



THE BUGLE

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 305 OF THE WOODLANDS

POST COMMANDER VICTORIA GLOVER



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hope everyone had a Spook-tacular October. November is upon us and with that, the start of Fall. Cooler weather is a welcome change from the heat. Time for the fireplaces to start getting warmed up.

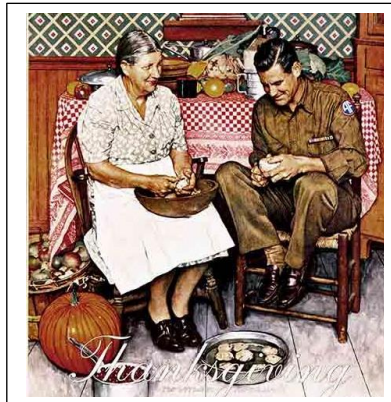
We have Veterans Day and Thanksgiving this month. I do not have any activities as of yet for Veterans Day. If you know of any activities, please let us know. The Auxiliary has invited to Girls State Awards Night on Nov. 8th at 6:30 PM at the Community Center.

Our October Picnic was good. Thank you to all that prepared the food, and everyone that came. Also, I attended the District Training session on the following Saturday. **Butch Sparks, National Executive Committeeman**, talked about trying to get our heads together and come up with ways of increasing membership and share what has worked. I shared about our Open House activities we held. The training part was

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

for an Adjutant position. It was good.

As Veterans Day rolls around, I want to express my heart-felt thank you to all of you, and to our active service members. As Thanksgiving comes, keep giving thanks for all we have.



I know many are sports fans. Many of us are rooting for the Houston Astros in the World Series! I for one have pretty much given up on watching the NFL due to the disrespect of our National Anthem and colors. They have the right to protest something under free speech dictates. It is for that which many have died to give us such freedom and all the other freedoms we take for granted. Most of us would never think of sitting through or kneeling for any part of it. We as a country have let the education about our Flag and Anthem go by the wayside. The nation has often been divided, but never more so than now, excepting civil war times. We, as veterans and

citizens of this great country, can help by going out and help folks learn about our history and flag. Let's find a way to help our Community, State and Nation to heal and unite as one.

Let us ever be reminded to never forget our fallen, our POW/MIA's, our veterans, those on active duty and their families. Keep them and our first responders in our prayers!

**Victoria Glover
Commander**

FAMILY FOOD
(October 19, 2017)

[Each October, in place of the usual membership meeting, Post and Auxiliary members, their families and friends, join together at the traditional Annual Picnic held in a pavilion in Shadow Bend Park, The Woodlands. So, that is the reason the "Meeting Highlights" column is absent in this issue.]

At 6:30 PM, or thereabouts, as the sun was going down, the volunteer chef and the ladies of the Auxiliary began final preparations for this annual al fresco picnic supper. The meat purveyor and chef, **Jim Bolin**, went to work getting his charcoal burning and grill hot. Meanwhile, the auxiliary crew laid out the food table, comprised of all the fixings for brats and hamburgers, plus a half dozen side-

dishes – baked beans, potato salad, deviled eggs and such. That spread was followed by the dessert assortment of cupcakes, brownies and cookies. On the side were coolers of sodas and bottled water. (Liquid refreshment was recently limited by code to preclude the Suhr margaritas, the other hard stuff, wine and even beer.)

Jim Bolin, Chief Chef



While **Jim** toiled to cook the meats to a turn, the attendees began arriving. In the background a couple of soccer matches were in play under the lights. The weather was fine, with a hint of the coming Fall in the air. Groups settled in at the picnic tables, and, at 7:00 PM, **Commander Victoria Glover** called the gathering to order, using the designated ritual. She conducted a short business meeting, made pertinent announcements and postponed the usual reports. She then closed the meeting and allowed the informal festivities to begin.

By then, **Chef Jim** had filled several platters with hot meats. The chow line quickly formed and moved slowly along the food presentation as diners dished up the vittles of their choice. The tables were soon filled by the adults and a few children, all talking and chewing the fat, washed down by sober soda and Niagara bottled water.

The Picnic Spread



Auxiliary President Kathy Carroll
& her husband Toby,
Post Service Officer



Here we find Joy & Chuck
Hudson, Carol & Ray Schubert,
Pickens Jones & Carl Smith



Jerry Mulvihill converses with
Pete Koch, while Jerry's wife
and daughter look away and
Dora Blue listens



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

Facebook: Kim Biggerstaff

kimbiggerstaff@icloud.com

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Tel. Number: (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.

Thus, the Annual Picnic for 2017 became history, leaving the untouched business matters to the November membership meeting. (HINT: That event will begin well before 7:00 PM with a hot turkey dinner for the joined Post and Auxiliary members and any guests.)

THE WOODLANDS ANNUAL FLEA MARKET & GARAGE SALE

It was a cold and windy morning, still dark on Saturday, October 28th, when the Post, represented by **Jim Bolin, Pickens Jones, Dayton Denton** and **Lucky**, and the Auxiliary, represented by **Kathy Carroll, Rosalie Fryer, Joan Sparks** and **Dayna Salter**, arrived at the garage venue and set up their display tables. The two units were not together and on different levels. The object: raise funds to help veterans, while offsetting the past year of rummage sale cancellations.

As the sales goods were laid out at both locations, the earliest lookers and buyers began to arrive. The sales period extended from 7:00 AM to enough before 11:00 AM to clear-out of the site. Post and Panther Creek notable, **Everett Ison**, was the OIC. The Post tables were populated with choice items from the storage locker, while the Unit displayed



baked goods, jewelry, snacks, plaques, serving dishes and paintings (by **Win Salter**). There

were more lookers than buyers, and the "take" was less than hoped for. But, every little bit helps!



VETERANS ADVOCATE

NEW VA PHOTO ID CARDS ARE AVAILABLE NOW

All honorably discharged veterans of every era will be able to get a photo identification card from the Department of Veterans Affairs starting this month due to a law passed in 2015. The law, known as the Veterans Identification Card Act 2015, orders the VA to issue a hard-copy photo ID to any honorably discharged veteran who applies. The card must contain the veteran's name, photo and a non-Social Security identification number, the law states.. Veterans may apply for the card online, but a timeline for how long it will take to receive a card after application has not been finalized, the official said.

Although the law states that the VA may charge a fee for the card, the official said no fee is planned. The change comes as the military exchange stores prepare to open online shopping to all honorably discharged veterans starting on Veterans Day. Veterans who wish to use that new benefit must be verified through VetVerify.org. Congress passed the ID law as a way to help veterans prove their service without showing a copy of their DD-214. "Goods, services and promotional activities are often offered by public and private

institutions to veterans who demonstrate proof of service in the military, but it is impractical for a veteran to always carry Department of Defense form DD-214 discharge papers to demonstrate such proof," the law states.

Some veterans already carry such proof of service. Those who receive health care from the VA or have a disability rating can get a photo ID VA health card, also known as a Veteran Identification Card. Military retirees also hold an ID card issued by the Defense Department. Veterans are also able to get a proof of service letter through the VA's *ebenefits* website. And, some states, like Texas, will include a veteran designation on driver's licenses if requested.

[Source: Military.com | Amy Bushatz | October 4, 2017 ++]

VA DENTAL INSURANCE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT BEGINS THIS MONTH

On September 28th the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that it has selected Delta Dental of California and MetLife to once again offer private dental insurance plans as part of the VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP). The program was extended until Dec. 31, 2021, by the VA Dental Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2016. "It is important to provide this care to eligible veterans, especially those who need lower-cost insurance," said VA Secretary Dr. David J. Shulkin. "VADIP underscores our commitment to support America's veterans and their family members."

Veterans enrolled in the VA health-care system and beneficiaries of the Civilian Health

and Medical Program of the VA (CHAMPVA) can enroll in the program beginning November 15, 2017, for coverage to start December 1. VADIP offers eligible individuals the opportunity to purchase discounted dental insurance coverage, including diagnostic services, preventive services, endodontic and other restorative services, surgical services and emergency services. Individuals who enroll in one of the dental insurance plans will pay the entire premium in addition to the full cost of any copayments. Enrollment is voluntary and does not affect eligibility for VA outpatient dental services and treatment. The plans are available to eligible individuals in the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Delta Dental and MetLife previously offered insurance plans as part of the three-year VADIP pilot program. Coverage under the VADIP pilot began January 1, 2013, and more than 115,000 CHAMPVA beneficiaries and other veterans enrolled in the program before it expired in January 2017. Individuals who enrolled in a plan during the pilot period must select and enroll in one of the new plans offered by Delta Dental or MetLife. While the insurance providers will remain the same, plan options, fees and other factors may have changed from those offered during the pilot. For more information, visit www.va.gov/HEALTHBENEFIT/S/vadip or call 877-222-VETS (8387). [Source: VA News Release | September 28, 2017 ++]

MIA UPDATE

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has announced identifications of remains and burial updates of seven American servicemen who had been missing in action from WWII and the Korean War. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

Staff Sergeant Michael Aiello, USA, of Company G, 401st Glider Infantry Regiment, fought last in Operation Market Garden, The Netherlands.

PFC Richard A. Lukas, USA, of Company C, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, went missing in November 1950, near the Chongchon River, northeast of Kujang, North Korea.

PFC Walter C. Hackenberg, USA, of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, became MIA in April 1951, west of Chorw'on, South Korea.

Shipfitter 3rd Class Francis L. Hannon, USN, of the USS Oklahoma, was killed on December 7th, 1941, during the raid on Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii.

PFC Arnold J. Harrison, USMC, of Company B, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, was killed on the first day of the invasion of Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, in November 1943.

Sergeant First Class Lester R. Walker, USA, of Battery B, 82nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division became MIA in September 1950, in the vicinity of Changnyeong, South Korea.

PFC Donald E. Eichschlag, USMCR, of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, was killed in November 1950, at Hill 1250, Yudam-ni, North Korea.

Welcome home, guys. You are all heroes to us veterans who made it back!

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Post Service Officer Toby Carroll: Tel: (281) 323-498
e-mail: toby.carroll@sbcglobal.net

VA Houston Regional Office: (713) 383-7842
VA Conroe Outpatient Clinic: (936) 522-4024
Texas Veterans Commission Hot Line: 1(800) 252-VETS
County Veteran Service Centers:
Montgomery County - Conroe: (936) 539-7842
Harris County - Houston: (281) 876-6600
Military Veteran Peer Network: Conroe: (936) 521-6132

STATE LEGISLATORS:

Dist. 3: Cecil Bell Jr. - Magnolia: (281) 259-3700
Dist. 15: Mark Keough - The Woodlands: (281) 419-1090
Dist. 16: Will Metcalf - Conroe: (936) 539-0068
Dist. 126: Kevin Roberts - Houston: (281) 444-1814
Dist. 150: Valoree Swanson - Spring: (281) 257- 4222

WWI ARMISTICE AND BEYOND

Overtures by Germany to talk peace began when Max von Baden took over as Chancellor of Germany on the evening of October 3, 1918, and, due in a large measure to the pessimism of General Erich Ludendorff, Baden sent, within 48 hours, a formal note to President Woodrow Wilson through Swiss intermediaries. The diplomatic note cited Wilson's own Fourteen Points as a basis of negotiations and concluded: "With a view to avoiding further bloodshed, the German Government requests the immediate conclusion of an armistice on land and sea." Wilson, in response, simply requested clarification of Imperial Germany's acceptance of his Fourteen Points. Among the Allies, reaction to Wilson's response was mixed. The ruling class of Germany celebrated the response, hoping to play Wilson off against Britain's Lloyd George and France's Georges Clemenceau. However, among the French, Wilson's response touched off a furious reaction, fearing the US would withdraw before a true victory had been achieved. On October 14th, Wilson sent his first detailed response, which dashed German hopes and allayed French fears.

As war continued, such further exchanges and jockeying for postwar terms continued. On October 30th, General Wilhelm Groener took over the German high command and immediately took stock of the military situation on the Western Front and the political situation on the German home front. By then, a serious mutiny had broken out within the German High Seas Fleet when crews refused to sail against the British Grand Fleet. The mutiny spread quickly to 11 northern cities, including Bremen and Hamburg. Troops sent to suppress the mutineers, joined them instead. General Groener informed the German Chancellor that to avoid total military catastrophe, an armistice was required by November 9th and that November 11th might be too late.

On November 8th, a German armistice delegation met with Marshal Ferdinand Foch, where it was given terms of a cessation of hostilities, amounting to unconditional surrender. Shocked by the harsh terms, the delegation returned to report the terms to the German Government. Political upheaval had put the issue in the hands of the Social Democratic faction, which given the collapse of the German body politic, saw no option but to accept the terms as offered. Thus, at 5:05 AM on November 11th, the German armistice team met with Marshall Foch in a railway car in the Forest of Compiègne. The signed armistice document went into effect at 11:00 AM.

Meanwhile, in the field, the allied troops, who knew an armistice was coming, were so informed and given cease-fire orders. There are thousands of anecdotal tales of what the smallest of fighting units experienced that day. In one US sector, a messenger notified all troops reachable to remain on the ground they had seized as of 1000 hours. "The 67th and 49th Companies of the 1/5 reached the ridge near Senegal Farm and the 66th Company advanced as far as the outskirts of Moulin, the farthest eastward. Sergeant Earnest R. Love, who wasn't showing much love that morning, led his patrol of the 55th Company to a point near Mouzon, the target of the 6th Marines the night before. Love's patrol cleared the wheat fields and woods of enemy snipers and machine guns. All the while he kept his men intact, making the advance of the 55th that much easier. No other Marines, except those of the 66th at Moulin, got that far before the "witching hour". There was scattered shooting for a few hours afterward in several areas. Orders had to be issued to some of the units that were at the front because some apparently had not gotten "the word" and continued fighting well past 1100 hours. Captain Samuel C. Cumming, skipper of the 51st Company, later described his experience on that final day of the war: "Whenever we saw any

Germans, we fired on them and this continued until about 1415 hours. I noticed the Germans were not returning fire and suddenly all along the main highway fronting us, there appeared above the embankment German rifles with bayonets with flags and white handkerchiefs waving. I ordered my men not to fire, and we waited to see what they were going to do."

Men of Company M,
6th Infantry, celebrate the end
of World War I



The war was over. Mostly, the German soldiers just lay still. They were overjoyed to be alive and aware that they would not have to face another bloody day of war. The Americans made some noise but generally were also quiet, still unable to grasp the immediate effect of a cease fire. The troops all remained where they were for at least another day. Sleep, precious sleep, was something the Americans, and no doubt the Germans, had done without. On November 11, 1918, that was the order of the day. On the following day, the Americans fired off some of their pyrotechnics and built bonfires, around which many sat and sang songs.

With occupation duty before them, orders soon were issued for the Americans to move eastward to the German border, preparatory to moving into Germany and carrying out the terms of the armistice.

[References Used: (1) "*The Western Front – 1917–1918*"; by Andrew Wiest; Amber books, Ltd.; (2008), and (2) "*Devil Dogs—Fighting Marines of World War I*"; by George B. Clark; Presidio Press, Inc.; (1999)]

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 305 NEWS

President Kathy Carroll



This past weekend brought us true Fall weather – bright, sunny days and cool nights. It was a perfect time for craft fairs. The Unit participated in two events, and we were able to add to our General Operating Fund.

Once again, November will be a busy month for our Unit. We will be distributing Poppies on November 3rd and 4th at three different Ace Hardware Stores. The number of hours we will be there depends on how many volunteers we have. If you have not signed up yet and are able to help, contact **Rosalie Fryer** at 936-520-8895 to find out available times and places.

WWI Canadian Medical Officer John McCrea, who wrote "In Flanders Field", the basis of The American Legion Poppy Program



Our Girls State Recognition Event will be held at the South County Community Center on November 8th at 6:30 PM. Since we sent 26 girls to Girls State in June, we expect a large turnout. **Geri** and **Thars** have been working very hard to coordinate the decorations, food, speakers and awards and it looks like it

will be a great evening. Your attendance will make the event even better, so I look forward to seeing as many Unit members as possible.

Veteran's Day is November 11th so be sure to fly your flag proudly. Originally known as Armistice Day to honor World War I veterans, the name of the holiday was later changed to Veteran's Day to honor all veterans of all wars. Although World War I did not turn out to be the "war to end all wars", veterans from this war were the ones who banded together to establish the American Legion, and subsequently the American Legion Auxiliary was formed. After almost 100 years the aims and purpose of both organizations has remained the same – serve our veterans, military personnel and their families and promote Americanism and patriotism. So, on Veteran's Day don't just say to a veteran "Thank you for your service". Give that veteran a hug, tell him or her how proud you are of them and welcome them home.



Remember that we have our ongoing project of care packages to Iraq and Afghanistan. **Gene Wilson-Watz** needs items every month. Magazines, hand held games,

boot socks, etc. are all good choices. Don't forget that some of the service members are women.

Also, membership renewal time is in full swing. I have heard that some people did not get a renewal notice. If that is the case, you can send your check to me at: **Kathy Carroll**, 31322 Whispering Oaks Lane, Spring, Texas 77386. Make out your check to ALA Unit #305. Senior members are \$27 and Junior members are \$7.50. Or you can register online at www.alaforveterans.org.

Last but not least, our next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, November 16th at the Community Center. We will be celebrating Thanksgiving, and we will host our annual Thanksgiving dinner for the Post starting at 6:30 PM. **Thars Higginson** has graciously volunteered to coordinate the food for this feast. We will need all the typical side dishes and desserts that make this dinner special. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

God bless our veterans and God bless the United States of America.

Kathy Carroll,
President ALA Unit #305



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

| DAY | DATE | EVENT | LOCALE | TIME |
|-------|------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Tues. | Nov. 7 | Election Day | | |
| Fri. | Nov. 10 | Marine Corps Established (1775) | Tun Tavern, Philadelphia, PA | |
| Sat. | Nov. 11 | Veterans Day | Remember Our Veterans, POW's & MIA's | |
| Mon. | Nov. 13 | Executive Committee Meeting | South County Community Center | @ 7:00 PM |
| Thur. | Nov. 16 | Traditional Turkey Dinner | South County Community Center | @ 6:30 PM |
| Thur. | Nov. 16 | Membership Meetings | South County Community Center | @ 7:30 PM |
| Thur. | Nov. 23 | Thanksgiving Day | | |
| Thur. | Dec. 7 | Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day | 1941 – "A day which will live in infamy!" | |
| Mon. | Dec. 18 | Executive Committee Meeting | South County Community Center | @ 7:00 PM |
| Thur. | Dec. 21 | Membership Meetings | South County Community Center | @ 7:00 PM |
| Sun. | Dec. 25 | Christmas Day | | |
| Mon. | Jan. 15 | Executive Committee Meeting | South County Community Center | @ 7:00 PM |
| Mon. | Jan. 15 | Martin Luther King Day | | |
| Thur. | Jan. 18 | Membership Meetings | South County Community Center | @ 7:00 PM |
| Thur. | Jan. 18 | Post & Auxiliary Vie For Honors | 19 th Annual Chili Cook-off Contest | |
| Fri. | Jan. 26 to | Department Mid-Winter Conference | | |
| Mon. | Jan. 29 | (concludes) | Omni Austin SouthPark Hotel | |
| Mon. | Feb. 12 | Executive Committee Meeting | South County Community Center | @ 7:00 PM |

POST & AUXILIARY UNIT CONTACT INFORMATION (2017-2018)

| POSITION | NAME | TEL. NO. | E-MAIL ADDRESS |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| POST 305 | | | |
| COMMANDER | Victoria Glover | (832) 813-9415 | ALPostcmdrvickie@gmail.com |
| FIRST VICE CMDR. | Jim Bolin | (281) 251-2352 | jpb20006@sbcglobal.net |
| SECOND VICE CMDR. | (vacant) | | |
| ADJUTANT | Pickens Jones | (281) 367-7631 | pickensjones@usa.net |
| FINANCE OFFICER | Emery Heuermann | (281) 362-8431 | emeryheuermann@charter.net |
| SERVICE OFFICER | Toby Carroll | (281) 323-4985 | toby.carroll@sbcglobal.net |
| SERGEANT-AT-ARMS | Bruce Carter | (281) 844-0836 | bruce4482@att.net |
| ASS'T SGT-AT-ARMS | (vacant) | | |
| CHAPLAIN | Bill Houghton | (281) 367-3159 | whoughcloc@aol.com |
| ASS'T CHAPLAIN | Larry Reynolds | (-----) | |
| JUDGE ADVOCATE | Everett Ison | (281) 298-9524 | everett.ison@sprint.com |
| HISTORIAN | Win Salter | (281) 370-1912 | flintyeye@gmail.com |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: | | | |
| POSITION ONE | Dayton Denton | (832) 928-6054 | whselfstorage1@yahoo.com |
| POSITION TWO | Art Eipper | (832) 567-5806 | artstarr99@yahoo.com |
| AUXILIARY UNIT 305 | | | |
| PRESIDENT | Kathy Carroll | (281) 323-4985 | kcarroll47@sbcglobal.net |
| VICE PRESIDENT | (vacant) | | |
| SECRETARY (Act'g) | Dayna Salter | (281) 229-1365 | dayna.salter@ymail.com |
| TREASURER | Dayna Salter | (281) 229-1365 | dayna.salter@ymail.com |
| HISTORIAN | Jenny Hamann | (281) 907-3430 | ala305pres@gmail.com |
| CHAPLAIN | Geri Mulvihill | (832) 620-6265 | gerimulvihill@outlook.com |
| PARLIAMENTARIAN | Rosalie Fryer | (936) 520-8895 | rcfryer@consolidated.net |
| SERGEANT-AT-ARMS | Annie Smith | (281) 757-3967 | carl12024@yahoo.com |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: | | | |
| POSITION ONE | Joan Charest | (281) 363-9710 | rrge26@aol.com |
| POSITION TWO | Sandie Holzinger | (281) 364-8590 | zing4@earthlink.net |
| POSITION THREE | Veronica Maiolo | (832) 228-4403 | sammaiolo@sbcglobal.net |