



# AMERICAN LEGION POST 305 "THE WOODLANDS POST" THE BUGLE



MAY 2017

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 5

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

## POST COMMANDER VICTORIA GLOVER



### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy May everyone! It is a month we honor our mothers, Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, and our fallen comrades, Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. It also is time for the elections of the Post Officers.

The Chaplain has been filled. It would be nice for our other members to step up and take a position and let others be able to step down and take a break. Most everyone, not all have held their positions or some form of position there for a very long time. I have enjoyed being the Commander and the Chaplain over the last few years. We have brought in some new members and had several transfers in.

We did have a good year but did have a few hic-ups along the way:

~ Our spring rummage sale has been moved to July 21 and 22 at the Robinson Road Community Center.

~ The notices for the elections should be in the mail (US Postal Service). The elections are going to be held at the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Coming up on May 19<sup>th</sup>, the Wounded Warriors will be coming into Bush Intercontinental Airport to travel to Port O' Connor for their weekend activity. I will be attending the airport, welcoming heroes again, and everyone is invited to attend it. And, Memorial Day activities will keep us busy as well. We will be at the Houston National Cemetery and Forest Park Funeral Home in The Woodlands. I am sure that we need help with those functions.

One thing that keeps popping up in my mind is we all need to be there for each other and to check on everyone. Just because we may not see each other every day doesn't mean we don't care. If you or someone you know need something please, please, please, let's get the help. Even if it is just to sit and listen.

What our veterans, police, fire, EMT, and medical staff have seen and done in their life still haunts them. We need to be ever watchful of each other. I came across a young man at a restaurant this week that just needed to know somebody cared.

PTSD, depression and other afflictions are sometimes so well hidden, they don't show until it is

too late. With all the help that is out there some folks can't afford it or they are afraid of losing everything. Friendship is sometimes the best therapy they can get. I know I have been an ear and shoulder to lean on many a time. We can't let the enemy win! Period!

Until next time, let us ever be reminded to never forget our fallen, POW/MIA's, veterans, active duty personnel and their families. Keep them and our first responders in our prayers!

**Victoria Glover  
Commander**

### MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (April 20 2017)

The **Commander** opened the meeting at 7:00 PM in the customary manner, with the assistance of **Sergeant-at-Arms Bruce Carter** and **Chaplain Larry Reynolds**. A quorum was present, among the total of 21 Post members.

Present were officers: **Commander Victoria Glover**; **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Jim Bolin**; **Adjutant Pickens Jones**; **Sergeant-at-Arms Bruce Carter**; **Chaplain Larry Reynolds**; **Finance Officer Emery Heuermann**; **Service Officer Toby Carroll**; **Judge Advocate Everett Ison**; and **Committee Member-at-Large Arthur Eipper**. Absent Officers: **Historian Lacey Homan** and **Committeeman-at-Large Dayton Denton**.

Guest present: **Leslie Marks**

The first order of business was the acceptance of the minutes of the March 16<sup>th</sup> Membership Meeting and the Executive Committee Meeting of April 17<sup>th</sup>. Copies had been distributed and reviewed silently. A motion to accept the minutes of the Post and Executive Committee meetings was made by **Harlen Thornhill** and seconded by **Chris McMartin**. The motion passed.

### OFFICERS' REPORTS

**Finance Officer Emery Heuermann** gave the finance report. Values as of April 17, 2017, General Fund = \$8,179.27; Investment Fund = \$32,255.30; Total Assets (Liquid) = \$40,434.57. A motion to accept the finance report subject to audit was made by **Carl Smith** and seconded by **Murray Marks**. The motion passed.

**First Vice Commander Jim Bolin** reported that the Post has 270 paid-up members, 83.85% of goal. He requested that each member take a list of names to call, to remind unpaid members to send in dues

**Chaplain Larry Reynolds** reported that he will order two Bibles to replace Post stocks.

**Service Officer Toby Carroll** reported that he has been helping two veterans receive their benefits. He has taken the VA class in anger management. Other officers present had no report to make.

### PROGRAM STATUS

**Spring Rummage Sale:** **Commander Glover** reported that the April rummage sale, which was postponed due to

space availability, will take place on July 21 – 22, not on the June date some had heard.

**Boys State:** **Emery Heuermann** explained the unusual bank balances of recent months as being caused by donations for 38 boys attending Boys State and a payment of over \$11,000 to Department to cover that cost. He thanked members who have donated to send boys to Boys State, and mention **Chris McMartin** who has donated tuition for several boys.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

By voice vote, the Post approved the membership of Murray Marks and Robert Shacklett. An Initiation Ceremony was performed for new members Murray Marks, Julian Segovia, and Robert Shacklett.

### FOR GOOD OF THE LEGION

**Commander Glover** reminded everyone that the 7<sup>th</sup> District Convention will be held in Madisonville on April 22.

She invited members to visit Wounded Warriors who will be passing through Intercontinental Airport Terminal C on Wounded Warrior Weekend.

### ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be on the third Thursday in May, at 7:00 pm at the South County Community Center. At that time, the election of officers for 2017-2018 will take place. All Post members who have paid their current dues and are present have the right and responsibility to cast a ballot.



## THE BUGLE

*The Bugle* is the monthly newsletter of American Legion Post 305; "The Woodlands Post"; Department of Texas. All Post and Auxiliary Unit members in good standing are entitled to a copy of The Bugle.

Editor: James Bolin

Assistant Editor: Win Salter

Distribution: Emery Heuermann

Webmaster: Emery Heuermann

[www.alpost305.org](http://www.alpost305.org)

Facebook: Kim Biggerstaff

[kimbiggerstaff@icloud.com](mailto:kimbiggerstaff@icloud.com)

<u>REGULAR FEATURES:</u>	<u>Page</u>
Commander's Corner -----	1
Meeting Highlights -----	1
Veteran's Advocate -----	3
Featured Articles-----	4
Auxiliary Unit News -----	7
Coming Events Calendar----	8
Officer Contact Info -----	8

Tel. No: (281) 298-2440

### Mail Address:

American Legion Post 305

P.O.Box 9336

The Woodlands, Texas, 77387

**Monthly Meetings:** 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, except in October\*. The Center is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Lake Robbins Drive and Grogan's Mill Road, next to the library. Meetings are followed by a pot-luck supper provided by the Auxiliary.

\*In October, a combined, short meeting precedes the Annual Picnic in Shadowbend Park.



## **VETERANS ADVOCATE**

### **VETERANS' CONSENSUS: ESTABLISH PRIVATE CARE OR OVERHAUL VA**

Members of both parties in Congress have repeatedly promised in recent months not to fully privatize VA health services, but have advocated for more partnerships with local hospitals and research centers to expand access to veterans. Veteran association officials said they see the clear message from various recent surveys as "the preferred method to achieve (the best care for veterans) is to hire more VA doctors, hold wrongdoers accountable, improve customer service, and make VA's programs and systems more user-friendly." Go to: <https://www.vfw.org/-/media/vfwsite/files/advocacy/vf-w-our-care-2017--executive-summary.pdf?la=en>. [Source: MilitaryTimes | Leo Shane III | March 31, 2017++]

### **RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE AT NATIONAL CEMENTERIES**

Since first announced last December, more than 10,000 eligible veterans have taken advantage of a new VA benefit that allows them to pre-enroll for interment in a VA National Cemetery, which means less paperwork that survivors will have to complete following their loved one's death. Interested

veterans can submit [VA Form 40-10007](https://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-10007.pdf), *Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery*, available at: <https://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-10007.pdf>, and supporting documentation, such as a DD Form 214, if readily available, to the VA National Cemetery Scheduling Office by toll-free fax at 1-855-840-8299; or by email to [Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov](mailto:Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov); or by regular mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, PO Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151.



VA will review applications and provide written notice of its determination of eligibility. VA will save determinations and supporting documentation in an electronic information system to expedite burial arrangements at the time of need. Because laws and personal circumstances change, upon receipt of a burial request, VA will validate all pre-need determinations in accordance with the laws in effect at that time. VA operates 135 national cemeteries and 33 soldiers' lots in 40 states and Puerto Rico. More than 4 million Americans, including Veterans of every war and conflict, are buried in VA's national cemeteries. VA also provides funding to establish, expand and maintain 105 veterans cemeteries in 47 states and territories including tribal trust lands, Guam, and Saipan. For Veterans buried in private or other cemeteries, VA provides headstones, markers or medallions to commemorate their service. In 2016, VA honored more than 345,000

Veterans and their loved ones with memorial benefits in national, state, tribal and private cemeteries.

Eligible individuals are entitled to burial in any open VA national cemetery, opening/ closing of the grave, a grave liner, perpetual care of the gravesite, and a government-furnished headstone or marker or niche cover, all at no cost to the family. Veterans are also eligible for a burial flag and may be eligible for a Presidential Memorial Certificate. Information on VA burial benefits is available from local VA national cemetery offices, from the Internet at [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov), or by calling VA regional offices toll-free at 800-827-1000. To make burial arrangements at any open VA national cemetery at the time of need, call the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 800-535-1117. [Source: VFW Action Corps | April 13, 2017 ++]

### **NATIONAL MALL SITE RESERVED FOR MEMORIAL TO DESERT SHIELD/STORM VETERANS**

Veterans of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm will soon have their own memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., thanks to legislation signed March 31st by the president. President Trump signed Senate Joint Resolution 1, "A joint resolution approving the location of a memorial to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces who served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield." The resolution was sponsored by Indiana Sen. Joe Donnelly and Arkansas Sen. John Boozman and designates the location of the memorial on the National Mall.



### **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](http://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

## **CRUISE MISSILES**

Obama is said to have drawn “a red line in the sand” with respect to use of chemical weapons in the Syrian civil war. In actuality, House Speaker John Boehner a year later gave the challenge that specific term, referring to Assad employing poison gas against his citizens. By that time, it was said that the US was prepared to use “cruise missiles” against Syrian targets, but no such action was taken.

On April 7, 2017, the US launched 59 cruise missiles on Shayrat Airfield in Syria, the base from which one or more fighters flew mission(s) to bomb Syrian civilians with chemical gas including sarin gas. The US attack was from two guided-missile destroyers in the Mediterranean – the USS Porter (DDG-78) and the USS Ross (DDG-71).

The US has used cruise missiles as early as 1991 in the Gulf War and previously in 2011 when they were fired against 20 targets in Libya. The missiles were “Tomahawks” and are deployed in two versions: “Block III Tomahawks” are programmed in advance to strike a specific target, then launched. The later “Block IV Tomahawks”

have greater capabilities, including the ability to change course or targets after launching. These can also “hover” or circle for extended periods of time before actually striking.

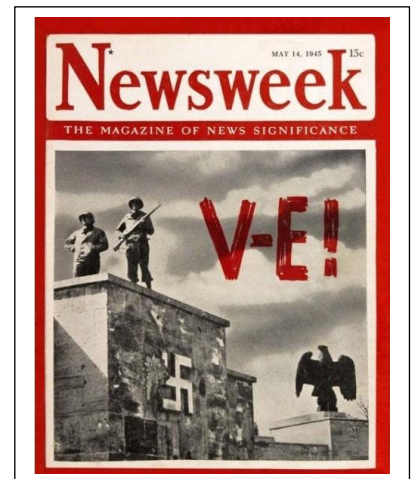
Cruise missiles are “flying bombs” which were first used by Germany in WWII as the primitive V-1 rocket. By definition, they are unmanned, self-propelled, guided missiles that sustain flight through aerodynamic lift over most of the flight path and whose primary mission is to place an ordnance payload on a target. They are inexpensive to build and can, therefore, overwhelm opposing defenses by sheer numbers. They can be designed to be small with low-thrust engines and can penetrate radar and infrared detection networks. They require no flight crew training, no expensive or complex upkeep, no hangars or large airbases. With these characteristics, it is especially difficult to collect intelligence on their development and to anticipate an evolving threat.

At least 12 countries have developed, possessed and exported cruise missiles. In general, cruise missiles are small and have limited range. Instead of the usual high explosive payload, it is possible to convert cruise missiles to deliver WMD’s, but their short range and other aerodynamic characteristics restrict such higher lethality. At least 30 third-world countries have purchased or were given cruise missiles of various types. The suppliers/sellers include the United States, Great Britain, China, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Russia, Sweden and Taiwan. In 1982, Argentina fired French “Exocet” missiles at the Royal Navy’s

ships during the Falklands War, sinking the *HMS Sheffield* and a transport ship.

## **WORLD WAR II IN EUROPE ENDS**

On May 8, 1945, 72 years ago, the unconditional surrender of the remaining Axis Powers was effected. The act of military surrender was signed by the Allies on May 7<sup>th</sup> in Reims, France, and then by Germany on May 8<sup>th</sup> in Berlin. The Soviet Union, which wanted all parties to appear in Berlin (which it held) for one grand event, was absent at Reims, and recognizes the war’s end as being May 9<sup>th</sup>, together with the Eastern Bloc countries.



Adolph Hitler was dead by his own hand (on April 30, 1945), so the German surrender was represented by Admiral Karl Donitz. The Italians had surrendered on September 8, 1943, as Mussolini lived on in exile under Nazi protection. He was captured and killed by Italian Communist resistance fighters on April 28, 1945.

Although V-E Day was a cause for celebration, Japan had yet to fall and would not accept the fact the war was lost as US troops captured its more distant island lands.

# MEMORIAL DAY - 2017

## LEST WE FORGET

**AS OF FEBRUARY 16, 2017, 65 AMERICAN TROOPS DIED IN AFGHANISTAN, IRAQ AND SYRIA. THE FEW HEROES DEPICTED HERE REPRESENT ALL AMERICANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY.**



Thalia S. Ramirez, CWO2, US Army



Stephen E. Spencer, Cpl. USMC



Roberto D. Sanchez, Sgt. US Army



Billie Jean Grinder, CWO, US Army



Douglas J. Riney, Sgt. US Army

### The Young Dead Soldiers

*The young dead soldiers do not speak.  
Nevertheless, they are heard in the still houses:  
who has not heard them?  
They have a silence that speaks for them at night  
and when the clock counts.  
They say: We were young. We have died.  
Remember us.  
They say: We have done what we could but  
until it is finished it is not done.  
They say: We have given our lives but until it is  
finished no one can know what our lives gave.  
They say: Our deaths are not ours: they are yours;  
they will mean what you make of them.  
They say: Whether our lives and our deaths were for  
peace and a new hope or for nothing we cannot say;  
it is you who must say this.  
They say: We leave you our deaths. Give them their  
meaning.  
We were young, they say. We have died.  
Remember us.*

by Archibald MacLeish,  
1892-1982, American Poet



# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 305 NEWS

## President Jenny Hamann



*[Contributed this month by  
Dayna Salter, Unit Treasurer]*

First of all, we send best wishes to **President Jenny Hamann** as she recovers from a nasty intestinal flu bug.

Last week, **President Hamann**, along with **VP Kathy Carroll**, Unit and District 7 **Chaplain Geri Mulvihill**, and Charter member and **Parliamentarian Rosalie Fryer** attended the District 7 Convention in Madisonville. **Liz Bryant**, of Willis, was re-elected District 7 President.

At the upcoming May meeting, we will hold our yearly election for the 2017-18 Unit officers. The nominations committee presented the slate with **Kathy Carroll** as **Unit President**; **Dayna Salter** as **Secretary-Treasurer**, **Annie Smith** as **Sergeant-at-Arms**, **Geri Mulvihill** as **Chaplain**, The offices of Vice President and Historian remain unfilled, and we are seeking interested members to step forward and be nominated from the floor for these offices and for the three Members-at-Large positions as well.

The Girls State committee chaired by **Geri Mulvihill** and **Thars Higginson** has wrapped up its work with a record 26 girls going to Girls State through Unit

305. Several girls were sponsored by their high schools (College Park, The Woodlands, Oak Ridge, Klein, and The Christian Academy); the Unit sponsored three girls; and the rest were sponsored by family, neighbors, and the community. There will be a Post Girls State reception for the girls and their families in November.

**Joan Sparks** presented "Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2" recognition baskets to **Kaylene** and **Kaylea Dornellien** whose mother is Army specialist E4, **Serena Dornellien**, stationed in Korea. **Joan** will also be presenting certificates to the 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade winners of the ALA Essay Contest. The winners are from St. Edward Catholic School, as well as a home schooled 8<sup>th</sup> grader.

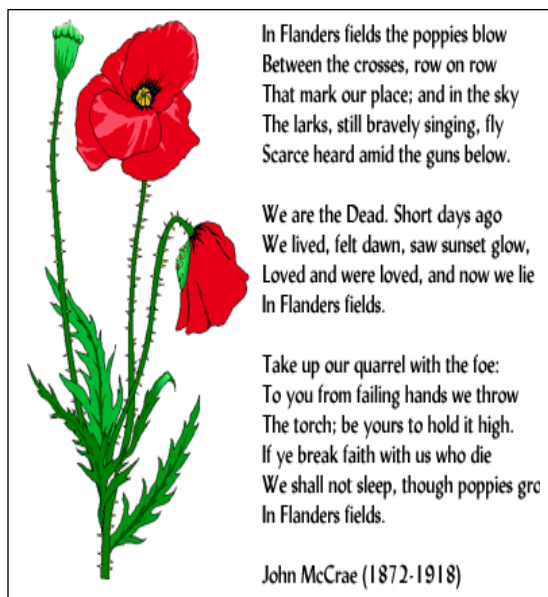
May brings Memorial Day and our first Poppy Campaign of 2017. Poppy Chairman **Rosalie Fryer** is arranging for new venues in addition to the usual Woodlands and Panther Creek Post Offices. More information will be available at our May meeting. The planned dates for poppy distribution are May 25,

26 and 27. This is a major fund raiser for us and supplies the money with which we support veterans programs. Everyone is encouraged to spend a couple of hours distributing poppies and collecting donations. It helps when we can pair a Post veteran with a Unit member for one or two 2-hour shifts. In addition to the fund raising, the program is a great outreach opportunity to meet the public and let them know what we do. Please mark these dates on your calendar and let Rosalie know when you can work.

And finally, we'd like to remind you that the Unit Scholarship is available for the offspring of Unit members. Applicants can be male or female high school seniors who have been accepted into a 2 or 4 year college or vocational school. Applications are available from **Joan Sparks** or **Dayna Salter**. The completed application is due by July 31, 2017.

We hope to see you at the May Election meeting. The potluck will be sandwiches and salads. **Thars Higginson** will be calling members to coordinate the dishes presented.

**Dayna Salter**



## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCALE</b>
Mon.	May 8	V-E Day (1945)	
Sun.	May 14	Mothers' Day	
Mon.	May 15	Executive Committees Meet	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Thur.	May 18	Membership Meetings (Elections)	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Sat.	May 20	Armed Forces Day	
Mon.	May 29	Memorial Day	Post & Unit Participate at Houston National Cemetery and Forest Park Cemetery
Tues.	June 6	D-Day; Invasion of Normandy (1944)	
Mon.	June 12	Executive Committees Meet	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Wed.	June 14	Flag Day	
Thur.	June 15	Membership Meetings (Installation)	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Sun.	June 18	Fathers' Day	
Sun.	June 25	Korean War Began (1950)	
Tues.	July 4	Independence Day	The Woodlands Fourth of July Parade
Wed.	July 12 to 16	Department Convention	Shilo Inn Hotel, Killeen
Mon.	July 17	Executive Committee Meetings	

## POST & AUXILIARY UNIT CONTACT INFORMATION (2016-2017)

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TEL. NO.</b>	<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS</b>
<b>POST 305</b>			
<b>COMMANDER</b>	Victoria Glover	(832) 813-9415	ALPostcmdrvickie@gmail.com
<b>FIRST VICE CMDR.</b>	Jim Bolin	(281) 251-2352	jpb20006@sbcglobal.net
<b>SECOND VICE CMDR.</b>	(vacant)		
<b>ADJUTANT</b>	Pickens Jones	(281) 367-7631	pickensjones@usa.net
<b>FINANCE OFFICER</b>	Emery Heuermann	(281) 362-8431	emeryheuermann@charter.net
<b>SERVICE OFFICER</b>	Toby Carroll	(281) 323-4985	toby.carroll@sbcglobal.net
<b>SERGEANT-AT-ARMS</b>	Bruce Carter	(281) 844-0836	bruce4482@att.net
<b>ASS'T SGT-AT-ARMS</b>	Carl Smith	(281) 367-4714	carl12024@yahoo.com
<b>CHAPLAIN</b>	Larry Reynolds	(254) 482-0003	lbr725@gmail.com
<b>ASS'T CHAPLAIN</b>	(vacant)		
<b>JUDGE ADVOCATE</b>	Everett Ison	(281) 298-9524	everett.ison@sprint.com
<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Lacey Homan	(832) 704-2732	lkhoman44@gmail.com
<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:</b>			
<b>POSITION ONE</b>	Dayton Denton	(832) 928-6054	whselfstorage1@yahoo.com
<b>POSITION TWO</b>	Art Eipper	(832) 567-5806	artstarr99@yahoo.com
<b>AUXILIARY UNIT 305</b>			
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Jenny Hamann	(281) 907-3430	ala305pres@gmail.com
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Kathy Carroll	(281) 323-4985	kcarroll47@sbcglobal.net
<b>SECRETARY (Act'g)</b>	Thars Higginson	(713) 851-9337	tharshigginson@comcast.net
<b>TREASURER</b>	Dayna Salter	(281) 229-1365	dayna.salter@ymail.com
<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Joan Charest	(281) 363-9710	rrge26@aol.com
<b>CHAPLAIN</b>	Geri Mulvihill	(832) 620-6265	gerimulvihill@outlook.com
<b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b>	Rosalie Fryer	(936) 520-8895	rcfryer@consolidated.net
<b>SERGEANT-AT-ARMS</b>	Annie Smith	(281) 757-3967	carl12024@yahoo.com
<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:</b>			
<b>POSITION ONE</b>	Nancy Woloszyn	(619) 985-0486	above4000feet@aol.com
<b>POSITION TWO</b>	Veronica Maiolo	(832) 228-4403	sammaiolo@sbcglobal.net
<b>POSITION THREE</b>	(vacant)		