality picture of all Commanders, past and present as an important part of the Post History. Please come to the meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup> in a white shirt & tie and blue blazer. If you don't have one, maybe you can borrow one at the meeting.

### **Post Activities**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
Mon.	Sep. 14	Ex. Comm. Meet.	Office
Thur.	Sep. 17	Membership Meet.	Rayford Rd.
Thur.	Sep. 17	Pictures of All Past Commanders at Meeting.	Rayford Rd.
Mon.	Oct 12	Ex. Comm. Meet.	Office
Thur.	Oct 15	Membership Meet.	Rayford Rd.
Fri.	Oct 16	Set-Up Rummage Sale.	Robinson Rd.
Sat.	Oct 17	Rummage Sale	Robinson Rd.
Sat.	Oct 24	District Conference	

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