



THE MIGHTY 20th DISTRICT

The American Legion

434 Solar Drive

San Antonio, Texas 78227 February, 2010

Volume 8 Issue 8

From the Commander

The American Legion 20th District

Officers

**Joe Duarte #2
Commander**

**Karen Paris #593
Vice Commander**

**Juan T. Silva #2
Adjutant**

**Annie Gerber #485
Assistant Adjutant**

**Jimmy Tucker #667
Treasurer**

**Irene Lineback #593
Chaplain**

**Ruby Cherry #568
Sergeant-At-Arms**

**Ronald Cherry #667
Judge Advocate**

**Norman Fox #300
Historian**

**James W. Hanna #2
Service Officer**

**Richard Holliday
V.A.V.S.**

**Gene Elliott #667
S.A.L. Advisor**

**Ernest Barnes
S.A.L. Commander**

Spring Coffee Tour (Membership Turn-in): Your attention is directed to Vice-Cdr Paris' notes. I am looking forward to visiting your Post. Dept Cdr Daft and 3d Div Cdr Squyres are scheduled to attend the Coffee Tour.

20th District Election: Election of the 20th District Officers from 20th District Posts will be held during the 20th District Convention, 10-11 April 2010 at Alamo Post #2. District positions up for election are: Commander, Vice-Commander, Judge Advocate, Historian, Sgt-at-Arms, Adjutant and Treasurer. District Chaplain, District Assistant Adjutant, and District Assistant Sgt-at-Arms shall be appointed by the incoming District Commander, subject to confirmation by the District Executive Committee.

Past Commander's Club: PCC will meet on 10 April 2010 at Alamo Post # 2, at 1300 hours. All PCC members and past Post Commanders are encourage to attend. PCC business will be conducted.

Mid-Winter Department Convention: The convention took place on 21-24 January 2010 at Austin. I was glad to see members for Post # 2, 485, 592, and 667 at the convention. Here some of the area's covered:

Department is preparing to up-date its Constitution and By Laws to include the addition of the Long Range Planning Committee that will develop and perpetuate a long term plan for the Department and shall submit any recommendation for action to the appropriate Commission or the Department Executive Committee for its consideration.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R): Progress report on Poly Trauma Center construction and Audie Murphy VA Medical Center was provided.

Membership and Organization Commission (M&O): A report was presented on Awards and Trophies for 2010. Post 336 received a check for reaching their membership goal by 31 Dec 09 and Post 400 was awarded 2 Legion Jackets for reaching their membership goal of 100% by 11 Nov 09.

Convention City Commission announced 2010 convention to be held in Beaumont with the Legion Hotel being the Holiday Inn and Suites, MCM Elegant Hotel for Auxiliary and the Hilton Garden Inn for the SAL. Rates are \$85.00 plus tax. Odessa is the Convention City for 2011, Houston for 2012 and Irving for 2013.

Legislation Commission is to host a Legislation Breakfast during 2011 Mid-Winter Convention with the purpose of bringing to our State Reps and Senators Veteran issues. Chairmen Martin related that we need to contact our representatives to be Co-sponsors of the Flag Amendment.

As the Mid-Winter Convention came to its conclusion, Commander Daft's final thoughts were to get the web-masters down to each post and activate and become operational immediately and to improve the efforts by the posts to obtain their membership goals prior to the dead-line.

Post Membership Committee: As outlined in the Department and Post constitution, each Post must have a Post Membership Committee, chaired by the Post Vice-Commander who has the responsibility for Post Membership and reaching the Post goal. As noted in the Department Daily Membership Report, there are some that are failing in their duties. Commanders, I request you convene your Membership Committee and provide them the guidance necessary to reach your Post goal.

Next 20th District Meeting is scheduled on 10 February 2010 at Bicentennial Post # 579, start time: 1930 Hours. Hope to see you'll there!

From the Vice Commander:

The Commander and I just returned from the Mid-Winter Convention in Austin. If you didn't go, you missed some new ideas and new friends. The current Department Commander, Don Daft, has begun a new "HUB Master" position in the Department, Divisions and Districts. It's an exciting new way to get information to the membership. The Department of Texas and the National American Legion are moving forward and our membership should know this.

One member stated he "didn't know the Department has a Newsletter". Well, it does. Go to the Department web page, www.txlegion.org, and look at "The Legion Times". It has some good information about the Department and the Posts in Texas. Use this to get your members to renew. The National Web page, www.legion.org, has the latest news on the national level. There is something for everyone – let the membership know. You can submit articles about your post if you want. Go ahead, brag!!!

Remember, your voting strength at the Spring Convention is based on membership. An excellent reason to get your members to renew!!!! Call them and tell them the good news. The American Legion, the 20th District and your Post are strong and getting stronger everyday – you want them to be part of this excitement.

Did you notice that Post 400 is over 200%? Post 336 is over 100%? Where is your Post? Some are getting very close to 100% - phone calls make all the difference. Be creative and get you membership involved. Actually, some of your long time members would like to call and talk to some of the members who have not renewed!!!

Remember, the Coffee/Membership Tour is March 13th and 14th. See the article in this newsletter – I need your help. We are changing up the order of the Tour and I need you to tell me what is a good time/day.

I am at your disposal anytime you need assistance. If I can help you or your post out with membership, just call me or e-mail me.

PAST COMMANDER'S CLUB (PPC)

At the Spring Convention, there will be a meeting of the newly reformed Past Commander's Club. It is my hope we will have a good showing. The agenda is going to be VERY SHORT. Any member who has spent one day as a Post Commander is eligible (some of you already belong!!!). Dues are reasonable...come and find out...

The plan is to meet Saturday afternoon after the meeting and before the Commander and President's reception.

MEMBERSHIP TOUR - MARCH 13-14

I am making up the list of posts to visit on our coffee tour. It will be Saturday, March 13th and Sunday, March 14th. Post 667 has already said they would prefer Sat over Sun.

I need to hear from each of you...

1. Is this a good address? (this is the one question I really need!)
2. Does your post want the tour to come and visit? (If you don't let me know, we will show up and surprise you...)
3. Is there a bad time for you on the days of the tour? or a preference of time and/or day?
4. If your post doesn't have a Post Home, would you like to meet up with the tour at another post? If so, which?
5. Is there any other information I should have?

Don Daft, Dept Commander, is planning on being with us on the tour. A birdie told me the officers seeking 20th District offices will be making SHORT speeches too!!

Please let me know ASAP (I have to get the map out and get us from one place to another...)

This is always fun and this tour should be no exception. (Hopefully you will get to see our newest Post - #400 who just happens to have 200%...

Karen Paris
20th Vice Commander
C: 210-269-7090
H: 210-659-4003 (leave a message)
W: 210-916-5165



Wartime Veterans or Surviving Spouses

You may be eligible for VA Tax-Free monthly benefits
for at home, assisted living or long-term care.

Contact Jim Hanna
American Legion Service Officer

A FREE Service. (210) 641-5000 or (800) 952-9445
Visit us online at www.MilitarySeniorResources.com



2010 Oratorical Contest

The 20th District Oratorical Contest was held on January 2010 at the Windcrest City Hall. There were two contestants representing Post 2 was Angelek Marler from Memorial High School and representing Post 612 was Carlos Huff from Roosevelt High School.

Both Contestants gave very inspiring presentations but there could only be one winner. Miss Angelek Marler will represent the 20th District at the 3rd Division Oratorical Contest in San Marcos on 31 January.

I would like to thank all that attended the presentation and especially Buddy Cooper, the Judges, Odell Couch, 20th District Commander Joe Duarte, and Post 2 Commander Fred Vasquez, also timekeeper Irvin Cooper.

Tom Sibley
Oratorical Chairman



Judges for the Oratorical Contest



Angelek and Carlos



Oratorical contestants with Oratorical Chairmen



Angelek with Post 2 representatives



Carlos with Post 612 representatives

Angelek

Marler



Angelek Marler represented Post 2 for four years in the Oratorical Contest. She advanced to 3rd Division Competition three times and once to the Department level. Good luck in your most glorious future. We will miss you in Oratorical. You have set a new standard for the 20th District. Angelek missed advancing to the Department meet this year.

Juan T. Silva,
20th District Adjutant

Mid-Winter Conference 2010



Commander Duarte really having fun.



Vice-Commander Paris glad it's almost over!



Judge Advocate Cherry is all smiles.



Adjutant Silva and Department Adjutant West

For God And Country



20th District The American Legion

434 Solar Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78227

February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 #800 GM 7:30 pm	2 Army Nurse Corps	3 #2 GM 7:30 pm #593 GM 7:30 pm	4	5 #592 Steak Night	6 #579 Super Bowl Party TBD #568 GM @ Post 2 12:00 noon
7 #399 GM 3:00 pm	8 #485 GM 7:00 pm	9 #608 GM 7:30 pm #592 GM 7:30 pm	10 20th District Meeting at #579	11	12 # 592 Dinner and Music	13 #593 2nd Annual Mardi Gras Party 6 pm #2 Aux. Steak Night 5 pm—7 pm #2 Valentine Dance 7:30-11:30 #579 Valentine Dance 7pm # 10 GM 8:30 am #593 Breakfast 8:00
14 Valentine's Day #539 GM 3:00 pm #375 GM 2:00 pm #667 Breakfast 8 am	15 Presidents' Day #667 GM 7 pm	16 #336 GM @ Texian Mex. Rest. 7:00 pm #828 GM 7:00 pm	17 # 443 GM 6:30 pm	18	19 #592 SAL Chicken Fried Steak, 5:30-8:00pm	20 #2 Fajita Roundup 11-3 #593 Darts 7:30 #593 SAL Sausage Wrap #400 GM @ Drop Zone 11:30 am
21 #593 Four Chaplains 2pm	22 #300 GM 7:00 pm #579 GM 7:00 pm	23	24	25	26 #593 Steaks 6:00-8:00pm	27



American Legion Post 2
Annual Valentine's Day
Dance

Saturday, February 13, 2010
8:00 pm—12:00 pm

Music By
Luis Portillo and the
Continental Orchestra

