



THE BUGLE

February 2019
Volume 15, Number 02



Monthly Newsletter of The Woodlands American Legion Post 305

Think not of the price of your dues. Think of the price you paid to be eligible to pay them.

FEBRUARY 21, 2019 Meeting



At the February 21, 2019 meeting, to be held in the Event Center 9Domec Hall) at St Simon and Jude Church, Chaplain **Bill Houghton** and Chaplain **Barbara Foret** will lead Post 305 and the Auxiliary; respectively, as we pay homage with a ceremony dedicated to the Four Chaplains that went down during WW II on the USS Dorchester after being torpedoed. Their heroic actions as the ship sank will never be forgotten.

Be sure and arrive early, say 6:30 to 7:00 if you would like to partake of the monthly munchies. The Auxiliary, lead by presiding officer **Kathy Carroll** does a great job in preparing dishes to snack on. Meet, greet and munch starts about 6:30. Meeting starts promptly at 7:30. **All war time veterans are invited.**

COMMANDER'S CORNER **Bruce Carter**



I completed my seventh month as Commander in January 2019. We had our January 2019 meeting in the Event Center (Domec Hall). Below is the schedule for the Post meetings. The February 2019 meeting will be in the Ministry House as scheduled. Please note the March 2019 meeting location has been changed from Domec Hall to the Ministry House:

Post Meetings -

Event Center (Domec Hall for Post meetings and room 10 for the Auxiliary)
(2019) 1/17, 2/21 5/16, 6/20, 7/18

Ministry House (rooms A & B)
(2019), 3/21, 4/18

There are directions to the church on our website, www.alpost305.org

We had our **annual chili cook-off competition** before the January Post meeting. There were seven entries and believe me they were all delicious. All of the entries received votes for first, second or third place. After all the votes were counted the winners were:

First Place – **Dayna Salter**

Second Place – **Kathy Carroll**

Third Place – **Daniel Foret**



From left to right in the photo are the winners: **Daniel Foret, Dayna Salter, Kathy Carroll.**

In January we received the sad news that **Sid Ulmer**, a charter member of Post 305, had passed away. Sid was interred at the National Cemetery here in Houston. Myself and a few of our long-term members attended. Sid was an Air Force veteran and had a distinguished career in service to our country. The color guard was provided by the Air Force and it was a particularly excellent service including a beautiful rendition of Taps on coronet and a three-gun salute. After the ceremony attendees were invited to a luncheon at the retirement home where Sid and his wife were living. There we were able to offer our condolences to Sid's wife and family.

From information I found on *myLegion.org*, we have 293 paid up members, many of whom are Paid Up for Life (PUFL). That is quite a substantial number of members and yet we struggle to attain adequate participation in our activities. We rarely have more than twenty members attend our monthly meetings much less help us in our mission. This level of participation is inadequate for us to sustain a reasonable provision of support to our veterans that we would like to achieve. In fact, we are only able to provide a minimal response to some of the programs that we maintain. This is a call out for some of you members who are inactive to at least come to our meetings and see how you can become more active. After all, paying annual dues to belong to the American Legion just to have a wallet card and then not participate in our activities is disheartening.

Even though the 4th of July parade was canceled in The Woodlands for 2018, I know from previous years that the community is very supportive of our organization and our Post. But it's not about us riding on a float and receiving accolades from the community; it's about those of us who have served our country in the military during times of conflict helping our fellow veterans who have also served and are now paying the price for that service.

One of the topics I am interested in is news about our MIAs. Rather than recount information I've found I will continue to post the following website that documents recovery of MIAs:

<https://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/Recent-News-Stories/>

This is an impressive listing that shows the diligence of our Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

That is all...

For God and Country,
Bruce Carter, Commanding Officer

THE AUXILIARY UNIT 305 *PROGRAMS & NEWS*



Presidents' Corner

Kathy Carroll

The year is still new, but many things have happened already. We had our yearly Chili Cook Off at the January meeting. This year we combined the Post and Unit entries and voted for the best. I am happy to report that **Dayna Salter's** chili was voted the best by everyone there. It was a lot of fun tasting all the entries and listening to all the comments about texture, heat and whether chili should have beans or not.

Department Mid-Winter Conference was held in Austin, Jan. 25-27, 2019. The speakers that we heard on Saturday morning were very interesting. What we took away from their presentations is that there are many programs in place to help veterans deal with PTSD and MST but unfortunately veterans don't always know that help is there. So, if you see or know a veteran who needs help, sometimes it is up to us to recognize their need and help them get this help. Also, every year at the joint session of the Legion and Auxiliary, the Legion presents awards to the Police Officer, Fireperson, and EMT of the year. It is up to a Post to nominate someone, so it would be nice if we keep our eyes and ears open for our Post to nominate someone from our area to receive these awards.

Geri Mulvihill, our Girls State chairman, is busy setting up appointments to interview the girls that we will be sending to Girls State in June. Right now, she has interviews set up on February 27 and February 28. We need to arrive at the schools by 8:15am and should be done by 11:30am. If you are able to help with these interviews, please call or text Geri at 832-620-6265 and let her know your availability. There will be more interviews coming up.

February and March are the months that we promote the Americanism essay contest in the schools. **Joan Sparks** is working with several schools, but if you would like to help her expand to other schools, please contact her at 832-764-2586. Joan will be happy to explain to you how to get your foot in the door at a new school. Part of our mission is to promote Americanism and patriotism in our youth, and this is a great way to do this.

There are 2 upcoming events that I want to be sure you are aware of, both taking place at Unit 521 in Pasadena. The first one is a dinner/fundraiser for Cancer Research Program on Friday, February 22. If you are not familiar with this program, I will tell you that it is unique to the Department of Texas. Every year the Department awards \$5000 scholarships to graduate students doing research in cancer cures. One of the speakers at Mid-Winter Conference was a recipient of this scholarship and she told us how important it was to her to have received this money. Last year Department awarded 8 scholarships and this year we are hoping to award 10. Our Unit always contributes to this program, but this is an additional way for each of us to contribute. Carpooling is a possibility if there are several of us who wish to attend.

The second event is the visit from our National President, **Kathy Dungan**. There will be a dinner in her honor on Saturday, March 16, at the Pasadena Post. This is the only visit that she will be making to our state, so Department is hoping to have a good turnout to welcome her. Carpooling is also an option for this.

FYI: February has 2 days that we should fly our flags. February 12 is Lincoln's birthday and this year February 18 is Presidents' Day.

Our next meeting will be on February 21 at Sts. Simon and Jude Church in the Event Centerl. We will have a pot luck meal with the Post at 6:30pm followed by our meeting. Hope to see all of you there.

God bless our veterans and men and women in uniform, and God Bless the United States of America.

Kathy Carroll
President, ALA Unit 305

OBSERVATIONS by past Commander James Bolin

January 17th was the night of the great Chili Cook-off. No other Post conducts such a wonderful night. Post 305 has been conducting the Chili Cook-off for over 16 years. This year the Leadership was concerned more than usual because we were doing the Cook-off at our new meeting location. The troops were standing around waiting to determine who is bringing what Chili. The cooks carried their own entry into the back room and put their entry on the table for the Chili. Each bowl of Chili was given a number and the membership was invited to take a taste of each entry. After each of the membership had a chance to check out the taste of each pot, the members determine what is best for them and so indicates so on their ballot. The winner was announced to the cheering membership before eating. The winner was awarded for best like of the seven chili's.

There was no information from the Post Officers during the request for reports. (lots of time lost by end of year and beginning of the next year).

During "Good of the Legion" Emery Heuermann requested permission to have the floor to talk about information that he had on his mind. He began by discussing the Birdies for Charity and there being no possibility of it running and making money this year. Birdies for Charity is out of the question because it is out of business for this year. Other known places of Birdies for Charity were done around October or earlier. In other words, we were too late to participate in any way since it was all over by now. We need to see when the next times it will be held and see if we could enter in some manner.

A few years ago, the Post had a member who volunteers to work down town for the hospital. As such he was involved with several things we participated with. Since that person has left it could be that we had do without him and someone in the current take over. Such is the case with slightly used baseball caps. Emery and Liz Heuermann took over the washing the caps and getting caps to ship down to the Hospital. He asked the current membership if they would collect hats and give them to him? He would wash them out and get them down to the Hospital.

American Legion Post 305

January 17th, 2019 Post Meeting minutes

Date 17 January 2019

MEETING OPENED AT: 7:40 pm

Quorum_____ yes

Members Present 12

ROLL CALL of OFFICERS

Present: Commander Bruce Carter; 1st Vice **Jim Bolin**; Adjutant **Pickens Jones**; Finance Officer **Emery Heuermann**; Service Officer **Toby Carroll**; Sgt. at arms **Harlen Thornhill**; Chaplain **Bill Houghton**; Member at Large **Norman Chapa**.

Absent: Judge Advocate **Peter Koch**; Member at Large **Victoria Glover**.

Guests: none

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the previous meetings were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes of the Post and Executive Committee meetings was made by **Ray Shubert** and seconded by **Daniel Foret**. The motion passed.

REPORTS

1. Finance Officer **Emery Heuermann** gave the finance report. Bank Balance \$5,853.53; Fidelity \$29,625.50; Total Cash Assets \$35,479.03. A motion to accept the finance report subject to audit was made by **Everett Ison** and seconded by **Norman Chapa**. Emery Heuermann abstained. The motion passed.
2. Chaplain **Bill Houghton** reported that he had sent a sympathy card to the family of **Syd Ulmer**. Commander Carter reported that he went to the funeral for Syd Ulmer and that the honor guard did an excellent job.
3. Service Officer **Toby Carroll** reported that he made no face to face contacts.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Emery Heuermann reported that as far as he could tell there will be no Birdies for Charity event in Houston this Spring. He did locate an event in San Antonio that we may be able to participate in. He is in communication with the group but the lady is not returning phone calls. Everett Ison looked it up on the internet and gave Emery a new name for consideration and her contact number. Emery Heuermann made a motion that he be authorized to register Post 305 in the Birdies for Charity event in San Antonio. The motion was seconded by Everett Ison. The motion passed.
2. Commander Carter announced the winners of the 20th Annual Chili Cookoff, Third Place Daniel Foret, Second Place Kathy Carroll, First Place Dayna Salter.
3. Emery Heuermann reported that the Hats for Vets program is alive and well and continuing to provide hats for veterans in several locations. The Conroe VA has agreed that we can put a banner or signage up showing Post 305 as the sponsor. Interfaith declined to have their name listed. A motion to authorize \$50.00 to purchase a banner to go over the hats table was made by Emery Heuermann and seconded by Harlen Thornhill. The motion passed.
4. Everett Ison reported that District 7 Commander Edward Jarvis was involved in a bad traffic accident but other than being bruised was uninjured.
- 5.

ADJOURNMENT

1. The next meeting will be on the third Thursday in February, at 7:00 pm at the Sts. Simon and Jude Catholic Church.
2. Commander **Bruce Carter** adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Pickens Jones, Adjutant

Post Membership Regular Meeting Dates and location:

Post Meetings -

Event Center (Domec Hall for Post meetings and room 10 for the Auxiliary)
(2019) 1/17, 2/21 5/16, 6/20, 7/18

Ministry House (rooms A & B)

(2019), 3/21, 4/18

2019

January 17, Legionnaires – Event Center ~ Auxiliary – Room 10
February 21, Domec Hall Event Center, ~ Auxiliary in Room 10)
March 21, Ministry House (Legionnaires in Room A ~ Auxiliary in room B)
April 18., Ministry House (Legionnaires in rooms A ~ Auxiliary in room B)
May 16, Legionnaires – Event Center ~ Auxiliary – Room 10
June 20, Legionnaires – Event Center ~ Auxiliary – Room 10
July 18, Legionnaires – Event Center ~ Auxiliary – Room 10
August 15, Legionnaires – Event Center ~ Auxiliary – Room 10
September 19, Ministry House (Legionnaires in rooms A ~ Auxiliary in room B)
October 17, Ministry House (Legionnaires in rooms A ~ Auxiliary in room B)
November 21, Ministry House (Legionnaires in rooms A ~ Auxiliary in room B)



Directions to the church is on our website, www.alpost305.org

WEBSITE

For more information about Post 305
visit the website at www.alpost305.org.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Post Service Officer, **Toby Carroll**: Tel: (281) 323-498, e-mail: toby.carroll@sbcglobal.net
Chaplain **Bill Houghton**, (281) 367-3159, whoughcloc@aol.com

VA Houston Regional Office: (713) 383-7842
VA Conroe Outpatient Clinic: (936) 522-4024
Texas Veterans Commission Hot Line: 1(800) 252-VETS
Local Area 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 Swans –Spring (281) 257- 4222

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Don't forget . . . bring your aluminum cans to the meetings. It raises funds for the Post. Hats off to **Harlen Thornhill** for volunteering to take the cans to the recycle center and trade them in for cash.



The Bugle is the monthly newsletter of The Woodlands American Legion Post 305 and Auxiliary Unit 305. Members in good standing are entitled to a copy of The Bugle. Editors are past Commander **James Bolin** and past Commander **Emery Heuermann**.

The Post 305 website is located at www.alpost305.org.
We have a Facebook page. It is administrated by past Commander **Kim Biggerstaff**, kimbiggerstaff@icloud.com.

“Official” Mailing Address & Telephone # of Post 305
American Legion Post 305
P. O. Box 9336, The Woodlands, Texas, 77387
(281) 298-2440

Monthly Meetings, Location and Time

1. The Post and Auxiliary meet at Sts. Simon and Jude Catholic Church in The Woodlands at 7:30 PM on the third Thursday of each month.
2. The Church is located at 26777 Glen Loch Drive, The Woodlands TX 77380. A meeting location map is posted on the Website.
3. Meetings start at 7:30pm but is preceded by a pot-luck supper at 6:30pm, provided by the Auxiliary. Munch and mingle begins at 6:00pm.

**NOW
HEAR
THIS**

Membership Dues



2019 Membership Dues are now due.
Membership / renewal slip(s) follows.



SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS ADJUTANT BILL WEST

National Commander Reistad calls for 'Buddy Check National Week of Calling'

American Legion National Commander Brett Reistad has designated the week leading up to the organization's 100th birthday, March 10-16, as "Buddy Check National Week of Calling." He's

asking departments, districts and posts to put together teams to call expired members and those who have yet to renew, and to check in with current members and let them know that “we are a better American Legion with their involvement,” Reistad said during The American Legion’s National Membership and Post Activities Committee meeting in Indianapolis, Jan. 11-12.

“A phone script could be something I close meetings with ... ‘Thank you for your service to our country and thank you for your continued service to our communities, our veterans and youth through your membership in the American Legion Family.’”

A “Buddy Check National Week of Calling” toolkit was talked through during the meeting with committee members and members of the Legion’s 21st Century Ad Hoc Committee. The toolkit will be released soon and will contain several items such as introduction letters to departments, districts and posts detailing what the week of engagement is and their role; sample phone scripts; a buddy-check poster; ways to access expired lists through MyLegion.org; specifics to share about what The American Legion does from the national, department and post level; and incentives for conducting the week of calling.

“This is coming from our commander. When he says he wants a week of calling, we’re going to do that. This is very important,” said Membership & Post Activities Committee Chairman Rev. Daniel J. Seehafer of Wisconsin. “I really, truly believe that this will be the basis for our retention. It has to start somewhere.”

Past National Commander David Rehbein stressed that “this is important enough that we need to stop everything else (during March 10-16) and concentrate on contacting our members.”

When Paul Dillard of Texas, the national commander’s representative on the National Legislative Commission, called on former Legionnaires who had let their membership expire he had an 85 percent success rate. “Call on those expires, and they will rejoin,” he said.

A message Seehafer said that can be shared with expired members is, “Thank you for your service. Help us celebrate The American Legion’s 100th birthday and lead us into our second century strong by becoming a part of our family.”

In addition to the call for members to make personal contact in their communities, Reistad reiterated his new Team 100 recruitment and retention awards. A post that signs up a former Legionnaire whose membership expired in 2014, 2015 or 2016 can receive \$5 each for every one of those members who rejoins in the 2019 membership year. American Legion departments worldwide can receive \$2,500 in reward bonuses by hitting their 100 percent membership goals by May 8, 2019. Those departments who hit 105 percent by June 30, 2019, will receive an additional \$5,000 each.

Seehafer shared that a department who has been reaching out by phone to expired members said a response they are hearing is, “Now you call?” It says something doesn’t it? The intention is for this to be an annual thing. And so, when we talk about a national week of calling, it’s not just those who are expired. We want to call every single member of the American Legion Family. Every single member ... ‘How’s it going? Just want to thank you for being a member.’

“We want to take this message ... the why. Why we belong and take that to the next level.”

Bill West
State Adjutant
The American Legion, Dept of Texas

The American Legion Membership Application

(Name)	(Phone)
(Mailing Address)	(Date)
(City)	(State)
(email)	(Dues)

Please check appropriate eligibility dates and branch of service below

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> August 2, 1990 – Cessation of hostilities as determined by U.S. Government <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 20, 1989 – Jan 32, 1990 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984 <input type="checkbox"/> Feb 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975 <input type="checkbox"/> June 25, 1950 – Jan 31, 1955 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 7, 1941 – Dec 31, 1918 <input type="checkbox"/> April 6, 1917 – Nov 11, 1918 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marine 12/7/41 – 8/15/45 |
|--|---|



I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably

(Signature of applicant)	Name of Recruiter
--------------------------	-------------------

Please return entire page.

Make check payable to Post 305 and mail to P O Box 9336, The Woodlands TX 77387. Dues are \$36.00 per year.

Date: _____

Is this a new membership? Yes No

Is this a renewal? Yes No

Is this a request to be transferred from Post _____ to Post 305? Yes, No N/A

Email address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Thank you for your support.

NOTES:



American Legion Auxiliary

World's largest women's patriotic service organization

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name	(First)	(M.I.)	(Last)
Address			
City	State	Zip	
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email Address	
/ /	<input type="checkbox"/> Birth - 17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18 and over	Unit #	Location
Date of Birth (Required)			/ /
Signature of Applicant (or legal guardian if under 18)			Date

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligible Through-Name of Veteran (if living, must be Legion member)		American Legion Member ID Number		<input type="checkbox"/> Living <input type="checkbox"/> Deceased
Veteran's American Legion Post Name	Post #	City	State	
Veteran Served: (check all that apply)				
<input type="checkbox"/> WWI (4/6/17-11/11/18)	<input type="checkbox"/> WWII (12/7/41-12/31/46)	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (12/7/41-12/31/46)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Korea (6/25/50-1/31/55)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam (2/28/61-5/7/75)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada (8/24/82-7/31/84)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Panama (12/20/89-1/31/90)	<input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War/War on Terrorism (8/2/90 until cessation of hostilities)			
Applicant's Relationship to the Veteran:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother	<input type="checkbox"/> Wife	<input type="checkbox"/> Grandmother	<input type="checkbox"/> Sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Self
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct Descendant (daughter, granddaughter, great granddaughter, etc.)				
Have you been a member previously? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
I certify that the above named individual served at least one day of active duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or is still serving honorably.				
Post Adjutant/Officer Membership Verification			/ /	Date
For Veteran's DD214 Discharge Papers: http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records				

HELP US GET YOU CONNECTED!

I am interested in learning more about:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Paid Up For Life Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	
<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering for Veterans	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Member Discounts and Services	
<input type="checkbox"/> Education Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary Emergency Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> Activities to Support Active-Duty Military and Families	
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Unit Activities	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Recruiter's Name	Unit/Post #	City	State
Please contact the following individual(s) about volunteering or joining the American Legion Auxiliary:			
Name	Phone	Email	
Name	Phone	Email	
Name	Phone	Email	

Mail completed application to American Legion Auxiliary department/state headquarters.

Annual dues must accompany completed application. Ask local contact for amount due. For current department address go to:

www.ALforVeterans.org/About/Department-State-Headquarters. Dues include a yearly non-refundable allocation of \$3.40 for American Legion Auxiliary magazine.

Membership pending approval of application.

04/2017

POST 305 CONTACT INFORMATION

COMMANDER

Bruce Carter
(281) 844-0836
bruce4482@att.net

FINANCE OFFICER

Emery Heuermann
(281) 362-8431
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JUDGE ADVOCATE

Pete Koch
(936) 206-8188
petekoch76@gmail.com

FIRST VICE CMDR.

Jim Bolin
(281) 251-2352
jpb20006@sbcglobal.net

SERVICE OFFICER

Toby Carroll
(281) 323-4085
toby.carroll@sbcglobal.net

HISTORIAN

(vacant)

SECOND VICE CMDR.

(vacant)

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Harlen Thornhill
(936) 520-8548
harlen@consolidated.net

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Position One

Victoria Glover
(832) 813-9415
ALPostcmdrvickie@gmail.com

ADJUTANT

Pickens Jones
(281) 367-7631
pickensjones@usa.net

CHAPLAIN

Bill Houghton
(281) 367-3159
whoughcloc@aol.com

Position Two

Norman Chapa
(713) 822-8182
normanchapa@yahoo.com

AUXILIARY UNIT 305 CONTACT INFORMATION

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Kathy Carroll
(281) 323-4085
kcarroll47@sbcglobal.net

HISTORIAN

Jenny Hamann
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ala305pres@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

VICE PRESIDENT

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(936) 689-5544
dora.blue@aol.com

CHAPLAIN

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(281) 639-3203
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SECRETARY

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PARLIAMENTARIAN

Rosalie Fryer
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rcfryer@consolidated.net

POSITION TWO

Betty Lips
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TREASURER

Dayna Salter
(281) 229-1365
dayna.salter@ymail.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

(vacant)

POSITION THREE

Geri Mulvihill
(832) 620-6265
gerimulvihill@outlook.com