



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

817.267.6047  
[www.hebtxpost379.org](http://www.hebtxpost379.org)

## **NEWSLETTER**

**AUGUST 2016**

### **COMMANDER'S MESSAGE**

Greetings Post,

We have another busy month ahead. The 4<sup>th</sup> is General Membership meeting at 7:00 PM. The 18<sup>th</sup> will be Executive Board meeting at 7 PM. A flag retirement and disposal service will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. The Honor Guard will participate in the Veterans Run on the 27<sup>th</sup> at Byron Nelson High School in Trophy Club. I would like to commend everyone that participated in the Department Convention last month in El Paso. The Honor Guard competed at the Department Convention and placed third, and represented the Post well at Department. The Honor Guard worked very hard, and you should be as proud of them as I am.

As the new Commander I asked for your cooperation in making Post 379 a welcoming & fun Post for all our members, and especially new members. I was very pleased to see so many people pitch in to help move the furniture during the carpet installation last month. We still need new Honor Guard members contact the First Vice-Commander Mike Sivers to join. We should restart the Legion Riders for the Post in the near future contact Joey Cook if interested in the Legion Riders. We can become the largest American Legion Post in Texas again if each of you recruit members, and you are willing to assist in keeping new members.

We will be working on funding for the building and grounds issues to be resolved. Fundraisers will be needed, and donations can be made to building and grounds fund.

For God and Country

**Dennis Gossett – Commander**

Phone 817-372-0938 [al\\_post379@att.net](mailto:al_post379@att.net)

### **AUXILIARY NEWS**

Oh my golly Ladies, we have so much to do this coming month!

To start the month of August, we will have the upcoming VA Clinic Veteran Ladies Baby Shower on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Oh my golly, did I mention that that's my birthday????? It's all about our veterans!! We did this a couple of years ago and there will be a box in the entry way put on August 1<sup>st</sup> for donations for our awesome pregnant lady veterans. A list will be put out. Last time, our wonderful Post home donated everything that was needed and the Auxiliary needed to buy very little.

Also, our Cancer Research Benefit is coming up sooner than you think! Please start with saving your toilet paper rolls and paper towel rolls for our upcoming Cancer Research Benefit! We had the "poppers" last year that went over so well. We will do this again and plan to increase the amount of them a lot more! This year will so rock with our Cancer Research! If you're not aware, I have been appointed the Department Chairman of Cancer Research. I cannot tell you how honored I am for this appointment. Our Unit is the best anywhere around, meaning the whole state!!!! Even the "past President" Paula Raney and the incoming "President" Mary Ann Paul agree so we must be doing something right! Our Cancer Benefit will be Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, starting at 10:00 with our Pancake Breakfast..... With Terry cooking Burgers and Patty Melts starting right after the Pancakes..... Will be selling tickets starting Friday, about 5 or 6 o'clock. As always, 6 for \$5, or \$1.00 apiece. If you have a favorite restaurant that might give us a gift certificate, or your grocery store, or anything else, PLEASE talk to the Bartender or any Officer to get the donation letter with the tax write off sheet. We need all the help we can get please! A thank you in advance to Bruce Patterson

for all his hard work getting all the gift certificates that he does for us.

Just so you know, our 12<sup>th</sup> District President, incoming is Brenda Straton with our District Vice President is "Cat" Jones, formally out of Unit 655 in Haltom City, but now transferring to OUR UNIT!!!!!! We so look forward to having her being a part of our awesome Unit.

Our incoming Department (State) President is Mary Ann Paul, out of the new McKinney Unit. Her membership motto is "buzzing for members" with the bumble bee and her love for Poppies with "Bee-lieve in Our Mission". She so believes in the 12<sup>th</sup> District that I believe that there are 6 or 7 members of our 12<sup>th</sup> District that are her Chairmen for her Programs for our Department. Our 12<sup>th</sup> District rocks at all levels!

We have a very full year coming up and so much to do! Let's get together and do this right to show how awesome we really are this year!!!!!! This is my last year to serve as your President, so let's make it right. Are you with me?????

Remember, Service, not Self

**Kathy Bigley – Unit President**  
[bigley.kathy@yahoo.com](mailto:bigley.kathy@yahoo.com) 817-353-6918

---

### **LEGION 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE UPDATE**

Well, our new officers have about a month under our belts and I have one thing to say. Well actually I have 3 things to say: Membership – Membership – Membership! That's what I do since the primary responsibility of the Post 1<sup>st</sup> Vice is – let me say it again –Membership.

Renewals and new members are going quite well so far in July but, as the months go by it gets more difficult to reach our goal to be back to # 1 in the State of Texas. So I am asking for the help of each and every one of you to make it your mission to sign up at least one new member by Veterans Day. We all have friends, relatives, neighbors, etc. who are either qualified Vets or know someone who is a qualified Veteran we can recruit. If not, they may qualify for the Ladies Auxiliary or SAL. Remember early bird status is given to any member who joins or renews by Veterans Day which entitles them to a free drink on the Post.

On another note our Honor Guard made a very impressive showing in El Paso at the Department

Convention. Although we didn't win we looked sharp and performed very well for our first organized completion. The men represented Post 379 in the most professional manner and we all thank everyone for your continued support. We still are looking for new dedicated additions to our Honor Guard to strengthen our numbers.

"For God and Country"

**Mike Sivers - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**  
**Ph: (469) 268-2052/Email:**  
[Al\\_post379@att.net](mailto:Al_post379@att.net)

---

### **CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

Wow what a start to a new year for the post. I want to say thank you for choosing me as your chaplain and I hope to perform my duties up to your expectations.

First a word of thoughtfulness and a prayer for Mark Willoughby at the passing of his mother, Frances and the family of Jim "Bo" Riney. We are thinking of you and your families. Glen Petersen is at the Legends rehab facility following a scary stay at the hospital. Way to go Glen keep up the good work sir.

Also just a brief thanks to my spouse for all her help in this new endeavor. Without her I wouldn't be able to serve this post.

July 27, 1953 marked the end of the Korean war. A special thanks for all our Korean war veterans both past and present. We are a stronger nation because of your gallantry and service. Thank you from post 379.

Most gracious Lord God, abide with us, inspire our thoughts, pervade our imagination, suggest all our decisions and order all our doings. Give us grace at all times to rejoice in thy mysterious companionship. Amen

May you all have an awesome august. Please feel free to call me for anything I can do.

Warm regards,

**Markham Hotze - Chaplain**  
**817-305-3357 [al\\_post379@att.net](mailto:al_post379@att.net)**

---

### **AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP**

**THANK YOU** to all our new and renewed members for 2016. We managed to retain the largest unit in Texas. I am very proud of all our members, what a wonderful bunch of ladies we have in this great organization. I never do this alone; it takes all of you to achieve this and our program goals. And of course the best part is all the support to our Veterans and our Troops. With your help ladies and legionnaires we can reach our goal again and still be the largest unit in Texas.

The Early Bird Auxiliary Membership drawing will be held after the Veterans Day / Early Bird party on November 5, 2016. This year we will have a drawing for an Honorary Life Membership. As long as you do not transfer your membership, your membership will be paid every year by your unit. To be eligible all you have to do is renew your membership on or before November 5, 2016.

Even if you are unable to physically donate time, your dues help to continue the programs for our veterans and our troops. Please take a few minutes to write your renewal check today.

Remember too, 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 and Girls State Program. Please see our bartenders, officers or the web sites, <alatexas.org>, for membership applications.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to our **AUGUST BABIES**: Hazel Kuney; Connie Snyder; Betty Vendeneykel; Kaylynn Bickham, Jr. Aux.; Joann Johns; Doris Brown; Carolyn 'CC' Cantrell; Rylie Fallon, Jr. Aux.; JoAnn Kovach; Patricia Howard; Donna Beltz; Leanne Buitron; Rebecca Soltis; Peggy Polinick; Sheryl Stroschein; Skylar Alvarez, Jr. Aux.; Katelynn Boyle, Jr. Aux.; Dylann Cook; Ava Arceneaux, Jr. Aux.; Katelyn Owen, Jr. Aux.; Juliette Williams, Jr. Aux.; Mary Felan; Rose Baird; Cindy Wright; Edie Gossett; Cheryl Taylor; Dawn Cachola; Danielle Gossett; Dawn Rogers; Natalie Morrow; Denise Giglio; Laura Sheehan; Connie Snyder; Lahonda Meier; Deborah Mingo; Karen Averett; Belle Watts; Morgan Bennett, Jr. Aux.; Matilda Burnett, Jr. Aux.; Paula Sparks.

If you have any questions, please call or email me.  
Service not Self

**Mary Hall, Membership Chairman**  
**817/980-1900**[gmhandb@att.net](mailto:gmhandb@att.net)

---

## **SAL NEWS**

### **Special Recognitions Last Month**

Thank you Ronnie Mac and company for cooking on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and also on Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you Ron Mick, Daniel Fallon, and Madame Secretary Lamita for helping me put together dinner on Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. We were able to sell 28 dinners and we gave away two to our very special bartenders.

Congratulations to our Post 379 American Legion Honor Guard. They represented us and themselves with the highest of honor. If you have not already congratulated them, please do so the next chance you get. They are Commander Dennis Gossett, Historian Charles Green, Sergeant at Arms Lloyd Colgin, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Mike Sivers, Tom Wood, and Chaplain Markham Hotze.

Congratulations to Joey Cook for getting the 379 Riders going again. We are looking forward to the first ride.

Thanks to all the Scouts of Pack 545 for coming out and holding their annual Rain Regatta last Saturday, 7/23. The Scouts had a good turn out and much fun. Thanks Joseph Campbell for coordinating that effort.

### **Squadron 379 Charities**

The Josh dogs were delivered to Cook's Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth. If you have any question in your mind as to the value of this program, please read the stories from the Kids and medical workers that are posted on the bulletin board by the office. I warn you though, have some tissues ready.

Daniel Fallon also mailed out the monthly donation to the Tarrant County Food Bank.

### **New S.A.L. Squadron 379 Members**

Please welcome the following new members into our post: Joseph D. Camunez, and Christopher Hotze. If you don't know what they look like, just keep greeting every new face you see. You will eventually find them.

### **General Membership**

Our goal for 2017 is around 158 SAL members. Right now we have 9 signed up as of 7/26/16. If your membership does not have "2017" on it, you need to renew. Our deadline is 6/17.

Last year (2016) we had a total membership 144.

### **Agenda for Next Meeting 8/11/16**

Last month we had members at the convention, on vacation, out of town working, and just generally not

able to attend the meeting. Those of us that were there decided to delay any binding votes in order to give a fair voice to our decision making process. Because of this our agenda will be basically the same as last meeting. Any new business will also be discussed.

- Finalize the Emergency Fund
- Debate and vote on moving the S.A.L. fish fry to the first Friday of every month, instead of Saturday
- Discuss the display cases
- Discuss a youth program
- Discuss the cooking calendar and recruit volunteers
- Discuss the car wash

I would like to remind our members that the Historian position is still open. If you are interested in filling that roll please let one of the officers or myself know.

Chaplain, Robert Bowles  
Sergeant at Arms, Trent Krueger  
Adjutant, Daniel Fallon  
Finance, Doug Bergh  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, Ron Mick  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice, David Owens

Thank you for your support,

**Daron R. Hance**  
**Squadron 379 Commander**  
**Semper Fi, keeping the 5th**

---

### **CALLING ALL RIDERS**

The Rider Unit of Post 379 is re-establishing its membership. Watch the Post and Webiste for updates as are available. If you are interested in becoming part of the Legion Riders please contact me at the number below. Thank you and I look forward to talking with you as we grow our membership.

**Joey Cook – Rider Director**  
**817-891-8774**

## **AUGUST AT YOUR POST**

### **FRIDAY August 5<sup>th</sup>**

Legion Dinner / Mexican Dinner \$10

**Entertainment: Continental Divide**

### **SATURDAY August 6<sup>th</sup>**

SAL Fish Fry \$10

**Entertainment: Harley Brown**

### **FRIDAY August 12<sup>th</sup>**

SAL VA Dogs / Stuffed Cabbage \$10

**Entertainment: Marcia Rose**

### **SATURDAY August 13<sup>th</sup>**

40 & 8 Steak Night \$15

**Entertainment: To be Determined**

### **FRIDAY August 19<sup>th</sup>**

Girls State / Meatloaf by Judy \$10

**Entertainment: Doug & Ben**

### **SATURDAY August 20<sup>th</sup>**

Auxiliary Spaghetti Dinner by Sharon \$10

**Entertainment: To be Determined**

### **FRIDAY August 26<sup>th</sup>**

Honor Guard Lasagna by Mike & Diana \$10

**Entertainment: Diamond Duo**

### **SATURDAY August 27<sup>th</sup>**

Dinner to be Determined

**Entertainment: To be Determined**

---

**August 13, 1961** - The Berlin Wall came into existence after the East German government closed the border between east and west sectors of Berlin with barbed wire to discourage emigration to the West. The barbed wire was replaced by a 12 foot-high concrete wall eventually extending 103 miles (166 km) around the perimeter of West Berlin. The wall included electrified fences, fortifications, and guard posts. It became a notorious symbol of the Cold War. Presidents Kennedy and Reagan made notable appearances at the wall accompanied by speeches denouncing Communism. The wall was finally opened by an East German governmental decree in November 1989 and torn down by the end of 1990.