



American Legion Post 379
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NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2017

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Post,

The upcoming month of April has many events that need your participation. Thursday the 6th is the General Membership meeting at 7:00 PM. Thursday the 20th will be Executive Board meeting at 7:00 P.M. The 12th District Convention will be on the 22nd at Post 624. The American Airlines Veterans & Military Resource Group will meet in Proctor Hall the fourth Thursday every month please make them welcome, this month they will meet on the 27th. The Bloodmobile will be here Saturday the 29th from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM for our annual Blood Drive.

Your continued cooperation in making Post #379 a welcoming & fun Post for all our members, and especially new members is requested. We are in the home stretch in our membership drive with only April and May to reach our goal things are slowing down, and we need a 100% effort to reach our goal. It is within our reach to make and possibly exceed our goal, but we need everyone's help.

If you are interested in becoming an Honor Guard member contact the First Vice-Commander Mike Sivers to join, or show up to practice the first and third Thursday of the month at 6 PM. If you are interested in joining the Legion Riders Contact Joey Cook Legion Riders Director. 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. The Honor Guard will represent the Post at MS Walk Ft. Worth April 1, MS Walk Dallas April 8, The Clubhouse for Special Needs Event at Texas Star April 8, the Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Day Service May 29th, the Texas Ranger Game Veteran Appreciation night September 28th to name a few of the events coming up for the Honor Guard.

We will have 50th anniversary shirts to place orders for with the 50th Anniversary Logo. We are still raising funds from Legion hats, flags, and t-shirt sales. Your continued support for your post with your purchases are important to the Post's success. I ask your support making FRIDAY'S RED FRIDAY'S to

Remember Everyone Deployed until they all come home. 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. I also request support on Saturdays to wear BLUE to support our first responder Police and Fire officers in our community and nationwide.

Our election for 2017-2018 will be at the General Membership meeting June 2, 2017. We will stand up an election committee at the April General Membership meeting April 6, 2017.

For God and Country

Dennis Gossett – Commander

Phone 817-372-0938 al_post379@att.net

AUXILIARY NEWS

Here we are, already in April and Spring is all around us! The most important item to be announced this month is that we will hold our elections at our meeting in May. In fact, May 4th at 7:00. There will be a sign-up sheet on the board as you walk in. I would love to see all of you at that meeting to show support for your Auxiliary. It's pretty common knowledge that I will not be running for your President. It's been a wonderful experience, but it's time to step down. It's all good!

If you are interested in possibly being one of our Officers, please sign up! We have a good time in all we do, come and be a part of what we do. If you have any questions, please ask any Officer.

Our District Convention will be on Saturday, April 22nd at Post 624 in Mansfield. It is always a fun, learning day which includes lunch. If you are interested, please let me or one of the Officers know so we can put you on the registration sheet. It must be sent in right after our April meeting, which is Thursday, April 6th at 7:00.

Our Division Convention will be held on Saturday, May 6th in Greenville, TX. Again, if you're interested, please let us know. The registration paperwork has to be in by April 21st. I've learned something about our Auxiliary at any and every meeting/convention I've attended. Just saying...

Our annual year-end reports are due April 15th. This is where we receive awards for all we have done for the year. All our programs that we work on need a narrative to receive an award. I also need all your volunteer hours, mileage and monies spent this last year. This all counts to where the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary take the information to Congress for changes having to do with our veterans. I know this is short notice, but please, if you fly the American flag year-round, please report it. Anything you do whether you take a veteran friend to the doctor or hours you've spent in the Post kitchen cooking for our veterans. It all counts. We are the largest Unit in the state of Texas, so we need all the hours we can get please.

I hope everyone has a wonderful month!

Kathy Bigley – Unit President

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LEGION 1ST VICE UPDATE

Greetings fellow Legionnaires. Here we are in the month of April already and spring is in the air. The year is flying by and time is growing short for our Post to meet its 2017 membership goal of 1217. Although we are currently still on track the home stretch to June 1st is traditionally the tough part. We still are having an issue with Department crediting us with "345" transfers so in the meantime we have to forge ahead and push to the finish. With that being said we need the help of each and every one of you. Bring in just one new member this month and we will shatter our goal. Don't assume the other person will do it. Be that person and do your part to make our Post as successful as it can possibly be by getting involved. Now I'll get off my soap box ---- till next month!

Thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary, Ronnie Mac and to all those who helped make our 50th anniversary celebration such a success. That was another milestone in the history of Post 379 with more to come in the future.

The Honor Guard has several upcoming gigs on April 1st and the 8th with MS Walks in Fort Worth and Dallas where we will be presenting the Colors and kicking off the walks. In addition, we have an engagement the evening of the 8th @ The Texas Star. Our firing squad will perform at this year's Memorial Day service at Bluebonnet Cemetery. So please come out and pay respect to our fallen Veterans and their families.

Once again, we need your help in recruiting new members. Step up and do what you can.

Mike Sivers - 1st Vice Commander

Ph: 469-268-2052 Al_post379@att.net

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Many blessings to all. Sorry, but; I fell on Feb. 1, 17, broke my right femur. I am just now trying to phase in my activities. I have missed everyone at the post. Many blessings and Thank You to all the people who have assisted me. It's not forgotten. You all have been very kind.

I would like to remind all that the main number to the Post can be called anytime. The phone is checked each morning for messages. We have had multiple notifications that the member has passed and the funeral was a week ago, we would like to have earlier notice, so that at least we can send flowers. We DO have a full honor guard.

At last Executive Board meeting, upon discussion from the chaplain, and motion from the floor, have started a Humanitarian Award. This is to recognize those members who assist members, perform exceptional deeds of kindness to sick, disabled and hospitalized members or any other deed. To nominate, write the persons' name and what they have done and it will be discussed among the board and members.

Things have been quite at the post as of late. I would like to insert a reminder. We do have a language rule. CLEAN ONLY!!! As members get to drinking the language gets louder and vulgar. Let's be respectful of others and especially the ladies. Believe me as officers we hear many complaints.

If I can ever be of assistance, please feel free to ask.

Travis Crawford Chaplain

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Greetings, Ladies!

We are at 87% of our goal of 519 members for 2017. Thank you to all who have renewed. We are currently the largest Auxiliary Unit in the State. If you would like to renew, you can leave your \$31.00 renewal fee with the bartenders and they will make sure I get it.

We are striving 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. Rewards down the road include potential scholarships and Girls State in the state where they live. Just ask the bartenders or an auxiliary member for an application. Keep them coming ladies.

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.

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.

If you would like to pay up for life and not worry about increases, see below. Ask about installment payments.

Age	Amount	Age	Amount
18-24	\$ 1,110.00	25-29	\$ 1,059.00
30-29	\$ 1,007.00	30-39	\$ 1,007.00
50-59	\$ 767.00	60-69	\$ 612.00
70-79	\$ 451.00	80 Plus	\$ 296.00

Effective July 1, 2010, Department Texas

ALA for our VETERANS Service Not Self

Theresa Winslow - Membership Chairman

SON'S SYNOPSIS

We served 28 dinners during last month's First Friday Fish Fry which was a little less than what we wanted to sale. Consequently, we have adjusted our procedures so that in the future we are able to serve more dinners and get them out sooner. During our last membership meeting, we unanimously voted to financially support PTSD of America by making ongoing monthly contributions to the organization. Also during the meeting's training session, we discussed the importance and impact of the legacy of our forefathers. Our squadron also delivered another box of Josh Dogs to Cook Children's Hospital.

From the first to the seventh of April, we'll conduct a raffle for a chance to win a \$100 bar tab. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. The proceeds from the raffle and the dinner on Friday, 07 April will go to support our charitable programs. Instead of serving fish during this dinner, Stephanie Cox has

graciously agreed to cook and serve smothered steak with mashed potatoes, green beans, and chocolate sheet cake. We'll start serving at 6:30 pm. This is the last month that we will conduct our weekly meet raffle. We'll start back up in September. So, please join us every Saturday at 2:30 pm until the end of the month. Our next general membership meeting is Thursday, 13 April at 7 pm. We are scheduled learn more about the Ten Ideals program during this meeting. On GOOD FRIDAY, 14 April, First Vice Commander Terry Bigley has agreed to cook fish and chicken with all of the fixings beginning at 6:30 pm. Our current membership is at 102% (we should be at 90% at this time) of our 2017 goal of 146. It looks like we are on track to retake our title as the largest squadron in Texas. Until next time...

Charlie Mike!

Joseph Campbell

Squadron 379 Commander

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LEGION RIDERS

Greetings once again from your Riders Director, Crash! We had yet ANOTHER successful month raising money for Legion, SAL and Auxiliary Programs thanks to all of you who have supported us! We had a fun ride on March 18th and garnered some much-needed visibility within the 12th District. Things are looking up for us for sure. As a reminder, the Riders will be cooking breakfast on the second Saturday of April, April 8th. Additionally, we will be cooking an AMAZING Mexican Dinner on Saturday, April 29th. The Menu on the 29th will consist of Mexican Stuffed Pasta (trust me, it is AMAZING) and sopapilla cheesecake for dessert all for \$10 to celebrate Cinco de Mayo a week early, Rider's Style! I have additionally arranged a special price on Regular Margaritas that night as they go GREAT with this meal. Regular Margaritas will be served by your friendly bartender for the low price of \$2. Please remember that premium tequilas will cost extra. Thanks to everyone for keeping the Riders successful!

Be safe and keep the rubber side down!

Joey "Crash" Cook – Director

On a Personal Note:

I want to thank several people who took time out of their schedule to help me move. Legion members Norm, Jeff and my special friend Dan Higgins as well as SAL members Ronnie Mac and Tommy Rush. There is no amount of words to express how grateful I am for their help.

Auxiliary member and Legion Bar Manager Lamita Tourdot