



American Legion Post 379
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www.hebtxpost379.org

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2014

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

The elections are over, the new officers are all sworn in. Now it's time to roll up our sleeves and get back to work. We still have an opening for the position of Building & Grounds on the Executive Board. Anyone interested in filling this position please contact Mike Garlington or myself.

Membership retention and new membership will be headed up by our 1st Vice Commander David Scholl. Remember, membership is everyone's responsibility. No organization can grow or sustain itself without new members.

We will be forming a committee consisting of all Legion Family organizations to discuss the Smoking/Non Smoking issues. The goal of this committee is find an accommodation we can all live in our Club Room. So please, be willing to communicate, and be considerate of each other as we try to find an accommodation for all our Veterans and Family members.

Congratulations to newly elected Auxiliary President Kathy Bigley and Squadron Commander David Owens. I look forward to working with both of you this next year.

For God and Country,

David Eagan – Commander
dj_eagan@yahoo.com

AUXILIARY NEWS

To all I haven't met yet, please let me introduce myself. I'm Kathy Bigley and I have been a member of the Auxiliary for 13 years, serving as 1st Vice, Secretary/Treasurer, Executive Board at the Unit level, and District Treasurer all within the 12th District. I transferred to this Unit about a year ago and have served as the interim Secretary for the last 3 months. I know some of you but so look forward to meeting everyone. Looking forward, we have so much going on and I hope everyone will want to join in at least one time or another – or ALL. We need all of your ideas! If you feel that you could help on one of our programs,

we welcome you. We are already in the swing of things with our Cancer Research, Girls State and Scholarships and the year has just started! The main objective this year is to have fun while serving our veterans, their families and our communities.

We also have spots available for cooking in the kitchen. Please look at our monthly schedule and pick where you might want to help. The monies go for one of our programs or our general fund.

Bottom line, I know there will be growing pains, trials and tribulations, ups and downs or however you want to put it, but as long as we give it our best and have fun doing it we will have a great year.

Kathy Bigley - Unit 379 President

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

OUR VETERANS – SERVICE NOT SELF

THANK YOU to all our new and renewed members for 2014. We managed to retain the largest unit in Texas. I am very proud of all our members, what a wonderful bunch of ladies we have in this great organization. I never do this alone; it takes all of you to achieve our program goals. And of course the best part is all the support to our Veterans and our Troops.

For **2015** the Department says we are going to **Rock & Roll our membership numbers for our veterans!** With your help ladies and legionnaires we can reach our goal again and still be the largest unit in Texas.

The Early Bird Auxiliary Membership drawing will be held after the Veterans Day / Early Bird party on November 6, 2014. This year we will have a drawing for an Honorary Life Membership. As long as you do not transfer your membership, your membership will be paid every year by the unit. To be eligible all you have to do is renew your member on or before November 6, 2014.

Even if you are unable to physically donate time, your dues help to continue the programs for our veterans and our troops. Please take a few minutes to write you

renewal check today. Remember too, your Auxiliary pays for veteran's junior members until they reach the age of 18. This includes daughters, granddaughters, great-granddaughters and step-children. They do not need to live in this area to be members. Rewards down the road include potential scholarships and Girls State Program. Please see our bartenders, officers or the web sites, www.alatexas.org for membership applications.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our AUGUST BABIES:

Hazel Kuney; Connie Snyder; Betty Vendeneykel; Kaylynn Bickham, Jr. Aux.; Gracie Graham, Jr. Aux.; Joann Johns; Montana White, Jr. Aux.; Doris Brown; Carolyn 'CC' Cantrell; Rylie Fallon, Jr. Aux.; JoAnn Kovach; Patricia Howard; Donna Beltz; Leanne Builtron; Rebecca Soltis; Peggy Polinick; Sheryl Stroschein; Skylar Alvarez, Jr. Aux.; Katelynn Boyle, Jr. Aux.; Dylann Cook, Jr. Aux.; Ava Arceneaux, Jr. Aux.; Katelyn Owen, Jr. Aux.; Juliette Williams, Jr. Aux.; Mary Felan; Rose Baird; Cindy Wright; Edie Gossett; Cheryl Taylor; Alana Cooper.

Mary Hall, Membership Chairman
817/980-1900 – gmhandb@att.net

10TH ANNUAL CANCER BREAKFAST

It's once again time to contribute to the fight against cancer. In a tradition of success, Auxiliary Unit 379 will be hosting our 10th Annual Cancer Research Pancake Breakfast on October the 5th. This very special event needs your direct participation to ensure that we build on last year's success. We need volunteers to seek donations of door prizes and silent auction items, get the word out to the community, and assist us in hosting this event. We have an opportunity to introduce the largest Auxiliary Unit in the State of Texas to community neighbors and businesses and show them what is possible when we work together. Please call Chairperson Darla Scholl at 817 223-4322 to discuss what you can do.

Darla Scholl - Chairperson

SAL NEWS

Our membership as of July is 8 members. We are just getting started on our Early Bird membership; I encourage each of you to sign up at least one new member.

On August 2nd we will be serving our SAL Catfish dinner. I hope to see everyone there!

Are there any suggestions for a new SAL menu?

The 4th of July at the post was a success. Many turned out and had a great time. Thank you to the Legion, Auxiliary and our own sons that helped put it all together.

On a sad note, on July 3, 2014 we lost one of our own, Gerald Wythe Jr. He will be missed from our Squadron.

Squadron Commander - David Owens

MAHON PARK RENOVATION

This project was started (again) a few years back and for some reason, (to hot, to busy, to tired, elections, etc.), it has not been completed. Mahon Park has been with us from day one and it is really time for us to step up, as a family group of this post, and completed what we started.

The Commander and I were talking the other day and it was a common agreement that I would chair this coordination. We want it to be a 379 Family Project and would like to have enough done so we can hold the 1st Commanders Tail Gate Party on September 7th, 2014 for the opening Cowboys Game.

It will be tough but we have come together in the past and accomplished hard projects. Home Depot has started for us by putting some nice beautification plants and benches in the park. They even installed a nice family orientated fire pit. Let's get going and follow them up in this renovation.

I will be addressing all Units of our family at their next General Membership meeting so come to a meeting and let's get started. I have surveyed the park and have come up with items of work to be done with an estimated cost per each. This list will be ready by next Friday. The Commander will be discussing this with Home Depot in hopes of getting their assistance again. Come on down and help, but if you cannot, at least donate a penny or two to help with the cost.

We will start Saturday, August 2, 2014 at 7AM in the morning. See you there. Need to get some work done before the heat of the day. We need big hands and little ones, from Auxiliary Jrs, to SAL Members, Auxiliary and Legion Members. There will be jobs for all including water delivery.

All those interested in helping, call me at 817-944-2007 or drop me a note at gmhandb@att.net, or send donations to the Post marked park renovation

Gary L. Hall - Past Commander
Mahon Park Renovation Coordinator