



THE MIGHTY 20th DISTRICT

The American Legion

Volume 3 Issue 10

1702 BRICE AVE
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78220

October, 2006

Thoughts From The Commander

*The American
Legion*

20th District

Officers

*Al B. Saunders #828
Commander*

*Joe Duarte #2
Vice Commander*

*Karen Paris #593
Adjutant*

*Jimmy Tucker #667
Treasurer*

*Irene Lineback #593
Chaplain*

*Ruby Cherry #568
Sergeant-At-Arms*

*Ronald Cherry #612
Judge Advocate*

*Henry Ximenez #399
Historian*

*Joe Schaeffer, #667
Service Officer*

*Richard Bray #593
V.A.V.S.*

Well, we have just completed a very fast paced month with lots of activities. The month of September began with only the 9/11 Day of Remembrance set for Saturday September 9th on our agenda, but just as you think things are well within hand, something comes along and changes all of that. The District was approached by the members of the Texas National Guard requesting support for their Family and Youth Symposium, which was also set for Saturday, September 9th. With the outstanding support of Henry and LaFonda Ximenez of Post 399 and Irene Lineback and Dennis Decharme of Post 593, both events went off without a hitch and each was highly successful and rewarding. A special thanks to these Legionnaires for their support and effort.

By the time you read this the Coffee Tour will be complete, and I want to report it was a great success with a great following both days, and a total of 236 memberships turned in which brings the District to 67.6% percent and first place for the first time since early July. Doubt it will hold out until Friday, September 23rd for the Department Executive Committee meeting, but if it does you can bet there will be a little bragging by myself to the other District Commanders. Thanks to all members of the Mighty 20th District for their support and many thanks go out to C.W. (Butch) Sparks, Department Commander and his wife Lynn Sparks, Commander of the 22nd District for their attendance and support. For the first time in recent memory the tour was blessed with several members of the Sons of the American Legion. We had Past Department Sergeant-at-Arms and current Detachment Vice Commander Del Rogers, Vice Commander 3rd Division Robert M. Sonnier; along with those two prominent attendees

we were pleased to have the Commander of Post 828's Squadron Ernest F. Barnes in attendance on both days. There was one additional member of the Sons in attendance from New Braunfels, and due to age, I can only remember his name was John and he was holding the position of Judge Advocate. Also, it is appropriate to give additional thanks to the Department Commander, Butch Sparks for the little extras that he provided during the tour. On Saturday, he performed the Installation Ceremonies for George Washington Carver Post Number 800 prior to getting to the business of the day of collecting membership. On Sunday, the Commander presented a letter of appreciation from the National Commander and a Citation of Meritorious Service from the Department of Texas to the American Legion Riders of William A. Randolph Post Number 593 for their support to the Legacy Fund.

On Tuesday, September 19th I called each Post in the Mighty 20th District and reminded each of the need to complete and forward to Department their Post Data Form. If you are reading this and have not done so, there is going to be a problem. The purpose of the Post Data Form is to advise Department and, in-turn, National of a change in your dues structure necessitated by the dues increase approved at the just completed National Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. If you have not accomplished the very important task, please get it done and FAX your document to Department at 1 (512) 472-0603.

This month brings about two very important functions. The first and foremost being the 20th District's Leadership Conference which is set for Saturday, October 7th at

Membership Status-9/21/06

POST	PAID	GOAL	%
608	79	68	116.2%
171	121	124	97.6%
612	247	280	88.2%
336	14	17	82.4%
539	177	226	78.3%
800	66	85	77.6%
579	531	703	75.5%
828	209	277	75.5%
667	447	617	72.4%
399	87	130	66.9%
2	735	1108	66.3%
592	388	596	65.1%
443	49	79	62.0%
485	88	147	59.9%
300	251	421	59.6%
10	107	181	59.1%
375	97	173	56.1%
593	475	886	53.6%
568	39	98	39.8%
TOTALS	4207	6216	67.7%

For God And Country

Notes Commander can't

William A. Randolph Post Number 593. We are looking at the Conference beginning at 9:00am and concluding around 2:00 or 3:00pm. There will be a break for lunch and as of this writing, the host Post will be preparing snacks for us or if desired there will be sufficient time for you to go into Converse for lunch. Remember that The City of Converse will be celebrating their Night in Old Converse on that day with a parade beginning at 9:00am. It is highly possible that FM1516 will be closed and it will be necessary to take an alternative route to reach the Post. As an interesting postscript sometime that morning between 9:00am and 10:00am there will be the start of about 80 Harley Davidson engines, as the Legion Riders from Arizona prepare to depart San Antonio. They came to the city and brought with them a trailer load of supplies for the veterans at the Audi Murphy Hospital. The Post is hosting breakfast for the Riders at 8:00am in the Post Lounge (they will not affect our function) and then they will load up and get ready to leave. The second event of the month will be the 2nd Annual 20th District Golf Tournament at Olympia Hills Golf Club on Sunday, October 15th at 8:00am. Flyers were provided to each Post, but if you have any questions please give me a call at (210) 380-9737.

One final note, as stated above the District is at 67.6% of our goal of 6,216 members. We have 4,205 currently signed up and **ONLY** need 2,011 members to make goal. Lets all work together to achieve this goal prior to December 31st. If we do it by or prior to that date, we can be assured that the members are not caused to pay the price increase this year. The Mighty 20th can reach goal and above. Remember, if we are to help the Department Commander in his goal to reach 100,000 members we have to stay after membership. Together we can do it! Also remember, "Our Future Is Not."

COUPON BOOKS

Windcrest Post 612, is again selling the popular **Entertainment Discount Coupon Book**. The 2007 edition will sell for \$20.00 and will be valid from now until November 2007. Proceeds benefit the post's Americanism, youth and veteran's assistance programs. The entertainment book contains discounts up to 50% for local and national restaurants, hotels, car rentals, sports, services, entertainment and more.

For delivery at your convenience call Mike Burkett at 857.8109 or John Mathis at **657-7000**.

From the Vice Commander

Well, let me say that the Mighty 20th District's Fall Coffee Tour was a great success and was very productive. The twelve posts that we visited did an outstanding job in recognition of the 20th District guests, including Department Commander, C.W. "Butch" Sparks. Your hospitality was outstanding. Thank you!!

On Page 1 are the membership standings by post. Please note that 12 posts have reached the goal of 65%. If we want to reach 100% and keep from paying the additional dues, then we have to be at 100% of goal NLT the end of December, 2006. If there are any questions on this matter, please contact me at (210)673-6681.

I am working on dividing responsibility for High Schools and Universities for each post of the district. I will have the information by the 20th District meeting in October.

Joe Duarte, Vice Commander

VETERAN'S FORUM

Veterans' Forum to be held on **November 9, 2006**, Thursday, from 6PM to 9PM at the VFW Post 9186, 650 VFW Blvd, San Antonio, Texas 78214. We want to have this forum this day as it is 2 days before Veterans Day. The purpose of the Forum is to allow veterans or family members an opportunity to let us know of any suggestions or issues in order to enhance veterans and their family member wellness and benefits.

The Bexar County Veterans Committee is taking the lead in organizing this event and will be one of the sponsors. There are other organizations being invited to co-sponsor this event. State Representative Carlos Uresti has agreed to be a co-sponsor of this event and is assisting us with the event organization. Also, VA Post 9186 is a co-sponsor. Larry Romo, Chairman, Bexar County Veteran's Committee, can be reached at 210-219-1905 or llromo@sbcglobal.net.

THE AMERICAN LEGION Page 3 20th DISTRICT EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 2006

ACTIVITIES IN OCTOBER AND BEYOND

Oct 7	District Legion Fall Training Session, Post 593 with John Brieden, Past National Commander
Oct 14	District Auxiliary Fall Convention, Post 828
Oct 15	District Golf Tournament at Olympia Hills
Nov 9	Veteran's Forum, 6-9PM, VFW Post 9186, 650 VFW Blvd, SA

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

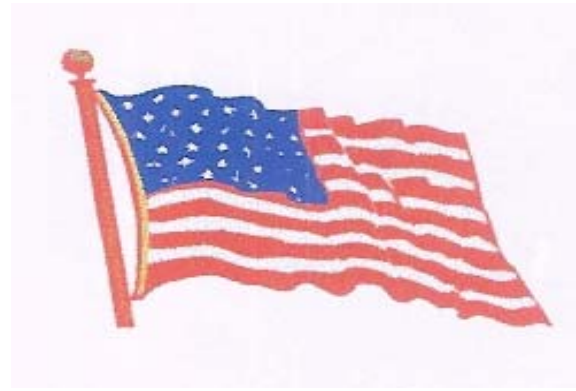
Thoughts From The Chaplain

We conducted a beautiful September 11 memorial ceremony on 9 September at Post 2. Many thanks to the Legion and Auxiliary members for participating in the memorial and to Post 2 for being a gracious host. I only wish more of the members of the 20th District could have attended. I know we all have very busy schedules, but we need to pause at least once a year to remember these heroes.

Please keep Dick Bray and Art Fagen in your prayers; both are facing grave illnesses. I know there are other Legionaires in our district that need our prayers, please pass the word. Also, keep in your prayers all the men and women in uniform serving around the world.

I look forward to meeting all the chaplains and members of the 20th District at the leadership conference on Saturday 7 October.

For God and Country, Irene Lineback



Riders—Come Join American Legion Riders Join the organization that raised \$10,000 for the American Legion Legacy Fund!!!!

ALR are Legion family members who are motorcycle enthusiasts. This is not a M/C. ALR is family oriented and participates in parades, mc events and supports the community. They actively support BAMC, Lonesome Dove Ranch, Audie Murphy VA, the American Legion Legacy Fund, Blue Santa and the Patriot Guard.

Contacts: Brad Pierce, Director
brad.pierce62@sbcglobal.net (210)391-3151 or Debi Aguirre, Membership, debiaguirre@yahoo.com

NEED CANES OR WALKERS???

Buddy Cooper, Post #612 has a member that has about eight brand new items such as canes and walkers that he would like to get to individuals that can use them. Please contact Buddy at (210) 656 3426.

Newsletter articles

- ◆ Please submit your articles, Post activities, etc. by the **3rd Friday** of each month.
Email to : kparis@ stic.net Thanks!!



*20th District
The American Legion*

**1702 Brice Ave.
San Antonio, Texas 78220**

[OCTOBER 2006]

19 SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 #800 GM 7:30PM	3	4 #2 GM 7:30 PM #399 GM 7:00 PM #593 GM 7:30PM	5	6	7 20th District Leadership—John Brieden, PNC
8 #375 GM 2:00PM #539 GM 2:00PM #667 Breakfast	9 #485 GM 7:00 PM COLUMBUS DAY	10 #592 GM 7:30PM	11	12	13 US MAVU BIRTHDAY	14 #592 Breakfast #593 Breakfast Aux Fall Convention-#828
15 #443 GM 1:00PM 20TH DIST GOLF TOURNEY-OLYMPIA HILLS	16 #667 GM 7:00PM	17 #828 GM 7:00PM	18 #568 GM @ Post #579 4:00 PM	19	20	21 #593 Darts 7:30
22	23 #300 GM 7:00PM	24	25	26 #612 GM 6:00 PM	27 #593 Steak Night 1800	28 #300 Breakfast 8-11 #579 Steak Night-5:30 PM
29 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS-BACK 1 HOUR	30 #579 GM 7:00PM	31 HALLOWEEN				