



American Legion Post 379  
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[www.hebtxpost379.org](http://www.hebtxpost379.org)

## NEWSLETTER

**JUNE 2018**

### COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Post,

The upcoming month again has many events that need your participation. Thursday the 7th is the General Membership meeting at 7:00 PM and will be the election of new officers for the Post. On Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> the Executive Board meeting will be at 7:00 P.M. The Red Lion Poker Run will be here on the 9<sup>th</sup> please come out and support the Post 379 Riders in this worthy event. Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day, and we will have a flag retirement and disposal on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> due to the amount of flags that we currently have on hand. Happy Father's Day Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> to all the Fathers of the Post.

I ask again for your continued cooperation in making Post #379 a welcoming & fun Post for all our members, and especially new members. I would like to say thank you to all the Post members that participated in the successful membership effort this past year. The Post owes Mike McCrady and Jim Grau a very big thank you for their efforts in making us a 100% Post again this year. If you are interested in becoming an Honor Guard member contact the Mike Sivers Honor Guard Commander to join or show up for practice before the General Membership and Exec. Board meetings in Proctor Hall at 6:00 PM. If interested in joining the American Legion Riders contact the Riders Director, or see the bartender for an application.

We are still raising funds from Legion hats, flags, and t-shirt sales. Your continued support for your post with your purchases is important to the Post's success. Please continue making FRIDAY'S RED FRIDAY'S to Remember Everyone Deployed until they all come home.

Please continue keeping the Post members that are recovering from illness in your thoughts and prayers along with those mourning the loss of loved ones.

I wish to say that it has been an interesting and challenging two years as Commander of this Post. I will say it has been an honor to serve as your Commander, and that I wish the incoming Commander and officers success in the coming year.

For God and Country,

**Dennis Gossett – Commander**

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

### AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello, Ladies

We had our yearly elections last month and the following are the new officers for 2018 – 2019:

President	Karen Burks
1st Vice President	Open
2nd Vice President	Open
3rd Vice President	Theresa Winslow
Secretary	Sheryl Frydenberg
Treasurer	Suzie McClendon
Chaplain	Sherry Williams
Sgt-at-Arms	Leslie Horsman
Historian	Judy Davidson
Executive Board	Kathy Bigley
Executive Board	Carolyn "CC" Cantrell
Executive Board	Diana Sivers

As you can see, we have two positions that need to be filled. If you are interested, let Karen Burks know.

I want to thank Dee English and Josie Teel for handing out poppies at the American Airlines headquarters. They did a great job and got over \$600 in donations.

Also, I want to thank everyone who helped put flags on cemeteries before Memorial Day. There was a great turnout so nobody had to be in the sun too long.

Memorial Day was once again a huge success with over 800 people in attendance. Thank you to Ronnie Mac and Jeff for cooking the meats and beans and thank you to everyone who brought dishes to share.

I have enjoyed being your Auxiliary President this past year and look forward to working with you this coming year in other ways.

## **Theresa Winslow – President**

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

The Legion membership is at 1271 which is 101% of the Post goal of 1252. These are the up to date numbers from Department. Thanks to all of the members that helped to reach our 100% goal! Special thanks to Mike McCrady, without his help we could not have reached this goal.

The Golf Tournament was a huge success. The Registration Committee did a great job. Thanks Brian McComick, “Smitty” Smith, Heidi Weber, Larry Burks and Martha Bardin. If I missed anyone, my apologies, and please know your help is appreciated.

The Election Committee, Brian McCormick, Norm Monastesse and Larry Burks did an outstanding job on the upcoming elections.

A special thanks to Norm for “volunteering” and assisting me when I needed help throughout the year. And thanks to Sharon and Dan Nesteriak for getting the newsletter out each month and maintaining the Post website.

For GOD & COUNTRY

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

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### **CHAPLAIN’S CORNER**

Wayne Maddux had more esophageal surgery on 5/14 done by a different surgeon. he is waiting on results if successful or not.

Clinton Fulton is now home with terminal cancer. Please more prayers for comfort.

Jim Garcia is still home awaiting availability of a heart for a transplant.

Tommy Crousen passed with services on 5/15. Please pray for Glenda and family

On 5/21 the post conducted a beautiful Post Everlasting ceremony for our fallen comrade Douglas Ray Helm Jr. he was 75 years old and was a U.S.A.F veteran. The ceremony was attended by approximately 80 family

members including his wife Brenda. He also left behind 4 children. He and Brenda had had 38 beautiful years together. A few of his friends came up and related stories from the past. Your chaplain spoke briefly, prayed for the family, and blessed the food. The family was extremely happy with the service we provided and thanked us profusely.

Gary Walters is in Harris downtown suffering from a stroke and brain bleed. Saw him on 5/19 and he was doing better. The stroke had barely affected his right side and the staff had the bleeding was under control. He was lucid and no effects were noticeable in his speaking. Prognosis was looking highly favorable. Although the Drs. had discovered something in his upper chest and were investigating.

Jim Jordan is in Legends on Murphy Drive suffering from macular degeneration. Room 505A. Visit and pray.

On 5/24 I once again visited Wayne Maddux. He was not such a good mood. He did not have his hearing aids in and no teeth. He could not hear and I could not understand him. Still getting fed through a tube. He stated that the Drs and nurses weren't telling him a dang thing. He is so frustrated and depressed and I can't blame him. I would be in a tight jacket and cuffs if I had been through what he has since Dec.1. Later on that evening I talked to his sister and she thinks that they had him on too high of morphine doses which was making him extremely cranky. I have a different word for it but never the less she was going to get the Drs to reduce the dosage of morphine. I will be checking in on him on the 29th.

Your Honor Guard participated in the Bluebonnet Cemetery ceremony on 5/28. We did well and always and the entire program was extremely well received.

For now, always remember.

For God and Country

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

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### **From the desk of the SAL Commander**

This will be my last newsletter as the acting Commander. After our elections at the May meeting the results are:

Terry Bigley	Commander
Larry Burks	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander
Jack Methner	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander
Daniel Fallon	Adjutant
Mike Regan	Finance Officer
John Alvarado	Chaplain
Joseph Campbell	Historian
Ronnie Mac	Sgt-at-Arms

So for the next year I will be writing this article as the Commander. Congratulations to all of the officers and I thank each and every one for stepping up.

The current membership is 133 of our goal of 156 making us 85%. There are a few members that still haven't paid their dues, we still have time to make goal so please send yours to the post or bring it by, 1245 N. Industrial Blvd. Bedford, Texas 76021.

I want to thank everyone who participated in our meat raffles. They were a great success and we raised enough monies to support our projects. The meat raffle is now on summer break. We will be starting up again in September. An actual date will be posted at a later date. We have been and will continue to support the Tarrant County Food Bank, Veteran Dogs of America, PTSD of Houston and our favorite, the JOSH DOGS. I will go into detail about the Josh Dog program in a future newsletter.

The June Fish Fry will be on the first, I hope everyone gets a copy of this letter in time, the cook of the Day will be Ronnie Mac. The May fish Fry yielded 57 meals with a little help from the 1st Division Convention attendees. I heard nothing but good reports from the outside guests about the food, service and entertainment.

Our next meeting will be June 14, 2018. I would like to see the attendance increase. The parents of our junior members, please bring the young men. We can find jobs for them so they can feel they are a part of the origination. Call me with any questions.

**Your incoming SAL Commander**  
**Terry Bigley 817.522.2385**

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## LEGION RIDERS

It has been an extreme please to serve this Post as Director of the Chapter 379 Riders for the past two years! Like they always say, all good things must come to an end. The Riders held their Annual Elections on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and the results are as follows:

Director	Lahonda Meier (Auxiliary)
Assistant Director	Rob McKay (Veteran – Army)
Adjutant	Cindy Hutchins (Auxiliary)
Finance Officer	Joey Cook (Veteran – USMC)
Road Captain	Lex Johnston (Veteran – Army)
Historian	Jaime Manthe (Auxiliary)
Safety Officer	Brad Finger (Veteran – USAF, USMC)
Sergeant at Arms	Terry Bigley (Veteran – Navy)
Chaplain	Kathy Bigley (Auxiliary)

If you see one of these new officers in the Post, please congratulate them on a job well done! I would additionally like to ask everyone to especially congratulate and support Lahonda Meier as she offers her leadership to the Riders and the Post through her natural sense of leadership, organization and dedication to Veteran's causes.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Red Lion Poker Run will take place at the Post on Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. We will have lots of great prizes to bid on, a 50/50 raffle, Ronnie Mac's BBQ and the Brad Stinson Band (the same great band as last year) playing all day and night. We look forward to seeing you all there and thanks in advance for supporting your Riders!

The Riders will be cooking a Chicken Fried Steak Dinner on Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> for \$10. Please mark your calendars and we look forward to seeing you all there.

As this is my last newsletter article as Director, I would like to sign out by saying "Runway 18L in sight, IFR disengaged, Crash has the Con and welcome home Heroes!")

Be Safe and keep the rubber side down!

**Joey "Crash" Cook – Director**  
[Pepito.cook@gmail.com](mailto:Pepito.cook@gmail.com) 817-891-8774

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## PATRIOT HOUSE

There is a really patriotic box at the Post that we are asking for items for the Patriot House. These are veterans that have had alcohol or drug problems and homeless. The Patriot House lets them live there for 2 years, but they must get a job while getting their life together. When they graduate and move out, they are in need of just about all the small comforts to fill that small apartment.

We are asking for towels, (gently used is just fine), kitchen hand towels, twin size sheets, etc. A list of needed items are next to the box.

I will be taking the items to the Patriot House around the middle of June, so any help is so appreciated!

**Kathy Bigley**

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**HAPPY FATHERS DAY**  
**SUNDAY JUNE 17TH**