



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

817.267.6047
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NEWSLETTER

JULY 2016

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Post,

We have a busy month ahead. If you are in town for the 4th the Post is serving food that afternoon come out and have fun celebrating the birth of our nation. The 7th is General Membership meeting at 7:00 PM. July 13 – 17 is the Department of Texas Convention in EL Paso, TX. The 21st will be Executive Board meeting at 7 PM. I wish to say thank you to Mike Regan for his work as Commander of Post 379 this past year. I look forward to working with him as the new Judge Advocate, and the other new officers of the Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL during the upcoming year. I would like to commend everyone that decorated, or participated in the installation last month. It would be appreciated if as many people as possible to wish the Honor Guard good luck in the Honor Guard competition at the Department Convention before we leave to represent you Post 379 at Department.

As the new Commander I ask for your cooperation in making Post 379 a welcoming & fun Post for all our members, and especially new members. I will be asking for members to serve on committees as we get further into the year. We still need Honor guard members, and I would like to restart the Legion Riders for the Post. We have much work to do, and the more members that participate the better. I am honored to be your new Commander. I would like to encourage everyone to keep recruiting new members, and become the Texas's largest American Legion Post again. I hope it bothers all of you that the South Houston Post has passed us, and that you are willing to assist in getting and keeping new members.

I would like to speak briefly about a couple of items. The main one being our building and grounds, we have several needs that are going to have to be met.

We need an additional air conditioning unit and repairs to the parking lot that is eroding away with each rain. Fund raising for these items needs your support, if we keep putting off fixing these problems the expense will get greater. I intend to set up a committee to help resolve these issues.

For God and Country

Dennis Gossett – Commander

Phone 817-372-0938 al_post379@att.net

AUXILIARY NEWS

Happy July! I can't believe the year is over half over. I hope everyone had a great June.

Allow me to introduce to you, your new Unit Officers:

President:	Kathy Bigley
1 st Vice:	Karen Burks
2 nd Vice:	Karen Averett
3 rd Vice:	Mary Hall
Secretary:	Lamita Tourdot
Treasurer:	Sharon Nesteriak
Chaplain:	Sheryl Frydenberg
Historian:	Lavita Marshall
Sgt @ Arms:	Leslie Horsman
Exec Board:	Judy Davidson
	C.C. Cantrell
	Melinda Green

I hope you will welcome your new Officers and help them whenever you can.

We will be having a 4th of July celebration from noon to 3:00 Monday. Brisket and sausage by Ronnie Mac. Please bring sides to accompany the awesome BBQ. Happy 4th!

Our Department Convention will be this month, in El Paso. There are quite a few of us going this year, so I'm really looking forward to it.

We will again this year be a part of the VA Clinic's "Baby Shower". This is for the female veterans expecting and will be held in September or October this year. This is just a heads up, as we had such a wonderful turnout of items the last time to help these ladies with their new additions!

We also have the our "12th Annual Cancer Research Benefit" coming up soon! It's time to start collecting for this wonderful event!

Please take a look at the calendar for the meals this month and come out and enjoy. The ones cooking these meals are doing it for their program or project. So please support them and you get a great meal out the deal!

We have a big year ahead of us and a lot to do. The new Officers and I would like to invite you to come and be a part of what we do. I hope everyone has a good month.

"With each one of our acts of kindness, whether it's raising funds for a program, sending out care packages to our active military, or simply telling a veteran 'thank you,' we're not only making an impact on those we serve, we're creating opportunities to share what we're all about as American Legion Auxiliary members with those around us." This a quote from our National President, Sharon Conatser, taken out of the ALA magazine.

Remember, Service, not Self

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

LEGION 1ST VICE UPDATE

I am truly honored to serve as your 1st Vice Commander for the upcoming year. Dennis Gossett has done a fantastic job and I will do my best to continue on where he left off. My goal is to develop a membership strategy that will help bring our Post back to number one in the State. Membership numbers are obviously important but, even more than that we need new members who put Legion values first and are willing to actively participate in Legion programs. With the help of newly appointed

membership chairman Terry Bigley and 2nd Vice Jim Grau we plan on successfully raising the bar. I am confident that with the continued support of our Ladies Auxiliary and the Sons, our staff of Legion Officers will undoubtedly continue to make great strides in the upcoming year under the guidance of our new Commander Dennis Gossett.

In addition, I intend to focus on increasing our Honor Guard strength not only in numbers but, in expertise as well. Anyone interested in being a dedicated member of our Post Honor Guard please don't hesitate to contact me.

In closing I want to thank our outgoing Commander Mike Regan for all he has done for our Post this past year and for his leadership. I wish him much success in his new role in District and look forward to his continued support at our Post as well.

I thank you all in advance for your support and participation and look forward to seeing you all at our Post.

"For God and Country"

Mike Sivers - 1st Vice Commander

Phone: (469) 268-2052

Email: al_post379@att.net

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

What I found was a purpose, the chaplaincy has many purposes. One of its major purposes is to help persons grow in their relationship with God and one another. Also, we serve as a reminder of the transcendent and seek to develop an environment within which Legionnaires are encouraged in their personal and collective moral and spiritual growth. We are to remind all Americans that God is the source of all rights and privileges.

This months sick call reminds us to keep Chief Glen Petersen, Terry Bawolak, and Mildred Morris in our thoughts and prayers as they are ill and or recovering in the hospital at this time.

Thank You for the opportunity to serve, for God and Country.

Warm Regards,

Markham Hotze - Chaplain

U.S. Navy Veteran

817-305-3357 al_post379@att.net

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

CELEBRATING & SERVING OUR VETERANS

A **"BIG THANK YOU"** to our Legion family for the 59 new members that were signed up this year. I asked you earlier to talk about us, and you certainly did! We did not make our goal (584) but you all made a valiant effort towards the 104 member increase sent down by National. We have ended the year with 518 members at 88.69%.

Once again we are the Largest Auxiliary Unit in the state of Texas. We want to continue to be the largest Unit in TEXAS to match our Legion. But only you can make this happen. Remember it is the price your veteran paid that allows you to help continue our programs to serve our veterans and their families. Your renewals show our support of Your Veterans and our Troops. It shows in our numbers. THANK YOU, to all of you who renewed for 2016 and welcome to our new members.

As I have said before, even if you are unable to physically donate time, your dues help to continue the above programs for our veterans and our troops.

I'm sorry that some of you were unable to attend the installation for our new 2017 officers. And the awards ceremony, I will be mailing certificates and pins to the address I have on file.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our **JULY BABIES**: Tessa Barnhill, Jr. Aux.; Margie Cardwell; Molly Coyle; Clara Dwyer; Jan Engle; Corinne Evans; Paula Fallon; Tarah Finch, Jr. Aux.; Georgia Hill; Beverly Hines; Evelyn Leach; Marva McConnell; June Montgomery; Eileen Polen; Patricia Pulford; Shelly Rabe; Sylvia Riney; Britney Roberts, Jr. Aux.; Shelby Rogers, Jr. Aux.; Diane Rowlett; Michelle Tarbush; Rylee Melacon, Jr. Aux.; Julia Zaunbrecher, Jr. Aux.; Barbara West; Michelle DeSpain; Gena Oehlert; Cindy Hanson; Roxie Lynch, Jr. Aux.; Layla Page, Jr. Aux.; Jayne Skoney; Josie Laster; Pauline Lundquist; Debbie Crawford; Marlee Benton, Jr. Aux.; Matilda Benton, Jr. Aux.; Wendi Rogers; Evelyn Herrera; Christine Abbott; Jodie Duke; Mary Collins; Raye Reed; Eva King, Jr. Aux.; Danice Wolfe; Marion Edwards; Madeline Green, Jr. Aux.; Sheryl Frydenberg; JoAnn Mitchell; Donna Morris; Stacy Amato; Diana Luna; Vickie Dentler.

Service not Self

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

SAL NEWS

Allow me to introduce your new officers:

- Chaplain, Robert Bowles.
- Sergeant at Arms, Trent Krueger.
- Adjutant, Daniel Fallon.
- Finance, Doug Bergh.
- 2nd Vice, Ron Mick.
- 1st Vice, David Owens.
- Commander, Daron Hance.
- Historian, vacant

We have an experienced and energetic group of officers this year. If you or someone you know would like to join us, please contact one of the officers above. I would really like the Historian position to be filled so that we can meet our duties with a full roster.

Special recognitions for last month:

A special thanks to Mike Regan for being the Installing Officer for the Sons of the American Legion this year, and also for his leadership and accomplishments as our Legion Commander this past year.

Thanks also to Ronnie Mac for catering the Installation of Officers dinner. Delicious food as always. Terry and Kathy Bigley sacrificed their time and talents to make all of our Father's Day special. Mother's Day was also a blast and greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to all of the new Officers of the American Legion and the Auxiliary!

Due to the upcoming 4th of July Independence Day weekend we will not have our usual S.A.L. fish fry. However, on July 4 from 12-3pm Ronnie Mac will cook brisket and sausage. If you are going to eat you are encouraged to bring a side dish. With the help of my good friend Mark Willoughby, the S.A.L. will be able to host a scrumptious dinner on Friday, 7/15. The menu has not been determined. Whatever we decide to cook, it will be a treat. All of you that know Mark, know that he is a great cook.

I am sad to announce the passing of one of our members, Gary Thatcher. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers. He will be missed.

I am proud to be a part of the Sons of the American Legion. Their cause in my eyes is true, just, noble, and worthy of any man's time. As a reminder I would like to list the charities that we are able to support:

Josh Dogs, Veteran's dogs, and the Tarrant County Food Bank.

- Josh Dogs is a program for kids in the hospital that gives them great comfort in a trying time of their life.
- Veteran's dogs is a program that trains dogs to become "comfort" dogs for our returning Warriors that have PTSD.
- The Tarrant County Food Bank supplies much needed food supplies to citizens in our community.

Goals of the Commander of Squadron 379 for the upcoming year:

1. Maintain the financial dedication to the charities listed above
2. Cultivate other sources of revenue
3. Foster and promote cooperation and respect with the Legion and the Auxiliary
4. Increase participation among our members
5. Create and promote a youth S.A.L. program that would perpetuate youth involvement beyond childhood, in order to ensure continuous leadership in the S.A.L. Thank you to David Owens, outgoing Squadron Commander, for this worthy goal.

Thank you for your support,

Daron R. Hance
Squadron 379 Commander



JULY AT YOUR POST

FRIDAY JULY 1ST

No Dinner or Entertainment

SATURDAY JULY 2ND

No Dinner or Entertainment

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

BRISKET & SAUSAGE - (Sides Appreciated)
Noon Until 3pm

FRIDAY JULY 8TH

Sloppy Joes, Scallop Potatoes & Corn Casserole
Benefits Honor Guard \$10
Entertainment: Marcia Rose

SATURDAY JULY 16TH

40 & 8 Steak Night \$15
Entertainment: Conventional Divide

FRIDAY JULY 15TH

Dinner by SAL – Menu to be Determined
Entertainment: Doug & Ben

SAURDAY JULY 16TH

Auxiliary Spaghetti, Salad & Garlic Bread \$10
Entertainment: Texas Strut

FRIDAY JULY 22ND

Italian Brisket (Commander & Aux Pres.) \$10
Benefits Honor Guard
Entertainment: Harley Brown

SATURDAY JULY 23RD

BBQ CHICKEN by Ronnie Mac
Entertainment: To be Determined

FRIDAY JULY 29TH

Philly Cheese Steaks \$10
(Past Commander & Aux Pres)
Entertainment: To be Determined

SATURDAY JULY 30TH

Dinner to be Determined
Entertainment: To be Determined

**JOIN US FOR DINNER AND DANCING
SUPPORT YOUR LEGION FAMILY**