



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

817.267.6047
www.hebtxpost379.org

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2015

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

It has been an honor to be elected and to have served as your Commander these past two years. It has been a very humbling experience. It is now time to pass the mantle on to the next Commander. We have had two very successful years and I want to thank an outstanding E-Board for their assistance in getting it done. At Post 379 we are Family and I want to thank the Family for all their help and assistance. Thank you Kathy Bigley, Unit 379 President for all your help and assistance. You and your members make us so proud. We could not function at the level we do without y'all. Thank you David Owens, Squadron 379 Commander. I appreciate you and your Squadron for all you do for our Post. We appreciate your support and back up when we need help. Y'all have always been there.

Some of our accomplishments during my time as Commander:

- Last year I worked with the Texas Highway Department raising our driveways to keep the rain water off our property and stop the damage to our building. Done
- Worked with Home Depot to get Mahan Park cleaned up, a fireplace installed, flower gardens installed in front and back. Done
- Worked with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office. We needed a labor force to complete the cooking area in Mahan Park. The tile was donated and the Sheriff's Office supplied the labor. Our cooking area has been finished. The park is now cleaned up and ready for family use. Done
- We had two Boy Scout Eagle Projects. One built a flag retirement pit on the north side of our parking lot. The second to beautify our front entrance. Both Done
- The Post office needed quite a bit of help. The Commander's office area has been cleaned up. It looks much better with new paint and new carpet. Done
- We worked with the Dallas Cowboys on two separate "Salute to Veterans" Day at Cowboys Stadium. On the first one we were asked to assemble 50 Veterans, ten each from WW11, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. This had to be one of the finest hours at Post 379 as we assembled the room full of Hero's. The Cowboys sent special busses, and our WW11 Vets were given a special private suite. All of the Veterans all were assembled at halftime and taken to the center of the field for a salute. Big George was in tears. It was a long overdue home coming for our Vietnam Vets as Dan Akeman was choked up as was John Hogan, Mike Garlington and Mike Regan. It was "Welcome Home". Done
- This last year the Cowboys wanted two Hero's to acknowledge so I put together two Combat Medics for Vietnam. One was Army, "Doc" Little and one Navy Corpsman "Harley" Brown. It turned out to be one great day. I enjoyed working with the Cowboys Organization.
- We had all of our awards and the history of our Post in boxes as did the Auxiliary and the S.A.L. Squadron. Today the Post awards are hanging in Proctor Hall to be seen by all. This is where they should be. Done
- To reach out to all our members and create smoking and non-smoking areas so more of our membership will be able to enjoy our club room. Thanks to all of our Membership for their assistance and co-operation. Done

A final "thank you" to the back room boys, Brian, Mike, Mike, & Mike. Thanks for covering my back.

We have had some great bartenders/ friends working here over the years, Barb and Dee, just to name a few. Today, in that tradition, we have an outstanding staff to make us all feel welcome. Lamita is doing an outstanding job taking over the reins from Dee. Lamita, the staff is doing an outstanding job. Tilly and Victor Thank You. A special "Thank You" goes out to Mark, Daron and Daniel for all you do for our Post.

It has been special. It has been my honor to serve y'all. Thank You.

For God & Country, **Dave Eagan - Commander**

AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies,

I hope all of you had a wonderful, memorable Memorial Day and of course a great month. Our Memorial Service at Bluebonnet Hills Cemetery was a large success and the weather was so in our favor.

Ok Ladies, the annual time is upon us to fill positions in our American Legion Auxiliary. We had our elections in May and your new Officers are as follows:

President:	Kathy Bigley
1 st Vice:	Mary Hall
2 nd Vice:	Gisela Marschall
Secretary:	Judy Davidson
Treasurer:	Sharon Nesteriak
Chaplain:	Judy Buck (New member)
Asst. Chaplain:	Marie Stevens
Sgt. at Arms:	Wende Zellmer
Exec. Board:	Marva McConnell
	C.C. Cantrell
	Laveta Marshall

Our biggest adventure this upcoming year is to find the best (which all of us are) to fill some of the wonderful programs of our American Legion Auxiliary.

We so need each and every one of you to give and help to fill a few of our programs. As you know, these help our veterans, children and our community.

The following are most of the programs that the Auxiliary supports: We cannot fill them all, but we can fill what we normally do which so makes us shine!

Americanism: Showing our young how to honor our flag.

Cancer Research: Our biggest benefit of the year, which all of us back in every way.... We just need a leader.....

Children and Youth: School supplies and our children's health.....

Community Service: This includes supporting our Fire, Police, etc. and all of our community.

National Security: This means supporting our troops, their children, either thru sending cooling bandanas overseas or backpacks to their children when they are deployed.

VA&R: This is volunteering for our veterans.

There's also our Junior Activities, Leadership, and Public Relations. These are not the complete definitions of each, but we work in all of them in one way or another. Please think about stepping up and volunteering. You won't be in it alone. Promise. If you have any questions, just ask.

This is also my last year as President. We need to start now in finding someone to be our next President.

Our Department Convention will be in July and held in Beaumont this year. Anyone interested in going, please let us know.

Our next general meeting will be June 4th at 7pm. Everyone, have a wonderful June.

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

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Greetings to all,

I wish to say what an honor it has been to be Legion Chaplain for the Post. We are having elections at the general membership meeting this month and I am running for a different position. I urge you all to continue to participate in your Post. I pray God's blessing on you, and I can't express how much the support from the members had meant. I wish the new Chaplain continued support and well wishes. June 14th is Flag Day, remember what it stands for, and the sacrifices made on D-Day June 6. I would like to ask for prayers for John Perdue's family and a speedy recovery for Mike Garlington.

I would also like to thank everyone that attended my retirement and birthday party on May 16 for coming and for being such good friends!

For God and Country

Dennis Gossett – Chaplain

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

CELEBRATING & SERVING OUR VETERANS

A big THANK YOU to all of our members who HAVE renewed for 2015. Ladies, your continued support of our Veterans and our Troops is greatly appreciated.

LADIES WE ARE STILL 18 MEMBERS SHORT OF OUR GOAL. There are over 39 members for 2014 that have not renewed. Remember it is not the price you pay to be a member, but the price your father, grandfather, husband or brother paid for you to be eligible.

Remember 'D Day' 1944, Flag Day, Army Birthday 1775, Father's Day, GI Bill 1944, Korean War 1950 and 9/11 GI Bill 2008.

We want to continue to be the largest Unit in Texas. Keep asking and looking for those members, it takes all of us to support our veterans. Even if you are unable to physically donate time, your dues help to continue the programs for our veterans and our troops.

Legionnaires – Sign up your Granddaughters and Great-granddaughters. Your Auxiliary pays their dues until they reach the age of 18. Looks good on resumes for scholarships and just another small thank you for 'Your Service'. The numbers also count for our reporting to congress and being the Largest Auxiliary Unit in TEXAS.

"I AM ONLY ONE, BUT STILL I AM ONE. I CANNOT DO EVERYTHING, BUT I CAN STILL DO SOMETHING; AND BECAUSE I CANNOT DO EVERYTHING, I WILL NOT REFUSE THE SOMETHING THAT I CAN DO." Edward Hale

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our JUNE Babies: Kynli Newsom, Jr. Aux.; Pam Munyer; Sandy Soto; Charlene Beier; Darla Scholl; Kathleen Ryan; Lynda Barkes; Allyson Haltiwanger; Joy Savage; Annelie Williams, Jr. Aux.; Loretta Santos; Peggy Van Buren; Ember Johnson, Jr. Aux.; Margaret Ploetz, Jr. Aux.; Alaya Taylor, Jr. Aux.; Pam Vaughn; Arlene Wetter; Judy Higdon; Madolene Neubauer; Geraldine Rasnick; Abigail Reese Childers, Jr. Aux.; Michaela Fallon, Jr. Aux.; Betty Kedy; Danielle Bennett; McKynleigh Odell, Jr. Aux.; Payton Roberts, Jr. Aux.; Hannah Lewis, Jr. Aux.; Rosemary Arkwright; Annalisa Arceneaux, Jr. Aux.; Brittany Foshea; Diane Martichuski; Maraya Gamble, Jr. Aux.; Cheryl Baker; Juanita Price; Theresa Winslow; Tjwana Roberson; PJ Karen Keho; Addison Walters, Jr. Aux.; Madison Manson, Jr. Aux.; Cassidy Regan, Jr. Aux.; Haleigh Tompkins, Jr. Aux.; Pamela Jones; Leslie Horsman; Taylor Lancaster, Jr. Aux.; Kathryn Allen.

Remember, Service, not Self

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

MEMORIAL DAY POPPY'S TO HONOR AND REMEMBER

A big **THANK YOU** to all who participated in our Poppy and Memorial Day programs. Legionnaires Eileen and Mike Regan, Becky Walters, Auxiliary, and Addy Walters, Jr. Aux., passed out Poppy's at Kroger's, Harwood and Central. The 6' x 4' Poppy Banner was again placed in front of the post by Phil Rasnick and Daniel Fallon. Our Poppy Blanket for Flanders Field was placed in front of the Post Friday, for the weekend displaying our Flanders Field replica. Saturday Poppy's were passed out by Wayne Maddux, Robert Boles, Jim Grau, Laveta Marshall, Judy Buck, Karen Averett, Kathy Bigley, Judy Davidson and Marva McConnell in front of the post. Collection Cans and Poppy's were placed at the VA FW Clinic and Millers Cleaners, Harwood and Main.

Karen Averett and Sherry Brady passed out Poppy's at Bluebonnet's Memorial Day Remembrance. Our Commander Dave Eagan was the emcee. The man above smiled on us as we had a couple of hours of 'no rain'.

Thank you to those that placed our Post Family wreaths at Bluebonnet and Jean Ross for keeping us organized. Coordinating and posting of flags at Bear Creek Cemetery, Arwine Cemetery and Minters Chapel Cemetery was by Geraldine Rasnick, Debbie McKee, Karen Averett, Karen Burks, Wende and Jonathan Zellmer, Joel Bechtel, Nolan Hodge and Ann Cokefield.

Too many names to thank for all the wonderful food. Cooking, serving and clean up by our members, for our guests.

God Bless
Mary Hall, Poppy Chairman

SAL NEWS

Greetings from your Commander, David Owens. Let me start off with listing of our officers for the upcoming 2015/16 year: Commander: David Owens 1st Vice: Terry Bigley; 2nd Vice: Ron Mick; Finance: Doug Bergh; Adjutant: Daniel Fallon and Sgt @ Arms: Daron Hance. Open positions are Chaplain and Historian. Thank you to our special guest from the 12th District S.A.L Cmdr. Mark Patterson and 1st Division S.A.L Cmdr. Jon Pinkston.

Dinner by Debbie McKee in May served 23 dinners. The 50/50 raffle winner was Sharon Nesteriak and she donated her winnings back to the Sqd for our Josh Dog Program. Thank you Debbie and crew and Sharon.

S.A.L. current membership stands at 140 members. Thank you one and all.

We as a Squadron were saddened to hear of the loss of one of our members. John Perdue passed away on May 6th due to a lengthy illness. He will be missed by everyone.

June 6th the S.A.L. will be having their Fish Fry dinner for \$ 9.00 dollars a plate. For our monthly program. Also will be a basket with lots of goodies. Proceeds go to our Josh Dog Program and Food Bank.

In the month of May the Sqd sponsored two boys for the Legion for Boys State.

Chairman Doug Bergh would like to thank everyone who helped and donated time for the weekly Meat Raffle. Don't forget that it will return in September and we hope to see everyone.

There was a great turnout for the Memorial Day Observation at Bluebonnet Cemetery on May 25th. The luncheon at the Post afterwards was also equal in turnout. Everyone had a great time.

David Owens
Squadron Commander
