ommander's Call

(Continued)

- Visit one of our own Legion Family who is sick or disabled.
- 4. Visit a hospitalized or nursing home veteran.
- 5. Participate in an upcoming Post social event.
- 6. Volunteer time to assist with a Post function.
- 7. Attend or volunteer for a Legion/Auxiliary program committee.
- 8. Learn and share something new about our great organization. What a way to start 2007 ... every member of Post 593 working together as a team. Let us make this the year that we have complete participation. If you do it, your friends will, and then their friends and so on. Think of the possibilities!

This month is full of opportunities to get started on your Post resolutions. The annual Chili Cook-off is just around the corner as well as the usual breakfast and steak night. Look at the monthly calendar and watch the Website and Bulletin Board for all the events coming up.

I would be remiss if I did not thank everyone for the great holiday season we had at the Post. The Christmas and New Year's Eve parties where great and well attended. The holiday baskets were a great success and all of the decorations and joy around the Post throughout the season helped spread the holiday cheer. Thanks to all!!

One last thing for this month. If you are reading this and have not renewed your membership, please do so now. The end of this month will affect your continuous years and show you as delinquent for membership. If you are having difficulty or know of anyone who is, please contact the Adjutant, 1st Vice Commander or myself. Thank you in advance for taking care of this matter.

Again, I wish everyone a Happy New Year. Let's make 2007 a banner year for our Post by giving to the Community, State, and Nation.

> "Back to Basics; Forward to the Future!!" For Godand Country,

Mick

Auxiliary News (Continued)

cards and need to renew now. Your continued membership helps the Auxiliary with our yearly programs such as Girls State, Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Children & Youth, Cavalcade of Memories, Child Welfare, Auxiliary Scholarship Fund and Cancer Research.

Mid Winter Conference is Feb.2 4th in Austin. Let me know if you wish to attend. Our next meeting is Feb 7th at 7:30.

Loyally, Hilda

National Fence

Ofc: (210) 402-6494 Pat Parker Mbl: (210) 383-1320

Shaplain's Corner

By Dennis Ducharme, Post Chaplain

Greetings Legion Family: Wow! Was that a fast year or what? For me, it just flew by! Welcome to 2007! Brand New Year, brand new opportunities, and the possibility of a fresh start! I love January. It gives me a chance to break all the resolutions I made.

I have some sad news to report. Brent Wise Jr, a SAL and ALR member, and a great friend and active participant in our Post, passed away on December 13th. He will be missed greatly. A memorial will be on 30 Dec 06, in Killeen, TX. We will depart for Killeen at approx 9 am from the Exxon at 1604 and Nacogdoches. Once in Killeen we will ride to Belton Lake and spread his ashes over the lake. Brent Sr is hosting a lunch at the American Legion in Killeen in honor of Brent. Please keep his wife, Connie, his daughter, Bianca and the rest of their family in your prayers.

Our favorite comedian, Louie Montalvo, has been under the weather lately and made a pit-stop in the hospital. Please keep him in your thoughts and pray for a quick recovery.

Don't forget that we celebrate Epiphany on January 6. Epiphany is a Christian festival. In Roman Catholic and Protestant churches, Epiphany commemorates the adoration of the infant Jesus by the Three Wise Men who had come from the East. In Eastern churches, it celebrates the baptism of Jesus. Epiphany comes from a Greek word that means to appear or to show

Oh....almost forgot to mention......Joy Wagner and Kenny Tidball got hitched (i.e. married, for you non-Texans) on December 23rd. I'm sure everyone will join me in wishing you two all the joy and happiness that life can offer! (pun intended but the feelings are still genuine!)

Till next month...be good to one another.

Service Officer News

By Sebastian Rodriquez, Service Officer



Improvements for Pension Claims Identified

The House Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs received testimony recently on the administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs' Pension Program. Of special interest was the reduction of the pension claims backlog. VBA's nonservice-connected disability pension program provides financial assistance to low-income veterans who are totally and permanently disabled as a result of a disability not related to military service, or who are age 65 or older and to certain low-income surviving spouses and unmarried children of deceased veterans with wartime service. For more information on VBA pensions, call 1-800-827-1000.



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