



# American Legion



June 2010

Volume 6 Issue 6

## **COMMANDER'S CORNER**

Dear Legionnaires',

Please join me in congratulating all of the elected officers for the upcoming 2010-2011 year. The elected officers are as follows:

Commander	Everett Ison
1st Vice Cdr.	Kim Biggerstaff
2nd Vice Cdr.	Jim Bolin
Adjutant	Pickens Jones
Finance Officer	Dave Lips
Judge Advocate	Emery Heuermann
Historian	Win Salter
Chaplain	Rudy Charest
Sergeant-at-Arms	Earl Jones
Service Officer	Dayton Denton
Exec. Comm. Mbr	Mickey Fussell
Exec. Comm. Mbr	Syd Ulmer
Ass't Sgt-At-Arms	Carl Smith
Ass't Chaplain	John Sparks

**I cannot say enough thank you's to nominating committee George Bannon, Jim Bolin, Emery Heuermann, and Chuck Suhr for a job well done.**

June 1<sup>st</sup> we start the new year in the membership drive. While I do not have the goals yet, I would like to see if we can meet the department goals. Last year was our first year as Commander and First Vice and we will put on our thinking hat and see if we can do better.

We marked the beginning of a new era as first meeting was held at the South County Community Center located at 2235 Lake Robbins Drive, The Woodlands, TX. I would like to send my apologies to all as I thought that we had the building until 11 PM but it is 10 PM. We did not have the time for a good social and I missed the opportunity to welcome new members and some that I have not meet for some time. Overall, I did have several comments that were positive and I appreciated them.

June will be our Flag Ceremony and we will begin at 6:30 on the north side of the Community Center. The Flag Disposal Ceremony will have to be smaller as we will have to make sure that everything is cleaned up before leaving the ceremony site.

Members, we have an ongoing proposition on the table about a post home location. The proposed site is located at 27326 Robinson Road, Suite 207/208. The discussion is to join The Woodlands VFW in a joint venue to meet and have a place to call home. This will entail a year lease in which we will share the monthly cost of the lease, but the legion to bear much of the start-up cost as the Legion will retain all items purchased such as the tables and chairs. There is so much information to be put out that we could not consciously have a vote that it was tabled to the June meeting. I encourage everyone to attend and know

membership, it is your post and you have a voice.

In closing, remember to pray for our troops and their safety in their ongoing efforts to protect our country. what it is that is being asked of the

Our next meeting will be at 7 PM on June 17th at the South County Community Center.

For God and Country,  
Everett Ison

### **MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

of the few large items and a generous donation of \$200 by an anonymous donor.

**Dayton Denton** reported that the seven Boy's State participants were ready to attend their District Orientation and then on to Austin. Commander **Everett Ison** open the meeting and determined that we had a quorum. He then recessed the meeting and invited the Auxiliary to join the Post in a discussion of a possible site for a Post Home. A lively discussion ensued with most of the questions directed to **Emery Heuermann** who is the point man on this proposal. Because of the amount of information available, discussion among the members present, was directed towards informing all the membership via email or snail mail so that their voices could be heard on the proposal.

This is in the process of being prepared. The meeting was reconvened by Commander Ison. Finance Officer **Dave Lips** reported that the General Fund has \$15,067.88, and the Allocated Fund has \$20,142.41.

First Vice Cdr. **Kimberly Biggerstaff** reported that we have 373 paid members. Our goal is 486. We are way behind as you can see.

Second Vice Cdr. **Brad Trefz** reported that the rummage sale netted 1828.12, about \$500 more than the last one because

The Post elected the new slate of officers as noted in the Commander's Corner.

The Post voted to give 10% of the net income from the rummage sale to the Auxiliary for their support.

### **SOCIAL CORNER**

Due to the change in 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commanders, a Social Corner was not prepared for the newsletter.

### **AUXILIARY NEWS**

This is my final newsletter article as I am not running for reelection. I would like to thank you for the honor of electing me to be your President for three years running. Because of the work of each and every Unit member, my job was made easier, and I thank you for your effort. I am looking forward to working with the incoming officers for 2010-2011 year.

Our new officers will be installed by 7<sup>th</sup> District Unit President, Sharon Phelps at our June meeting. The Officers are:

Pres.- Ann Jones

V. Pres.- Geri Mulvihill

Sec./Treas.- Gene Wilson-Watz

Chaplain - Mary Lee Mulvihill

Sergeant-at-Arms - Annie Smith

Historian Stephanie - Marshall

We had a very good turn-out May 29<sup>th</sup> distributing poppies at Krogers in Cochran's Crossing. The public was very

appreciative that we were supporting our veterans.

Members of the Post and Auxiliary participated in the Parade of Colors and the Parade of Wreaths ceremony on Memorial Day at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery.



Kim Biggerstaff, Earl Jones, Pickens Jones, Jerry Bradshaw

The Unit will be at Ridgewood Park in Panther Creek on June 12 to celebrate Flag Day with the Panther Creek Association. We will have a quilt to be signed by attendees and then sent to a soldier in Afghanistan.

On Tuesday June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. the 4<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Reunion Band will be presenting a free Concert in the Woodlands at Christ Church United Methodist on Research Forest.

As we have had much up and DOWN this spring with our Craft Fair, we finally found a place to hold the fair. We will be having it on July 24<sup>th</sup> in conjunction

with "Military Family and Friends" at United Methodist Church, off Grogans Mill, The Woodlands. It will be held indoors in three large rooms, which will be great due to the HOT weather. The Auxiliary will have a Sale Table and a Bake Sale Table. Come and support the Unit, and bring something for the Bake Sale.

The June meeting will start with the Post at 6:30 for a Flag Disposal Ceremony at the new meeting site. Restrictions have been placed on burning a flag at that location, so the Ceremony might be a tad different this year. Regular Unit meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

Mary Bolin  
President

**ATTENTION! ATTENTION!** Our next monthly meeting will be June 17 at 6:30 p.m. (due to the Flag Disposal Ceremony) at the South County Community Center in The Woodlands located on the corner of Grogans Mill Road and Lake Robbins Drive, next to the Library.

### **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

VA Updates Online Application for Benefits.

Veterans will find it easier and faster to apply for their health care benefits now that the Department of Veterans Affairs has updated its online Form 10-10EZ, "Application for Health Benefits."

"VA is committed to tapping into the best that technology has to offer to ensure Veterans receive the benefits they have earned," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "We continue to look for new ways to improve access to care and benefits."

This revised online application provides enhanced navigation features that make it easier and faster for Veterans to apply for their health care benefits. This new version also allows Veterans to save a copy of the completed form for their records.

The most significant enhancement allows Veterans to save their application to their local desktop and return to the application at any time without having to start over. Previously, Veterans had to complete the form in a single session.

This updated online form, along with the revised VA Form 10-10EZ, reduces the collection of information from Veterans by eliminating some questions.

In addition, there are minor changes to simplify the wording of questions and provide clarity in the instructions. Further enhancements to the online application are expected to be delivered in increments throughout 2010.

Veterans may complete or download the 10-10EZ form at the VA health eligibility website at <https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez>. Veterans may also contact VA at 1 (877) 222-8387 (VETS) or visit the VA health eligibility website at

<http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility>

## **POST POLICY**

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

### **Post Officers**

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### Post Activities

Day	Date	Activity	Location
Sat.	June 12	Flag Day Celebration	Ridgewood Park, The Woodlands
Mon.	June 14	Ex. Comm.	TBD
Thur.	June 17	Membership Meeting	South County Community Ctn.
Thur.	June 17	Installation of Officers	South County Community Ctn.
Thur.	June 24-27	Dept. Convention	Beaumont
Tues.	June 29	Army Band Concert	Christ Church, Research Forrest
Sat.	Jul. 3	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade	First Methodist Church
Mon.	Jul. 12	Ex. Comm.	TBD
Thur.	Jul 15	Membership Meetin	South County Community Ctn.
Sat.	Jul 24	Aux. Craft Fair	First Methodist Church