



American Legion Post 379  
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## **NEWSLETTER**

**JANUARY 2018**

### **COMMANDER'S MESSAGE**

Happy New Year 2018 Post,

I want to wish everyone a happy, healthy, and safe 2018. We will have the General Membership Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM, and the Exec. Board Meeting will be the 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. A flag retirement will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. The Canteen Games will be held again on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM.

We have had a successful 2017, and we need to continue our efforts for our community, state, and nation in 2018. I wish to say thank you for your support, and your well wishes while Edith was in the hospital. Please keep our sick members in your prayers, and remember our deployed service members.

We will be starting up an election committee in the next few months for the election of officers. I will not be running for Commander next election.

I wish to say thank you to everyone that participated in replacing the ceiling tiles in the canteen area, and especially Dan Higgins for getting the tiles donated to the Post. I also owe the American Airlines Veterans Group (Manuel Vega, Matt Wittenmya & John Alvarado) a big thank you for their assistance on this project. Daniel Fallon, Dennis Arkwright, David Watkins, Norm Monastesse, John Alvarado all participated in this effort and I can't express how much it was appreciated.

We have new flooring for the canteen bathrooms donated again thanks to Dan Higgins that we will start on later this month.

Honor Guard and Riders are still looking for new members please contact Mike Sivers Honor Guard commander if interested, or Joey Cook Riders Director if interested.

I look forward to being your commander for the remainder of my term of office.

For God and Country

**Dennis Gossett**  
**Commander**

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### **AUXILIARY NEWS**

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and are looking forward to a fantastic new year.

The Post is hosting a New Year's Eve party on Sunday, December 31, 2017. Doug and Ben will be the entertainment starting at 8:30 p.m. Ham sliders and black eyed peas will be available. Please bring sides to share if you plan on attending.

Plans are well under way for the Valentine's Day Dance to be held on February 10, 2018. Tickets will be on sale after January 1, 2018 for \$20.00 each which includes soup, salad, loaded baked potatoes, steak and dessert. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, February 4. If you don't buy a ticket in advance, the cost at the door will be \$25.00.

We will be having a Mardi Gras party in February. A mask contest will be one of the featured "things to do" so this gives you about six weeks to work on getting your mask created!

The Auxiliary Department Mid-Winter Conference will be held in Austin on January 25-28, 2018. If you are interested in going, please let me know and I will fill you in on the particulars.

Our 2018 dues can now be paid and they are still \$31.00 a year. You can mail them in or drop them off with the bartenders. Just a reminder that if you don't pay your dues by December 31st you will lose your club privileges.

Look forward to seeing you at our meeting on January 4 at 7 p.m.

### **Theresa Winslow - Auxiliary President**

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

The Legion membership is at 1,009 which is a little over 80% of our goal of 1,252 members.

A Reminder we have door hangers available to generate new members....just ask!

I would like to thank Joseph Campbell and Norm Monastesse for their help at the armed service bowl Dec 23.

Hope everyone had a Merry CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

We need the memberships help to obtain our goal for 2018!!!!

**Jim Grau**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander**

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#### **CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

I hope everyone had a great Holiday season.

On 12/1 Wayne Maddox had cancer surgery in his abdomen. For a few days recovery went well then complications set in. He was moved to the ICU heart center for an accelerated heart rate and was suffering from pain in his back. During one test some fluid was inhaled into his lungs which had to be removed and he was placed on a breathing machine and had a feeding tube. They had also found a leak where the surgery took place which required a stent to be inserted to help stop the bleeding. Days later they were able to remove him from the breathing machine and he was very alert. He was able to say hello to everyone at # 379. He has been up on a walker and terrorizing the nurses in the hallway. They finally got him back to a private room and as of this writing is still in the hospital but recuperating nicely.

Brian McCormick has been back in the hospital with a lung flare up but this was taken care of rather quickly and he is back home and doing well.

Dennis Arkwright was in HEB for installation of a pacemaker on 12/15 and the surgery went well. Saw him late that afternoon and he was ready to go home the next morning.

Kenny Wendt went in HEB on 12/17 with some heart issues and had open heart surgery but is doing well now in Legends Rehab.

I visited Howard Stevens the same day. He was to have surgery the next morning for a severe staph infection. Surgery was successful and recuperation is going well in Legends Rehab.

Jim "Gar" Garcia had open heart surgery and is still recovering at Southwest Hospital.

Joey Cook has another upcoming surgery soon on his shoulder. A few days before Christmas unfortunately

Edith Gossett also fell ill and was in the hospital a few days and is back home doing well.

December has been a hard month for some members of # 379 and let's keep them in our prayers. Let us all pray that 2018 will be much healthier and that all of Post 379 members and their families will have a better year.

May the Lord lift and protect you.

For God and Country

**Craig Smith – Smitty / Chaplain - Post 379**

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#### **TOYS FOR TOTS UPDATE**

We held our annual Toys for Tots collection drive on Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>. What an outpouring of love and generosity from our members and community! Over 1300 toys and \$1100 in cash donation were donated. That helped to make lots of happy faces on kids in the DFW Metroplex. In addition to the Boys and Girl Scouts we had help from Eric, Collin and Braeden Starnes, members of the Scottish Pipe and Drums of Ft Worth.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make it a success.

**Judy Davidson**  
**Toys for Tots Coordinator**

#### **SAL NEWS**

Our next SAL fish fry will be on Friday January 5<sup>th</sup>. Join us for a great dinner prepared by Ronnie Mac and his team for only \$11. The next SAL meeting will be held on Thursday January 18 at 7pm. Your 2018 dues are now due.

After a couple of weeks off for the holidays, the **MEAT RAFFLE** is back every Saturday at 2:30pm

A Josh Dog was recently given to a young cancer patient. Here is a thank you letter from her family:

*To Whom it May Concern,*

*Thank you so much for the generous gift of the Josh stuffed animal. My daughter was diagnosed with cancer back in May and was given a Josh stuffed animal shortly after her diagnosis. My daughter has really loved snuggling and playing with her Josh. Josh has become a friend that travels with us to every chemo stay. She is still too young to really understand what is happening with all the treatments that she is currently receiving but, having a friend like Josh with her that she can squeeze when she is scared or hurting makes life in and out of the hospital a little bit easier for her little soul. Thank you again for your incredibly generous donation.*

*Sincerely,  
The Harding Family.*

**Ron Mick  
Squadron 379 Commander**

**ALL MEMBERS  
ATTENTION PLEASE**

Your 2018 dues **MUST** be paid by January 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you have not renewed, you will no longer have canteen privileges.

**Everyone** will be asked to show their current cards.

When your current membership is verified you will receive a new door card.

Thanks in Advance ~  
Commander & Canteen Staff

**LEGION RIDERS**

Rider Director Joey Cook is recovering from surgery at this time and was unable to submit an article. Please keep Joey in your thoughts and prayers during his recovery.

The Riders will meet on Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup> at 5pm for their monthly meeting.

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**JANUARY DINING & DANCING**

**FRIDAY JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>**

SAL Fish Fry - \$11

Your Cook – Ronnie Mac

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Karaoke by Barry Martin

**SATURDAY JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>**

Riders

Spaghetti Night \$10

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Free Touch Tunes

**FRIDAY JANUARY 12<sup>th</sup>**

Auxiliary Mexican Night by Gisela \$10

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Marcia Rose

**SATURDAY JANUARY 13<sup>th</sup>**

40 & 8 Steak Night \$15

Your Cook – Mike Regan

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Free Touch Tunes

**FRIDAY JANUARY 19<sup>th</sup>**

Honor Guard – TBD by Mike & Diane

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Doug & Ben

**SATURDAY JANUARY 20**

Auxiliary Hamburger or Ruben with Fries \$10

Your Cook - Gisela

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Karaoke by Barry Martin

**FRIDAY JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

Dinner - TBD

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Justin Hunter

**SATURDAY JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>**

Dinner - TBD

**ENTERTAINMENT:** Diamond Duo

*All proceeds from these dinners support the projects and programs of the Legion Family. Your support is greatly appreciated.*