

American Legion Post 379 1245 North Industrial Blvd Bedford, TX 76021

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JANUARY 2015

NEWSLETTER

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

First of all, I would like to wish A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our Veterans and their families. It was a very good year for our Post. We are holding our own with membership and moving ahead with some great projects. If you can help, now is the time. We have our Boys State, Boy Scouts and Baseball sponsorships just around the corner. Our Americanism Officer, Joseph Campbell, can use all the help the help we can give him to carry these projects to completion. So if you want to help, here is your opportunity.

The Cowboys are heading to the playoffs . We will be showing all the playoff games at the Post as well as highlights of the Army vs. Navy game. Hang in there Phil, and just wait until next year.

I would like to say a few words about our Handicap Parking situation. We only have 5 Handicap parking spaces available in the front of our Post. Please, please, save these spots for our Veterans to truly need them. We have many members who have handicap plates and stickers who used these spots. Some of them are in better shape than I am. Please don't abuse this parking area. Save the precious few spots for the members that truly need them. As Commander, I took down the Commander's parking spot. Join me in parking down below in the main parking area.

It's Collage Football and Professional Football playoff time. We will have all the games on large TV's so come on down and enjoy the fellowship and the games at our Post. We are continuing to make our Post more user friendly. The smoke removal systems are working, so come on by as say hello.

We continue to be a "closed Post" and are not open to the public. We remain a private club. You had to earn the right to come through our front doors. Veterans and their families are welcome. Seven days a week, we are here for you. Don't forget that your 2015 dues are due. If you have not paid yet, what are you waiting for? The staff will gladly take your renewal by cash, check or credit card.

For God and county.

David Eagan – Commander

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AUXILIARY NEWS

Happy New Years to everyone! Wow, 2015. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas holiday. We are all so blessed and have so much to be thankful for.

Just want to mention our Auxiliary Christmas party. Approximately 20 ladies came with finger foods and presents for our Chinese exchange. We even had Santa! We all had such a great time!

Since the first Thursday of the New Year is on January 1st, we will have our General Meeting on Thursday, January 8th at 7:00. The Exec Board will meet at 6:00 the same evening.

I hope to see everyone at our Post New Year's Eve party. We have been asked to bring finger foods to share. With Doug & Ben playing a good time will be had by all!

Be sure and mark your calendar for our Valentine's dinner and dance. It will be on Saturday, Feb 14th.

As many of you may know, Terry & I have been cooking on Sundays for football. This has been done to raise money for a couple of our programs. As the regular season is now over, we will not be cooking anymore. We may be able to come up with something for the playoffs when we have our meeting but with our other commitments we cannot do every Sunday.... more to hopefully follow. And I'm sure there's something up the sleeve for the Super Bowl (Especially because I'm sure the Cowboys will be there!). I hope everyone has a wonderful start to the new year. Remember, it's Service, not Self.

Kathy Bigley - Unit 379 President

Kathy.bigley@yahoo.com 817-353-6918

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

I hope a blessed and happy holiday season was had by all. I would like to start 2015 with a challenge for the membership to be more active in all areas of the Post, and to be better version of yourself in the new year. Remember those serving in harm's way, and all our veterans. Let's start the new year doing the right things for the right reasons. May God's blessings rest on each of you. I can be reached via my personal email at <u>E9GOLFTX@Aol.com</u>.

We lost two long time members this week. Ray Orr passed from this life on December 28^{th.} Gene Lewis left us on the 29th. Please keep their family in your prayers.

For God and Country

Dennis Gossett – Chaplain

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

AUXILIARY FOR VETERANS

We are at 77% of our 475 goal. Let's keep this up ladies. We should be proud, to have our Unit number announced at Department and National Conventions with 100% goal and the largest unit in Texas. Department shows we are still 110 members short of our goal, those who have not renewed.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE RENEWED.

We belong to show our veterans we care! Don't you?

REMINDER – Your 2014 membership cards expired December 31st, along with club privileges. Our staff has a list of unpaid members and will be checking for current cards. They will gladly accept the \$31.00 dues for those that need to renew for 2015. Any membership questions please call me, Mary at 817-980-1900.

Our Legionnaires are trying to regain their position as the largest Post in Texas and we would like to continue to be the largest Unit in Texas. So continue to invite new members that are eligible to join us. And don't forget to ask about Junior members. 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, with community service a plus, and Girls State. Applications are at the bar and at the department web site, <u>www.alatexas.org</u>.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – JANUARY BABIES: April Rose; Valerie Hinde; Amanda Harris; Sue Joyce; Sue Landry; Kathryn Hamilton; Jennifer Morrison; Susan Rompf; Karri Hand; Karen Burks; Brenda Stackhouse; Nelda Browning; Jean Coyle: Jenna VanEgmond; Bonnie Johnson; Malory Mahoney, Jr. Aux.; Tamra Dollar; Ruby Dobson; Justice Drennan, Jr. Aux.; Sydney Becerra, Jr. Aux; Judy Beard; Ruby Wilson; Shelby Barnhill, Jr. Aux.; Madison Baxter, Jr. Aux.; Kathryne Berken, Jr. Aux.; Kayla Berken, Jr. Aux.; Savannah Haley, Jr. Aux.; Emma Young, Jr. Aux.; Maddy Young, Jr. Aux.; Mary Graham, Jr. Aux.; Ina Kennedy; Jackie Olson; Ava Maria Sanchez; Deborah Smith; Erica Zellmer.

Service Not Self - For Our Veterans

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

SAL NEWS

The S.A.L. membership as of January is 120 members. We have 23 new members for 2015. Thank You!!

The S.A.L. officer picture board was posted in December at the Post.

Josh Dogs were delivered to Cook Children's in Fort Worth on 12/29/14. S.A.L. wants to thank all who donated to the Josh Dog program this past year. Please join us for our S.A.L fish fry on 1/3/15. We will have a 50/50 raffle with proceeds going towards the Tarrant County area food bank. The December meal was provided by Gisela. We served 54 German dinners, thank you Gisela!!

Remember to join us on Saturdays from 2:30 - 4:00 PM for the S.A.L. meat raffle.

Thank you for all you do for our post.

David Owens - Squadron Commander

January Newsletter Deadline January 27th 2015