



AMERICAN LEGION POST 305

“THE WOODLANDS POST”

THE BUGLE



OCTOBER 2014

VOLUME 10: ISSUE 10

THINK NOT OF THE PRICE OF YOUR DUES; THINK OF THE PRICE YOU PAID TO BE ELIGIBLE

Post Commander Pete Koch



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Dear Legionnaires;

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the passing of one of our Post's newest members having transferred in in January of this year. He was an outstanding citizen and greatest promoter of the arts -- **Tony Motto**. Tony was truly a Renaissance man. This multi-talented individual was the ultimate multi-tasker. **Motto** had several art passions. First and foremost was his love of The Woodlands' wonderful collection of outdoor sculptures, the largest collection in the world for a community the size of The Woodlands. He always introduced himself as the 'unofficial ambassador' of The Woodlands outdoor sculpture collection. Tony took it upon himself to ensure the preservation of the collection by forming the Greater Woodlands Public Art Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization for the

collection of donations to maintain and restore the sculptures on an as-needed basis.

I would like to thank everyone that attended our September meeting. We accomplished quite a bit at that meeting with the "Drape the Charter" ceremony for Tony and an award ceremony where we identified 65 of our members who had reached their 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 year milestones with the American Legion. We passed out the certificates and cap patches to the members present and will mail out the remainder this week.

Also, I want to take the time to thank the Auxiliary Unit 305. I have had meetings with the new President Jennifer Hamann, and we are discussing ways for the Post and the Unit to work more closely together to increase membership and have more joint events. At the present time, we are working jointly on an Open House. It is scheduled for Saturday, October 4 at the South County Community Center on Lake Robbins Drive, from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. We are advertising this event throughout the local area to all veterans and their families. We will be showing our veterans, their families and the community in general how our Post/Unit 305 is involved in the community. We will have displays of all of

our active programs and some that are available. Assuming this newsletter reaches you before October 4, please come and bring your friends and neighbors.

We also discussed about having a table at the Open House for the American Legion Riders and Sons of the American Legion (SAL) in an attempt to gauge the level of interest to start a Riders and SAL Squadron at our Post. If we can get enough to sign up, we will continue this path. This is an invaluable asset to us and I believe that a Riders group and an SAL Squadron would complement our activities, and we can also support them as well.

We have sent out a notice of election to all members to fill the open position off Sergeant-at-Arms and have a candidate for that position. He is Joseph Bennett, a member who transferred into the Post in January of this year. The election will take place at the October meeting prior to the start of the picnic.

I am asking for our Legionnaires to volunteer on several committees that we have in the Post. These are Americanism (which covers Boys State, Flag Etiquette, Scholarship and Flag Disposal); Color Guard; Funerals; Membership; Fund Raising; Veterans Affairs &

Rehabilitation; Public Relations; Children & Youth; Adopt-A-Path; Legislative; POW/MIA; Employment; Boy Scouts and Parades. We have program directors for each of these, but they can always use more help. So, if you would like to assist in any one of these programs, just let me know and I will pencil you in.

I would like to remind everyone that our annual picnic is approaching. The date is October 16th 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, while all the side dishes will be donated by the Auxiliary. So bring your family members and your appetite!

Our next meeting is on October 16th at Shadowbend Park at 7:00 PM.

Pete Koch

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS **(September 18, 2014)**

Commander Pete Koch opened the meeting in the usual manner. He then asked the membership to read the minutes of the August 21st meeting which were subsequently approved, as were the minutes of the September 15th Executive Committee meeting.

The **Commander** then called on **Chaplain Glover** to help drape the charter in remembrance of our comrade **Tony Motto**.

The **Commander** called on **Finance Officer Jim Bolin** to present the Finance Report.

He reported that the General Fund had \$2,014.73 at the end of August. The Money Market Fund had \$6,214.89 and that our Investment fund was worth \$30,145.03. All funds totaled \$38,374.62

Acting Sergeant-at-Arms Jim Bolin cited the presence of **Kenneth Burling** who transferred in from another Post. He was given a Welcome Package. Also, Navy veteran **Kelly Crawford** came by to learn a little about the Legion before joining. There being no First nor Second Vice Commander, their reports could not be made. **Chaplain Glover** reported next and updated us on the condition of **Joe Watz** who remains fighting various infirmities while in an open wound hospital.

Then **Commander Koch** discussed the scheduled Open House to be held on Saturday, October 4, at the South County Community Center, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. It will be a joint Post/Auxiliary affair with the purpose of inducing current members of both organizations and potential members to come by, sip some coffee and catch up on the programs being carried out. A sub-motive is to help in the recruitment of new members. He asked that the membership come out and help man the tables of the Open House. He also asked the Membership to approve \$1,000 for the expenses incurred in the Open House. It was approved.

The **Commander** also read the names of members who were having five-year level anniversaries of service in the American Legion. Most of those members had 15 years or less. Those members at the meeting were presented with a star

depicting the numbers of years, suitable for sewing on the cap.

Historian Win Salter reported that he is working on the History Book and helping out on the Open House. **Service Officer Dayton Denton** was absent, and he left no information to be discussed with the membership. The one At-Large member present, **Carl Smith**, had nothing to report.

There being no other business to come before the membership, the **Commander** closed the meeting in the prescribed manner. A pot-luck supper prepared by the Auxiliary followed.



VETERANS ADVOCATE

THE OPTION OF MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS

As a Medicare/Tricare for Life (TFL) enrollee, what happens if you are notified your doctors no longer accept Medicare coverage? You can ask family or friends where they go. You can do a search at **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** for other Medicare providers in your area. You can start calling doctors in your neighborhood. Or, your doctor may offer the option of enrolling in a Medicare Advantage Plan HMO. Medicare Advantage Plans are Medicare. The Advantage Plans are also known as "Medicare Part C". With an Advantage Plan, the government is not your insurer as in original Medicare. A health

maintenance company is then your Medicare insurer. Medicare approves and contracts with insurance companies to offer Medicare Advantage Plans. The Advantage Plan provides your Parts A, B and D Medicare coverage.

Per Medicare, the Advantage Plans must be as good as, if not better than, the original Medicare Parts A and B. Only hospice is not covered by the Advantage Plans but original Medicare continues to cover this for Advantage plan members. Medicare Advantage Plans work with Tricare for Life benefits as your Medicare Parts A and B. However, coordination between TFL and an Advantage Plan may not be as smooth, so talk with TFL at 1-866-773-0404. The premium amount of Advantage Plans can vary but many use your Part B premium amount as their monthly premium cost. Your Part B premium will pay the insurance company rather than Medicare. Some plans' premiums can cost more than the Part B premium, however for the extra cost they usually provide extra benefits. Advantage Plans can provide extra insurance in the form of dental, vision, hearing, or health and wellness coverage. Your Advantage Plan may have other costs beyond the premium so stay alert when shopping. You must compare shop to purchase an Advantage Plan.

Advantage Plan availability varies by geographic locale. The Advantage Plan web site (<http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan>) allows you to customize the features and cost. You may find some added features worth the extra cost. Medicare supplement insurance (Medigap-Plans A through N at

<http://www.medicare.gov/supplement-other-insurance>

cannot be used with an Advantage Plan, but shouldn't be an issue for TFL users. Beware, many plans provide automatic drug coverage. As TFL members, you probably won't want drug coverage. Your Tricare pharmacy benefits are better and because extra drug coverage has to pay first, you may find yourself filing manual claims to Express Scripts to exercise your Tricare drug coverage. This only scratches Swith getting in and out of Medicare and Advantage Plans. To download the "Medicare and You" 2014 handbook, go to <http://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/10050.pdf> for details or call 1-800-633-4227. [Source: MOAA News Exchange | Shane Ostrom | Aug 04, 2014 ++]

Important Contact Numbers

Houston Regional VA Office:

1-713-383-7842

County Veterans Service Offices:

Montgomery 1-936-539-7842

(Ms. Kay L. Lee)

Harris 1-281-876-6600

Texas Veterans Commission:

1-800-252-8387

www.tvc.state.tx.us

State Legislators:

Dist. 4 – Tommy Williams

281-364-9426

Dist. 15 – Steve Toth

832-562-2883

Dist. 16 – Brandon Creighton

936-539-0028

Dist. 126 – Patricia Harless

281-376-4114

THE PENTAGON'S 9/11 FLAG

Anyone who saw the American flag unfurled at the Pentagon on Sept. 12, 2001, knows how Francis Scott Key felt two centuries ago when he was inspired to write "The Star-Spangled Banner." The day

after the terrorist attack on the Pentagon, the scene was still chaotic. Only essential military and civilian workers were required to come to the building. Parking was at Reagan-National Airport, as all U.S. airspace was still closed. As employees got off the Metro train, Pentagon police stood with weapons examining everyone's badge. Those without a Pentagon ID were told to keep traveling on. The conversation in the building was about friends who remained missing. At the site, firefighters were putting out the final embers that were burning in the roof. Then word came that President George W. Bush wanted to see the damage to the Pentagon himself.

No one knows who originally came up with the idea for unfurling the flag to the right of the damaged areas on the building, but Army Major General Jim Jackson, then the Commander of the Military District of Washington, made it happen. He sent over to nearby Fort Myer, Virginia, for the largest flag they could find. The U.S. Army Band had a garrison flag – the largest authorized for the military – and sent it over. During Bush's visit to the impact site, 3rd Infantry Regiment soldiers and Arlington, Virginia, firefighters unveiled the flag and draped it over the side of the building. Then they stood and saluted. It was a moment that quickened the heart. The United States had been attacked, the Pentagon had been hit, friends were gone, thousands were killed in New York and Pennsylvania, yet the American flag still flew. That flag signified the unconquerable nature of the American people. Those inside the building already were preparing to take the battle to

the attackers and bring them to justice. The flag flew on the side of the building for the next month. Each night, workers illuminated it with floodlights. Members of Company "A" of the 3rd Infantry Regiment -- "The Old Guard" -- took the flag down October 11th.

The flag is soot-stained and ripped at one spot where it rubbed up against the building. It now is in the care of the Army's Center of Military History. It is treasured as the 9/11 generation's Star-Spangled Banner, because they, like Francis Scott Key during the British attack on Baltimore in 1814, looked to the flag for inspiration and comfort.

“Oh, say can you see by the dawn’s early light

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming,

Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,

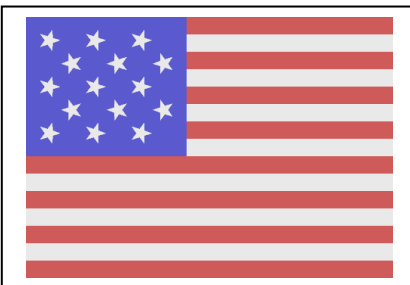
O’er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets red glare, bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O’re the land of the free and the home of the brave?



THE WOODLANDS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

This annual event took place on Saturday, September 20th in North Shore Park from noon to 3:00 PM. The theme is neighborhood safety, first at this central gathering, then in each local neighborhood with block parties and the like. Post and Unit 305 usually claim a booth, along with other civic organizations, and make better known the name and activities. It also is an opportunity to define the Legion and to encourage membership in Post 305 and its

Auxiliary. This year a more modest presence was elected and representing us were Jim Bolin, Mary Bolin and Harland Thornhill. They were not able to hook a keeper but did feed some passing fish, which included flyers for “care” packages to deployed GI’s.



~ ~ ~ **BULLETIN BOARD** ~ ~ ~ **WHAT ~ WHEN ~ WHERE**

Saturday, October 4; Post/Unit Open House: The Post and its Unit are holding an Open House at the Community Center from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The purpose is to draw out seldom seen members and prospective members, to present the various programs underway and to enjoy a continental breakfast at all hours. There is no charge. Stop by on your schedule.

Tuesday, October 7; Chamber of Commerce Fete: The Woodlands Area Chamber of Commerce has relocated and will “christen” its new offices starting at 6:30 PM. Its new address is 9320 Lakeside Boulevard, Building 2, Suite 200. Post 305 will be in attendance to present its colors and to donate an American flag and stand.

Saturday, October 11; BBQ Feed Hosted by the County Sheriff: For all veterans, the sheriff’s office will offer bar-b-que from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the South County Community Center. The cost is \$10, with the proceeds going to support a wounded veterans organization.

Thursday, October 16; Oktoberfest Picnic: This annual affair puts the business meeting in the wild and makes it short. Venue and time are as usual – Shadowbend Park at 7:00 PM. The Post’s business will include the election of a Sergeant-At-Arms. Those who volunteered as cooks, suppliers and bartender should report no later than 6:15 PM. All Post and Unit members are invited, plus their family members and friends. The menu will include traditional burgers, brats and dogs and all the fixings. Come one; come all!

Friday & Saturday; October 17 and 18; Fall Annual Rummage Sale: Friday is set-up day and Saturday is the sale day. Our stash of donated treasures needs to be transported from storage to sale site: Robinson Road Community Center in North Oak Ridge, so, we need helpers with cargo vehicles and strong backs. If you have neither, or show up late, the goods need to be displayed indoors and out. A four-half-day sign-up sheet will be at the picnic.

Saturday, October 18; Seventh District Fall Convention: This semi-annual gathering will be held at Post 95 in Huntsville’s Veterans Museum of Texas (H.E.A.R.T.S) in its meeting hall. Registration starts at 8:00 AM and retreat sounds at 5:00 PM. Post and Unit 305 will select delegates to attend.

AUXILIARY UNIT 305 NEWS

Auxiliary President Jenny Hamann



Hello Again, Friends & Patriots !

September was such a busy month it just seemed to fly by too quickly. The ladies of Unit 305 were very busy working with the members of Post 305 in preparation for our first joint Open House, scheduled for October 4th. We have plans for tables to provide information about our programs and activities and our hospitality team is planning a wonderful buffet of food for breakfast and possibly lunch.

Despite some sort of mixup that occurred with our booth reservation at The Woodlands Township National Night Out Community Safety Expo, resulting in a lack of decorations and materials, **Mary Bolin** and her husband **Jim**, along with **Harlen Thornhill**, represented us well.

Several Auxiliary members came together at my home to help stuff envelopes in preparation for a bulk mailing of over 900 Open House

Invitations. Many hands made light work and a good time. We even had some grandchildren helping out.

October will be very busy, beginning with our Open House on the 4th. Our Post is co-sponsoring a BBQ Feed Hosted by the County Sheriff, and Unit 305 Ladies will assist. Proceeds will support wounded veterans.

We enjoy our Annual Picnic at Shadowbend Park in lieu of the regular monthly meeting on October 16th. Then, on October 18th our members will be scattered. Some will be representing Unit 305 at the District Convention in Huntsville. Others will be working at the Post's Rummage Sale.

I hope you have a wonderful October, and I see you at the Picnic.

In a Spirit of Service,
Jenny Hamann
President
Unit 305, The Woodlands

September Lady of Service

Last month I told you that I wanted to begin recognizing the ladies of Unit 305 who come regularly to our meetings and assist with our programs and activities. This month I would like to begin by introducing my Mother to you.

Mary Lee Mulvihill is the reason I joined Unit 305. While I was still living in California, she encouraged

me to get involved. My father, **Jerry Mulvihill** is a member of our Post, having honorably served our country in the Coast Guard during the Korean War.

Mom told me about the American Legion and its Auxiliary and about many of the wonderful ways they serve and support our veterans. She set an example of selfless service which continues to inspire me to this very day.

Mary Lee Mulvihill (nee Fehrenbach) lived and continues to live a life of service. She cared for husband and children as a young woman, always putting our needs before her own. She still takes good care of Dad and their home. But she goes beyond serving in her own home and graciously gives of her time and efforts at church and through her volunteer work with ALA Unit 305. She has always been consistently loving and thoughtful.

Within Unit 305, she has served in many ways. She managed membership and served as Chaplain. Whenever there was work that needed to be done, she pitched in cheerfully. Distributing poppies, working at rummage sales, cooking, decorating, cleaning are just a few of the many ways my Mother shows how much she loves and cares for veterans, especially my Father and the other Legionnaires from Post 305, The Woodlands.

OFFICERS OF AUXILIARY UNIT 305 & CONTACT INFORMATION

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SGT-AT-ARMS: Annie Smith; Tel: (281) 757-3967; E-mail: carl12024@yahoo.com
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Liz Heuermann; Tel: (281) 362-8431; Email: lizheuermann@peoplepc.com
Veronica Maiolo Tel: (832) 228-4403; Email: sammaiolo@sbcglobal.net

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCALE</u>
Sat.	Oct. 4	Post & Unit Open House	South County Community Ctr. @ 9:00 AM
Sat.	Oct. 7	Chamber of Commerce Fete	9320 Lakeside Blvd, @ 6:30 PM
Tues.	Oct. 7	Afghanistan War Began (2001)	Operation Enduring Freedom
Sat.	Oct. 11	Montgomery Cty. Sheriff's BBQ	South County Community Ctr. @ 11:00 AM
Mon.	Oct. 13	Executive Committee Meeting	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Mon.	Oct. 13	Columbus Day (Observed)	
Thur.	Oct. 16	Membership Annual Picnic	Shadowbend Park @ 7:00 PM
Fri.	Oct. 17	Rummage Sale Set-Up Day	Robinson Road Community Ctr. @ 7:00 AM
Sat.	Oct. 18	Fall Rummage Sale	Robinson Road Center 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Sat.	Oct. 18	District 7 Fall Convention	Post 95; HEARTS Museum, Huntsville
Mon.	Oct. 27	Navy Day	
Fri.	Oct. 31	All Hallows Eve	Trick or Treat!
Tues.	Nov. 4	Election Day	VOTE! Elections have consequences!
Mon.	Nov. 10	Marine Corps Birthday	Semper Fidelis
Tues.	Nov. 11	Veterans Day	Lest We Forget!
Mon.	Nov. 17	Executive Committee Meeting	South County Community Ctr, @ 7:00 PM
Thurs.	Nov. 20	Membership Meetings (Boys State grads are guests)	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Thurs.	Nov. 27	Thanksgiving Day	Gobble Gobble

POST CONTACT INFORMATION (2014-2015)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Tel. Number</u>	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
COMMANDER:	Pete Koch	(936) 273-3588	<petekoch76@gmail.com>
FIRST VICE CMDR:	(Candidates Being Sought)		
SECOND VICE CMDR:	(Candidates Being Sought)		
ADJUTANT:	Pickens Jones	(281) 367-7631	<pickensjones@usa.net>
FINANCE OFFICER:	Jim Bolin	(281) 251-2352	<jpb20006@sbcglobal.net>
SERVICE OFFICER:	Dayton Denton	(832) 928-605	<whselfstorage1@yahoo.com>
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS:	(Selectee To Be Elected)		
ASS'T SGT-AT-ARMS:	(To be appointed)		
CHAPLAIN:	Victoria Glover	(832) 813-9415	<alpost305chaplain@gmail.com>
ASS'T CHAPLAIN:	(To be appointed)		
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	Everett Ison	(281) 298-9524	<everett.ison@sprint.com>
HISTORIAN:	Winfield Salter	(281) 370-1912	<flintyeye@gmail.com>
<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:</u>			
Position 1:	Carl Smith	(281) 367-4714	<carl12024@yahoo.com>
Position 2:	Emery Heuermann	(281) 362-8431	<emeryheuermann@charter.net>

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CIRCULATION: Emery Heuermann

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WEBMASTER: Emery Heuermann

www.alpost305.org and www.mypost.org

FACEBOOK MANAGER: Kimberly Biggerstaff

kimbiggerstaff@icloud.com

MEETING DAY & PLACE: The Post and Auxiliary meet at the South County Community Center in The Woodlands at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month. The Auxiliary Unit hosts a pot-luck supper following the meetings. The Center is located on the southeast corner at the intersection of Lake Robbins Drive and Grogan's Mill Road, next to the library.