



William M. Randolph, Post 593

The American Legion



Non-Profit Organization

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Of The United States of America
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<http://www.Post593.org>

Post Home Manager: Peggy Ann Oakes



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Hours of Operation

Mon-Thur: 1pm-11:30pm

Friday: 1pm - 1am

Saturday: 12pm - 1am

Sunday: 12pm-10:30pm

(Hours may vary due to business)

Place Mailing Label Here

Post 593 Officers:

Commander: Nick Mills
1st Vice: Jack Leanhart
2nd Vice: Rob Bryant
Adjutant: Gary Bartel
Finance Officer: Dave Paris
Chaplain: Dennis Ducharme
Judge Advocate: Joe Guastella
Historian: Vacant
Service Officer: Vacant
Sergeant At Arms: Abram Zavala

Members at Large:

Stu Hutchinson, John Orff
Denny Taylor, Terry Smith
Paul Crafton, 1 Vacant Position

Auxiliary Officers:

President: Sue Mills
Vice President: Georgia Horner
Secretary: Candy Zavala
Treasurer: Hilda Bray
Historian: Julie Graykowski
Chaplain: Isabel Siepkier
Sgt At Arms: Rose Lewis
Members at Large:
Ada Wear, Pat McLeod,
Rosie Cherry

ALR Officers:

Director: Brown Zavala
Asst Director: Matt Petrie
Secretary: Carolyn Putalavage
Treasurer: Kani Nichols
Road Captain: Joe Spellman
Membership: Debi Aguirre
Historian: Nita White
Sgt. At Arms: Donnie Baker
Chaplain: Vacant
Service Officer: Jack Putalavage
Members at Large:
Rick Stigall, Rose Lewis

Sons of the American Legion:

Commander: Joseph Bigham
1st Vice: Tommy Allmon
2nd Vice: Brad Smith
Treasurer: Kenny Tidball
Chaplain: Matthew Lacey
Historian: Billy Feehan
Sgt at Arms: Vance Miller



Commander's Corner

Legion Family,
The Holiday Season is here and from my family to yours I want to wish each and every one of you the Merriest of Holidays and a Happy New Year. With the Holiday Season the level of activity increases not only at our homes and places of business, but at the Post as well. Please pay particular attention to this newsletter calendar and log on to our website frequently to stay current on all the activities. I would encourage each of you to not only participate in a Legion Holiday activity, but help with the setup, donate time or money, cleanup or provide transportation for an individual who needs the assist. Not only will you be helping out the Post, but you will really feel the Christmas Spirit and the magic of the Season. Don't forget those less fortunate and our Veterans during this time. Please contact an Officer of the Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, or the Riders to find out what you can do to help someone less fortunate than us. We will be doing Holiday Baskets for families, decorating the VA Hospital, helping with the VA Hospital Holiday parties, decorating our Post Home, Children and Senior's Christmas Parties and so much more. There is no better way to get into the Holiday Spirit than to get involved with a Holiday

(Continued on page 2)



Auxiliary News

Auxiliary Family,
IT'S HERE!!!! December, what a busy month it is for all of us. Happy Holidays to everyone! Please check the calendar for dates and times for all the events this month. We will be hosting the annual Children's and Senior's Christmas Parties. Saturday the 8th will be a very busy day. Our monthly breakfast, the children's party and the Post party are all on that day. November was a good month with the Veterans Day Parade and the annual poppy distribution. I want to thank my daughters Gloria and Danielle and my granddaughters Nora and Ella for walking the parade route with me. They are all members and like to get involved when they can. We also did well with the poppy board thanks to Georgia. All the money donated from the poppies goes for Veterans. After the Holidays remember the second weekend of January is the Chili Cook off, with our raffle and silent auction. Please see Candy Zavala if you have anything to donate for the silent auction. Everyone have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sue Mills



(Continued from page 1)

project benefiting our Veterans and their families. Legionnaires **your** Post needs you! We are looking for a Service Officer, Historian, Member at Large, and a Newsletter Editor. Individuals are doing double duty filling in for these positions and with over 800 members no one should have to do that. Get involved and have a say in the Post, you may be surprised at the difference you can make and how good it will make you feel. Speaking of the Newsletter, I once again wish to thank Dennis and Joe for the great job they are doing as temps! They really are great examples of the volunteer spirit I just mentioned. Thanks again guys!

DOES ANYONE READ THE NEWSLETTER?? I asked that question last month and a gentleman stepped up and let me know that he did. I want to thank Ranger Rush for volunteering to be our representative to the Converse City Council. This remarkable individual visits our wounded heroes on a daily basis at BAMC, takes them to events and assists their families and yet volunteers some more for our organization. Thank you, Ranger and God Bless your mission.

I say it each month...I urge all to get involved with something...anything, **just do it!** See any member of the Executive Team if you need information or want to volunteer for something. Thanks everyone!

If you know of anyone who has any concerns or questions about membership please refer them to the 1st Vice Commander or anyone on the Executive Committee. We will take care of the problem.

Remember the American Legion is about giving to the Community, State, and Nation. What have you done for the American Legion today and what are you going to do for the American Legion tomorrow? Contact me and I will help you answer the question!

“Back to Basics; Forward to the Future!!”

For God and Country,

—Nick Mills

Dance Lessons

We've been continuing to have lots of fun and exercise!! We will have Dance Lessons in the Hall every Sunday from 5 to 6 pm. On December 2nd, Sylvia will teach the Polka. On the 9th, Debbie Pierce will teach the Cotton Eyed Joe. On the 16th Tracy will teach the Neon Moon. There won't be any lessons on the 23rd or the 30th because of the holidays. The cost is only \$2 per person and goes to the instructor for their time. We're looking at having fun and learning a little in the process. Believe me....we're not professionals so don't think you'll look bad!



Turn in Your Cans!

Recycling isn't only good for the environment, it's good for the Building Committee!! John Orff has been raising money for the Post by recycling paper, cans, batteries, etc. He generously made a motion (and it passed) for all monies raised from recycling aluminum cans to go to the building committee. So get your cans in today! Thanks John!!!



Post Home Manager

We will be having a bartenders meeting on Saturday, December 15th @ 9:30am.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Peggy Ann Oakes



Children and Youth

The Chairman of the Children and Youth committee, Tracy Guastella, would like to thank all the volunteers and attendees who helped make the Children's Halloween Party so successful! Everyone had a great time and it couldn't have been possible without all the support.



New Cruise News

The next scheduled payment date is December 13th. Please get your payment in before the deadline and leave enough processing time. Remember, you are now required to have a passport. You can go to <http://www.passport123.com> for more information. The deadline for making reservations for the cruise in May 2008 has expired. We have seven couples going on the cruise. We can still accept reservations but time is running out! We will sail out of Galveston on May 11th 2008 and go to Montego Bay, Grand Cayman, and Cozumel. We return on May 18th. Go to our web site for complete details or call Dennis at 630-0655 to make your reservation today! ALL ABOARD!!!!



General Membership Meeting Night Soup and Sandwiches!

I'd like to thank Tracy & Joe Guastella for the wonderful meal they prepared for the November General Membership meeting night. The chili bowls were great! Well....they're doing it again! The Building Committee will try one more time to provide food on the December General Membership Meeting Night, December 5th.. The menu will consist of Homemade Chicken Soup and sandwiches for only \$4.00! Your choice of grilled Ham and Cheese or Grilled Cheese. Each plate comes with chips. Don't cook on meeting night—pretty please—support your Bldg Committee!!!

2nd Vice's Scoop



Happy holidays everybody!!!

We are in the part of the year where we have to remember we should appreciate the people we have around us. We, as a Legion, survive on volunteerism and we are always looking for more volunteers. If you think you can help, we sure can use it. We have the same volunteers who show up and help at our regular functions (breakfast, steak nights, etc.). Some of the people who show up at each event and do whatever it takes to get task done are Gary, Dave, Karen, Sue, Jan, Irene, Norm, The Joe's & Terry who take care of the steaks, Tracy, Joy, Tommy, Melissa, Diana, The shuffleboard group, and the American Legion Riders. Now if you notice, this isn't a big list. So, if you can spare a 2nd Saturday morning of the month or Last Friday night of the month see anyone above or leave me a note at the canteen. My ultimate goal is 16 people for breakfast and steak night. That would give 2 teams for each event so we could alternate months and give some breaks here and there. Now, for the fun part: here are the events for the month. Let's start at the end and work our way back to beginning.

On Monday Dec 31st we have our New Year's Eve party. The price is \$45 per person. The band is "Rotge" and the food is from Williams Confectionary. Hmmm... smothered pork chops with greens and mac & cheese, banana pudding. At midnight we'll have breakfast tacos.

Steak night is on Dec 28th, with entertainment TBD. The Post will be closed Dec. 25th - Merry Christmas!!! The dart tournament will be on Dec 15th. The ALR Christmas Party is on Dec 14th. The 20th District Christmas party is also on Dec 14th but will be at Post 2. The Senior Christmas party is on Dec 9th. Dec 8th is a busy day it starts with the ALR making breakfast from 8-11. The Auxiliary Children's Christmas party starts at 1 then the Post Christmas party starts at 8. We have tentatively scheduled "Emmerson Biggins" for the entertainment. The event to start off the month is the 40th Annual Monty Mann Run on Dec 1st. The following dates are for the meetings. Dec 4th ALR Exec 7:30 PM, Dec 5th Post Gen. Membership 7:30 PM, Dec 11th ALR Gen. Membership 7:30 PM, Dec 12th H&E 7 PM, Dec 15th Bartender meeting 9:30 AM, Dec 17th Building Committee 7 PM, Dec 19th Post Exec 7 PM, Dec 23rd SAL 1 PM. Hope to see you at the events or around the post. —Rob Bryant



ALR Service Officer

Thank you all very much to those who have contributed clothing or toiletries for the homeless vet stand down. I have picked up 25 bags of clothing from our Donation Station. If you

still would like to donate any items of men's clothing, I plan on making the final pickup soon. Please place your donations in the small shed near the Post mailbox. —Jack Putalavage

Chaplain's Corner



My Fellow Legionnaires,

Marty Frank is back in the hospital at BAMC. He has been diagnosed with COPD and is in the 5th floor. Please keep him and his wife Betty in your prayers.

December is a special month. For some, it is very painful. For others, it brings great joy. It reflects both the ending and the beginning. It's the end of the year and a time that many reflect on the events of the past year. Many others look towards the beginning of the new year—a fresh start. There are many special days of this month. Dec 2nd: Advent, 4th: Hanukkah Begins at Sundown, 6th is St. Nicholas Day, 7th: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, 1941, 12: Last day of Chanukah, Dec 16th, 1773: The Boston Tea Party occurred, 22nd: First Day of Winter (December Solstice—longest day of the year), 25th: Christmas Day, 26th: Kwanzaa (until Jan 1), 29th: Texas became the 28th state, 1845 and 31st: New Year's Eve.

I'm always available for you to talk to or visit with. Please let me know if I can be of assistance in any way.

I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a very happy, prosperous New Years. For God and Country,

—Dennis Ducharme

Holiday Baskets

by Shannon Lynde



Thanks to those who helped by donating items for the Thanksgiving food baskets. A special thanks to Debbie Dewberry for getting the Turkeys donated and all that you do for our Post — you're appreciated more than words can say!

Legion family members can help with the Christmas food baskets by coming to our Spaghetti Dinner on Wed, Dec 12th. We'll serve from 6-8 p.m. and have take-outs available or stay at the Post and chat with your friends. Cost of the dinner, which includes a plate of spaghetti, salad, and garlic bread (and believe desserts may even be available for those with a sweet tooth) is very simple—a donation of 4 canned items or 3 dry goods for the holiday baskets or a \$5 donation per plate. Suggested items for canned or dry goods are:

Canned

Corn
Green Beans
Jellied Cranber
Pumpkin Pie filling
Fruit Cocktail
Sweet Potatoes / Yams

Dry Goods

Bagged Rice or 2 lb Flour
Instant Mashed Potatoes
Bulk Potatoes
Dinner Rolls
Miniature Marshmallows
Stuffing Mix

If you know of needy families, please drop off their names at the Post, along with their address, phone number, number of people in the family, and if any children, their sex and age. Thanks for showing the American Legion family cares about others. If you have questions, please contact me or Sebastian Rodriguez.