



American Legion Post 379
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Bedford, TX 76021

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NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2016

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Post,

We have another busy month ahead with many events that need your participation. Thursday the 3rd is General Membership meeting at 7:00 PM. Thursday the 17th will be Executive Board meeting at 7:00 P.M. The Grapevine Veterans Day Parade will be on the 5th at 10:00 A.M. and anyone wanting to ride the trailer in the parade please be here at 9:00 A.M. so that we can transport you to the marshalling yard in Grapevine. Election Day is the 8th please vote. The Marine Corps birthday is the 10th with celebration on 12th in Proctor Hall at 19:00 - 24:00. Veterans Day is the 11th the Honor Guard will post the colors at Texas Roadhouse in Bedford at noon veterans will receive a free meal off the veterans menu. The Euless Parade of Lights will be on Monday the 14th at 7:00 P.M. anyone wanting to ride the trailer in the parade will need to be at the post by 6:00 P.M. for transport to Trinity parking lot to load trailer. We will have a flag disposal on Saturday the 19th at 10:00 A.M. Thanksgiving Day is the 24th and I wish everyone a wonderful holiday. The post will be open for a Thanksgiving meal from noon till 3:00 P.M. the Legion will provide the main course please bring side dishes for this meal a sign up sheet will be posted.

I ask again for your continued cooperation in making Post #379 a welcoming & fun Post for all our members, and especially new members. We are currently at 718 of our membership goal of 1217 keep working as we still need 499 just to reach goal. We still need new Honor Guard members contact the First Vice-Commander Mike Sivers to join. We still need new Legion Riders members Contact Joey Cook Legion Riders Director if interested. 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 have completed the parking lot repairs by the publish date of this newsletter. The AC/Heat for Proctor Hall will be next on our list of repairs and updates.

Saturday November 5th will be our annual "Early Bird" event. Lunch will be served following the Grapevine Veterans Day Parade.

I would like to commend the Auxiliary for the hard work last month during the Cancer Fundraiser outstanding effort by all involved that helped raise funds to support this worthy cause.

We are selling t-shirts again for Texas Roadhouse please support this effort.

We are still raising funds from Legion hats, koozies', and t-shirt sales. Thanks for supporting your post with your purchases. FRIDAY'S ARE RED FRIDAY'S to Remember Everyone Deployed. I would love to see the Post in a complete RED OUT on Fridays to show support for the people we have in harms way. Saturday's are WEAR BLUE SATURDAY'S to back the Blue we need to support our first responders.

For God and Country

Dennis Gossett – Commander

Phone 817-372-0938 al_post379@att.net

AUXILIARY NEWS

Well, it's now November! This year, at least to me, has just flown by. BUT! Our October was just awesome and we need to brag!!!!

PLEASE GET OUT AND GO VOTE!!!!

I so thank each and every one of you that was a part of any part of what we did this last month.

Let me start with our Cancer Research Benefit! This was our 12th Annual Benefit! We had the Department President, Mary Ann Paul, her personal Aide, Nancy Kay Thomson, Dept. Vice President, Donna Dillard, our District President, Brenda Straten, our Past District Presidents, Tina Hill and Dollie Norton. Are ya sitting down?? We actually raised \$9,200 that weekend. Now that all monies are collected from the weekend, it's up to \$10,188.00! Oh my!!! And to top it off a little more, every dinner in the month of October, all profits are going to Cancer Research! As you know, every penny goes to M.D. Anderson for continuing research to find a cure. Everyone stepped up to make this happen. What a team we are and I'm so grateful to just be a part of all of you.

We just attending the 12th District Convention at Post 838. Oh my golly! All involved so made our 12th District proud. Our Vice President, Donna Dillard was our guest speaker.

Now we have the holidays ahead of us. Veterans Day is the 11th. There will be the parade in Sundance Square in Ft. Worth on the 11th and our Legion will attend the parade in Grapevine on Saturday the 5th.

Our next meeting will be Thursday November 3rd at 7:00. Please try to come be a part of planning and fun. Our attendance at the meetings has increased some and it's really exciting to see new faces.

We will be getting together to put boxes going to our troops Sunday, November 27th. Our Boy Scout troop will be helping us. There will be a box at the Post for donations this week. Will be looking for small items. So come and join in on the fun if you can. If you think about it, try to donate your Legion and Legion Auxiliary magazines for us to send in the boxes. Maybe this will interest them to look for a Post/Unit when they come home. Just a thought.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and look forward to seeing you at the Post!

Remember, Service not Self.

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

LEGION 1ST VICE UPDATE

November has arrived and the beginning of the holiday season is upon us. Thanksgiving is just around the corner followed by Christmas and then another New Year. Along with all the traditional holiday excitement let us not relinquish the importance of November 11th which we all know is Veterans Day where we honor all those who have served our great country.

That being said, it brings us back to Veterans and membership. With renewals, puffs and new members we are currently at 718 members vs. our 2017 goal of 1217. That brings us roughly to 59.4% towards an early November target of 60 plus %. Again our membership growth is necessary and every one of our members has a responsibility. Make it your mission to recruit at least one new member by Veterans Day. Membership has to be a total Post effort. So please do your part.

The Honor Guard has several appearances slated for November with the first one being in the Grapevine parade on November 5th. The Post will have a float again this year and a sign-up sheet will be posted for anyone who would like to ride and represent our Post. We need a large showing to show our community support and make ourselves more visible to the public. We will also have a recruiting table set up in Veterans Park on Main St. as we did last year. So stop by wearing your Legion shirts and hats. Till then – see y'all at the Post.

“For God and Country”

Mike Sivers - 1st Vice Commander
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AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Ladies we are at 29% of our 519 goal for 2017. Thank you to all who have renewed. I know some of you are waiting for the Early Bird Party. As we still strive to reach our ONE MILLION MEMBER GOAL by 2019. We need to continue to blow our own whistle about who And what we do for OUR VETERANS. I know YOU can make the difference. Remember Junior members, under 18, are paid by your Auxiliary. Be sure to sign up those new granddaughters and great-granddaughters that have arrived in the family. Step-children are also included. Just ask the bartenders or an auxiliary member for an application. Keep them coming ladies.

Current National Goals are 45%, 234, by Nov 11, 2016. 60% by Dec 7, 2016, 311 - 75% by Feb 14, 2017, 390

Re-join a member who has not paid their dues since 2014, you will receive a Rejoin 1 button and your name placed in a drawing at national for \$100.00

Recruit 1 New Senior or Junior member, you will receive a Recruit 1 button and your name placed in a drawing at national for \$100.00

Recruit 10 or more New Junior or Senior members, you will receive an ALA pad-folio and placed in a drawing for \$250.00.

Recruit 25 or more New Senior members and receive a special gift from National President Sharon Conatser.

Auxiliary member's who renew or are new members for 2016 by the Early Bird, Saturday, November 5, Party, will go into a drawing for an Honorary Life Membership. As long as you remain a member of this unit, we will pay your membership dues every year. Winner to be announced at the Auxiliary Dinner, Saturday, Nov. 19th.

Early Bird Party, Saturday, November 5, Noon to 4pm. One free drink for those who are renewing, have renewed or are new members for 2017. Legion will be providing sandwiches, Legion Family is asked to bring side dishes for Lunch, Noon to 2pm.

Thank you to all of you who have been including your email address with your renewal payment. We use this to update you on current, up-coming events and our chaplain's notices.

Our Legionnaires are trying to regain their position as the largest Post in Texas and as we became the largest Unit in Texas. So continue to invite new members that are eligible to join us. And don't forget to ask about Junior members. 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, with community service a plus, and Girls State in the state where they live. Applications are at the bar and at the department web site, www.alatexas.org.

If you would like to pay up for life and not worry about increases, see below. Payments may be divided after first 10% down, with final payment due February 28, 2015.

Age 18-24 \$1110.00	Age 25-29 \$1059.00
Age 30-39 \$1007.00	Age 40-49 \$899.00
Age 50-59 \$767.00	Age 60-69 612.00
Age 70-79 \$451.00	Age 80 Plus \$296.00

Effective July 1, 2010, Department Texas

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – NOVEMBER BABIES: Doris Hammond; Tyler Clark, Jr. Aux.; Madelyn Gamble, Jr. Aux.; Inez Garcia; Sarah Kaggwa, Jr. Aux.; Valerie Bean; Terri Bigelow; Melba Hargrave; Billye Pennington; Pat Rizos; Julie Dimas; Brenda Everett; Adara Gillespie, Jr. Aux.; Jadyn Gillespie, Jr. Aux.; Taryn Gillespie, Jr. Aux.; Misty Mahon, Jr. Aux.; Meghan McGowan; Marie Stevens; Trish Jacobson; Stephanie Cox; Wanza Davis; Katie Regan; Heather Daggett; Leane Gillespie; Katherine Kraut; Bobbie Matthus; Carolyn Bowen; Stephanie Collins; Pat Letbetter; Ursula Finn; Madison Klein, Jr. Aux.; Lillith Sypsomos, Jr. Aux.; Joey Roberts; Ruth Crawford; Shelly Thurston; Amanda Harp; Sandy Hardage-Koontz; Barbara Svoboda; Barbara Clemens; Tamera Mues; Charmaine White; Haylee Baker; Lynda Bryan; Lawson Lesinsky, Jr. Aux.; Brenda Morgan; Carmen Villanueva; Felecia Lee; Jessie Richardson; Robin Francis; Erica Harris.

Mary Hall

Membership Chairman

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SON'S SYNOPSIS

Greetings and salutations!

SAL SQUADRON 379 IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD SONS! Can you help us find them!?!? If you know of any males whose parents or grandparents qualify for membership in the American Legion, send them our way. We are pushing to raise our numbers to become the largest squadron in Texas. Right now, we are the second largest in the state and we are only 70 members shy of overtaking the squadron in Blessing. Our annual membership fee is \$25 for regular members or \$10 for dual members (American Legion and SAL). The detachment of Texas PUFL (Paid Up For Life) membership fee is \$632 plus \$1 for each year under the age of 21, \$625 for those who are between the ages of 21-24, \$596 for those 25-29, \$560 for 30-39, \$497 for 40-49, \$419 for 50-59, \$311 for 60-69, \$202 for 70-79, and \$132 for 80 and above. Our current membership is at 42% (we should be at 30% at this time) of our 2017 goal of 146.

During our last meeting, we installed a new commander and formed a committee to update our constitution and by-laws. We also renewed our support for Josh Dogs, the Tarrant County Food Bank, and the Veterans Assistance Dogs program. We made a commitment to support Axillary breast cancer month efforts and to send three future leaders to Boys State. Squadron 360-degree communication was a major topic of discussion. So in response to the issue, we created a squadron GroupMe account that ANYONE (son or not) can join to receive important squadron updates and periodic hubmaster reports from the post and district. If you are interested in joining, you are welcome to download the free GroupMe app if you have an iPhone, Android, Windows phone, or computer, then search for 'SAL Sqd 379 Tx' to join the open group. If you don't have any of these devices or you prefer not to add another app to your smartphone, text me your name and I will add you to the distribution list to receive regular messages via SMS. However, the app looks and works way better than regular texting.

The famous Debbie McGee is our chef this month. On Friday, 04 November at 6:30pm, she'll cook brisket and bake potatoes with all the fixin's. She'll also set up a salad and dessert bar. Please remember that our dinners help us raise funds for the many programs we support. So, come on out and don't forget to bring all of your cousins and acquaintances. Our next general membership meeting is Thursday, 10 November at 7pm. All non-members, including Legionnaires, members of the Axillary, and Riders are welcome to attend when approved by the Squadron Commander. We'll receive recommended updates on our constitution and by-laws and possibly vote to ratify the changes. We'll also vote on our new Historian. As a reminder, the legendary Gisela is cooking Chicken-Fried Chicken and Chicken-Fried Steak to support our programs on Friday, 02 December at 6:30pm!

Happy Veteran's Day and Charlie Mike!

Joseph Campbell
Squadron 379 Commander
808.646.0460 - iokepa789@gmail.com



NOVEMBER AT YOUR POST

FRIDAY November 4TH

Dinner: Brisket & Baked Potato

By: Deb McKee

Entertainment: Dewie & Debbie White

SATURDAY November 5th

Dinner: Chicken & Dumplings \$9

Auxiliary Scholarship by Karen Burks & Jesse

SAL MEAT RAFFLE 2:30 pm

Entertainment: Continental Divide

FRIDAY November 11th

VETERANS DAY BBQ

By Ronnie Mac

Donations Appreciated

Entertainment: Marcia Rose

SATURDAY November 12th

40 & 8 Steak Night \$15

Your Cook: Mike Regan

SAL MEAT RAFFLE 2:30 pm

Entertainment: Steve J Rose & Rio Grande Band

FRIDAY November 18th

Dinner: Chicken Alfredo Rollups with Spinach \$10

Benefits Aux Christmas for Deployed Troops

Entertainment: Doug & Ben

SATURDAY November 19th

Dinner: Auxiliary Spaghetti

Holiday Bake Sale

Benefits Girls State

SAL MEAT RAFFLE 2:30 pm

Entertainment: Harley Brown

Thursday November 24th

Thanksgiving Hours: Noon until 3pm

Thanksgiving Meal at 1pm

FRIDAY November 25th

Leftovers (Thanksgiving Dinner)

No Dinner or Entertainment

SATURDAY November 26th

Pizza Night

By: Post Duty Officer

No Dinner or Entertainment