



William M. Randolph, Post 593

**The American Legion
Of The United States of America**

326 Legion Drive West, Converse, TX 78109

(210) 658-1111

Email: Post593tx@yahoo.com <http://www.Post593.org>

Post Commander: Dennis Ducharme

Post Home Manager: Traci Permenter

August 2021

Hours of Operation

Monday--2pm—9pm
Tue-Thurs: 2pm—10pm
Friday: 2pm — 1am
Saturday: Noon — 1 am
Sunday: Noon — 8pm
(Hours may vary due to business)

Post 593 Officers:

Commander: Dennis Ducharme
1st Vice: Ed Richards
2nd Vice: Joe Falco
Adjutant: Nick Mills
Finance: Ray Barger
Chaplain: Kelly Mosely
Judge Advocate: Danny Muth
Historian: Kelly Osbold
Service Officer: Brad Martin
Sgt At Arms: George Alva
Hubmaster: Dennis Ducharme

Members at Large: Henry Creech,
Jack Leanhart, Jimmy May, Art
Osbold, Ken Rodd,

Auxiliary Officers:

President: Sandy Vinson
Vice President: Robin Alva
Secretary: Amanda Silvas
Treasurer: Sue Buckley
Historian: Vacant
Chaplain: Irma Ducharme
Sgt At Arms: Donna Grimmer

Members at Large:
Rosie Cherry, Michelle Muth,
Patricia Perdok

Sons of the American Legion:

Commander: Joe Falco
1st Vice: Bill Cox
2nd Vice: Henry Creech
Adjutant: George Alva
Membership Chair: Rick Moe
Finance: Dave Paris
Chaplain: Dennis Ducharme
Historian: Ken Echered
Sgt At Arms: Ed Richards
Judge Advocate: Henry Creech
Members At Large:
Rick Moe, Ken Rodd

ALR Officers:

Director: Paul Goymerac
Asst Director: Greg Spatz
Secretary: Becky Spatz
Treasurer: Robin Alva
Road Captain: Sean Lowder
Membership: Amy Reed
Sgt At Arms: Robert Hendricks
Chaplain: Ed Richards
Service Officer: Daniel Riggs
Historian: Alice Wagener

Members at Large:
Jim Rusick, Matt Scott,
John Zimmerman

Commander's Comments



Legion Family,

July was a busy month! I want to thank all of the volunteers that made the month so full and successful. First, we had a Texas Hold-Em tournament, then a 4th of July picnic, the Thursday Grill for the Flyers, Chicken Fried Steak Night, Breakfast with a blood drive, the Sunday Jam Session Grill, a Post-Covid Appreciation Night with a great band and the opening of a time capsule, and finally, Steak Night.

Also, our First Vice Commander, Ed Richards, has been holding, and will continue to in August, an Open House Get-Together every Tuesday morning from 9 to 11am. There are complimentary donuts and coffee and a chance for folks to get together, share some fellowship and learn about the Legion. This is open to all. Come out and share some conversation and meet new friends.

Plus, we had the annual Department Convention in Austin where we had several members attended either the Legion, Auxiliary, Sons or ALR sessions.

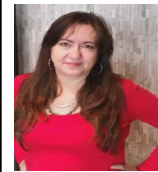
We also owe a debt of thanks to some of our ALR volunteers who built a handicap ramp for one of our Veterans who was forced to move from their home of many, many years. Greg Spatz, Sean Lowder, Ed Richards, Paul Goymerac, Gil Christoffersen and Michael Goymerac...you guys are awesome!

Thank you, again, to Brad Martin for keeping our grass cut. With all the rain we've had lately, this job is bigger than ever. Brad does an amazing job for our Post Home.

I'm very proud of our Legion Family members.

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Auxiliary News



Wow! Hard to believe that August is already here. I pray that each and every one of you are staying cool and are having an awesome summer. I am personally feeling so blessed to be working with such a great group of ladies and am looking forward to a very successful upcoming year.

This is the time of year to please start renewing your memberships and recruiting new members. Remember, the Auxiliary membership dues are only \$28.00 and Juniors are free until they are 18 years old. Please help us make our goal by renewing online at www.alaforveterans.org (so easy and convenient) or, as always, you can drop them off at the Post. If you have any questions, please reach out to Robin Alva and she will be happy to help. Also, for those that renew early, our Early Bird Dinner will be October 8th this year. Our Unit goal is to be at 100% by December 31st .

We always have lots of fun activities coming up so please watch for our monthly newsletter and check out the Post calendar online. We love having volunteers to make all these fun activities a huge success so hope to see you there!

May you and yours continue to stay safe and healthy.

Until next time, respectfully yours,
Sandy Vinson
ALA President Unit 593
Aux593info@gmail.com

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And special thanks to our Converse Scouts 593 for trimming trees, bushes, and hauling off the brush. The Boys did an outstanding job and they even learned how to extract honeysuckle nectar.

We do a lot and continue to do so. My hat is off to all of you who make it happen....Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and ALR.

Please look through this Newsletter and see all of the great things that are happening. Get involved. Roll up your sleeves and jump in. If you'd like to see something on the calendar, let one of the Members at Large or our 2nd Vice, Joe Falco, know. We'll do our best to accommodate. If you can't get involved right now, that's okay too.....come out and enjoy the events. We're here for you!

BTW, did you know that our new membership year has started? If you sign up a new member now, that member's membership is good until December 31st, 2022. Legion dues are still only \$36 for the year. And we're hoping everyone who reads this will renew by October 8th. That's our Early Bird cutoff date.

We have a lot of events happening in August. But I'd like to point out one in particular. On 4 August, our Post will be hosting a memorial service for a World War II Marine whose remains were recovered after 77 years. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced that Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. J.L. Hancock, 21, killed during World War II, was accounted for on 17 February 2021. He died fighting on the island of Betio, Tarawa atoll on 22 November 1943. Interment will be at Ft. Sam Houston cemetery on 4 August at 11:30am. Reception will be held following interment at our Post.

The Marine Honor Guard and the COO of History Flight, Justin LeHew will be in attendance to honor Pfc Hancock. History Flight is dedicated to researching, recovering, and bringing home America's servicemen who have been listed as Missing in Action (MIA) during past American conflicts. You can read more about Pfc Hancock in this newsletter. Please come out and show your support for this hero.

See you around the Post!

Dennis Ducharme
Post Commander



SALute

Howdy SAL and Post 593.

Thanks to everyone for supporting our monthly events, and we're looking forward to a couple of big events rapidly approaching.

The first is the Early Bird Dinner, scheduled for October 8th. If you have your Legion, Aux, or SAL dues for 2021 paid, you can enjoy a half priced Chicken Fried Steak meal that evening.

The second is our Annual Golf Tournament. That will be on Oct 17th. We're anticipating a great turnout this year. If you'd like information on playing or sponsoring a hole, please seek out an SAL member, and we'll get you all the information.

School is back in session. Watch for children who will be out and about.

With the new Legion year, it would be really nice to see some new faces at our monthly meetings and events. Our Monthly General Membership Meeting is always on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. This month it'll be on August 17th, 7:00PM. Hope to see you there.

Be safe and be well,
Joe Falco
Squadron 593 Commander

The SAL 20th District Commander has created a Facebook page to be used as a tool for the 10 squadrons in the Mighty 20th to communicate with each other and exchange information.

Messages and information from National, Detachment, Division, and District will be available on this site. This is a good way for all SAL members in the 20th to stay up to date with what is happening around Texas and the nation. The title of the page is **Sons of The American Legion 20th District of Texas**. Please look it up, give it a like, and follow the page for interesting tidbits, information, and updates as they become available.

George Alva

SAL 20th District Commander

August Meals Quick Reference

<u>August 8, Jam Session Grill, 1-3PM</u>	<u>\$ 7.00</u>
<u>August 12, Burger Grill, 5:30-7:30PM</u>	<u>\$7.00</u>
<u>August 13, Chicken Fried Steak Dinner, 5-7PM</u>	<u>\$10.00</u>
<u>August 14, Breakfast, 8-11AM</u>	<u>\$7.00</u>
<u>August 27, Steak Night, 6-8PM</u>	<u>\$15.00</u>



Aluminum Can Recycling program

The Can Recycling Program as a Legion program has ended, however, the can trailer will be monitored and emptied as needed by the Converse Animal Hospital as a way for them to gain needed funds. If you decide to donate aluminum cans, please make sure they are bagged. Thank you.



Riders Report



Welcome to August American Legion Riders. The weather has been rather wet lately but we continue to ride and support our Veterans. During August, we plan to continue supporting other ALR Posts, local Veterans, and our Divisions at Post 593. In July, we helped a WWII Veteran by building a handicap ramp so that he had the ability to leave the house. On 4 August beginning around 12:30, we will host a Celebration of Life for another WWII Veteran whose remains have finally come home. We will augment the Patriot Guard as we bring those remains to Ft Sam Houston and then celebrate his life with family, friends, and the community at Post 593 Hall. During August, we also plan to finish the renovations of our Post Pavilion. Greg, Matt, Sean, Daniel, Ed, and others have been enclosing the flag shed, installed an A/C unit, mounted a 65" tv and made the shed accessible to provide refreshments at the Pavilion. Speakers and paint are the remaining items that we will work on. It's time to treat ourselves for all the hard work and provide Post 593 with some upgrades to accommodate the rental options of the pavilion. Please follow us on Facebook and in the next two months, we will overhaul our electronic communication platforms to better communicate with ALR members, the community, and other Posts. Thanks for all you do and God Bless our Riders.

The Post held a July 4th Picnic and Membership Kick-off we think it was fairly successful. Current # for 2022 – 210. We also have 4 new members that need to be voted in. As always, you can renew online at mylegion.org and print your membership card; you can send in your reminder renewal form, or you can come into the Post and pay your dues.

Remember, the American Legion has updated membership eligibility—now any person who has served in active duty in the United States Armed Forces since December 7, 1941, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving, you are eligible to join. So, if you know someone that meets the new criteria, please let them know about the change.

If you know of members that do not do email or Facebook let them know about the Tuesday mornings coffee and donuts from 9 AM – 11 AM.

Ed Richards
1st Vice Commander

Mark your calendars! The Canteen Staff are currently planning a special party on September 17th to show our appreciation for all that YOU do to support us. We'll supply the food, atmosphere & entertainment...all you have to do is come enjoy!

Look for more details next month!!

We also have weekly drink specials, so come on by for a visit.

Thank you,
Traci Permenter
Post Home Manager

MILITARY AND VETERANS SERVICES CENTER CONTACT

Click to [Email the Military and Veterans Services Center](#)

Physical Address

1422 E. Grayson St., 4th Floor
San Antonio, TX 78207
Phone: 210-335-6775
Fax: 210-335-3632

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday:
8:00 am - 5:30 pm
By Appointment Only
Every 3rd Thursday of the Month at BiblioTech: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

We will ensure that we set up a telephone consult or Zoom / Skype meeting to meet your needs. Our employment workshops & our claims and pensions classes will be held on Zoom. If you have signed up for our services, you will be notified how to access the training.

Additionally, we have added a Facebook Live session on our [Facebook page](#) every Monday at noon to answer any of your important questions.

Please contact our office to find out how you can join in and receive this vital information. We want to ensure we leave no veteran behind during this difficult time.

Brad Martin
Post 593 Service Officer

American Legion Post 593

August 2021 Phone: 210-658-1111



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Shuffleboard League 7PM	Coffee & Doughnuts 9-11AM	Marine PFC J.L. Hancock Memorial Post General Membership Meeting 7:30PM	Pool League 8PM Dart League 7PM		Texas Hold-Em 3:00PM
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Jam Session 12PM Grill open 1-3PM	Coffee & Doughnuts 9-11AM ALR Exec Mtg 6:30 PM ALR Gen Mbr Mtg 7:00 PM			Flyers Group Grill Open 5:30PM Pool League 8PM Dart League 7PM		Breakfast 8-11 AM \$7.00
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Shuffleboard League 7PM	Coffee & Doughnuts 9-11AM SAL General Membership Mtg 7:00PM	Post Exec Mtg, 7:00 pm	Pool League 8PM Dart League 7PM		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Shuffleboard League 7PM	Coffee & Doughnuts 9-11AM		Pool League 8PM Dart League 7PM		Steak Night 6-8PM \$15.00
29	30	31	<p>THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY</p>			

Looking Ahead (events subject to change)

Welcome Back! Please try to support our monthly events

Labor Day Picnic Sept 6

Canteen Staff Appreciation Night Sept 17

Early Bird Diner Oct 8

SAL Golf Tournament Oct 17

AFTER 77 YEARS, REMAINS OF MISSING MARINE RETURNED

On 24 Feb. 2021, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced that Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. J.L. Hancock, 21, killed during World War II, was accounted for on 17 Feb. 2021, after 77 years.

John Loss Hancock – known for most of his short life as "JL" – was born in the small Texas Panhandle town of McLean on 8 May 1922. He was the third of five children born to William and Ethel Amanda (Boyles) Hancock. JL helped out with the farm while balancing his schoolwork. He loved the life of a farmer, and as a member of Future Farmers of America judged local agricultural competitions. JL proved to be an "excellent student" as well as a promising farmer, and graduated from McLean High School in 1940



Like so many young men of that time, he was eager to serve his county. Hancock enlisted in the Marine Corps at Oklahoma City on 17 February 1942 – he gave his initials, so military documents also refer to him as "J. L. Hancock" – and were soon on his way to boot camp in San Diego. He qualified as a rifle marksman, and was ordered to the Fleet Marine Force for duty. On 18 April 1942, he reported to Company B, 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division.

Hancock would serve with B/1/6 for the entirety of his time in the Marines. He participated in action at Guadalcanal in January and February 1943; while he escaped wounds or serious injury, he did contract malaria and the recurring infection would trouble him during the months his regiment spent in New Zealand.

In October 1943, Hancock and his company boarded ships at Hawke's Bay, New Zealand and shipped out for their next operation – the invasion of Betio in the Tarawa atoll, part of the Gilbert Islands.

PFC Hancock's company landed on the island of Betio, Tarawa atoll, on the night of 21 November 1943. The battalion arrived ashore at Green Beach in rubber boats, and prepared for a morning attack to the east which would turn the flank of Japanese positions and help establish contact between hard-hit and depleted units still trapped along the Red beaches.

After a day of hard fighting, Baker Company dug in and prepared a night defense. They were in an exposed position, and that night a force of several hundred Japanese troops hit their lines, breaking through in a few places and causing chaos and mayhem through the night and into the early morning hours of 22 November. Ultimately, the Marines held, but paid a stiff price for maintaining their positions. Over the three days of intense fighting at Tarawa, approximately 1,000 Marines and Sailors were killed and more than 2,000 were wounded, while the Japanese were virtually annihilated.

One of the casualties of 22 November was PFC J. L. Hancock. He was hit in the head by pieces of shrapnel and died in the field – sadly, just thirty minutes before the last Japanese resistance was overcome. Later that day, Hancock and nearly thirty other men – many from his own First Battalion, 6th Marines – were laid to rest in a trench grave near where they fell. The location, known as "Row D" of the East Division Cemetery, renamed Cemetery 33, was later obliterated and the grave sites lost to the shifting sands of the tiny island.

In 1946 the U.S. Army Graves Registration Unit came back to Tarawa to identify the many grave sites and move them to a more formal gravesite on the island. Some had been buried in individual graves while others were buried side by side in trenched graves. The unit was only able to locate about half of the fallen soldiers to inter them in the new gravesite. Later in 1946, the unit moved their bodies to Hawaii for identification and return to their families. Over 500 of the Marine's remains including those of PFC J.L. Hancock were never located and were declared "non-recoverable" on 4 October 1949.

His family had a memorial marker placed in McLean Cemetery, McLean, TX, in hopes that one day JL would be found and returned home. His parents would later be laid to rest next to his marker.

Hancock's remains were recovered from Betio by the non-profit organization History Flight in 2019. Archaeologists excavated a burial feature known as "Row D" of Cemetery 33 and uncovered more than thirty potential Marine remains. Original burial rosters for the roll included thirty names, plus two unidentified Marines.

Original records placed Hancock in Grave #15 of this cemetery. His remains were among those recovered by the History Flight team and sent back to the United States for laboratory analysis. In May 2020 his family was contacted, and offered the opportunity to provide a Family Reference DNA Sample.

At long last, on 17 February 2021, PFC JL Hancock was officially accounted for and will be returned to his family and laid to rest on 4 August 2021 at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, TX. Reception to follow at Post 593, Converse TX.

PFC JL Hancock is memorialized at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl Crater, Honolulu, Hawaii. PFC Hancock's name shall remain permanently inscribed within Court 4 of the "Courts of the Missing" but a rosette will be placed next to JL's name, indicating that his remains have been returned.

Tuesday Morning Coffee and Doughnuts



Tuesday Mornings

Time: 9-11AM

Come join for complimentary coffee and doughnuts, fellowship, and good conversation.

Every Tuesday Morning, from 9-11 AM

**William M. Randolph
Post 593
326 Legion Dr W
Converse TX 78109
210-658-1111**



Jam Session

Monthly Jams of the San Antonio Steel Guitar Association are held the second Sunday of the month from 2 PM to 5 PM at American Legion Post 593. The musical jams are free and open to the public. Food and drink are available for sale, and a donation can be passed to help benefit the Warrior and Family Support Center at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas.

August 8, 2021
1:00-5:00PM

Grill open 1- 3:30PM

William M. Randolph
Post 593
326 Legion Dr W
Converse, TX 78109

Information
210-658-1111



Subject to cancellation. Please check social media or call ahead

Flyers Grill Burger Night

**Hamburgers/Cheeseburgers, FF
and dessert for
\$7.00 per plate**

Date: August 12, 2021

Time: 5:30-7:30PM

William M. Randolph

Post 593

326 Legion Dr W

Converse TX 78109

Info: 210-658-1111



Chicken Fried Steak Dinner

\$10.00

Time: 6:00-7:30 PM

Date: August 13, 2021



Hand breaded
Chicken Fried
Steak, Mashed
Potatoes, Gravy,
choice of
Vegetable, Dinner
roll.

Karaoke to follow for your singing and dancing pleasure

Information: 210-658-1111

**William M. Randolph
Post 593
326 Legion Drive W
Converse, TX 78109**

**Eat in or
take out**

Breakfast

Eggs cooked to order, Omelets, Pancakes, French
Toast, Bacon, Sausage, Hash Browns, Toast, Fresh
Fruit, Pastries, Coffee, Juice

All you can eat for the bargain price of

\$7.00 per plate

Date: August 14, 2021

Time: 8:00-11:00 AM



William M. Randolph

Post 593

326 Legion Dr W

Converse TX 78109

Information: 210-658-1111

To-Go orders available.

Steak Night



Date: August 27, 2021

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Information: 210-658-1111

**Eat in or
take out**

13 oz Ribeye, cooked to order, Baked Potato, choice of Vegetable, Salad, and Dinner rolls.

Karaoke and Music to follow for your singing and dancing pleasure.

All for the incredibly low price of \$15.00 per plate.

Come on out for a great meal, music, and fellowship.

William M. Randolph
Post 593
326 Legion Dr W
Converse TX 78109



A military veteran is entitled to a FREE Texas License plate if you received one of these medals. You DO NOT have to be disabled. Unmarried spouse's of deceased veterans are eligible also for these plates

Air Force Cross

Air Medal

Air Medal with Valor

Airman's Medal

Army of Occupation Medal

Army Distinguished
Service Cross

Bronze Star

Bronze Star with Valor

Coast Guard Medal

Defense Meritorious
Medal

Defense Superior Service
Medal

Distinguished Flying Cross

Distinguished Flying Cross
with Valor

Distinguished Service

Medal- Air Force, Army
Coast Guard, Navy

Distinguished Service

Medal Dept. of Defense,
Dept of Homeland

Security, Dept of Transp

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal

Navy/Marine Corp Medal

Navy Cross

POW Medal

Silver Star

Soldiers's Medal

For a Dept of Motor Vehicles application email me:
dwgken@aol.com.

Ken Rodd

American Legion & VFW Member