



THE MIGHTY 20th DISTRICT

The American Legion

Volume 3 Issue 9

3415 MARTIN LUTHER KING DRIVE
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78220-8946

September, 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 another month has come and gone and the District is in good shape, thanks to all of the Officers and members of the District. Let me say thanks to all of those that attended the Mighty 20th District Executive Meeting on August 9th. It didn't help that I was nervous, and went to the closing before thinking of handing out the awards that the various Posts earned during the Department Convention. If you were overlooked and did not receive your plaque or certificate, please contact the Vice Commander Joe Duarte. As a true administrator they were placed in his capable hands for distribution.

The District Fish Fry has come and gone and although it was not the success we were hoping for, it was still a success. Lots of thanks go out to those that spent the day at William James Bordelon Post Number 300 and helped in every possible manner. If I try to identify everyone, surely someone will be missed, but anyway, thanks to Laura, Norm, Mrs. Fox, Karen, Irene, Dave, Jan, Terry, Walter, Thelma, Dawn, Ernest, Molly, Dorothy, Joe, Brian and Mrs. Casleton and the members and staff of Post 300 for a job well done. If I missed you, please charge it to my head and not my heart, it was certainly not intentional.

We have three more significant events coming up. The first will be the Coffee Tour, set for September 16th and 17th. Don't want to take the thunder of the Vice-Commander, so review his article for the particulars such as time and day we will be visiting your Post. Will only add that we will have the Department Commander, C.W. (Butch) Sparks in attendance. As a note of warning, his first love is membership. One of his many goals for this year is to attain 100,000 in membership. It's a hard but reachable goal and it is the intention of Joe and myself to be instrumental in helping

him reach this goal. Being the second largest District within the Department of Texas we will be most important in the attainment of his goal. The Mighty 20th can and will reach goal this year with the help of every member in the District. The second will be the visit of our own Past National Commander John A. Brieden, III on Saturday, October 7, 2006. The District will be meeting at William A. Randolph Post Number 593 in Converse. The day will be totally dedicated to and called a Leadership Conference. Commander Brieden will cover the American Legion from the Blue Cap to the Red Cap and cover the responsibilities of each of the Post Officers, methods and supporting the American Legion Programs and so much more. We are looking at beginning at 9:00am and concluding around 2:00pm. This is an event that **EVERY** Post Officer should mark their calendar and plan to attend. It is not often that the experience and knowledge of someone of this caliber can be made available to us, lets not miss out. The third event will be the 2nd Annual 20th District Golf Tournament. We are off to a good start with supporting donations from Grande Ford and Wilshire Homes. In addition to the donations it is most important that we have players representing as many of the Post within the 20th District and players from all points North, East, South and West. Commanders please canvas your community and sign up as many players as possible. The venue for the event is Olympia Hills Golf and Conference Center. The entry fee is \$40.00, which will get each player Tacos prior to playing; green fees and cart costs; Lunch after the tournament; and two drinks of the player's choice. Additionally there will be door prizes, mulligans and a skins pot. So come one and all. We have

Membership Status-8/25/06

POST	PAID	GOAL	%
171	118	124	95.2%
612	235	280	83.9%
336	14	17	82.4%
539	168	226	74.3%
579	472	703	67.1%
667	409	617	66.3%
800	55	85	64.7%
828	178	277	64.3%
2	698	1108	63.0%
592	363	596	60.9%
10	104	181	57.5%
375	95	173	54.9%
300	225	421	53.4%
399	67	130	51.5%
593	445	886	50.2%
443	39	79	49.4%
568	39	98	39.8%
485	57	147	38.8%
608	1	68	1.5%
TOTALS	3782	6216	60.8%

For God And Country

Notes Commander can't

made solicitations to the other surrounding Districts to come and compete. Also, remember the Traveling Trophy will be up for grabs. It currently belongs to William A. Randolph Post 593 of Converse, but with Daryl gone someone should be able to take it from them. Please sign up to play soon so we can have an accurate count for the folks at Missing Man Post 667, so the food can be prepared accordingly. Commanders, please assure that the flyers announcing this event are prominently posted along with sign up sheets. Thanks.

Want to put the following in writing as an Official Position of the District Leadership, so that **EVERY POST COMMANDER** is aware of the challenge. For the past few years the District has sponsored to Boys State about 30 to 38 boys. It is our goal to reach 50 plus boys this year. If we can get every Post to buy in to supporting three boys we could reach a minimum of 57 boys this year. At a cost of \$275.00 per boy plus \$25.00 in spending money that is a cost of \$900.00 to each Post. Lots of money, however if your Post can salt away \$90.00 per month, we are 10 months away from the departure of the boys, the \$900.00 is attainable. Also, please don't forget the possibility of having a community business sponsor a boy for your Post. The foregoing is in no way intended to minimize the efforts of those Post that annually sponsor five to 10 boys each year, please keep up the good work. The basis of this goal is to get the **TOTAL** District on the same page and support the American Legions number one Americanism program. I know I can count on each of you. Want help? Contact me at (210) 380-9737 and we will do it together. This is the second time this subject has been addressed in the Newsletter and it is our plan to continue to keep this vital issue in the forefront of all of our thoughts.

If you weren't at District meeting you missed the report from our Judge Advocate and Department National Executive Committeeman Ron Cherry. In short, the National body has proposed via Resolution to increase the yearly dues by \$4.50, and the Department has said that if the Resolution passes it will raise dues by \$1.50. Ron's feeling is the resolution will not pass in Salt Lake, Utah this year, but in most probability will pass in Reno, Nevada next August. Ron also said that when the resolution passes it will not go into effect until early January following its passage. Whenever the Resolution passes, it is obvious that our local dues will need to be increased. Now is the time to get your members to consider taking the Paid Up For Life (PUFL) option. Being a PUFL frees your members and Post from worrying about dues increases. Fore warned is fore armed, or something like that.

Don't forget our next District meeting will be held at Sesquicentennial Post 592 at 106 Lanark, beginning at 7:30pm on Wednesday, September 13th.

Notes From The Vice-Commander

I would like to thank our Posts for their strong efforts to renew our Legionnaire's membership and the effort to recruit new members. These efforts have helped the Mighty 20th District to reach its goal of 55% by the end of August. Remember our goals are due no later than December 31, 2006 for membership year 2007.

Please note the schedule for the Mighty 20th District's Coffee Tour that will be held on 16-17 September. This schedule was presented at the General Membership Meeting held on 9 August. If there are any questions, please contact me at 210-673-6681. Please note that Department Commander Sparks is scheduled to take part in our Coffee Tour.

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**.



THE AMERICAN LEGION Page 3

20th DISTRICT EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2006

ACTIVITIES IN SEPTEMBER AND BEYOND

Sept 9	20th District 9/11 Ceremonies—Post 2
Sept 13	District Social at Post 592, 7:30 PM
Sept 16 & 17	District Coffee Tour, Route below
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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Thoughts From The Chaplain

I want to thank everyone for your encouragement as I become your Chaplain this coming year. Remember that I am here to support you and do whatever I can to be of service to you, my fellow legionnaires. A very important event is coming up this month and that is the 9/11 memorial ceremony being held on 9 September at 1000 hours at Post 2. I would really like to see a big turn out as we remember our fallen heroes and the brave people who protect us every day here at home and around the world. I would like to involve any post chaplains who are available that day. Please let me know if you are interested.

At my home post last month we lost a member of our SAL. Our post Chaplain, Dennis Ducharme, lead and along with Commander Nick Mills, Auxiliary and Legion Riders, a most beautiful memorial ceremony. The legion hall was full with 170 friends and family. This event shows how we all can come together as a legion family to take care of our own. If you have an event like this and would like to share it with us, please let us know.

I would like to start a sick call list so everyone in the district is informed of our legionnaires who may need a telephone call or a get well card. Chaplains, let me know who at your post would like to be contacted. Email:ILineback@satx.rr.com

Everyone, remember to share your smile.

COFFEE TOUR ROUTE:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>16 SEPTEMBER 2006</u>
0900-0945	Bicentennial Post 579
1008-1050	Wm Bordelon Post 300
1105-1150	Gene Ramirez Post 443
1220-1305	Woodrow Wilson Post 399
1320-1405	John F. Kennedy Post 485
1425-4510	G. W. Carver Post 800
1515- ??	Fred Brock Post 828

<u>TIME</u>	<u>17 SEPTEMBER 2006</u>
1200-1245	St Hedwig Post 539
1305-1350	Missing Man Post 667
1405-1450	Wm M. Randolph Post 593
1510-1545	Sesquicentennial Post 592
1545- ??	Alamo Post 2

Saturday, September 23, 2006

3:00 pm

Location: Post 592 106 Lanark Dr. & Austin Hwy.

Speaker: Ronald Craig Erickson, Bexar County Veterans Service Officer

Topic: VA BENEFITS

ALL VETS: VFW, DAV, NEW VETS, SPOUSES AND OTHER LEGION POSTS ARE WELCOME !

Service Officers might want to go to hear what is being told to vets!

Prayer Request

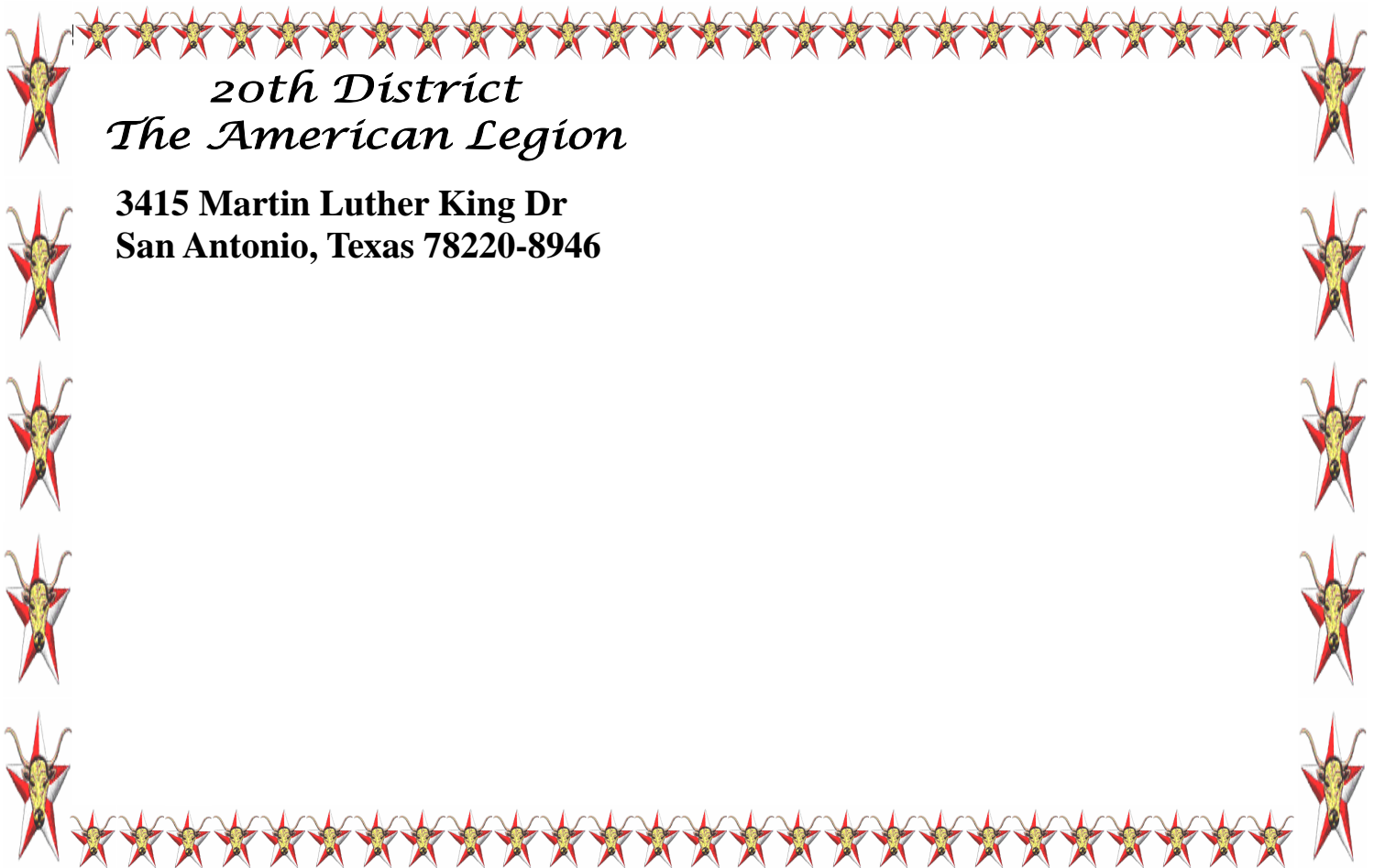
Jim Liscomb, Past 3rd Division Commander, has Wegener's Granulomatosis. A rare disorder for which he is getting treatment. Please keep him in your prayers.

Newsletter articles

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

*20th District
The American Legion*

**3415 Martin Luther King Dr
San Antonio, Texas 78220-8946**



[SEPTEMBER 2006]

19 SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 #593 Labor Day Celebration	4 #800 GM 7:30PM LABOR DAY	5	6 #2 GM 7:30 PM #399 GM 7:00 PM #593 GM 7:30PM	7	8	9 #592 Breakfast #593 Breakfast 20th District 9/11 Ceremony, Post 2
10 #375 GM 2:00PM #539 GM 2:00PM #667 Breakfast	11 #485 GM 7:00 PM PATRIOT DAY	12 #592 GM 7:30PM	13 20th District @ 7:30 @ #2	14	15	16 #593 Darts 7:30
17 #443 GM 1:00PM	18 #667 GM 7:00PM	19 #828 GM 7:00PM	20 #568 GM @ Post #579 4:00 PM	21	22 Newsletter articles duel	23 #300 Breakfast 8-11
24	25 #300 GM 7:00PM #579 GM 7:00PM	26	27	28 #612 GM 6:00 PM	29 #593 Steak Night 1800	30 300 Breakfast #579 Steak Night- 5:30 PM #300 Steak Night