



American Legion Post 379
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NEWSLETTER

November 2020

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Wow, need to get back into the swing of things. I believe this is the first article in a long time. As you know by now, Judge Whitley has allowed us to open at 50% capacity. We are, still, attempting to adhere to required social norms and we urge all who come to the Post continue to practice the safety requirements.

Last month, we had our first "Young Guns" program. By all accounts and the circumstances, we had a good turnout. I want to thank Brandon for the idea and for heading up the endeavor. Hopefully, this will be a yearly or maybe a semi-annual event. Also want to thank Mr. Sonny Starr, past 12th district commander, for attending and donating a brisket. We also had representatives from Post #569 and #516 in attendance. A special thank you to incoming National Commander, Mr. Paul Dillard, for coming.

By the time the newsletter comes out, we will have had our first entertainment on Saturday, October 31st. The Riders are having their annual chili-cook-off during the day and at night, we have a band playing with the Auxiliary serving goulash and left over chili. We are also having a costume party with prizes from the Auxiliary. Am hoping that we have a good turn-out.

We are beginning to have food again throughout the week and on Friday and Saturday nights, menus are being prepared and served at the Post or for carry-out. Please continue to patronize the Post as we need your help. Also, you need to come by and see the changes we have made.

For now, we are preparing to observe Veterans Day on November 14th. Ronnie Mac will be preparing food and the Auxiliary will be bring sides. As I understand, Fort Worth will be having their annual Parade, but Grapevine has opted to have a virtual one on November 11th. We are hoping you will make plans to be at the Post.

For now, we hope all will be safe and remember:
For God, Country and Post 379 Pride.

Bob Roberts – Post 379 Commander
Bob_Roberts100@yahoo.com

THANKSGIVING DAY

The post will be open from 11am until 4pm. Ronnie will be preparing 2 turkeys for our dinner. We need a donation of a ham to complete the main dish. We are asking for sides and desserts.



AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Ladies

Our last Auxiliary meeting was the election of officers for the coming 2020-2021 year:

President:	Sheryl Frydenberg
1st Vice:	Judy Davidson
2nd Vice:	Open
3rd Vice/Membership:	Theresa Winslow
Secretary/Treasurer:	Suzie McClendon
Chaplain:	Diane Hunt
Historian:	Open
Sergeant-At-Arms:	Leslie Horsman
Executive Board:	Kathe Dabbs
	Kim Decker
	Eileen Pollen

I am honored and excited to be a part of a GREAT group of officers along with the many ladies of our general membership that always step up to help make things happen within Unit 379.

Many thanks to our Past President, "T" for stepping up in 2018 to finish the year as President, continuing until we were able to hold elections this year. She also continued handling Membership with very little help during this time. We all appreciate your dedication and leadership during that time.

While the past months have been one of challenges and changes, we've been busy planning and undertaking a few projects.

The Auxiliary sponsored a "Corona Virus Survival" basket to raise funds to help with Post expenses. Suzie McClendon won the basket which raised \$847. Thanks to everyone's generosity and support.

We were able to pull off our Annual Cancer Research Breakfast Sunday, October 4 in a "limited edition" with the help of beautiful weather, volunteers, our masks and social distancing. With the donated bar sales, a unique selection of baskets for raffle, live auction of specialty baked goods, poppers and our ever popular Bob's Burgers, an enjoyable time was able to be enjoyed by all in attendance. Our deposit for the day was \$4714. Adding that to our profits from TO GO dinners and other means we've raised over \$5000 and we've only just begun the year. Stay tuned for upcoming activities throughout the year to help benefit MD Anderson Grant Program for Cancer Research.

***DATE TO REMEMBER:** Saturday, November 14th 10:00am Post 379 Early Bird Auxiliary members who have already paid or do pay 2021 dues that day are eligible for one free adult beverage. Lunch served 12/12:30. The Auxiliary has been ask to provide side dishes. Ronnie Mac's chicken and sausage will be meat choices that day. Sign up sheet posted inside front entry. Volunteers needed for set up, serving and clean up.

****DATE TO REMEMBER:** Thursday, November 19th 7:00pm Auxiliary General Membership Meeting, Proctor Hall with Exec Board meeting at 6pm

*****DATE TO REMEMBER:** Saturday, November 21st 11-4pm Auxiliary Annual Bake Sale. This year the funds raised will go toward Cancer Research.

Thanks everyone for your continued hard work and dedication.

Sheryl Frydenberg
Aux_alpost379@att.net

From the desk of the SAL COMMANDER

Greetings Post Family!

Squadron 379 has weathered the pandemic , the reopening, the second wave of the pandemic and the second shutdown yet here we are still standing. To refresh your memory, here are the results of our last elections and here are your 2020-2021 Officers:

Commander:	Joey Cook
1st Vice Commander:	David Owens
2nd Vice Commander:	Michael Allen
Finance:	Charlie Gardea
Adjutant:	Daniel Fallon
Sergeant at Arms"	Ronnie McClendon

Historian and Chaplain are open for the moment. If you know of any of our members who would be suitable fits for

these positions. Please let me know and also please congratulate these officers when you see them as they all work hard for our post.

Catfish Fry is back in all its glory on the first Friday of the month! This month we will be serving catfish on Friday, November 6th.

Our new membership drive began on July 1st and our goal for the year is 152 and we currently sit at 96 members so we will once again be pushing to meet our quota for the year. We have not been working our programs due to the COVID shutdown but that is slowly changing. As a result, we are tentatively looking at restarting our weekly meat raffle in the middle of November so please stay posted for details.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 7 PM. I would like to see the attendance increase. Call me with any questions.

Joey Cook - Squadron 379 Commander
817.891.8774

RIDER NEWS

Chapter 379 was rocking and rolling along, we got shut down again, but we have still been rocking and rolling providing the post with meals and events. I sincerely hope everyone is staying safe during these trying times.

The Riders took an extremely active part in re-decorating the kitchen as well as some of the beautification projects in Mahon Park. I am extremely proud of our Riders who showed up to help clean the kitchen during this shutdown. I know I can always count on our members to show up when our Post Family needs us the most.

We have been back to cooking our normal schedule as well. This may be late notice, but the 3rd Annual Chili Challenge is Saturday, October 31st from 1 to 4 PM so come on out and support a great cause. Better yet, enter your famous family chili recipe and help the Riders support their local programs. The Auxiliary will be taking the leftover chili from this project and selling it as meals that evening in an effort to raise money for cancer research so let's all make sure and support this vital cause.

As for November, we are solely scheduled to cook our World Famous Chicken Fried Steak Dinner on Friday, November 13th from 5:30 – 8:30 for a cost of \$10. Our next meeting will be Friday, November 6, 2020 at 8 PM. Call me with any questions. In case you haven't noticed it, our Riders Chapter has grown by leaps and bounds.

"Ride Safe and Keep the Rubber Side Down!"

Joey "Crash" Cook, ALR Director
817-891-8774 crashcook@yahoo.com

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Hello members of American Legion # 379 Long time no see. During this pandemic communications have been limited. Well we all know why our great country had to go through the shutdown for several months, none the less, it was and is a bitter pill to swallow more so for some than others. Some of us have had difficult struggles including health issues, some of us have been and are more isolated than others. We have all had to adjust to times and issues that certainly have been and are challenging.

I want to inform you of health issues some of our members have had to face this summer.

Markum Hotze had serious and very precarious surgery in October at the Dallas VA hospital. The surgery outcome was as the Doctors anticipated.

Jeff McKee had knee surgery during the summer and is doing great per Jeff.

Jim Grau had been suffering for years with a bad knee and saw how great Jeff was doing after surgery and said " let's go!!! Jim used the same Dr. and facility for his surgery and is also doing great after a few weeks.

Ray Santa also had outpatient surgery recently and is recovering nicely. After 8 months of sheltering in place and Ray's surgery, Joey is probably packed and ready to "get out of town".

Just as life goes on, also death knocks on some doors. For those that your lives have been touched by the passing of a loved one, family member, friend, or an acquaintance, I know that these passings have been even more difficult and troubling during the pandemic and having to adhere to the CDC guidelines making life all the more difficult/ Dolores and I wish to express our sincerest thoughts and prayers to those that been affected and grieving.

We have three holidays coming up. Halloween, Veterans Day, and most of all, Thanksgiving. Due to the restrictions of the pandemic and just plain common sense. I suspect that door to door trick or treating will be rare if at all. At this point most people will forego the level of outdoor decorating than in years past.

In 1919 President Wilson proclaimed Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the Country's service with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations."

The original concept for the celebration was the suspension of business for a 2 minute period beginning at 11 a.m. The day also included parades and public meetings. In 1921 Congress passed legislation

approving the establishment of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. November 11 was chosen for the date of the ceremony. Congress declared on 11/11/1921 a legal Federal holiday to honor who participated in WW1. In the years following came WW2, and the Korean War. And then on 6/1/1954 President Eisenhower signed legislation changing the name of the holiday Armistice Day to Veterans Day. This Veterans Day our nation will be paying homage and respect to all who have served. May the U.S. flag be flown more abundantly than ever.

One of the more favored holidays than others is coming up soon. Thanksgiving will be coming in a few weeks and due to the virus some have decided to miss the big family gatherings in order to try to stay home and safe while others have decided to go for the big get-together. Regardless of which decision is best for you, I hope we all take the time to stop and take stock of what we are really thankful for. While some have bigger families than others and some might just be couples and even some might be alone...whatever your situation is you are still blessed in so many ways. You may feel alone but you are not and we all can find reasons to give thanks to our Maker.

It has been a long time span since the Pandemic hit and the degree of suffering our nation has survived so far has certainly been times we all soon won't forget. The Pandemic unfortunately has led many of us to be more lonely and isolated than before. For the ones that in a position to reach out and help those that are lonely, depressed, and isolated more than before for fear of leaving their homes due to the virus are in need of some help. We have many elderly members that won't be sharing in a huge family get-together this year so let us do what we can to remember them with a meal delivery or at least a visit or phone call. There are many veterans that are homeless, depressed, and sadly some have already given up. Those of us that are blessed enough to be able to share and reach out to those less fortunate should step up during these very difficult and trying times. If you are able to reach out to help lift someone up, prepare a meal and deliver it to someone that will appreciate it, please do so. There are folks that are housebound and are in need this Thanksgiving season and would appreciate our kindness so come on let's get with it.

As the Pandemic still lingers on and it seems we still don't know when our lives will return to some form of normalcy and the Post will totally reopen, Dolores and I look forward to the days when we can be together with our friends again.... Until then don't eat too much turkey and dressing or desserts.

Happy Thanksgiving
Be safe and be well.
For God and Country,

Chaplain Smitty Post 379