



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

February 2022

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 Osvold
 Service Officer: Brad Martin
 Sgt At Arms: George Alva
 Hubmaster: Dennis Ducharme
Members at Large: Henry Creech,
 Jack Leanhart, Jimmy May, Art
 Osvold, 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,

Commander's Comments



Fellow Legionnaires,
 We talk about membership all the time. Every organization you belong to wants to increase their membership. Without members, you don't have an organization. The Legion is no different. We need members to stay strong. If you're able to volunteer at the Post, great! If you're able to stop by and visit the post during one of our functions, great! We sincerely appreciate the support. But even if you can't volunteer, we still need you to be a member. Our membership numbers in congress makes a difference. When the Legion speaks, congress listens.

We're close to our goal of 712 members for the 2022 year, but we're not there yet. We're at about 89%. We need those who have not renewed to renew today. We need our members to recruit new members. Tell those who are eligible why you belong. Trust me, we have a great story to tell.

One such story is the success of the Legion and other veterans service organizations fighting to keep alive the Troops to Teachers program. Since its inception in 1993, over 23,000 veterans have become teachers. But the 28-year-old program had recently been shut down by defense officials earlier this fall as part of department planning in post-military transition efforts. But that decision drew objections from a number of outside veterans groups who called the Troops to Teachers program an important resource for service members looking at education jobs after their service. Congress agreed with the VSOs. In the defense authorization bill, lawmakers mandated the department to continue the program until at least July 2025, three years longer than officials had planned.

Continued on page 2

Auxiliary News



First of all, I want to express my appreciation to everyone that came out to support the CASI Chili Cook-Off in January. In addition, I want to thank all of you so much that helped in any way to make it such a huge success – from running the Silent Auction, items donated and/or purchased, volunteer judges, food and beer deliveries during judging, and all that helped in the kitchen for hours all weekend. We have an amazing team and as a result will be able to sponsor several young ladies for Girls State once again this year. As always, it was so much fun supporting this event!!

This month we will have our Four Chaplains Ceremony on Wednesday, February 2nd at 7 p.m., right before our general membership meeting. This is a very special and moving ceremony honoring four World War II chaplains who gave their lives to save many others. Please come out to join us in paying tribute to their sacrifice.

Please know that it is not too late to renew your 2022 membership. You can mail your dues to the Post or renew online at legionaux.org/renew. Dues are \$28.00 and you truly make a difference when supporting the American Legion Auxiliary!! If you know someone that is eligible to join, please bring them in and get them signed up as well.

Also, please remember that our monthly meetings are the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. We would love your presence, support, and ideas as we continue to grow our organization.

We have lots of great events coming up so please keep checking out the monthly calendar and emails for all the details.

Sandy Vinson
 ALA President Unit 593
aux593info@gmail.com

Continued from page 1

I love the thought of having 23,000+ veterans teaching our children in the classroom. I believe it's good for the students, the veterans and for our country.

That's just one, one, success story. Please read the attachment at the end of this newsletter to see some of the issues the Legion is currently working on. The American Legion Legislative Agenda for the 117th Congress has some very important issues for our country and our veterans. This is why it's important to be a Legion member.

I'd like to ask everyone to update their email address and phone number on the mylegion.org website. I recently sent out a Thank You email to all of those legionnaires that have already renewed their Legion membership for 2022. Out of about 640 members, I only had emails for a little over 400.

Please logon to mylegion.org and update your email address and phone number. I promise the Legion nor our Post will give out your information, but it will allow us to communicate with you from time to time. Unfortunately, we can no longer afford to send out regular mail. Those cost of postage is just too high.

If you have trouble logging into the site, feel free to send an email to our Post at Post593tx@yahoo.com and send us your information. We'll update it for you. Again, I promise we won't spam you!

Thank you for all you do! For God and Country,

For God and Country,

Dennis Ducharme
Post Commander



SALute

February is typically a slow month, but we do have a couple of a big events. First and foremost is the Four Chaplains Ceremony, which will take place on Feb 2 at 7PM. This is a very moving ceremony and I encourage you to attend.

Feb 13th is the return of the Jam Sessions, as well as the Superbowl Party. Promises to be a fun a day. Hope to see you out.

Membership is still a top priority, please renew today.

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. Hope to see you there.

Be safe and be well,
Joe Falco
Squadron 593 Commander

Legion Membership Update

Please renew for 2022!

You can also leave your dues with the bartender (make sure you write your name and membership ID number on the envelope) and we'll get you the new card right away.

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 contact me and we can chat about your renewal options.

As of January 19th, we are at 89.04% of our goal of 712 members. We are at 634 members and growing everyday! It is always a perfect time to renew or join!

Bring in your friends, family, and neighbors to register for the Legion (and check eligibility for Auxiliary and Sons as well!).

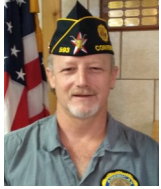
Ed Richards,
1st Vice Commander, Membership

Get ready football fans--Super Bowl is just around the corner!! The game will start at 5:30 pm, but we'll kick the day off with a football themed game starting at 4...all players will receive a free drink and the winner will receive a \$30 bar tab! We'll be providing empanadas for the game...please bring your favorite finger foods to share. We'll also be drawing for door prizes throughout the evening so be sure to see me to get your name in the 'hat'!

As we continue to fight our way through the various, rolling supply shortages, we ask for your patience...we're doing everything we can to keep everything in stock, but the randomness of these shortages is making that goal difficult! We have also started to see price increases from our suppliers. While we are trying to avoid having to raise prices across the board, we have had to raise a couple of them. We will continue to search out alternative, more cost effective suppliers and will only raise prices as a last resort.

Traci Permenter
Post Home Manager





Riders Report



A new year and new challenges for the American Legion Riders at Post 593. I would like to thank all the riders for their continued support as we grow and continue to support our Veterans and their associated programs. In January, we were able to get back out and repair a fence for a community Veteran. We also are trying to lock down a date to bury the discharge hoses of our rain gutter system. Once we lock in that date, we will let everyone know in case they would like to help operate the ditchwitch. March 19th is our Rolling Run event and we are now accepting auction items. Our flyer will be posted on our facebook site and an event will be made. On Tuesday, 1 February, our Executive Committee will review the final flyer and start hanging flyers throughout the community. This will be another great event and we will also have a live band this year.

If you have not renewed your membership for SAL, Legion, or Auxiliary....please do so. You have to be in good standing with one of those Divisions in order to renew as a Rider. Amy Reed is our membership person so please coordinate to renew with ALR Post 593. The next ALR General Membership meeting will be 8 February at 7:00 pm. We had 19 – 20 members attend in January so its great to see new faces and other riders who normally do not attend meetings. We will continue to have free food beginning at 6:30 pm prior to the GMM. God bless our Veterans and have a great 2022.

Paul "Timmy" Goymerac,
ALR Director

Flying Flags For Heroes

Preston Sharp is a 16-year old member of the S.A.L. in Redding, California. Six years ago, he placed a U.S. flag on his grandfather's grave and noticed that there were no flags on the graves of other veterans. This upset him to the point of taking action. He decided to make a difference. He started doing odd jobs and asked for donations to buy U.S. flags. He placed the first few hundred by himself, but before long, placing flags on the graves of veterans became a community-wide event that captured the attention of the media and the 45th President of The United States who praised him during The State of The Union Address!



National S.A.L. Commander Michael Fox has selected the Flying Flags For Heroes program as his service project during his term of office. The goal is to place U.S. flags on the graves of one million veterans buried in local cemeteries throughout the fifty-four detachments. The Commander instructed each detachment to appoint one person to oversee the project in each state. Detachment of Texas Commander Tom Arista appointed 20th District Commander George Alva to this task. Commander Alva has set the goal at 18,000 flags to be placed at cemeteries to honor those veterans who gave part or all of their lives to protect our country's freedom. It is a monumental task, but it is not beyond the ability of Texans to get it done!

The deadline is just a few days prior to the next national convention in September of 2022. The flags do not have to be placed on a specific date nor all on the same day. Even though this is an S.A.L. driven project, Commander Fox wants each event to involve the community. Invite friends, neighbors, family, elected officials, celebrities, and the media to join you.

Contact your local non-national cemetery and ask for permission to place the flags. Find out how many veterans are in the cemetery and where they are located. Some cemeteries may have flags they will let you use. If they don't, 4" x 6" stick flags are very affordable which means you can purchase them or ask for donations for this patriotic cause. On your selected date, have a brief and solemn ceremony and place the flags at each grave marker. Take photos and upload them and any other pertinent information to www.flagsforheroes.com. Record how many flags were placed. If the cemetery asks you to remove the flags, please do so and use them for another flag placement event. If you place only one flag, that puts us one flag closer to the goal, but more important than that – it is one veteran you have taken the time to honor. All veterans have paid with their lives. Some paid instantly, others paid over a lifetime.

If you have any questions please email Commander Alva at cdrsal20dist@gmail.com.

We are the proud possessors of a priceless heritage.

American Legion Post 593

February 2022

Phone: 210-658-1111



Looking Ahead
(events subject
to change)

Superbowl Sunday
Feb 13

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
		1 Coffee & Doughnuts 9-11AM ALR Exec Mtg 7:00 PM	2 Four Chaplains Ceremony 7PM Post General Membership Meeting 7:30PM	3 Pool League 8PM Dart League 7PM	4	5	
6	7	8 Coffee & Doughnuts 9-11AM ALR Gen Mbr Mtg 7:00 PM	9	10 Pool League 8PM Dart League 7PM	11 Chicken Fried Steak Dinner 6-8PM \$10.00	12 Breakfast 8-11 AM \$7.00	
13	14 Valentines Day 	15 Coffee & Doughnuts 9-11AM SAL GMM 7:00PM	16 Post Exec Mtg, 7:00 pm	17 Pool League 8PM Dart League 7PM	18	19	
20	21 Shuffleboard 7PM (tentative)	22 Coffee & Doughnuts 9-11AM	23	24 Pool League 8PM Dart League 7PM	25 Steak Night 6-8PM \$15.00	26	
27	28 Shuffleboard 7PM (tentative)						

The American Legion Legislative Agenda for the 117th Congress

The American Legion is the voice of nearly 2 million U.S. military veterans and service members. A resolution-based organization, The American Legion's positions represent the views of its members, based on four pillars of service: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.

Address Toxic Exposure & Burn Pits

A disturbingly high percentage of post-9/11 veterans have been exposed to airborne toxic hazards, often the result of personal proximity to burn pits for extended times during service. The American Legion has fought for service-connected disability benefits for conditions linked to toxic exposures for decades and will continue to do so for this generation. The American Legion urges Congress to reintroduce and pass the Toxic Exposure in the American Military (TEAM) Act of 2020 and supports further studies into conditions directly related to contaminants in order to establish a complete list of presumptive diseases caused by toxic exposure during service.

Resolution No. 118, 2016

Improve Health Care for Women Veterans

VA has an obligation to develop and expand health-care services for women, the fastest-growing demographic in the veteran community. A high percentage of women veterans who are not enrolled in VA health care say lack of gender-specific services and lack of awareness about VA benefits are primary reasons. The American Legion urges Congress to diligently oversee implementation of recently passed VA pilot programs, research initiatives, and policy revisions to address this. Additionally, The American Legion encourages expansion of newborn care and gender-specific services at VA.

Resolution No. 37, 2016

Telehealth/Rural Health

Accessibility is often a barrier for veterans and caregivers when pursuing health services from VA. They should have consistent, quality access to care, regardless of location or availability of broadband networks. To address this, The American Legion has worked with VA to introduce a pilot program that provides telehealth sites in American Legion posts to serve rural areas, known as Project ATLAS. The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation that expands broadband capabilities and services for veterans in remote areas to better meet their needs.

Resolution No. 75, 2017

Address the Forever War

Nearly two decades after 9/11, U.S. troops continue to wage war in Iraq, Afghanistan and other corners of the world, under the 2001 and 2002 Authorizations for Use of Military Force (AUMF). However, the global security environment the United States faces is no longer the same, with the rise of great-power competition and other threats. Too often, the use of military force, as opposed to diplomacy, is considered the primary instrument of national power. The American Legion urges the renewal of a proper constitutional balance to U.S. foreign policy decision-making by urging Congress to renew its war-making oversight role beginning with repealing or replacing the outdated post-9/11 AUMFs and by properly resourcing civilian tools of diplomacy.

Resolution No. 22, 2020

Citizenship for Honorable Service

Many veteran immigrants say they have been deported after discharge because they failed to acquire U.S. citizenship while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The American Legion supports measures to ensure the process of naturalization through military service is completed prior to discharge, to include reinstatement of the USCIS Naturalization at Basic Training Initiative, training for military recruiters and commands about the naturalization process, and the reopening all USCIS field offices abroad to serve servicemembers stationed overseas.

Resolution No. 15, 2018

Pay the Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard personnel carry out daily missions vital to national security, but they serve in the only military branch forced to work without pay during government shutdowns, due to their status under the Department of Homeland Security. The repeated and all too common threat of government shutdowns brings severe hardship on Coast Guard men, women and families.

The American Legion urges Congress to reintroduce and pass the Pay Our Coast Guard Parity Act, which would guarantee that Coast Guard personnel are paid without delay, even in the case of a government shutdown.

Resolution No. 23, 2016

Close the 90/10 Loophole

Proprietary schools offer students valuable education options, but some bad actors use a loophole in the 90-10 rule to evade a cap on federal financial aid by aggressively targeting veterans, service members, families and survivors for their education benefits. The American Legion is committed to ensuring that veterans and their families receive the highest quality of education when using the GI Bill and encourages legislation and federal action to provide higher quality and student outcomes for institutions approved for use of VA education benefits by adding Department of Defense and VA funds to the Title IV revenue sources calculation under the Higher Education Act.

Resolution No. 15, 2019

Military Awards for Minority Veterans

The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation lifting statutes of limitations and other obstacles that may impede proper investigation and expand the review of minority veterans from all wars and conflicts whose military records and official descriptions of combat actions support consideration for the Medal of Honor and other military citations or medals.

Resolution No. 17, 2020

Peer Support

Studies show that peer support is mutually beneficial for people who are experiencing transitions, mental health concerns and for those who wish to give back to their communities. The American Legion has its own peer-support program known as the "Buddy Check" and urges Congress to pass legislation requiring VA to implement a similar program. The American Legion also encourages legislation to establish a peer-support program that would offer grants to place peer-support specialists in local posts of veterans service organizations.

Resolution No. 364, 2016

Protect the American Flag

The American Legion urges Congress to approve an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would allow Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the U.S. flag. Additionally, The American Legion urges Congress to pass the Flag Code Modernization Act of 2021 to amend the U.S. Flag Code to codify multiple common patriotic customs and practices as described in The American Legion Resolution No. 19: Flag Code Amendment.

Resolution No. 19, 2016

Global War on Terrorism Memorial

The Global War on Terrorism is the longest war in U.S. history; more than 2.8 million American service members have been deployed abroad. After tens of thousands of casualties and thousands of deaths, it is only fitting that we honor the sacrifices of service members and their families with a Global War on Terrorism Memorial in a place of prominence at our nation's capital. The American Legion believes this memorial belongs on the National Mall and urges Congress to pass the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Location Act.

Resolution No. 16, 2017

Help Bubba find Blue

ALA President, Teresa Simmons-Copeland, has named K9s for Warriors as a special project for her year. Her mascot is a plush dog named Blue. Blue was kidnapped at DEC. Bubba, his long-lost brother, is looking for him.

Go to Facebook “Help Bubba find Blue” to follow his adventures.

FYI: K9s For Warriors is ending veteran suicide and returning our warriors to a life of dignity and independence. They rescue and train shelter dogs to be paired as Service Dogs for warriors with service-connected Post-Traumatic Stress, Traumatic Brain Injury and/or Military Sexual Trauma. They recently opened a facility in San Antonio (near ACS on Hwy 151).

Will you help me with a donation?

ALA Unit 593

326 Legion Drive W

Converse, TX 78109

(Indicate your donation is for The K9 Warrior Program)



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**

No Greater Glory: The Four Chaplains' Sacrifice and the Legacy they Left Behind



**Memorial Ceremony in the Legion Hall
Wednesday, February 2nd @ 7:00 pm.
Just before the monthly General Membership Meeting.**

Chicken Fried Steak Dinner

\$10.00

Time: 6:00-7:30 PM

Date: Feb 11, 2022



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: February 12, 2022

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.



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.

February 13, 2022
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



Super Bowl Party



Food! Fun! Football!!!

- Door Prizes throughout the game!
- Bring your favorite **BIG GAME** dish to share
- Themed game at 4PM, playing for a for a \$30 bar tab!

Date: Feb 13, 2022

Time: 4:00 PM



Steak Night



Date: Feb 25, 2022

Time: 6:00-8:00PM

Information: 210-658-1111

Eat in or take out

12 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



FOOD DRIVE FOR CONVERSE NO KILL SHELTER

I am collecting Puppy & Kitten food (or food for grown Dog & Cats) for this shelter. It is a non profit 501C3 organization that receives no grants, tax money, etc. It survives on donations. Also the fact it is a no kill shelter is great also. This shelter was established in 1982. The workers caring for the these dogs & cats 7 days a week are all volunteers also.



Donations of food in any size will be helpful and most appreciated by them. Help support the homeless pets



I am doing this starting now thru the month of February. You can leave your donation at the American Legion Post 593, or my home at 7722 Clay Ridge Drive, San Antonio 78239 or at the shelter on 9634 Schaefer Rd, Converse.

Ken Rodd

210 887 8827

dwgken@aol.com