



American Legion Post 379
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NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2015

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

At our February 5th general membership meeting it was voted on to establish smoking and non-smoking areas in our club room. This was done in an effort to reach out to all of our membership to make their visit to our legion post more welcoming. I want to thank everyone for their co-operation in making this transition so smooth. Everyone please I understand how important this step is. I appreciate everyone's assistance in working together to make it happen.

I would like to thank our SAL Squadron for their generous donation of a large television for our post. It was installed just in time for the super bowl game. Thank you for all you do for the veterans. Did you know that over half of the SAL Squadron members are veterans?

Deirdre had her last day at the post on Super Bowl Sunday. She will be missed. Thank you Dee for you many years of selfless service. "Tanks" Dee for the memories.

We are ready for winter to be over. March Madness will soon be in play and St Patricks day is just around to corner. We are moving ahead to Spring with our back park all cleaned up and ready for cooking and outdoor events. Looking ahead to a fun year at post 379.

For God and county.

David Eagan – Commander
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AUXILIARY NEWS

Happy March Ladies!

I hope everyone had great February. To start off, it's that time of year again. Year End Reports. This is where we report all the wonderful things we've done for our Veterans, their families and our community. So please take a moment and write down your hours and accomplishments to turn into the Unit. Everything counts in one way or another! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or any Officer in the Unit. You may not be a Chairperson, but I know you've helped in one way or

another. All reports need to be turned in to me by March 15th, so that I can in turn get all the reports to the Department Chairs by April 1st. Thank you for all you do each and every day.

Bottom line it's time for us to shine! All Committee Chairs and Officers will need to do a report on all for their program(s). If you have not recorded your volunteer hours in the book in our meeting room, please do so quickly. Volunteer time, flying your flag, cooking at the Post or bringing food to share, taking a veteran to the doctor appointment, donations, etc. It all counts.

How it all works is each Unit makes their reports that are turned into Department. (State) Awards are given to the best narrative/report in each Program within the state. Some are then sent on to National for more rewards. But bottom line, it's what the Legion and Auxiliary uses, making their reports to Congress to help change laws and such concerning our veteran's rights. There is a copy of our Book of Action in our meeting room for reference.

Enough of that for now. I have invited our District President, Tina Hill to our March 5th meeting. Please help us make a great impression with all of you by attending our next meeting. She is a great lady, and if you haven't met her yet, come out and meet her. So we will be on our "best behavior!" There will also be an Executive Board meeting that night at 6:30.

We have an invitation from the District to help with donations to help supply the Rainbow Room which a part of Child Protective Services of Tarrant County. The Rainbow Room is an emergency resource center available to CPS caseworkers to help them meet the critical needs of children taken in. This will help strengthen the coping capacity of these children who are experiencing trauma in their young lives. We will be discussing this at our next meeting so come and help with your ideas.

Our annual "Coffee Tour" will be Saturday, March 14th! For the first time, we will be leaving from Post 655 in Haltom City. I know, I know, but at least Post 379 will be the second stop. If you haven't been on "the Tour", it's a fun filled day with everyone invited, from all Posts in the District. We travel on a bus to each Post collecting

membership. It's a wonderful way to visit all the different Posts and see old friends and make new ones!

I wish everyone a blessed March and I hope to see you at the next meeting!

Kathy Bigley - Unit 379 President
Kathy.bigley@yahoo.com 817-353-6918

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings and Blessings for a new month,

We have had a busy February and look forward to the upcoming month. I wish to say thanks to all the members that assisted with, or attended the Four Chaplains Service. I have had some volunteers to assist in visitation and greatly appreciate the help. Participation in your Post activities keeps the Post strong and supports the American Legion programs.

We should all remember why participation is important, and why we are members of Post # 379. My prayers are for God's blessings to be on you all through the month of March and all of 2015. Keep working to be a better Post member, family member, community member, and the best person you can be. We owe it to ourselves, our Legion, our Country, and to those that did not come home.

For God and Country

Dennis Gossett – Chaplain

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

AUXILIARY FOR VETERANS

Ladies we are at 87.58%, 59 members short of our goal. THANK YOU to all of you who have already renewed. However, there are over 60 members who have not renewed and if you do not have your 2015 card, you have lost your club privileges.

Ladies, our goal is to support our veterans, our troops and our community. Please take a moment to write your check for your 2015 membership. The Auxiliary raises more than \$14 million every year to support VA Medical Centers, veterans, their families and community programs. It is not too late to continue your support of our programs. We want to continue to be the largest auxiliary unit in Texas to show our troops and our veterans WE CARE.

NEEDED BY MARCH 15th - Any hours, dollars and mileage, given in support of our Post functions, troop support, and community. You can use the dollar amounts from your tax forms and estimate your time. Hours and dollars you give to your special church functions, Toys for Tots, USO donations and/or time, Girl Scout Cookies, Blood drives thru your company, clothing donations, Arbor Days, other veterans organizations, school

events/fundraisers, sewing projects for the troops, sewing projects for VA Hospital or Senior Citizen homes. If you have any questions as to what qualifies please call me or President Kathy, 817/353-6918. There are so many little things that we all do that count but are never reported. Every auxiliary unit in the country will be totaling up their hours and dollars to send to Auxiliary National Headquarters. They will tabulate all the reports and then present to Congress, to show Congress to guide them to provide federal programs for veterans and troops.

OUR MARCH BABIES: Kyleigh Copeland, Jr. Aux.; Alyssa Hearn, Jr. Aux.; Deana Gerstner; Diana Gillespie; Grace Martinez; Dorothy Gant; Rose Shwaiko; Jennifer Fallon; Rosie Kelley; Patrice McGowan; Barbara Niziolek; Dale Ann Burson; Anna Cottrill; Diane Eagan; Linda Hook; Clara Peterson; Ella Dupriest, Jr. Aux.; Kathryn Gates; Diasha Keller, Jr. Aux.; Sophie Ploetz, Jr. Aux.; Shirley Mullins; Debby Ship; Katelynn Hicks; Whitney Watts; Brenda Cuellar; Carrie Soltis; Sarah Legrand; Ann Cokefield; Autumn Vink; Tillie Owens; Kay Weil; Kelli Merk; D'Anna Davis; Nancy Stephens; Kaila Gelback, Jr. Aux.; Addyson Norris, Jr. Aux.; Alana Sypsomos; Syble Reid; Karen Barry; Karen Eckert; Christine Abbott; Judy Butler; Marietta Klein; Sophie Palmp; Uncha Antal; Laurie Clower; Cheryl Miller; Tina Bass; Deliza Gierling; Christina Cisar. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Service Not Self - For Our Veterans

Mary Hall, Membership Chairman
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SAL NEWS

The S.A.L. reached our 2015 membership goal of 134 members as of February. Thank you and please continue encouraging new members.

We will have our S.A.L. Fish fry on Saturday, March 7th at 6:30 PM. We served 22 dinners in February. Please come out and join us!

Congrats to Frank "Chief" Clarkin on winning the S.A.L. Shotgun raffle.

The S.A.L. Completed its third and final delivery of Josh Dogs to Cook Children's in Fort Worth. We want to thank a generous donor who donated the fund to this project.

The S.A.L. took charge to donate to the Tarrant County area food bank. We will donate \$100 per month for all of 2015. A great cause to help fight hunger in our community.

Please continue joining us on Saturdays for the S.A.L. meat raffle. On March 28th, we will have a 2nd spin each round, for a ham, in appreciation for your support.

Thank you for all you do for our post.

David Owens - Squadron Commander