

American Legion Post 379 1245 North Industrial Blvd Bedford, TX 76021

817.267.6047

JANUARY 2022

NEWSLETTER

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

As we start a new year, I would like to express my thanks for each and every member that made our last year the success that it was. From all our Legionnaires and officers who pitched in, our great Auxiliary for their never-ending support, all the Sons for their activities supporting our post and their other charities, and our American Legion Riders with their many programs that supported our post.

Going forward, our coming year looks to be a lot less challenging with the absence of lock downs and limited operations.

We have a real need to reactivate our Post Everlasting meetings and our Flag Retirement Ceremony with the support of our Boy and Girl Scout Packs and Troops. These will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

Remember, if you haven't renewed your membership you will need to renew in order to maintain your membership. The bartender will be asking each member to produce a new 2022 membership card. I would like to at least return to our membership level of last year.

Let's everyone join together and make this coming year great for our members and the post.

For God and Country and Post 379 Proud.

Mike McCrady - Post 379 Commander

AUXILIARY NEWS

A Happy New Year's greeting to all. My wish is for good health, new friendships, and renewal of old ones. Many thanks to everyone helping the Auxiliary activities be successful yet another year while dealing with COVID.

December

TOYS 4 TOTS was a huge success this year. The weather was beautiful, and folks of all ages attended enjoying the holiday cheer of donating time, money and toys for many kids while giving support to a Marine Corps long time tradition. Good food and fellowship enjoyed the whole day.

Monday, December 20th the post closed early so the officers could celebrate the successes each entity was able to provide our members, visitors and especially our Veterans programs. We are so thankful for our veterans and the freedom we cherish now and the freedom we continue to have from their sacrifices still given today. GOD BLESS them and their families. The Legion presented the Auxiliary with a certificate of appreciation for our hard work and endless volunteer hours to help us continue to be one of the largest, active and supporting Post in the State of Texas. I was very proud and honored to accept on behalf of the Auxiliary and have been so blessed to be President of a group so dedicated and giving. In the Spirit of Service - Not Self our Auxiliary is TRUE is all areas.

Our 3rd Vice President/ Membership Theresa Winslow "T" continues to work on membership during the holiday. We are excited and happy to welcome Jeff McKee as our first male Auxiliary member for Post 379. Jeff is active as a Legionnaire and throughout many aspects of our Posts.

Membership is climbing with approximately 350 paid memberships to date. If you have questions or concerns regarding your membership, please reach out to "T" or me for help and resolution.

Auxiliary Meetings are Thursday, January 16, 2022. Executive mtg 6pm / General mtg 7pm. Hope to see everyone there and please bring ideas and 2022 spirit each one has to make things happen!!

Sheryl Frydenberg – Unit President Aux_alpost379@att.net

FROM THE SAL COMMANDER

Greetings from the desk of the SAL Commander, Happy New Year and I trust everyone had a safe and Merry Christmas. Closing out the year of the 2nd year of Covid.

We are starting with our membership at 117 of 160 and still hoping to make our goal in this year.

December fish fry dinner we served 48 dinners, down from the month before but considering what was going on in December and the Toys for Tots I want to thank everyone who came out and continued to support our programs.

The post suffered a few more members in passing away, please keep them and their families in your prayers.

We will continue the Meat Raffle and still wanting to increase the number of spins from 5 to back to 10 again.

There is not much going on for the next few months as far as the Squadron until we have our election again in May.

We had a lot of post activities these past few months in 2021, with the post remodel and the Queen of Hearts, Toys for Tots, Cancer Research, and many Honor Guard doing their service for the Veteran. Things are looking good and back to where we were before Covid.

Not much to report so I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas with family and a safe and Joyous New Year in 2022....

David Owens – SAL Commander FROM THE ALR DIRECTOR

RIDER NEWS

I hope that all our friends and family had a wonderful holiday. I had a wonderful experience with family I had not been with for over 40 years. Won't do that again I tell you.

Your riders will soon boot up our fund raising and activity schedule. Come talk to our members and see if our activities are of any interest to you. We can Always use help from the masses.

Keeping it short this month, as there is more fun to be had and I must tend to to that promptly.

Happy New year to all.

Art "Sasquatch" Rutherford, ALR Director - Post 379

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

The post and riders lost an outstanding member and rider in late November. Tony "Chief" Spalding passed away at 65 years young. Tony and Wendy had a blended family of 7 children. Tony was a retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant with 27 years of service to his country. "Chief" was interred at DFW National cemetery on Friday December 17 after a committal service at 11:15 a.m. Never before had this Chaplain seen so many attendees at a funeral which was a great tribute to Tony. May he rest in Peace forever.

By the time this newsletter its published Christmas and New Year will have come and gone. Hopefully we didn't forget the reason for the Christmas season. On the Christian calendar, Christ's birthday is the single most important date of the year by far and we cannot celebrate his birth enough. After all, he gave his life for us so that we may have everlasting life in paradise with him and almighty GOD.

2021 has for the very least been a trying year due to Covid and its variants. This is an understatement. Hopefully with boosters and possibly even new and advanced serums we can finally get this pandemic on the run. It will take full cooperation from us all, including wearing our masks in public and taking advantage of all booster shots offered. 2022 will start out with just as many challenges but with dogged determination we can conquer them. Let us not lag in our efforts to carry on the fight to conquer all that is amiss. "Don't worry about tomorrow, GOD is already there".

Life is a relentless struggle with a fierce and unyielding foe devoted to our destruction. He will resist every effort we make to be like Jesus and to love others. There will be a few good wins and heartbreaking losses--GOD knows--but there will be no eternal condemnation for those in Jesus. If we stand before Him in the merits of GOD's son, each one will receive his praise from God.

Let us make 2022 the year that Mankind reaps the goodness of the Earth and protects her from further damage. We are entering our third year of Covid with no clear path or solution as to when it may stop. All that is really being done right now to halt this pandemic is just talk, cheap useless talk. Will it ever end, and action finally be taken? Real action to stop this flood of sickness.

Life is so very precious, and it can be taken in a fraction of a second. I encourage everyone to eek out the most of every day and never miss a chance to tell your loved ones, your friends---"I love you". Tell your friends as well how much they mean to you before it is too late.

Don't allow yourself to get stopped in the past and spend your precious time on the "should haves". None of us are promised tomorrow-so make the most of today in 2022. There is no NORM in our immediate future however, we all have made it up until this point in time....is that we have all had to learn the tenacity to look inward and upward to our Holy God to keep us going in the worst of times, the most crushing and painful and hurtful of times for He never changes.

As our Post continues to grow in every area, so do growing pains. But in the backbone of every veteran, spouse, family member that makes up the body and membership of our great Post. Great minds, leadership and patience, the will to be better and be better shows in our determination to succeed. New activities, evolving menu and great food by Lamita, new overall entertainment and most of all friendship, camaraderie, and good will reigns at our Post. This makes us the second largest post in the great State of Texas. Let us all step this year, 2022 and become a volunteer to help in areas where your talents and ideas can shine and benefit the Post.

For those that have had sickness and illness in the last year and for some that are still struggling from day-to-day Dolores and I pray for you in every aspect of your lives. We pray for continued coping skills in being able to adapt daily and continued patience and healing. May our Lord GOD continue to show each and every one of us. His compassion, grace, mercy, and to hold us in his comforting arms all of our days. We also pray for those that are grieving the loss of a loved one who passed in 2021. We pray our Lord GOD will carry you and give you comfort in your darkest hours and be with you on grieving journey. The biggest part of our battles are already won for the ones that know Jesus, for we are blessed to call ourselves GOD's sons and daughters. GOD bless and keep us all in his loving and protective arms.

The shortest distance between two hearts - - That is, that we may be mutually encouraged with each other's faith, yours and mine. Romans 1:12 (ESV)

We are all beautifully broken in one area or another in our lives. We are all GOD'S creations and none of us are perfect. Some people are strong and pillars of strength, then some of us need more help than others. Just like Moses needed support from time to time as told in the Bible we too sometimes need help. This year, let us all reach deep inside of ourselves and see ways to try to come alongside those in need because they may be struggling...each facing overwhelming odds and despair in their lives.

Almighty GOD, I know that alone I am weak, but with You I have the strength to face even the largest mountains. AMEN.

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

"You must LOVE the LORD your GOD with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength, and all your mind and love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022 CHALLENGE:

We are so grateful to be a part of such a cherished family. Let us love well this year, making sure people are SEEN!

Buddy-Check-in

WHO: Are you curious? So am I. Who will step up and help us organize our own version of **BUDDY CHECK-IN** at THE AMERICAN LEGION POST #379?

We would love anyone within our AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY- HEB POST #379 who is interested in assisting or supporting the <u>Buddy-Check-in</u> by contacting, ALA Chaplin.

The Auxiliary Chaplin will be coordinating with the Legion #379 Chaplin Smitty as to see how to best support our Veterans at the American Legion Post #379.

WHEN: 1st Sundays of the month (January 2, 2022) @12pm -1pm

WHERE: Proctor Hall

WHY: AL- Veterans Strengthening America, ALA-To support and advocate for veterans, active military and their families, ALA- To support the initiatives and programs of The American Legion are just a few whys.

Please send names of our American Legion Family who need extra love, time and/or attention to your Chaplains.

Diane Hunt – Auxiliary Chaplain

WEEKLY POOL TOURNAMENT Begins Wednesday January 5th, 2022

APA rules:

- Tournament starts at 7:30pm
- \$5.00 Entry fee
- Double elimination
- With 12 players the Legion will add \$50 to the kitty. With 18 they will add \$75
- Players pay for their games
- 100% PAYOUT

PASTOR SMITTY POST 379

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Sunday	Monday	luesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	
11am- Midnight	10am- Midnight	10am- Midnight	10am- Midnight	10am- Midnight	10am- Midnight Entrtainment 7 til 11	11am - Midnight Brealfast 8:30am - 10:30am Bands 7pm - 11pm Dinners Served: Varies
THE CAN	_	FF WILL BE /		R YOUR 2022 MEM	IBERSHIP CARD	1 NEW YEARS DAY OPEN AT 1 PM
		If you have h		l, please do so.		
2 NO BURGERS RIDER MEETING 2PM (??)	3	4 POOL TOURNAMENT 7:30	5 KARAOKE 6 TIL 9	6 Legion Meetings Executive @ 6pm Membership @ 7pm	7 Dinner: SAL FISH FRY BY RONNIE ENTERTAINMENT: JUSTIN HUNTER	8 BREAKFAST by Debbie DINNER: By Ben Chicken Enchilads / Green Chile ENTERTAINMENT: JUSTIN HUNTER
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
BUD'S BURGERS NOON - 3pm		POOL TOURNAMENT 7:30	KARAOKE 6 TIL 9	SAL Meeting 7pm	DINNER BY LAMITA ENTERTAINMENT: MYSTIC MOONLIGHT	BREAKFAST by Debbie DINNER By Auxiliary Beef Stew ENTERTAINMENT: NONE
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
BUD'S BURGERS NOON - 3pm		POOL TOURNAMENT 7:30	KARAOKE 6 TIL 9	Auxiliary Meetings Executive @ 6pm Membership @ 7pm	DINNER by Ben New Mexico Red Chile Burritos	BREAKFAST by Debbie DINNER - TBD
					ENTERTAINMENT BACK BEATS BAND	ENTERTAINMENT: DIAMOND DUO
23 BUD'S BURGERS NOON - 3pm 	24 30	25 POOL TOURNAMENT 7:30	26 KARAOKE 6 TIL 9	27	28 DINNER - TBD	29 BREAKFAST by Debbie DINNER By Riders Chicken Fried Steak
NOON - 3pm					ENTERTAINMENT DOUG & BEN	ENTERTAINMENT: NONE