



# THE MIGHTY 20th DISTRICT

*The American Legion*

434 Solar Drive

San Antonio, Texas 78227

January, 2009

Volume 7 Issue 7

## Thoughts From The Commander Joe Duarte

*The American Legion  
20th District*

### Officers

**Joe Duarte #2  
Commander**

**Karen Paris #593  
Vice Commander**

**Juan T. Silva #2  
Adjutant**

**Jimmy Tucker #667  
Treasurer**

**Irene Lineback #593  
Chaplain**

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

**Ronald Cherry #612  
Judge Advocate**

**Norman Fox #300  
Historian**

**Erasmio (Eddie) Serrata  
#300  
Service Officer**

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

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

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

I hope every Post family had a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. May 2009 be Merry, Prosperous, and Healthy.

During December, I had some calls from family members of deceased veterans and soldiers who were looking for a place/room to hold a family reception after the funeral service. I need to know if each post does or does not have this service ASAP. In a letter or note please, provide the post policies (i.e. cost if any, Legion membership required, POC etc.).

Well 2009 is here and it's a good time for each post to review its goals and the actions required to reach same. Here are a few programs that we need to look at:

1. Youth activities: Boys State, Baseball, High School Oratorical, Boys Scouts, and Junior Shooting Sports.
2. Community service: Children and Youth programs that fulfill the local needs.
3. Service to veterans and U.S. troops: Projects may include the Family Support Network or Heroes to Hometown Programs.

Commander James McNair and President Mickie Prendergast will be in attendance at the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital on 9 Jan 09 at 0900 hours. All Post families are welcome to join them at the hospital. Vice Commander Karen Paris will represent the 20th District commander. I have been ordered to Austin for a committee meeting on this day.

During January 24-25, 2009 the Department of Texas will hold its Mid-Winter convention at the Omni Hotel at South Park, Austin, Texas. On 22-24 Jan 09 the department committees will meet to conduct business and prepare to submit their reports to the convention. It would be great to see post representatives at these committee meetings. Schedule of events at the Mid-Winter convention can be found at the department web-site ([www.txlegion.org](http://www.txlegion.org)).

20th District's next meeting will be held at Post 593, Converse, Texas on 14 Jan 09.

I would like to see each post commander or at least a post representative at these meetings.

20th District will conduct its ORATORICAL contest at the Windcrest City Hall. Contact Tom Sibley at cell# (210) 410-9138 for additional information.

Spring Coffee Tour (membership drive) will be conducted on 21-22 March 2009. Vice Commander Paris will be working up a schedule for the tour. Any questions on the schedule contact Vice-Commander Paris.

There are some posts that are working hard at attaining their membership goals and I THANK YOU for your efforts. We also have some posts that have not submitted a member for renewal or new membership as far back as September 2008. There is no acceptable excuse for this lack of action in these posts. It seems that these posts have lost the purpose of The American Legion's goals and its challenges.

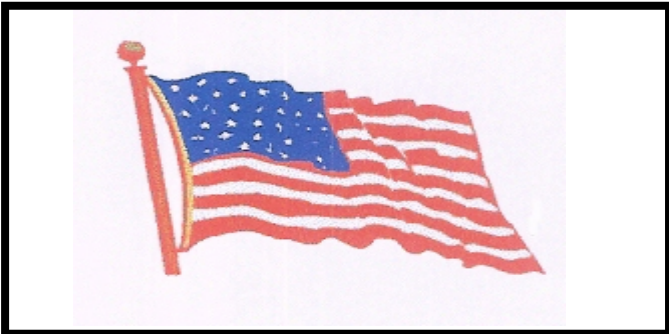
## From the Vice-Commander

Happy Holidays and let's hope for a great new 2009 year, especially with memberships.

Please remember to send in your membership transmittals. Several posts have not sent any since September or October. These need to be sent in as soon as possible.

Again, if I can be of help, let me know. My cell is 210-269-7090 and my email is [kparis@stic.net](mailto:kparis@stic.net).

For God and Country,  
Karen Paris



### Newsletter articles

- ◆ Please submit your articles, Post activities, etc. by the **3rd Friday** of each month. Email to : [juantsilva@sbcglobal.net](mailto:juantsilva@sbcglobal.net)
- ◆ Got an activity? Submit the item and I will put it in the Newsletter (space available))

### Adjutant's Call

Ramon V. Silva was not a veteran. He had to drop out of school after completing the first grade to work full time at the age of nine. He was the sole supporter of his family of four younger brothers and his mother. He was proud when his oldest son, Raymond joined the Air Force in 1968 and his other son, Johnny joined the Army in 1970. He taught his children the lessons of hard work and determination. "Be the best," he would always say.

Ramon V. Silva, Born August 31, 1920

Died December 31, 2008

Juan T. Silva,  
Adjutant

### 20th District January 5, 2009 Membership

POST	MBRS	GOAL	%
336	33	15	220.00%
539	180	216	83.33%
612	251	304	82.57%
10	122	148	82.43%
667	593	729	81.34%
579	621	775	80.13%
593	650	813	79.95%
568	46	60	76.67%
171	175	229	76.42%
2	764	1015	75.27%
300	388	531	73.07%
592	434	596	72.82%
828	234	338	69.23%
375	114	165	69.09%
800	69	103	66.99%
443	75	120	62.50%
608	72	124	58.06%
485	74	168	44.05%
399	60	140	42.86%
TOTALS	4955	6589	75.20%

***Remember: It's not what you paid to join,  
It's what you paid to be eligible!!***



# 20th District The American Legion

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**JANUARY 2009**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 New Year's Day	2 Steak night at post 592 5:30 pm	3
4 #399 GM-7PM	5 #800 GM 7:30 pm	6	7 #2 GM 7:30 pm #593 GM 7:30 pm	8	9	10 #592 Breakfast 8:30-11:30 #593 Breakfast 8:00-11:00 #593 Chili Cook Off
11 #375 GM 2:00 PM #539 GM 2:00 PM #667-Breakfast 8:00-11:30 #593 Chili Cook Off	12 #485 GM 7:00 pm Elton's Birthday	13 #592 GM 7:30 pm	14 20th Aux. Mtg. Location TBA 20th Dist. Mtg at #593 7:30 pm	15	16 #592 SAL Chicken Fried Steak, 5:30pm-8:00pm	17 #593 Darts 7:30 #593 SAL Sausage Wrap 20th Dist. Oratorical Windcrest, 10:00 am
18 #443 GM 2:00PM	19 #667 GM 7:00 pm MLK Holiday Soul Food Dinner @ 828	20 #828 GM 7:00 pm	21	22 #612 GM Luncheon, 11:00 am Dept Exec Mtg	23 #593 Steaks 6-8 pm  Omni South	24   Austin
25  Dept Exec. Mtg	26 #579 GM 7:00 PM #300 GM 7:00PM	27	28 #568 @ #2 7:00 pm	29	30	31