



American Legion Post 379
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NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

May will be a very busy month for our legion. On 4 May is our membership target of 100%. Get out there and recruit.

May 7th is Kentucky Derby day at your post. Contest for the best Lady's hat with \$50 for 1st place and \$25 for second. Judging will be at 5PM. We will have horse race games to raise money for our Honor Guard's attendance at the state convention.

Don't forget the Mother's Day brunch on Sunday the 8th and support the SAL.

Our District convention is in Gilmer on 14 May. If you want to attend you must provide your information and registration fee to the Adjutant NLT 2 May. Boy's State orientation is 17 May at Post 655 at 1900hrs.

Arm Forces Day, 21 May, will be celebrated with burgers and brats in the park. Side dishes will be appreciated. Come out for the fun.

30 May 2016, Memorial Day's events will be posted when final arrangements are received from Blue Bonnet.

Donations to help defray the cost of our Honor Guard to attend the state convention will be gladly accepted.

Let's all support Red Shirt Friday (Remember everyone deployed) by wearing your red shirts.

Please bring any concerns or ideas you have to me so we can continue to improve our post.
God Bless us all. For God and Country.

Mike Regan – Commander
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AUXILIARY NEWS

Happy May Ladies! Hope everyone survived the dark skies we had throughout April. Three of us attended the Spring District Convention a couple of weeks ago. It was a wonderful day and we learned new things. Thanks to Post/Unit 60 for hosting the day for us.

We have a busy month ahead of us! It starts with our Sharon Nesteriak cooking her "drunken beans" along with chicken enchiladas on Friday, the 6th for Cinco de Mayo! And on Saturday, we will be holding a "Derby Day" Hat Contest! Lots of fun and prizes!

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 5th at 7:00pm. We will be looking at the changes in our Constitution and Bylaws, so please try to attend.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8th. The SAL will be serving Brunch for all Moms and families. Moms eat free which includes a champagne Mimosa! Time will be from 10:00 till 2:00. Eggs benedicts are even on the menu! Happy early Mother's Day!

We held our Girls State Orientation at our Post and Judy Davidson and her crew did a tremendous job! We will be sending 5 girls this year. A lot of hard work went into dinners and bake sales, etc. to make this happen. Hats off to you!

Our Division Convention will be held in Gilmer, TX the 14th of May. And then the Department Convention will be in El Paso in July.

May is "Poppy" month. Our Poppy day will be Saturday, May 28th from 10:00 till 2:00. It's a lot of fun standing out at the street collecting donations and talking to people. Come out and join us!

Kathy Bigley – Unit President
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LEGION 1ST VICE UPDATE

Greetings Post,

I would like to encourage everyone to continue recruiting. We are currently 79 members short of our goal. I have the Why You Should Join brochures available. Please take a few and if you see a veteran wearing a hat or veteran clothing somewhere please ask them if they belong to the Legion, recruit them, and give them the brochure. If you know a member that has not renewed talk to them about renewing. We can make our goal but time is short we only have May left to make goal, effort is needed by all.

I would also like to say outstanding job by the Honor Guard presenting colors at two MS Walks in Ft. Worth and Dallas last month representing the Post in front of several thousand people at each event and to Channel 11 news team. We will be taking the Honor Guard to the Department Convention in El Paso to compete in the Honor Guard competition, and will have dinners in the near future to raise funds for this. Please support these dinners. We want to make you proud of your Honor Guard.

For God and Country

Dennis Gossett - 1st Vice Commander

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AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

CELEBRATING & SERVING OUR VETERANS

Ladies we are at 85.27%, 86 members short of our goal. **THANK YOU** to all of you who have already renewed. However, there are 35, 2016 members who have not renewed for 2016. If you do not have your 2016 card, you have lost your club privileges and must sign the guest book when you come in, even if your husband has renewed.

Ladies, our goal is to support our veterans, our troops and our community. Remember who you joined under? You can renew to show them and our veterans that you appreciate their service. Please take a moment to write your check for your 2016 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 again be the largest auxiliary unit in Texas to show our troops and our veterans WE CARE. We cannot do this without your support.

A big thank you to the following members for bringing in and signing up new members for 2016. Judy Davidson, Sharon Nesteriak, Tillie Owens, Kathy Bigley, Lamita Tourdot, Victor Weil, Brian McCormick, Betty Kedy, Jim Grau, Tray Walter, Charle Beier, Mike Mc Crady, Ede Quinten, Andy Collins, Marie Stevens, Joy Roberts, Marie Dygert, Karen Steele, Bruce Patterson, Sandy Burnett, Mike McCrady, Karen Burks, Dennis Gossett, Sheryl Frydenberg, Daniel Fallon, Krystal Hotze, Donna Morris, Robert Boles, Kathy Tolle, Mike Regan, Linda Hall, James Kane, Suzie McClendon, Josie Laster. **YES**, there is still time to sign up new members. Don't forget the granddaughters and great-granddaughters. Thanks for talking about us!

MOTHER - The Most Important Person on Earth

The most important person on earth is a mother.
She did not build the empire state building,
or the bank or the school
She has built something much more
magnificent than any building
A dwelling for a tiny baby's body.

"Angels have not been blessed with such a grace.
They cannot share in God's creative miracle.
They are sent to watch over her and her baby
Mothers are closer to God the creator than any other
creatures.
God joins forces with mothers in performing this act
of creation ...

"What on God's good earth is more glorious than this:
to be a mother?"

Happy Mother's Day to All and a Silent Prayer for
those we wish were still here.

OUR MAY BABIES: Julie Lewis; Donna Pate; Tammy Booth; Devin Simpkins; Susan Soltis; Nancy Wendt; Michele Nowicki; Mary Guzman; Jan Callahan; Denise Higdon; Patti Calhoun; Shirley Morrow; Emma Jean Phillips; Becky Walters; Gladys Boone; Kay Heller; Kayla Ryan, Jr. Aux.; Lorraine Vink; Bailee Wade, Jr. Aux.; Elizabeth Boswell; Melanie Owens; Emily Rogers, Jr. Aux.; Mackenzie Sheriff, Jr. Aux.; Hailey Dupriest; Melinda Fry; Maya Rose Gibbs, Jr. Aux.; Aiyanna Robinson, Jr. Aux.; Sheridan Torres, Jr. Aux.; Sierra Torre, Jr. Aux.; Cynthia Habeck; Gisela Marschal; Sharon Nesteriak; Kayden Bacon, Jr. Aux.; Avery Bowen, Jr. Aux.; Linda Hall; Corey Rother; London Menton; Megan Sheriff; Patricia Loller; Diana Ibanez; Joan McCormick; Cathy LeFerney; Mackenzie Belair; Denice Gray; Kennedi Goodson, Jr. Aux.; Christi Barraclough; Sundie

Becerra; Lamita Tourdot; Hazel Zak; Jill Colgin; Raven Robb, Jr. Aux.; Kylie Grant, Jr. Aux.; Marie Houghton; Camille Musick; Stephanie Petersen; Diana Sivers; Deborah Tassin; Tracy Walter; Tess Bay; Olivia Balanoran.

Service Not Self - For Our Veterans

Mary Hall, Membership Chairman
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SAL NEWS

Greetings from your Commander by the time this goes to print we will have reached our goal of 142.

Our last dinner we did not do very well, so Sharon cooked and donated all of the money for the food and her time, thank you Sharon.

Our Fish Fry on May 7th will have a 50/50 special spin wheel raffle. Come down for dinner and see what this is all about.

On May 12th, the Squadron will be having their annual Elections of Officers. I encourage everyone to attend and make your ideas known. Step up and hold an office and make a difference.

We will continue our efforts and support of the programs, Josh Dogs, Tarrant Food Bank and Veterans Assistance Dogs of Texas.

Our latest Josh Dogs were delivered to Cooks Children Medical in Fort Worth in April. Here is another letter sent to the Squadron on what an impact the Josh Dogs program is doing.

"Layla a school aged girl was admitted to the hospital for nearly two consecutive months, during which endured many surgeries. She struggled with normal challenges of being in the hospital (pain, fear, lack of routine, lack of independence), but also faced the additional challenges that came with Autism. Playroom and other socialization opportunities were very overwhelming for Layla, but when she met our therapy dog Ralph, that changed. "Ralph is my friend" she cheerfully told her mom within two minutes of their first meeting. Her mom immediately grabbed her camera and took upwards of a dozen photos of the "first smile she had seen from her daughter in several days".

The next day, I brought a Josh Dog to Layla, knowing she would love it. She wasn't in her room when

stopped by, so I left it on her bed with a note, "From Ralph" saying he hoped Josh would be a good buddy for her to keep. The following day, I stumbled upon Layla working with physical therapy, with Josh in her arms. "He's doing it with me!" she told me. For the next several weeks, each time I saw Layla, Josh was in tow as a loyal friend. Layla's mom thanked me profusely for such a special gift that was so meaningful to her daughter during a tough time.

The Meat Raffle will end on May 21st, for the summer so we can take a break. Thank you to everyone who took part in the weekly raffles.

We will have our elections of officers at our May 12th meeting. I hope that we will have some new people for our officers for the upcoming year.

If you have any concerns or questions, please come to a meeting and voice your concerns or you can say something to one of our current officers we can't improve unless we hear from the people.

The Squadron Sons are planning on serving breakfast for our Mothers on Mother's Day at the Post so check the calendars for dates and times.

I hope to see everyone at our Election of Officers meeting.

David Owens
Squadron Commander

CALLING ALL JUNIORS! **S.A.L. and ALA from** **8 to 18**

On Mother's Day, May 8th, the SAL is having a breakfast for the MOMs (They eat free). The cost for everyone else is only \$5.

We need your help taking orders, serving, collecting money and clearing off the tables. The cooking detail is in place.

Breakfast will be served at 10:00am, so please be at the Post around 9:30 so we can figure out who will and can to what.

(Moms and Dads please bring the kids to help make this a real family affair)

Terry Bigley,
SAL 1st Vice