



American Legion

POST 305 BUGLE

March 2010

Volume 6 Issue 3

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Dear Legionnaires',

I had the honor to perform the initiation of fellow legionnaires at the February meeting. While we did not have any of the 2010 first year members in attendance, we performed the ceremony to 12 members who have not been formally initiated. I would like to say 'Welcome to the family of Legionnaires' officially.

I cannot say this enough, but Membership remains an issue and we need those renewals returned to the post as soon as possible. We did receive 32 membership applications this in February and that was a good month, but we still have a ways to go.

It will not be long before the nominations for the 2011 year will be upon us. Please start thinking about serving in one of the many officer positions.

In closing, remember to pray for our troops and their safety in their ongoing efforts to protect our country.

Our next meeting will be at 7 PM on March 18th at the Rayford Road Community Center.

For God and Country,
Everett Ison

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Commander **Everett Ison** open the meeting and determined that we had a quorum. He then recessed the meeting to invite the Auxiliary into the room to participate in the Four Chaplains Ceremony. After reconvening the meeting, Finance Officer **Dave Lips** reported that the General Fund has \$14,321, and the Allocated Fund has \$20,142.

First Vice Cdr. **Kimberly Biggerstaff** reported that we have 332 paid members. Our goal is 486. We are way behind as you can see.

Second Vice r. **Brad Trefz** asked members to collect items for the Rummage Sale in April. He also announced the location of the Social Time on the Monday following the meeting.



Old and New Members Official Induction

Commander **Ison** asked all members who had not previously been formally inducted into the American Legion to come forward wherein he performed an Induction Ceremony with them. Each

inductee will get a Certificate of Membership.

SOCIAL CORNER

February's Monday Night Social at Papa's Ice House was the best turnout we've had so far and had lots of new faces! Thanks to everyone who turned out and made it such a great night. Each month our group grows! Why not join the crowd and have some fun yourself – we will be meeting at Steel City Pizza (501 Sawdust Road) on Monday, 22 March at 7:00 PM. Show up and share some time with your fellow Legionnaires. Bring your spouse, significant other, or other random individual and come have some pizza at the best pizzeria in The Woodlands..

We are still in need of donations for the Rummage sale! Please drop them off at the storage building. If you have items you need to have picked up or need a receipt for your donation please give me a call - (202) 494-8027 or btrefz@charter.net. All members are requested when dropping off items to be considerate and stack their items as high as safety allows and as far back in the shed as possible. Please also insure that your items are in good condition and/or working order.

The cookbook project continues apace and we need your recipes! If you have a recipe drop me an email and I'll send you the details. We also need volunteers to assist our cookbook committee with this project. Please send me a note and let me know if you would like to volunteer.

As always a list of upcoming events that may be of interest to veterans is in-

cluded below. See you at our next meeting or social!

Brad Trefz, 2nd Vice

10 March - SALUTE TO OUR TROOPS HOUSTON at the Houston Rodeo. www.SaluteToOurTroopsHoustonTexas.com

18 March – 7:00 PM – Regular meeting of Post 305 – Rayford Road Community Center

22 March – 7:00 PM – Post 305 Monday Night Social – Steel City Pizzeria, 501 Sawdust Road in Spring.

22 March - USAF ACADEMY FREE BAND CONCERT - Houston Baptist University - Durham Theater

17 April – 9:30 AM - FREE VETERANS HOUSING SEMINAR – Texas Veterans Land Board - DeVry University, 11125 Equity Drive, Houston

24 April – 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM - TIN CAN SAILORS BULL SESSION - One-day event for all destroyer sailors regardless of which ship they served on or when. For more information contact Dan Jackson Sr. at (281) 414-6917 or dnjacks@swbell.net [March 10 Bugle\(1\).doc](#)

COOL FACT

On a Canadian two dollar bill, the flag flying over the Parliament Building is an American flag.

AUXILIARY NEWS

In February the Unit and the Post hold a joint memorial service for the Four Chaplains. It is an emotional service remembering those chaplains who gave up their life jackets so that others might live.



Chaplains Mary Lee Mulvihill & Rudy Charest during the Four Chaplains Ceremony

The Unit voted to send \$100 donation to "Ride to Recovery Rides". The ride starts in San Antonio Apr. 6th and ends Apr. 11th in San Marcos. The ride raises funds to support spinning and outdoor cycling programs at military and VA hospitals.

The unit also voted to purchase 300 pocket flags for \$70. We will fold the flags and present them to the military members who are being deployed to Afghanistan to carry in their pockets as a reminder of home and that you are not forgotten.

Our Craft Fair that is scheduled for May 22nd at Walmart parking lot has to be relocated to another location. Walmart has changed its policy and no longer allows events in the parking lot due to insurance restrictions. We will keep you informed as to where we will relocate.

The Post and Unit are working on publishing a Cook Book. We would like to have about 400 recipes from the members. So far we have about 45. If you have something that is heroic or anecdotal with a military theme, include that with your submission. We will use that as fillers between the recipes. Mail them to American Legion Post 305, P.O.

Box 9336, The Woodlands, TX 77387 or email them to Brad at btrefz@charter.net.

Lee Montgomery won the raffle drawing of a Poppy Needle-punch Picture that Gene Wilson Watz made.

Our next meeting will be Thurs. March 18 at Rayford Community Center.

Following the meeting we will have a corn beef and cabbage social.

Mary Bolin,
Unit President

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Birdies for Charity.

Every year Post 305 participates in a fund raiser called Birdies for Charity. The Post receives 100% of the money pledged during the duration of the contest. We allocate \$500 of what we receive to the Building Fund and the remainder goes to the General Fund (hopefully around \$1500).

We ask Post members to participate by buying a chance on the Grand Prize, a 2010 Honda Fit. To buy a chance you pledge \$20 and then make your best guess as to how many birdies will be made by all the players during the entire Shell Houston Open Golf Tournament. You can also pledge a specific amount of money per birdie, for instance 1 cent per birdie. You will be billed after the completion of the tournament at the rate you select. You can also ask your friends and relatives to participate by making a pledge.

Post members who attend a membership meeting will be given several pledge forms. You can contact one of them or **Dave Lips**, 281-362-1390 or **Jim Bolin**, 281-251-2352. Pledges can be made over the phone.

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

Texas Veterans' Rent Assistance Program.

If you know of any veteran who is in need of assistance with rent for one year or less, have them check the following web site:

<http://tinyurl.com/TEXAS-VetRentHelp>.

Interesting Facts about our Nations Veterans:

- Veterans are better educated overall. In particular, 89% of Veterans age 25 or older have a high school diploma, compared to 31.6% of the general population.
- In addition, 25% of Veterans 25 and older have at least a bachelor's degree, compared to 18.9% of the general population.
- Veterans earn more than their peers. The median income for Veterans is 5% higher than the median income for the general population.
- Veterans are less likely to suffer poverty. Overall, 5.6% of Veterans live in poverty, compared with 10.9% of the U.S. adult population in general.

- The most common service-connected disability for Veterans is in the musculoskeletal system (affecting about 40% of all Veterans who have service-connected disabilities.) This is followed by hearing problems (about 11%) and skin problems (about 10%).
- Veterans are half as likely as non-veterans to be in prison – 630 prisoners per 100,000 Veterans compared to 1,390 prisoners per 100, 00 non-veteran U.S. residents.

POST POLICY

American Legion caps will not be worn while eating.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fund Raising

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.

Interesting Facts

No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver or purple.

All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5.00 bill

Post Activities

Day Date	Activity	Location
Mon. Mar.15	Ex. Comm. Meet.	Office
Thur. Mar.18	Membership Meet.	Rayford Rd.
Mon. Apr. 12	Ex. Comm. Meet.	Office
Thur. Apr. 15	Membership Meet.	Rayford Rd.
Thur. Apr. 15	Nomination of Off. for 2010-2011	Rayford Rd.
Fri. Apr. 16	Rummage Sale Set up	Robinson Rd.
Sat. Apr. 17	Rummage Sale	Robinson Rd.
Sat. Apr. 24	District Convention	Post 629
Thur. May 20	Election of Off. for 2010-2011	Rayford Rd.
Apr 30-May 2	Division Convention	Houston

Post Officers

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