



THE MIGHTY 20th DISTRICT

The American Legion

434 Solar Drive

San Antonio, Texas 78227 June, 2010

Volume 8 Issue 11

*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*

From the Commander



It is with deep sadness that I inform the members of the Mighty 20th District of the transfer of Immediate Past Commander Al B. Saunders to Post Everlasting, effective 19 May 2010. Commander Saunders was a devoted Legionnaire who will be greatly missed. May God be with Al?

It is a very sad way to start my last newsletter for the 20th District; but as Al would say "You have to keep marching on", so I will.

The past 2 years have been quite an experience that I will not forget and will be a great help in my next assignment as 3rd Division Commander 2010-2011. Thank you all for your support. I know that you all will support our new elected Mighty 20th District Commander Karen Paris and her new staff. They are: Vice Commander Fred Vasquez, Post #2; Adjutant Annie Gerber, Post #485; Treasurer David Paris, Post # 693, Sgt-at- Arms Abran Zavala, Post 593; and Historian Shannon Lynd, Post 593. Good luck to these officers and the Mighty 20th District.

A very special "Thank You" to Post #10 Commander Robert (Bob) Masten for his outstanding job in organizing the 20th District posts to support the " Special Salute To Veterans 2010" held at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on 26 Thru 31 May 2010. Over 78,000 plus veterans names were called out by members from Posts 2, 10, 336, 579, 592, 593, 612, 667, and 828. Thank you Legionnaires for supporting our project.

Some items I need to bring to your attention: Post membership; only 2 posts reached their goal of 100% plus. Remember, membership is the life of your post. While a few posts went all out to support some legion programs, it still leaves a large percent of posts that did not. We need your support with these legion programs. As of 14 June, there are 9 posts that have not been certified for 2010-2011 and there are 7 posts that have not submitted their 2009-2010 CPR. We are LATE! On this date, there are 2 posts, 400 and 608 that have not submitted their Post Application for Permanent Charter. You two must contact Jackie at Department for the required paper work. DO IT NOW!

Again, let me say Thank You for your support of my tenure as Commander, Mighty 20th District. Hope to see you all at the Department Convention and through my new assignment as 3d Division Commander.

From the Vice-Commander



The membership year is rapidly closing. It is vital you contact the members who have not renewed and find out why. Their membership has been suspended yet you can reinstate them with payment of their 2010 dues. Talk to them about paying 2011 at the same time and "kill 2 birds with one stone." Please push one last time for the finish of the membership year.

The American Legion, San Antonio, and Post 828 have lost a great member. Al B Saunders will always be remembered as a generous person who was available to everybody to do just about anything. The loss of his guidance and support will be missed by all and especially by me. Al was always available to me to answer questions and give needed advice. I will miss him very much.

I want to thank the members of the 20th District for electing me the next District Commander. I promise to do my best and will always do what is best for our veterans.

Mark your calendars...July 17th, 1200, Post 593 (Converse)...Calendar Meeting. Bring all scheduled activities for your Post. This is an opportunity to compare notes and get the dates of your post activities on the District Calendar. Please plan on attending. This will be the first meeting of the new District year.

Please call me if I can be of assistance. C:210-269-7090. H:659-4003 (leave a message).

For God And Country



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





20th District The American Legion

434 Solar Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78227

July 2010

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 #592 Steak Night | 3 #2 July 4th Picnic and Dance 11-3, 4-6 #568 GM @ Post 2 12:00 noon |
| 4 Independence Day #612 Independence Day Flag Raising & Parade around Golf | 5 #800 GM 7:30 pm | 6 | 7 #2 GM 7:30 pm #593 GM 7:30 pm | 8 | 9 #592 Dinner and Musc | 10 #2 Steak Night 6-8, Dance 8-12 Music by The Sunglows #593 Breakfast 8:00 #10 GM 8:30 am |
| 11 #539 GM 3:00 pm #375 GM 2:00 pm #667 Breakfast 8 am | 12 #485 GM 7:00 pm | 13 #608 GM 7:30 pm #592 GM 7:30 pm | 14 | 15 #612 GM @ ARC 6:00 pm | 16 #592 SAL Chicken Fried Steak, 5:30-8:00pm | 17 Calendar Meeting at #593 12:00 noon #593 Darts 7:30 #593 SAL Sausage Wrap #400 GM @ |
| 18 | 19 #667 GM 7 pm | 20 #336 GM @ Texian Mex. Rest. 7:00 pm #828 GM 7:00 pm | 21 #443 GM 6:30 pm | 22 | 23 #593 Steaks 6:00-8:00pm | 24 |
| 25 | 26 #300 GM 7:00 pm #579 GM 7:00 pm | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Phil Duncan from Post 300 wrote this note on June 11th.

On June 5th, top representatives from the graduating class of 2011 at 19 District 20 High Schools departed from American Legion Post 2 in San Antonio.

Their destination on the chartered bus was the campus of the University of Texas at Austin where they would reside as resident guests for a week to be exposed to learning lessons in Americanism.

This annual program presented by highly qualified leaders from UT and the State House concentrate on teaching these exceptional students about our government and how it runs from the local, state and national level.

It will be concluding today with a visit with our legislators at the capitol and a parade, then the return to 3518 Fredericksburg Road. This was how these young men spent their first week of *summer vacation* from school.

Twelve of our local American Legion Posts invested more than \$15,000 and many hours in the selection process to search out the best candidates for this learning experience and underwrite the coordination of this program.

This afternoon these delegates should be arriving (reportedly) between 2 and 3 pm.

If you happen to get this memo in time and are available, please try to be at the Post as an unofficial WELCOME BACK committee of Legionnaires who truly support the spread of **AMERICANISM** with the future leaders of our nation.

The message sent to these four dozen youngsters is that a band of young and old military veterans think enough of their nation and its founding principles to make a sustained effort to share and keep the spirit Alive and Well!

regards,

Phil
Post 300

Attached is a recap of results of the combined District support for this year's program. A few note worthy points include

| 2009 | vs | 2010 | variance |
|---------------------------------------|----|---|---------------------|
| 1. attendees - 37 | | attendees - 48 | 23% increase |
| 2. participating Posts - 10 | | participating Posts - 12 | 17% increase |
| 3. student support by SAL - unknown | | SAL sponsorship known - three | up to 100% increase |
| 4. high schools represented - unknown | | known* high school representation - 19 | |

*Alamo Heights
Antonian College Prep
Brandeis
Central Catholic
Churchill
Clark
East Central
Health Careers
Jay
Jefferson
Lavernia
Madison
Marshall
O'Connor
Reagan
Roosevelt
Southwest
Wagner
Warren

Comments:

On average charter buses provide 58 seats. In the future strive to fill them *all* with deserving delegates to TBS.

Some Legionnaires felt we be open to one or volunteers to accompany the attendees on the bus trip to Austin.

A 3:30 or 4:00 pm Austin arrival time is preferred in the future due to SAT conflicts in time for many students.

Three Legionnaires on the registration desk was adequate for handling this number of appointees

Recommend District Historian maintain records of these activities and arrange for photo records

If the high schoolers have a one or two hour wait before departure, maybe the ALA could provide some *food!*

The experience and leadership of Buddy Cooper and Lloyd Buckmaster was a benefit to all involved. The officer representation from District, Post, and Squadron showed the youngsters and families sincere interest in TBS.

regards,

Phil Duncan
Post 300

Boys State 2010



TAPS FOR VETS **LIVE BUGLER HONORS**

TAPS FOR VETS is an organization consisting of several area veteran musicians who will play live bugler taps for any family that requests them for memorial services for a lost veteran. The group specializes in "Echo Taps." The founder and organizer is Ray Gutierrez. He can be reached at (210) 367-7349. Every veteran deserves a Live Bugler on their final moment.